

# remembrance ni



## Unique memorial to 36<sup>th</sup> Ulster Division



In Belfast Cathedral there is a unique war memorial to the 36<sup>th</sup> (Ulster) Division. It is a lectern which was presented by the Division Officers' Old Comrades' Association. The war memorial lectern was dedicated on 10/11/1929, the same

weekend as the opening of the Cenotaph in the City Hall's Garden of Remembrance.

The Cathedral was packed. The Queen's Island Band, under George Dean, late of the, Norfolk Regiment, took part in the Service. The Dedication was performed by Bishop Grierson at the request of Col H A Pakenham, CMG, on behalf of the donors.

The lectern contains Ireland's Memorial Records, 1914-1918, in eight volumes which record the names of more than 49,000 Irishmen. The Records and the bronze statuette which surmounts the lectern were the gift of the Irish National War Memorial Committee.

The statuette is the work of Morris Harding and was designed by the architect of the Cathedral Sir Charles Nicholson, and for whom Maurice Harding had carried out many of the sculptured elements in the building. A contemporary *Belfast Telegraph* photograph of the lectern shows it covered in poppies.

In his sermon Revd A A Luce, MC, DD, who had served as a Captain, 12 Batt, RIR, pointed out that abstainers in the Ulster Division stuck to their principles, even refusing their rum ration in the front-line trenches!

## IRELAND'S MEMORIAL RECORDS 1914–1918

### A

ABADIE, NOEL. Reg. No. 593350. Rank, Rifleman, The London Regiment, 18th Batt. (London Irish Rifles); died of wounds, France, January 9, 1918; born Marylebone.

ABBEY, JOHN. Reg. No. 3913. Rank, Lance-Corporal, Irish Guards, 1st Batt.; killed in action, France, August 8, 1915; born Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow.

ABBEY, WILLIAM CLARIDGE. Reg. No. 3873. Rank, Private, Royal Irish Regiment, 8th Batt.; died of wounds, France, August 11, 1918.

ABBOTT, CHARLES. Reg. No. 5808. Rank, Company Sergeant (C.Q.M.S.), Royal Irish Regiment, 2nd Batt.; killed in action, France, May 24, 1915; born Secunderabad, East India.

ABBOTT, EDGAR REVELEY. Reg. No. 50179. Rank, Rifleman, 12th Royal Irish Rifles; killed in action, France, September 2, 1918.

ABBOTT, EDWARD JOHN WHITE. Rank, Lieutenant, Royal Irish Fusiliers; killed in action, May 17, 1915.

ABBOTT, FRANK. Reg. No. 42339. Rank, Rifleman, 12th Royal Irish Rifles; died of wounds, France, September 18, 1917; born Old Werton, Huntingdonshire.

ABBOTT, FREDERICK JAMES. Reg. No. 8598. Cameron Highlanders, 1st Batt. (formerly Lance-Corporal, Royal Scots Fusiliers); killed in action, France, September 25, 1914; born Birr, King's Co.

ABBOTT, GEOFFREY DYETT. Rank, Lieutenant, Connaught Rangers; killed in action, November 2, 1914.

ABBOTT, JOHN. Reg. No. 19603. Rank, Private, The Gloucestershire Regiment, 8th Service Batt.; killed in action, France, June 7, 1917; born Waterford.

ABBOTT, JOSEPH. Reg. No. 2556. Rank, Sergeant, Northumberland Fusiliers (Tyneside Irish); killed in action, France, April 28, 1917; born Alabama, America.

ABBOTT, MICHAEL. Reg. No. 7595. Rank, Private, Connaught Rangers, 2nd Batt.; killed in action, France, December 21, 1914; born St. John's, Athlone, Co. Westmeath.

ABBOTT, VIVIAN HARTLEY CHURCH. Rank, Private, Canadian Infantry, 29th Batt.; killed by shell, on way to hospital near Lens, France, August 22, 1917; age 35.

ABBOTT, WILLIAM. Reg. No. 7971. Rank, Private, Royal Munster Fusiliers, 2nd Batt.; killed in action, France, December 21, 1914; born Marylebone, London.

Arthur Aston Luce. MC, (1882 - 1977) was professor of philosophy at Trinity College, Dublin and also Precentor of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. He held many clerical

appointments, including Vice-Provost of Trinity from 1946-1952. He was widely known as an authority on the philosopher George Berkeley. His fellowship of Trinity College from 1912 to 1977 is a record.

## The Irish War Memorial Records

Ireland's Memorial Records were compiled at the end of the First World War and were published in Dublin in 1923. They link the Cathedral with the Irish National War Memorial Gardens at Islandbridge, Dublin which were designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.

The eight volumes of the Irish War Memorial Roll in the lectern contain the names of 49,000 Irishmen which are recorded individually, alphabetically and with as many details of their birth, death and rank as could be found. This was the only publication to bring so many of the Great War dead from Ireland together in order that they might be individually and collectively honoured and remembered.

Various schemes to do this had been discussed from just after the Armistice in the winter of 1918. But progress was slow. In June 1919, **John French, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland**, who



ands, France, July  
ill, Co. Antrim.

born Killossort, Co. Waterford. July 20, 1916;

Reg. No. 7309.  
ish Regiment, 2nd  
France, August 24,  
as, Carrick-on-Suir,

HOGAN, WILLIAM. Reg. No. 8385.  
Rank, Sergeant, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers,  
1st Batt.; killed in action, France, July 4,  
1916; born Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh.

Reg. No. 7149.  
Yorkshire Regiment,  
ion, France, August  
le, Ireland.

HOGAN, WILLIAM. Reg. No. 8698.  
Rank, Private, Royal Irish Regiment, 2nd  
Batt.; killed in action, France, July 14,  
1916; born St. Catherine's, Dublin.

Reg. No. 13051.  
Dublin Fusiliers, 6th  
France, October 24,

HOGAN, WILLIAM. Reg. No. 10396.  
Rank, Private, Irish Guards, 2nd Batt.;  
killed in action, France, November 27, 1917;  
born Puckane, Co. Tipperary.

Reg. No. 21741.  
oyal Irish Fusiliers;  
ace, June 17, 1916;

HOGAN, WILLIAM. Reg. No. 25388.  
Rank, Gunner, Royal Garrison Artillery;  
died, India, December 13, 1916; born  
Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary.

Reg. No. 28696.  
Dublin Fusiliers, 10th  
on, France, May 28,

HOGARTH, HERBERT PLUNKET.  
Rank, Corporal (Despatch Rider), Royal  
Engineers; killed in action, France, May  
13, 1917; age 22.

nk, Sergeant, 1st Batt.,  
killed in action, France,

HOGARTH, HERBERT SOLOMAN.  
Reg. No. 35735. Rank, Private, North-  
umberland Fusiliers (Tyneside Irish), for-  
merly West Yorkshire Regiment; killed in  
action, France, April 29, 1917; born Brad-  
ford, Yorkshire.

162

HOGG, EDWA  
Rank,  
42710. Rifles; killed in  
10, 1918.

HOGG, FRANK  
Rank, Rifleman,  
Batt.; killed in a  
1914; born Shan

HOGG, FRANK  
2nd Lieutenant,  
Regiment (attache  
wounds, on active  
age 26.

HOGG, GEORGE  
17274. Rank, Pri  
Fusiliers, 11th Batt.;  
August 14, 1917;  
Donegal.

HOGG, JAMES. I  
Rank, Private, Ar  
Highlanders, 10th B  
France, July 14, 19  
Co. Louth.

HOGG, JAMES. R  
Rank, Sapper, Royal  
Royal Inniskilling Fus  
March 27, 1918; born  
derry.

was subsequently created, Earl of Ypres, set  
about launching a widespread appeal for the  
names of the Irish dead. He wanted to ensure

that “the part taken by the soldiers of Ireland” would “stand out in brilliant relief”. The names were to include those of Irish nationality in British regiments.

In December 1922 while Ireland was in the midst of its own bitter civil war, the collected volumes were ready for publication. French issued a passionate exhortation in his introduction. He stated that wherever “the strife was hottest” Irish soldiers were always to be found ... “Irish regiments had always stood their ground against terrific orders ... with a tenacity which has never been surpassed in war.”

Five thousand pounds were spent on giving the project great publicity so as to collect the records of as many dead as possible through the press, and from family and private sources. This work was directed by a sub-committee in Dublin which recorded their regret at not having been able to

obtain a complete list of “the fallen Irishmen in the Navy. Airforce and Colonial Regiments”.

Miss Eva C. Barnard, Secretary of the the Irish National War memorial, was responsible for compiling the list of names. The printing was

personally supervised by George Roberts who had co-founded and inspired Mansel and Co, the Dublin literary publishing house.

Conscious of the emergence of the new, independent Irish Free State, the sub-committee decided the entire production of the volumes had to be home-grown and produced by the best Irish craftsmanship available.

The volumes were engraved on home-made paper by the Irish Photoengraving Company and the Dublin Illustrating Company.

**Harry Clarke**, already a leading figure in **the Irish Arts and Crafts Movement**, was well known for his versatile and highly original graphic designs and book illustrations, for his stunning stained glass windows and his strong views on the reproduction processes used in printing.

Clarke was commissioned to decorate the title page which is reprinted with alphabetic amendments at the start of each of the eight volumes. His signature is so small it is barely discernible in the illustration. On the title page the figure of Hibernia with her torch, wolfhound and harp is emblazoned beside the rising sun of the

Fianna, a High Cross and a ruined Church with a Round Tower. Above her stand effigies of the four symbolic guardians of the Four Provinces of Ireland.

For the figures of soldiers in action and the battlefield scenes, Clarke turned to the pages of “The Irish Soldier”, an illustrated journal first published on September 1st 1918. He successfully incorporated accurate images of trench warfare, artillery, tanks, searchlights and soldiers engaged in both dramatic military action or tragic loss. These include the medals they may not have lived to see, and the badges they wore unto death.

Each of the volumes were bound with exceptional artistry to a design by **Berry Oswald Reeves** who was not only a skilled enamelist and metalworker, but also a design critic, teacher and major figure in the Arts and Crafts Society of Ireland. The tooling on the bindings was completed by **William Pender**, a protégé of Lord Dunsany.

Only one hundred sets of the eight volumed set were produced, in a limited edition, for distribution to the principal libraries.



There were various locations discussed for an Irish National War Memorial. A proposal to convert Merrion Square into a Memorial Park was rejected by the Dail in 1927. The erection of a gateway in Phoenix Park was discussed.

The distinguished English war memorial architect, Sir Edwin Lutyens was approached in 1930. The Ministry of Finance in Dublin and the Trustees of the Memorial Fund agreed to acquire a ten acre site beside the river Liffey at Islandbridge, on the outskirts of Dublin.

One of the four gardens in Ireland designed by Lutyens, the work was undertaken from his drawings between 1931 and 1937 under the sympathetic supervision of Dublin architect, T. J. Byrne.

It was not until Armistice Day, 1940, that the Irish War Memorial finally opened. The Books of the Dead were placed in the four granite pavilions Lutyens had conceived as book rooms at the end of each pergola, each to contain two volumes.

The peaceful nature of the site on the riverbank is a suitable counterpoint to the horrors of war.



## The Victoria Cross record of the 36th (Ulster) Division

**In total nine members of the 36th Division were awarded the Victoria Cross:**

**Captain Eric Norman Frankland Bell**, 9th Battalion The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 20 years old, July 1st 1916, Battle of the Somme.

**2nd Lieutenant James Samuel Emerson**, 9th Battalion The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 22 years old, December 6th 1917, La Vacquerie.

**Lance Corporal Ernest Seaman**, 2nd Battalion The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 25 years old, September 29th 1918, Terhand Belgium.

**Fusilier Norman Harvey**, 1st Battalion The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Awarded for actions during October 25th 1918, Ingoyghem, Belgium.

**Second Lieutenant Edmund De Wind**, 15th Battalion The Royal Irish Rifles. Died 34 years old, March 21st 1918, Second Battle of the Somme.

**Rifleman William Frederick McFadzean**, 14th Battalion The Royal Irish Rifles. Died 20 years old, July 1st 1916, Battle of the Somme.

**Rifleman Robert Quigg**, 12th Battalion The Royal Irish Rifles. Awarded for actions during the Battle of the Somme on July 1st 1916. Also awarded the Medal of Order of St. George (Fourth Class), the highest honour of the Russian Empire.

**Lieutenant Geoffrey Cather**, 9th Battalion The Royal Irish Rifles. Died 25 years old, July 2nd 1916, Battle of the Somme

**Private Robert Morrow**, 1st Btn Royal Irish Fusiliers. Died 23 years old, April 26th 1915, Battle of Messines

After the war had ended, **King George V** paid the following tribute to the 36th Division saying, "**Throughout the long years of struggle ... the men of Ulster have proved how nobly they fight and die ...**"



## **The cathedral memorial to Edmund De Wind VC**

One of the pillars at the porch of the main West doors of Belfast Cathedral was carved as a memorial to Second Lieutenant Edmund de



Wind, who was awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross during the First World War. The pillar ,was donated by his mother.

He gave his life in the final year of the war. He died maintaining a vital position almost single-handedly at Race Course Redoubt near Groagie, in the area of St Quentin, in France on March 21, 1918. Even though badly wounded, he held on until help could be sent.



Edmund de Wind was born in Comber in 1883, attending Campbell College before working in the Bank of Ireland in Cavan and later emigrating to Canada. He enlisted with the Canadian Expeditionary Force in 1914 and served at the Somme, St-Eloi and Ypres, later receiving a Commission with the Royal Irish Rifles in the 15th (Service) Battalion of 107 Brigade. He took part in the battles at Thiepval (July 1 1916), Messines Ridge (1917), the third Battle of Ypres (1917), Cambrai (1917) and the great German attack in 1918.

**The London Gazette on May 13, 1919  
recorded the following citation:**

“For most conspicuous bravery and self-sacrifice on the 21st March, 1918, at the Racecourse Redoubt, near Groagie, France.

“For seven hours he held this most important post, and though twice wounded and practically single-handed, he maintained his position until another section could be got to his help.

“On two occasions, with two NCOs only, he got out on top under heavy machine gun and rifle

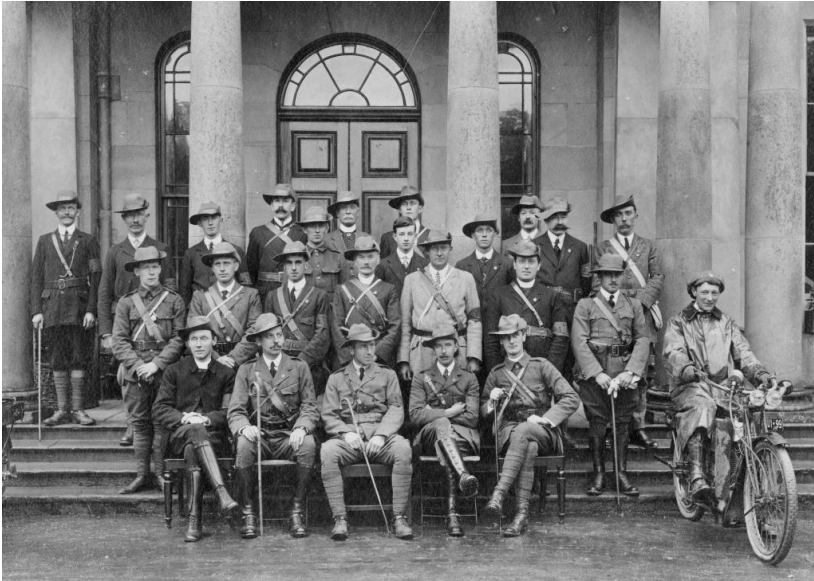
fire, and cleared the enemy out of the trench, killing many.

“He continued to repel attack after attack until he was mortally wounded and collapsed. His valour, self-sacrifice and example were of the highest order.” The VC was presented to his mother by King George V. Edmund de Wind has no known grave and is commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial to the missing.

Comber has a street named after him and in Alberta, Canada, there is a mountain named Mount de Wind. A tablet to his memory can be found in Comber Parish Church and an Ulster Historical Society Blue Plaque was erected at his former home.

## **The 36th (Ulster) Division record**

This Division of Lord Kitchener’s New Army was formed in the north of Ireland in September 1914 from members of the Ulster Volunteer Force which had been formed to resist the imposition of Home Rule in Ulster. From this para-military force thirteen additional battalions were raised for the three existing Irish regiments based in Ulster;



the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, the Royal Irish Fusiliers and the Royal Irish Rifles. The division served on the Western Front for the duration of the First World War. The division's insignia was the Red Hand of Ulster.

Ray Westlake in "Kitchener's Army" described the unique situation which existed in Ireland. He states, "It took several weeks after war was declared that permission to form an Ulster Division was granted. The Ulster Volunteer Force, a Protestant (and Unionist) organisation created by Sir Edward Carson as a force to counter the threat of the Home Rule Bill, was



already in existence and its members were as eager as any to join the war. However, due to the political situation in Ireland, things were held up. Many volunteers refused to wait and either crossed to England or Scotland to enlist, or joined the 10th or 16th Divisions already being formed by the War Office in Ireland.

“With over 80,000 members, it was clear that the UVF was in a position to make an important contribution to the recruitment of the New Armies. Lord Kitchener met with Sir Edward Carson in London who, although eager to help was concerned at how the situation in Ireland might turn while his force was away at war. The Government were not able to give any guarantees that might put Sir Edward’s mind at

rest. However, he later agreed to raise a Division, without any conditions, and within days had placed an order for 10,000 uniforms with a London firm of outfitters.”

The UVF was not only organised, but trained to some extent as a military force, and had been armed. It was therefore considerably more advanced as a formed body of men than the similar formations of the New Armies now being created elsewhere".

These battalions were clothed and administered by their raisers in the same way as the locally raised New Army battalions in Great Britain, although the UVF was at a high state of readiness in August 1914 as a result of heightened tensions in connection with the Home Rule debate that had occurred earlier in the year.

In July 1915, the Division moved to Seaford, on the Sussex coast of England. This was the first time that many of the men had been outside their native Ireland. Kitchener inspected the Division there on 27 July 1915, and later remarked to Carson “your Division of Ulstermen is the finest I have yet seen”. Another inspection took place, by His Majesty King George V, on 30 September





1915. Between 3rd to 6th October 1915, the Division moved to France, and served with distinction on the Western Front throughout the war.

The Battle of the Somme, fought from July 1916 to November 1916, was one of the largest battles of the First World War. With more than one million casualties, it was also one of the bloodiest battles in human history. The Allied forces attempted to break through the German lines along a 95-mile front north and south of the River Somme in northern France. One purpose of the

battle was to draw German forces away from the Battle of Verdun; however, by its end the losses on the Somme had exceeded those at Verdun.

Verdun would bite deep into the national consciousness of France for generations, and the Somme would have the same effect on generations of Britons.

The battle is best remembered for its first day, 1 July 1916, on which the British suffered 57,470 casualties, including 19,240 dead — the bloodiest day in the history of the British Army. As terrible as the battle was for the British Empire troops who suffered there, it naturally affected the other nationalities as well. One German officer (Captain von Hentig) famously described it as "the muddy grave of the German field army". By the end of the battle, the British had learned many lessons in modern warfare, while the Germans had suffered irreplaceable losses. British historian Sir James Edmonds stated: "It is not too much to claim that the foundations of the final victory on the Western Front were laid by the Somme offensive of 1916."

The name of the 36th. Ulster Division is inseparable from the battle at Thiepval on 1st

July, 1916 which was a mental turning point in the Great War. The Ulster Division was one of those selected to make the initial assault. It was in X Corps, with 32nd Division - a New Army formation - on its right facing the height around the immensely fortified position of Thiepval, and the regular army 29th Division, recently arrived from Gallipoli, facing Beaumont Hamel on the other bank of the Ancre. The Ulster Division faced an uphill advance, with the objective of capturing a large strongpoint complex in the enemy lines, called the Schwaben redoubt.

The Division's attack on 1 July 1916 has been covered by writers in immense detail, and has entered into Ulster folklore as a day of enduring memory. Overall the day was one of significant defeat for the British Army, when more than 57,000 men became casualties, of whom 20,000 were killed. However, it is often forgotten that three Divisions captured their objectives, and that several others while not doing so did perform exceptional feats. The Ulster Division was one of them: it captured and held for a considerable time the Schwaben Redoubt, despite virtually no progress being made by either Division on its flanks.

The Division was relieved on 2nd. July, having suffered 5,104 casualties of whom approximately 2,069 died.

The first day of the battle had been the original anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne and as they went over the parapet, many shouted the old battle cries "No Surrender" and "Remember 1690". Many wore orange ribbons and one sergeant of the Inniskillings had on his orange sash.

The Belfast newspapers, as elsewhere on 3rd July, reported the Somme Offensive, and spoke of brilliant successes. It was several days before the true horror of the casualties was known, and as day by day the lists in the newspapers grew longer, the whole Province went into mourning. No division was more closely-knit because its core had been the Ulster Volunteer Force and besides, the Ulster community was small and compact. In the streets of Belfast, as in other towns and villages throughout Ulster, mothers looked out in dread for the red bicycles of the telegram boys. In house after house, the blinds were drawn until it seemed that every family in the city had been bereaved. The casualty lists were full of familiar names, and always after

them in brackets appeared the U.V.F units to which the casualty belonged. That year the Lord Mayor requested the suspension of business for five minutes at noon. In a downpour of rain, traffic stopped, and passers by stood silent in the streets

Volumes have been written about the Battle of the Somme, which continued until November 1916. The author of the 36th Divisional History, the noted military historian Cyril Falls says this of it: “But – and of this there can be no shadow of doubt today – it laid the foundations of final victory. The German troops were never the same after it...”.

## **Instonians killed in action on the first day of the Somme**

There was not an aspect of society in Northern Ireland upon which Battle of the Somme did not impact. There are historic links between Belfast Cathedral and RBAI, not least in the number from the school who sang as choristers.

The 15 Instonians killed on that one day reflected life in Belfast city. The son of Samuel Cleland Davidson, founder and owner of the



Sirocco Engineering Works in East Belfast,  
Captain James Cleland Davidson was killed,  
aged 29.

Second Lieutenant Ernest George Boas was the  
youngest Instonian to lose his life, aged 19  
years.

Second Lieutenant Ernest George Boas aged 19  
- 5th Royal Irish Rifles (attached 13th  
Battalion)

Captain James Samuel Davidson – aged 39 -  
13th Royal Irish Rifles attached 108th  
Company Machine Gun Corps.

Thomas Elliott – aged 29 - 10th Royal Irish Rifles

Second Lieutenant Robert Victor Hamilton –  
aged 24 - 9th Royal Irish Rifles

Lieutenant Holt Montgomery Hewitt – aged 29 -  
109th Machine Gun Corps

Second Lieutenant William Arthur Hewitt –aged  
23 - 9th Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers

Lieutenant Arthur Carson Hollywood – aged 24 -  
9th Royal Irish Fusiliers. The telegram  
announcing his death arrived one day

apart from that announcing the death of his brother.

Second Lieutenant James Hollywood – aged 23  
- 18th Royal Irish Rifles, attached 12th  
Battalion

Lance Corporal William King - aged 33 - 14th  
Royal Irish Rifles

Rifleman Joseph Craig McCullough - 9th Royal  
Irish Rifles

Second Lieutenant Thomas George Moore –  
aged 24 - 17th Royal Irish Rifles attached  
8th Battalion

Lieutenant James Dermot Neill – aged 29 -  
108th Machine Gun Corps

Captain Douglas Hill O'Flaherty – aged 36 -15th  
Royal Irish Rifles

Lance Corporal Paul G Pollock - 14th Royal Irish  
Rifles

Corporal John Ramsey - 1st Royal Inniskilling  
Fusiliers

Individual stories of each are available at the 'Inst in the Great War' website compiled by RBAI alumnus Alan Curragh: <http://www.instgreatwar.com/>

---

## Acknowledgments

Vernon Clegg, Belfast Cathedral archivist

Dr. Nicola Gordon Bowe, National College of Art and Design in Dublin.

Kitchener's Army by Ray Westlake

36th Divisional History by Cyril Falls

Alan Curragh, Inst in the Great War

---

# remembrance ni

---

The **remembrance ni** programme is overseen by Very Rev Dr Houston McKelvey OBE, QVRM,

TD who served as Chaplain to 102 and 105 Regiments Royal Artillery (TA), as Hon. Chaplain to RNR and as Chaplain to the RBL NI area and the Burma Star Association NI.

Copyright - all material in this **remembrance ni** publication is copyright, and must not be reproduced in print or electronically.

To receive a copy of **remembrance ni** or notice of new postings on web site please contact -

[houston.mckelvey@btinternet.com](mailto:houston.mckelvey@btinternet.com)

Simply input Remembrance ni in the title bar and give your first and second names with e-mail address in body of text. There is also a contact facility on the web site. See Menu at <https://remembrancenl.org/>

---