

Robert Cooper Clements – Questions and Answers

Activity One: Letters of Condolence

Where did Lt. Clements die?

[outside the village of Vieux Berguin]

What similarities can you find in these letters?

[The basic facts of his death]

What differences can you find? How can you explain these?

The letters are from different points of view. The first is from the Commanding Lieutenant-Colonel of the Battalion; the second from a Captain in his company and the third from the Lieutenant who found his body.

The Lieutenant is able to give more details about finding and identifying the body and arranging for burial. He also gives more details about Lt Clement's experience of the war and how the other soldiers felt about him. This could be because he worked more closely with Clements than the Commanding Colonel-Lieutenant.

Activity Two: Who was Robert Cooper Clements?

This article contains the letters detailing Lt Clements' death. What else can we learn from this source that we can't from the letters.

One of the most obvious differences is that Lt Clements is referred to by name in this article – Robert – instead of by his Army rank.

Other answers could include:

- He had a daughter
- He lived in Berwick
- He was a teacher
- He was a scout leader