

# GOODWIN HOWARD THOMAS BARNES

## R.A.F

*The Ryde Social Heritage Group is grateful to Paul Donnellan for the following information*

Flight Sub Lieutenant BARNES was born at 155, Ella Road, Islington, London on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 1897, the son of Mr Goodwin H Barnes and his wife Grace. At the time of the 1901 census he was listed as being their only child and was three years of age. His father was 27 years of age and his mother was 32. Also living in the house was Eleanor BARNES, sister of Mr Barnes, a single woman aged 30 and their domestic servant, Drucella AGER. Mr Barnes is listed as being a clerk in the Civil Service.

Goodwin Barnes joined the 'Air Services' on 27<sup>th</sup> August, 1916, at the age of 19 years and one month and was made a Temporary Probationary Flight Sub Lieutenant. He was posted to Chingford on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 1916, for training before being posted to Calshot on 12<sup>th</sup> March, 1917. On the 28<sup>th</sup> April, 1917, he was posted to a Patrol Flight at Calshot.

Flight Sub Lieutenant Barnes graduated from Cranwell in April, 1917, and obtained his Form S1547. Throughout he was described as a 'Very Good Pilot' and a 'Very Good Officer'. He was recommended for Seaplanes and completed a Seaplane Course at Calshot. He was considered ready for appointment and did well in all his exams and was again described as a 'Very Good Pilot' and a 'Very Good Officer.'

BARNES was obviously rated very highly by his instructors and Senior Officer for it was decided to retain him for Patrol Work at Calshot. Later reports described him as being 'a fearless pilot and one who carried out his duties as a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant very efficiently'.

### **Confirmation of Rank**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Seniority</b>	<b>Rank</b>
07.03.1917	27.08.1916	Confirmed
01.01.1918	31.12.1917	Flight Lieutenant

Calshot 21.7.1917 – Report total loss of Hamble Baby MC 1198 on 19<sup>th</sup> inst. Pilot considered not to be to blame.

November 11<sup>th</sup> 1917 – Seaplane 9850 F/S/Lt Barnes, Air Mechanic HOOPER sighted a submarine at position 50° N 025 ??? Two 100 pound bombs were dropped which, however, fell wide. The submarine opened fire for a short time on the seaplane without however hitting it.

It is unclear on what date Flight Lieutenant Barnes was posted to Bembridge but it would appear likely that the date was 5<sup>th</sup> October 1917.

On 29<sup>th</sup> October 1918 at the age of 21 years and three months, Flight Lieutenant Goodwin Howard Thomas BARNES, Royal Air Force, died on Active Service. Two days later he was taken from the Castle Red Cross Hospital on the Esplanade at Ryde and was laid to rest in Ryde Borough Cemetery.