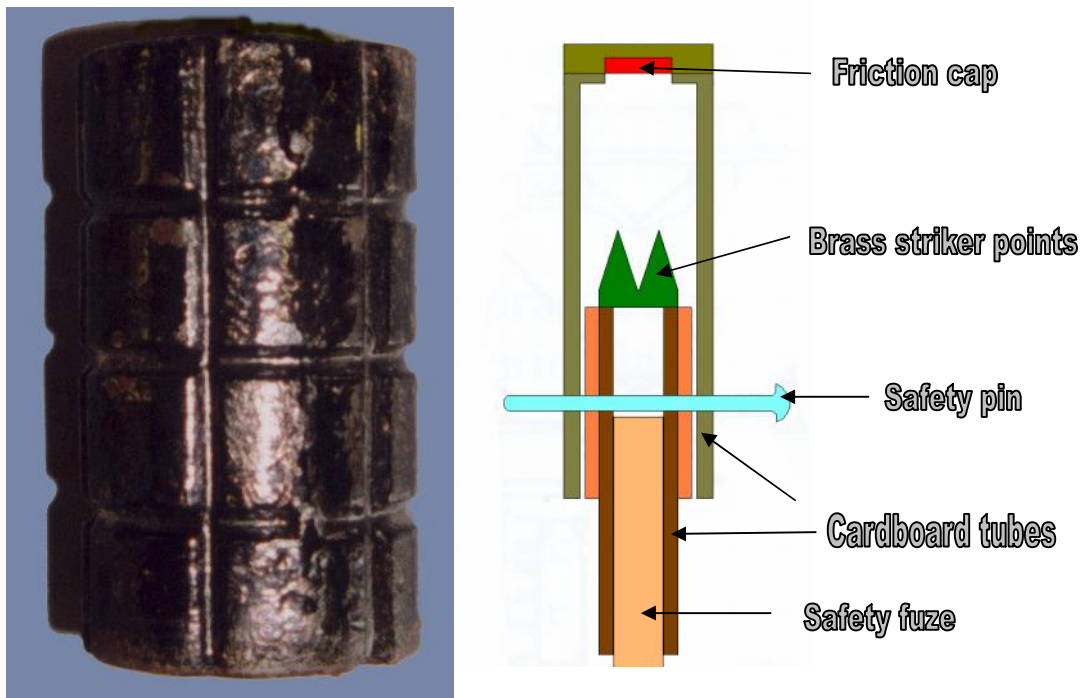


BATTYE HAND GRENADE

As mentioned elsewhere at the commencement of World War I the Allies were faced with a whole lot of problems in the new trench warfare none of which had any official answers. The troops took matters into their own hands and came up with unofficial answers. This grenade is one of those answers.

It was variously known as the “Battye” named for the inventor Capt. BC Battye R.E. or the “Bethune” named for the place of manufacture.

It was simplicity itself being nothing more than a cast iron cylinder filled with Ammonal and detonated by an igniter set consisting of a Nobels lighter and short length of safety fuze connected to a detonator.



ACTION.

Prior to firing a short length of safety fuze was inserted in the lower cardboard tube and crimped in place. At the other end of the safety fuze a detonator was crimped on. The whole was then inserted into the grenade. Removing the safety pin allowed the top cardboard tube to be pushed down and rotated. This action caused the friction cap to explode and the flash from this was passed into the safety fuze thence into the detonator and then through to the main filling.