ARFOG AC ARTISTIG:
CYFLWYNO RICHARD LUNT ROBERTS

ARMED & ARTISTIC:
INTRODUCING RICHARD LUNT ROBERTS

Is-gapten Richard Lunt Roberts

Lieutenant Richard Lunt Roberts

Ymhlith uchafbwyntiau casgliadau Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf amgueddfa catrodol FfBC mae naw llyfr brasluniau artist. Roedd y llyfrau darluniau personol hyn ac ôl traul arnynt yn perthyn i Is-gapten Richard Lunt Roberts.

Ganed Lunt Roberts yn India yn 1894. Symudodd ei deulu i ogledd Cymru ac fe'i magwyd yn Llandudno. Pan gychwynnodd y Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf roedd yn aelod o Glwb Braslunio Llundain ac yn gweithio fel artist graffig.

Among the highlights of the RWF regimental museum's First World War collections are nine artist's sketch-books. These well-worn and personalized drawing books belonged to Lieutenant Richard Lunt Roberts.

Lunt Roberts was born in India in 1894. His family moved to north Wales and he grew up in Llandudno. At the outbreak of the First World War he was a member of the London Sketch Club and was working as a graphic artist.

Dod allan o'r ffosydd, Anafarta, Gallipoli

Coming out of the trenches, Anafarta, Gallipoli

Gwacáu i'r Aifft, Rhagfyr 1915

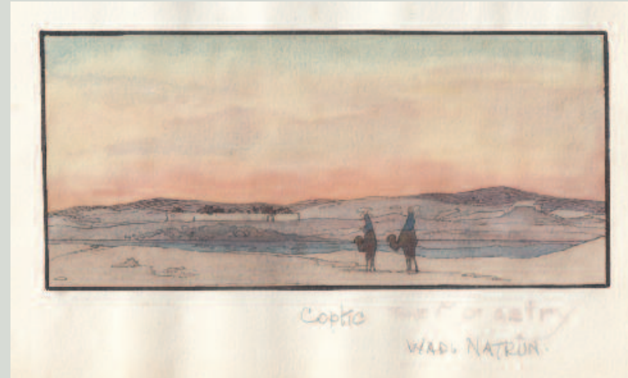
Evacuation to Egypt, December 1915

Ar Awst 27ain 1914 ymrestrodd fel milwr cyffredin yn 1/6ed FfBC yng Nghaernarfon a chafodd ei gomisiynu fel Ail Is-gapten ar 25ain Mehefin 1915. Tri mis yn ddiweddarach, dechreuodd ar ei daith i ddwyrain ardal Môr y Canoldir gan gyrraedd Gallipoli ar 7fed Hydref 1915.

Roedd y 6ed Bataliwn wedi cael ei anfon yn filwyr wrth gefn i geisio torri'r sefyllfa ddiddatrys yn ymgyrch y Dardanelles. Fodd bynnag, parhaodd y sefyllfa hon ac roedd Lunt Roberts ymhlith y nifer fawr o filwyr lluoedd y Cynghreiriaid a gafodd eu dal yn y llifogydd a'r stormydd eira ofnadwy ar 26ain a 27ain Tachwedd 1915.

On August 27th 1914 he enlisted as a private in the 1/6th RWF at Caernarfon and secured a commission as a Second Lieutenant on 25th June 1915. Three months later, he embarked for the eastern Mediterranean arriving in Gallipoli on 7th October 1915.

The 6th Battalion had been sent as reinforcements to break the deadlock in the Dardanelles campaign. The stalemate, however, continued and Lunt Roberts was one of the many Allied soldiers caught in the terrible floods and blizzards on 26th and 27th November 1915.



Roedd y 6ed Bataliwn wedi'i leoli ger y Mynachdai Coptig yn Wadi Natrun, Aifft Isaf, Mawrth – Mai 1916.

The 6th Battalion were based near the Coptic Monasteries at Wadi Natrun, Lower Egypt, March – May 1916.

Lunt Roberts, tu allan i'w babell byddin

Lunt Roberts, outside his army tent

Cafodd Lunt Roberts ei wacáu i'r Aifft a'i dderbyn mewn ysbyty yn Giza, Cairo, ar 4ydd Rhagfyr 1915. Fe iachaodd a dychwelyd i'w ddyletswyddau gyda'i fataliwn yn gyflym iawn ac yn ystod y cyfnod hwn, ar ddechrau 1916, pan oedd y bataliwn yn ail-gryfhau ar ôl Gallipoli yr ailgydiodd yn ei gelf.

Lunt Roberts was evacuated to Egypt and admitted to hospital in Giza, Cairo, on December 4th 1915. He returned to health and duty with his battalion very quickly and it was during the downtime in early 1916, when the battalion was recovering from Gallipoli, that he returned to his art.

Casglu Ffigys – roedd ffigysbrennau a llwyni sitrws de Palesteina yn ffynhonnell o ffrwythau ffres a chysgod braf rhag yr haul a saethwyr cudd Twrci.

Picking Figs – the fig trees and citrus groves of southern Palestine provided fresh fruit and welcome cover from the sun and Turkish snipers.

Gyda'r nos, 4ydd/5ed Awst 1916, Romani – y frwydr a ataliodd y Tyrciaid rhag cyrraedd Camlas Swês.

Night time, 4th/5th August 1916, Romani – the battle that prevented the Turks from reaching the Suez Canal.

Trên Ymolchi – mwynhau nofio yn y môr ar ôl wythnosau yn yr anialwch

Bathing Train – the pleasure of a swim in the sea after weeks in the desert

Roedd 6FfBC wedi'u lleoli ger Deir El Belah, i'r de o Gaza, Awst – Hydref 1917

6RWF were based near Deir El Belah, south of Gaza, August – October 1917

Cofnododd Lunt Roberts fywyd y milwr gan gynnwys yr adegau hynny pan oedd milwyr yn gallu ymlacio yn ogystal â'r cyfnodau o bryder a thensiwn.

Lunt Roberts recorded life as a soldier including those times when soldiers could relax and those moments of anticipation and tension.

Mae'r llyfrau braslun yn cynnwys casgliad o'r dyluniadau beiddgar hyn sy'n dangos Eifftiaid yn y farchnadle a'r Corfflu Llafur Eifftaidd wrth eu gwaith.

The sketch-books include a suite of these bold designs featuring Egyptians in the market place and the Egyptian Labour Corps at work.

Mae'r llyfrau brasluniau yn cynnwys ystod o bosteri teithio posibl.

The sketch-books contain a range of potential travel posters.

Cychod Eifftaidd traddodiadol – ysbrydoliaeth i artistiaid graffig

Traditional Egyptian boats – inspiration for a graphic artist

Mae ei sgil fel artist graffig proffesiynol yn amlwg yn yr amrywiaeth eang o gyfryngau ac ymagweddau a archwiliodd yn ei lyfrau brasluniau: pensil, pen ac inc, dyfrlliwiau, sialciau, creonau wrth iddo fraslunio a chreu tirluniau, portreadau, gwawdluniau, cartwnau, ffrisiau a phosteri.

His skill as a professional graphic artist is apparent in the wide variety of media and approaches he explored in his sketch-books: pencil, pen and ink, watercolours, chalks, crayons as he sketched and created landscapes, portraits, caricatures, cartoons, friezes and posters.

Trasiedi'r Ffôn Maes – Yn amlwg, roedd cyfathrebu'n broblem!

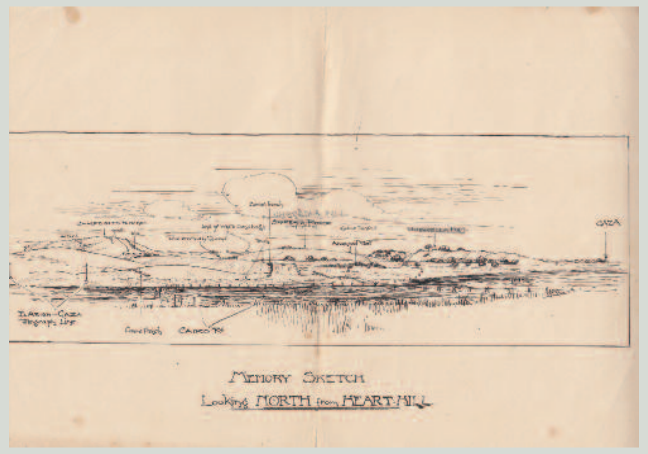
The Tragedy of the Field Telephone – Communications were obviously a problem!

Ein Quarter Guard – un o ddetholiad o luniau comig o filwyr yn y llyfrau brasluniau

Our Quarter Guard – one of a selection of comic drawings of soldiers in the sketch-books

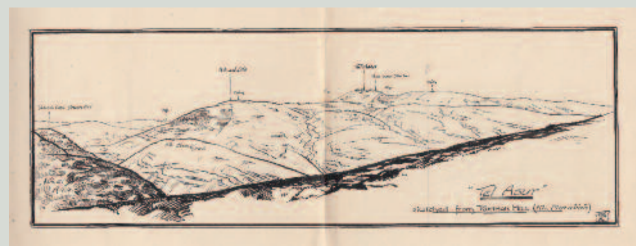
Yn hwyrach yn ei oes, tynnodd Lunt Roberts luniau i gylchgronau *The Humourist* a *Punch*. Darparodd gartwnau, silwetau a gwawdluniau i gylchgronau a llyfrau coffa ei hen gatrawd.

In later life, Lunt Roberts drew for *The Humourist* and *Punch* magazines. He supplied cartoons, silhouettes and caricatures for magazines and his former regiment's memorial books.



Roedd y 6ed Bataliwn wedi'u lleoli ger Heart Hill, Gaza ym mis Ebrill ac Awst 1917

The 6th Battalion were based near Heart Hill, Gaza, in April and August 1917



Panorama o Tel Asur, i'r gogledd-ddwyrain o Ramallah, Palesteina, lleoliad ymladd caled y bu'r FfBC yn rhan ohono, Mawrth 1918

Panorama of Tel Asur, north-east of Ramallah, Palestine, the scene of heavy fighting involving the RWF, March 1918

Rhoddodd Lunt Roberts hefyd ei sgiliau fel arlunydd at wasanaeth y fyddin. Cafodd hyfforddiant ar sut i ddefnyddio gwn peiriant a'r lleolwr pellter. Fel artist, roedd yn brofiadol wrth feirniadu pellter a phersbectif.

Lunt Roberts also put his skill as an artist at the service of the army. He trained in the use of the machine gun and the range finder. As an artist he was experienced in judging distance and perspective.

Ar adeg pan oedd rhai milwyr yn edrych i lawr eu trwynau ar 'frodorion', mae lluniau Lunt Roberts yn dangos parch at y bobl y daeth ar eu traws.

At a time when some soldiers looked down on the 'natives', Lunt Roberts's drawings reveal a respect for the people he encountered.

Brasluniodd Lunt Roberts bennau ac ymddangosiad y cenhedloedd niferus a oedd yn byw yn Yr Aifft.

Lunt Roberts sketched the heads and appearance of the many nationalities living in Egypt.

Gwersyllfan Bedwynaidd

A Bedouin Encampment

Yn dilyn y cadoediad ar 31ain Hydref 1918, teithiodd y 5/6ed Bataliwn i lawr y llinell o Ludd ym Mhalesteina i Kantara, gogledd-orllewin Sinai, cyn cyrraedd pen eu taith – Gwersyll Hadra, Alexandria. Er bod hyfforddiant a dyletswyddau gwarchod wedi parhau, roedd mwy o amser am chwaraeon, partïon cyngerdd, dosbarthiadau addysgiadol a darlithoedd ar VD a dadfyddino. Archwiliodd Lunt Roberts gefn gwlad Yr Aifft a dinasoedd mawr Alexandria a Chairo. Mae ei arsylwadau o bobl a golygfeydd yn goroesi fel cofnod byw o'r Aifft ganrif yn ôl.

Following the armistice on 31st October 1918, the 5/6th Battalion travelled down the line from Ludd in Palestine to Kantara, north-west Sinai, before reaching their destination – Hadra Camp, Alexandria. Although training and guard duties continued, there was more time for sports, concert parties, educational classes and lectures on VD and demobilization. Lunt Roberts explored the Egyptian countryside and the great cities of Alexandria and Cairo. His observations of people and scenery survive as a vivid record of Egypt a century ago.

SS Malva – Hwyliodd Lunt Roberts adref ar y gludlong hon.

SS Malva – Lunt Roberts sailed home on this transport ship.

Lunt Roberts yn Yr Aifft

Lunt Roberts in Egypt

Dechreuodd Lunt Roberts ei daith am adref i Brydain yn Port Said ar 18fed Mehefin 1919. Wedi iddo ddychwelyd, aeth i astudio yn Ysgol Gelf Leicester cyn ailafael yn ei yrfa fel artist graffig llwyddiannus. Gweithiodd i'r Weinyddiaeth Wybodaeth yn ystod yr Ail Ryfel Byd.

Fel is-gapten yn y Ffiwsilwyr Brenhinol Cymreig yn y Rhyfel Mawr, buodd ef a ninnau'n ffodus iawn ei fod wedi goroesi. Bu farw yn 1981.

Lunt Roberts embarked at Port Said on 18th June 1919 for the journey home to Britain. On his return, he studied at the Leicester School of Art before resuming his career as a successful graphic artist. He worked for the Ministry of Information during the Second World War.

As a lieutenant in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers in the Great War, he was and we are fortunate that he survived, along with his sketch-books. He died in 1981.