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## LGC Forensics

### Overview

LGC is the largest privately owned forensic science service provider in the UK. Through LGC Forensics, a major division of LGC, we serve the police and crime enforcement agencies and we also have an increasing number of [private sector clients](#).

We offer a comprehensive range of forensic science [services](#), based on an extensive range of [techniques](#). Our scientists use the latest [innovations](#) - often developed in-house - to establish the facts of cases under investigation.

With a team of over 500 staff in the UK, LGC Forensics delivers established and meticulously executed forensic science either at the crime scene or in one of our [eight UK laboratories](#) at: Culham (Oxfordshire); Teddington, (Middlesex); Tamworth, (Staffordshire); Leeds, (West Yorkshire); Risley, Runcorn (Cheshire), St. Neots (Cambridgeshire) and Bromsgrove (Worcestershire).

From our two bases in Germany ([Berlin](#) and [Cologne](#)), LGC Forensics delivers state-of-the-art DNA familial testing services throughout Europe, supported by our other forensic science disciplines in the UK.

LGC's substantial investment in analytical instrumentation and R&D brings significant benefits to the range of novel investigation techniques available to LGC Forensics.

### DNA project for Fromelles

LGC Forensics is involved in a programme to help identify the soldiers who fell at the [Battle of Fromelles](#) in northern France on 19 July 1916.

Our dedicated team of specialist DNA forensic scientists is attempting to extract viable DNA samples from the remains of these soldiers and we will remain involved in the project until its completion. We are now in the process of collating the details of potential relatives in an attempt to gain some positive identification.

#### Background

In May 2006, after several years of painstaking research and investigation, a number of burial pits dating from the First World War were identified at Pheasant Wood, near Fromelles, in northern France. In May 2009 careful excavation of the pits was started by archaeologists from Oxford Archaeology, working with LGC Forensics' specialist DNA team, whose role it was to take appropriate DNA samples. By early September, they had removed the remains of 250 British and Australian soldiers, buried behind German lines after the Battle of Fromelles in July 1916.

The soldiers were members of the 5th Australian division and the British 61st division infantry. The attack they launched was intended to draw German troops away from the Somme offensive, which was taking place further south. The consequences of that attack at Fromelles would prove disastrous.

The British and Australian Governments asked the Commonwealth War

## Announcements



**LGC is currently recruiting forensic scientists at all levels. [View all current vacancies.](#)**

Graves Commission to oversee the operation and to recover the remains and create a new military cemetery at Fromelles for their reburial. With the recovery stage of the project now complete, archaeologists from Oxford Archaeology and DNA specialists from LGC Forensics are examining remains in an effort to identify the soldiers who will be reinterred in February 2010.

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