



remembrance ni



The Advance in Flanders. Troops of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 36th (Ulster) Division, advancing from Ravelsburg Ridge, 1 September 1918.

Inniskilling insights WW1

The Regiment raised 13 Battalions and was awarded 46 Battle Honours and 8 Victoria Crosses, losing 5,890 men during the course of the war.

Derry Fusiliers in the hell of Passchendaele

The Third Battles of Ypres 1917, more commonly known as the battle of Passchendaele, took place between July and November 1917. It actually consisted of eight officially listed 'battles'.

Mustard Gas 8th August 1917

On the night of 7th August 1917 the 10th R. Inniskilling Fusiliers moved up to the front line at Passchendaele and in the darkness they entered a nightmare world. Carrying their heavy kit whilst struggling through deep, sticky mud, the light from flares and explosions illuminated a sea of water-filled shell holes and thick mud. There were no trenches as they flooded, so men had little protection from the high explosive shells and machine-gun fire and took cover where they could.

At 1am on 8th August as the battalion relieved the 15th RIR from their stint in the front line, suddenly, without warning, artillery shells fell among them. This time they were not filled with explosives, but the German's new horror weapon ... mustard gas.

Gas masks offered some protection for the eyes and lungs from gas clouds, but were not effective this time as men had been heavily splattered by the liquid gas and it burned through their uniforms creating huge blisters as big as the palm of the hand and burning through flesh to the bone. Others had no time to fix their gas masks.

Cpl. W. Adams, Pte H. Burnside and Pte J. Colhoun died shortly after with Pte H. Campbell and Pte J. Leighton dying a few hours later from their wounds in the most excruciating pain.

To the rest of their comrades, who tried to give them assistance in that dark hellhole, the sights they witnessed through the foggy eye-pieces of their gas masks must have been both dreadful and horrifying. Bulging eyes ... blistered and restricted windpipes and

lungs. That night an additional twenty men were wounded by the gas with eighteen others wounded through shelling and machine-gun fire.

This 10 day stint in the front line was only beginning ... and there was a lot more agony to come at Passchendaele.

27 Londonderry men die on first day of Battle of Langemarck on August 16, 1917

The battle, produced tiny gains for the Allies and heavy casualties. Twenty-seven men associated with the city of Londonderry, and its immediate environs, lost their lives on that terrible day.

Their names are listed below as follows:-

Pte. George Allen, 23847.

Allen, George, Private, 23847 'B' Company, 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Derry Volunteers, attached to the Tyrone Volunteers). Age 22. Fourth son of William and Rebecca (nee Wallace) Allen, 236, Bishop Street, and 10, Victoria Street, Londonderry. Reverend John Redmond, C.F., wrote a letter of condolence to Private Allen's mother, stating: 'I have heard Private Allen spoken of in the highest terms by officers, and he will be greatly missed in his company. He was a good soldier, brave and reliable in circumstances of danger. On the battlefield he was in the discharge of his duty faithful unto death, and what greater or nobler thing could be said of any man? He has given his life in a great and righteous cause, which is worthy of the sacrifice, and he did not die in vain. You have great reason to be proud of his memory.'

Andrews, Joseph Hamilton Miller, Second-Lieutenant, 11th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles. Age 21. Member of Carlisle Road Presbyterian Church, Londonderry. Son of James and Martha (nee Hamilton) Andrews, 'Glenmont', Templemore Park, Londonderry. te.

**The badge of
the regiment
as depicted
on a CWGC
grave
headstone**



Barr, Patrick, Drummer, 2208 4th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, attached to 11th Battalion. Age 33. Son of James and Sicilly Barr, 21, Waterloo Street, Derry. Husband of Jane Barr, Eden Place, Derry. Son-in-law of Mrs McGinley, 11, High Street, Derry.

Cairns, Robert, Private, 27944 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (attached to the 109th Trench Mortar Battery). Born Tirbracken, County Londonderry. Enlisted Londonderry. Son of Mr John Cairns, Tirbracken, Drumahoe. The Reverend J. G. Paton, chaplain, said in a letter to Mrs Cairns: 'Your son was doing his duty bravely in the big battle on 16th August when he was hit by a shell and died immediately. He was a good boy and a brave soldier. He has given his life for home and country, and what better could any man do? His officers and comrades ask me to extend to you their heartfelt sympathy in your great loss. May God be with you and keep you at this time.'

Crossan, John, Private, 31169 'C' Company, 8th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born in Londonderry. Enlisted Greenock, Scotland. Age 29. Son of Neal and Martha Crossan, 200, Bishop Street, Londonderry. Brother of James Crossan, 26, Howard Street, Londonderry.

Cullen, Cyril, Lance Corporal, 23604 9th Battalion Princess Victoria's (Royal Irish Fusiliers). Born Londonderry. Enlisted Lurgan, County Armagh. Resided Belfast. Age 18. Son of Edward B. and Nellie Cullen, Hazeldene, Carrickfergus, County Antrim.

Egan, Charles, Private, 21432 'A' Company, 8th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, formerly 7831, Highland Light Infantry. Born Lochee, Forfarshire. Enlisted Morningside. Age 33. Husband of Sarah Egan, 10, Donegal Place, Londonderry.

Galbraith, Patrick, Private, 24581 9th Battalion Princess Victoria's (Royal Irish Fusiliers). Born Claudy, County Londonderry. Enlisted Londonderry. Sister Annie recorded as next of kin on Soldiers Effects.

Harkin, Joseph, Private, 3678 8th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Derry. Enlisted Derry. Killed in action in Flanders on August 16, 1917. Son of Mrs Maggie Harkin, 34, Fahan Street, Derry.

Houston, David, Corporal, 9574 1st/8th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Londonderry. Enlisted Londonderry. Husband of Mrs Nellie Houston, 35, Wapping Lane, Londonderry. Possibly brother of Mina Johnson, who married Frederick Spencer Willis, 37, Wapping Lane / 5, McLaughlin's Square, Ferguson Street, Londonderry, on March 19, 1921, at St Columb's Cathedral, Londonderry.

Irwin, Frederick, 2nd Lieutenant (Temporary) M.M. 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Native of Limavady. Employed with Messrs. Irvine and Company, Londonderry, for nine years before enlisting. Brother of John Irwin, 29, Great James Street, Londonderry.

Johnston, James, Private, 20401 7th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Son of Mary Johnson, 3, Ernest Street, Rosemount, Londonderry.

Kelly, Robert, (Bobbie) Lance Sergeant, 27250 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Derry Volunteers, attached to Tyrone

Volunteers). Born Templemore, County Londonderry. Enlisted Londonderry. Age 21. Member of Ebrington / First Derry Presbyterian Church, Londonderry. Son of Robert and Ellen Kelly, Fountain Place / 18, Mountjoy Street, Londonderry. Major Muriel, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Tyrone Volunteers), wrote to Lance Sergeant Kelly's father at time of death informing him that his son was 'a fine N.C.O. and will be a great loss to the battalion, as also to all his comrades. He died the death of a brave man, facing the enemy.' Reverend John Redmond, C.F., wrote, 'He was a brave man in face of great peril, and could be relied on in circumstances of difficulty. He was faithful even unto death in the discharge of his duty, and what greater or nobler thing could be said of any man? He is much missed both by the officers and men of his company. He has made the greatest sacrifice a man can make for a great and holy cause, and you have good reason to be proud of his memory.'

McAuley, Hugh, Private, 24955 10th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Londonderry. Enlisted Coleraine, County Londonderry. Age 22. Son of James and E. McAuley, Daisyhill, Upper Articlave, County Londonderry.

McClintock, James, Private, 29938 10th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers/Trench Mortar Battery. Born All Saints, County Donegal. Enlisted Londonderry. Son of Alexander and Sarah Jane McClintock, Ardagh, St Johnston, County Donegal. Adopted son of Moses McConnell, 5, Harding Street, Londonderry.

McCorkell, Charles Pollock, Private, 47343 11th Battalion Manchester Regiment. Born Londonderry. Age 26. Son of Hugh and Mary McCorkell, 88, Embden Street, Charlton-on-Medlock, Manchester.

McFawn, William, Private, 15833 'B' Company, 10th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Templemore, County Londonderry. Enlisted Londonderry. Son of Samuel McFawn, 29, Fountain Place, Londonderry.

McGonigle, William (John Anderson) Private, 29324 10th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Ballymoney, County Antrim. Enlisted, under the name of William John Anderson, at

Omagh, County Tyrone. Brother of Emma Isabella Glenn, 18, Albert Place, Londonderry.

McGowan, David Caldwell, Private, 21201 'C' Company, 10th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Donegal. Enlisted Donegal. Age 19. Member of Ebrington Presbyterian Church, Londonderry. Son of Joseph and Margaret McGowan, 5, Bond's Place, Waterside, Londonderry. His brother, Lance Corporal Thomas McGowan, was killed in action on August 11, 1917.

Martin, John, Private, 27924 8th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Age 35. Son of James and Jane Martin, 9, Brandywell Avenue, Derry. Husband of Martha Jane Martin, Buncrana, County Donegal.

O'Donnell, David, Private, 21162 7/8th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Born Desertone, County Londonderry. Enlisted Coleraine. Resident of Fountain Hill, Londonderry. Cousin of Mrs Sarah Hayden, 13, Barnewall Place, Waterside, Londonderry.

Owens, Richard J., Sergeant, 9860 11th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Donegal Volunteers). Age 25. Husband of Edith M. Owens, 80, Fountain Street, Londonderry.

Stevenson, James, Private, 14492 11th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Age 21. Son of Samuel and Maggie Stevenson, Rockfield Terrace, Racecourse, Londonderry.

Sweeney, William, Private, 40368 Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (formerly 30402, Royal Warwick Regiment). Born Templemore, County Londonderry. Enlisted Londonderry. Son of Patrick Sweeney, 21, Ann Street, Londonderry.

Tosh, William James, Private, 16059 Trench Mortar Battery, attached to 10th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Derry Volunteers). Age 40. Son of Mr Richard Tosh, Tamneymore, Derry. Private Tosh joined the Derry Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in September, 1914, and went to France in October, 1915, with the battalion, taking part in all its engagements until he was transferred to the Trench Mortar Battery. He was in the employment

of the Londonderry Bridge Commissioners prior to the war, and was a member of City of Derry Temperance Loyal Orange Lodge 1007 and Royal Black Preceptory 113. Private Tosh's brother-in-law, Lance Corporal Thomas Curry, Inniskilling Fusiliers (Derry Volunteers), was killed in March 1916, and another brother-in-law, Robert Curry, who belonged to the 2nd Inniskillings, spent time as a prisoner in Germany from August 1914.

Whirskey, Daniel, Private, 9516 9th Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Born Londonderry.

Williams, James, Private, 24771 10th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Son of James Williams, 35a, Lower Road, Londonderry.

Cpl.David Donaghy M.M., Passchendaele officer's brave batman

Colonel Macrory of 10th Inniskillings returned from leave to the horrors of Passchendaele. His batman (an officer's servant which was seen by many as a 'cushy' job), David Donaghy, accompanied him as he reconnoitred the shambles of the heavily shelled front lines and in the process they lost their way ending up in no-man's-land.

They were spotted and a German sniper shot Macrory in the thigh and badly wounded him. He thought that all was lost as he couldn't make it back, but Donaghy dragged him through the horrors of no-man's-land to the British lines.

For his bravery, Cpl Donaghy was presented with a gold watch by Colonel Macrory, but as there were other reasons connected with the incident (possibly due to Colonel Macrory's possession of documents which could have been valuable to the enemy if captured), no citation for a bravery award was submitted.

Colonel Macrory would never command the battalion again so Donaghy ended up out of a job and was posted to the 109th Trench Mortar battery. However 7 months later Cpl Donaghy would show his bravery again by rescuing his commanding officer, 2Lt J.T.M Bennett and this time was awarded the Military Medal.

The Battle of Cambrai

At 8.30am on 20th November 1917 the 10th Inniskillings attack in the first wave on the Hindenburg Line near Hermies and take their objective in an hour.

The Hindenburg Line was an impregnable line of fortifications including underground bunkers, machine posts and row upon row of barbed wire. In some places it was as thick as 50 metres wide. In the area the 109th Brigade of the 36th Ulster Division would attack the fortifications were formidable as before the war the French were excavating the Canal du Nord and now this dry canal acted as a huge fortification. The massive spoil heap of excavated earth had a great view over the British lines had been changed into a fortress by the Germans.

Jim Donaghy recounts the attack manning a Stokes mortar with Billy Maine from the 9th R. Inniskilling Fusiliers in a camouflaged position out in no-man's-land. Their objective was critical otherwise the attacking troops would have been massacred.

"Our gun's objective was to bombard the spoil heap and knock out 2 German machine gun posts as part of a hurricane bombardment just as the Tenth were going over the top followed by the 9th and 11th Inniskillings. We were out there for days and many's a time I thought how dangerous it was. Not only were we in no-man's-land but our trench was unsupported so a shell landing nearby could have caused the walls to collapse and bury you. Working parties came up with ammunition and food at night. We dug holes in the bank for the hundreds of mortar rounds and camouflaged them."

An amazing story of honour from Limavady...

...How a Major in the 10th R Inniskillings was killed in action on the 1st July 1916 ...as a lance corporal in the London Scottish.

Major Frederick Charles Bloomfield from Greystone Hall, Limavady was from a wealthy family and had been an officer in the militia before the war. One of the founding officers of the UVF in the area and a major recruiter for the Derrys when war was declared, he was the original commander of C Company and second in command of the battalion.

However, it was recounted that Major Trench and Colonel Ross Smyth did not get on due to his “bad” influence on junior officers ... which it was suggested probably meant them drinking too much in the officers mess. Before the battalion departed to France in October 1915, Trench was assigned to the 12th (Reserve) Bn Inniskilling Fusiliers and was instructed to stay in Ireland. In the early hours of 12th October, Trench was alleged as having been drunk in the officers’ mess and asking for horses to be turned out, which was refused by a junior officer.

He was reported and due to his conduct and the additional fact that he had not turned up for an important appointment (sitting on a court martial board) it was decided by the commanding officer of the 15th Reserve Infantry Brigade Ulster Division that he be placed under open arrest awaiting his own court martial on 11th November. He was charged with being drunk and disobeying a command given by a superior officer (for both charges he pleaded not guilty).

However shortly before the court martial, he broke his open arrest and left the barracks. Telegrams were sent to the police and military at the main ports to look out for him incase he tried to escape.

He did escape to England and what he did next was quite amazing ... he concealed his past and joined the London Scottish as a mere private at the age of 37 under the name Frederick Charles Bloomfield. Imagine the difference in age and background compared to the young privates he would be fighting with, both in their home and military lifestyles. But why did he do this? Simply ... it was a case of comradeship and honour. Trench recognized that once court-martialed, he would be dismissed from the army. The Derrys were just entering the front line trenches at this time. He

probably thought how could he ever go back to the safety and comfort of his opulent home in Limavady knowing that the men he had recruited and his fellow officers, were starting the nightmare of the front line trenches.

Trench went into action on the morning of 1st July 1916 as a lance corporal in the London Scottish at Gommecourt on the Somme a few miles away from his comrades in the 10th Inniskillings. The London Scottish had horrific losses too with 616 casualties out of the 871 men who went into the attack.

5746 L/Cpl F.C. Bloomfield was killed in action. His body was never found. His widow worked tirelessly throughout the war sending parcels to Ulster Division POWs in Germany. In 1919 the Trench Memorial Flute Band was formed in his honour.

One of his medals [as Bloomfield] turned up on eBay and thankfully it was purchased by someone who knew the history of who Bloomfield was and it is in safe hands. Today, in the new Limavady Orange Heritage Centre one of the rooms within the Centre, is named the Trench Room in memory of one of Limavady's finest, if flawed Sons.

Queen's University OTC service with Inniskillings WW1

Roll of Honour

19 former members of the Officers' Training Corps at Queen's University Belfast died in service with the Inniskillings in WW1

+ANDERSON, Albert Stewart

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Second Lieutenant. Died 01/02/1917. Age 34. Severely wounded 25/01/1917. Sullivan Upper School. Holywood. Graduate of QUB Faculty of Arts 1903 - 04 and Bachelor of Engineering 1910. A keen cricketer, he played for the senior eleven in Holywood. After graduation he worked as an assistant engineer on several contracts in Ireland before moving to

Canada where he was involved in construction work on the Canadian Pacific and Pacific Great Eastern Railways. He returned home towards the end of 1915 and joined the Training Corps on 01/11/1915. He obtained a commission, went to France in June 1916 and served with the 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in 109th Brigade of the (36th (Ulster) Division. Son of Thomas and Annie Anderson, High St., Holywood,. Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension Nord, France. Holywood WM. First Holywood PCI.

+BARR, James Hamilton

Royal Irish Rifles 11th Battalion, attached 7th/8th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Lieutenant. Died 01/09/1918. Age 21. Foyle College. Matriculated in the Faculty of Arts, 1915. He won the Irish Society's Entrance Scholarship to QUB in 1915. A memorial prize in classics was created at Foyle College. Foyle College's memorial was made of old battleship teakwood from H.M.S. Britannia. Son of Mr. and Mrs. William Barr, Aubrey St., Londonderry. Wulverghem - Lindenhoeck Road Military Cemetery.

+BEVERLAND, Charles Ferris

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Battalion. Second Lieutenant. Died 04/12/1916. Age 22. He was captured by the Germans and died of wounds in a German hospital. Member of the Training Corps 1915 - 16. His brother John (below) served in Gallipoli and was awarded the Military Cross. Sullivan Upper School. Furniture apprentice. Youngest son of Robert and Sarah Beverland (nee Herd), Alexandra Park, Holywood. HAC Cemetery, Ecoist - St. Mein. Holywood WM. St Philip & St James Parish Church WM

BARTON, Charles

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Captain. Larne Grammar School. Gained entrance scholarship to QUB in 1911. Served in Near East. Graduated from QUB with first class honours after the war. One of three brothers who were former pupils of the grammar school to serve in WW1. Son of Mr George Barton, JP

BOYD, William Ryder

Royal Irish Rifles and Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Lieutenant. Campbell College and QUB. Born 14/01/1898, son of Rev. John Boyd, Knockdene Park, Belfast. Civil Servant, Govt. of N.I., Ministry of Finance. Resided Cabin Hill Gardens.

+BROWNE, William Angus

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 8th. Battalion, attached Royal Flying Corps. 53rd Squadron. Reported missing in action on 21/09/1917. He was killed on that date. Age 24. Originally formed at Catterick on 15/05/1916, it was planned to use 53 Squadron as a training squadron, but in the December of that year it was sent to St Omer in France in the Corps reconnaissance role. The Squadron operated BE2Es until April 1917, when these were replaced by RE8s, which it continued to use for the remainder of the war.

William Angus Browne attended the Belfast Municipal Technical Institute to do an engineering course and on 01/09/1914 he joined the Training Corps. He was the younger son of William and Eleanor Browne, Tubber-na-carrig, Kircubbin and Agincourt Avenue, Belfast. He was buried at Post - du - hem military Cemetery, La Gorgue. Commemorated in Kircubbin Parish Church (Holy Trinity) *and* family grave headstone in the adjoining graveyard. Two of his sisters named their sons after him. James Hawks Stokes and Helen Lyle Stokes (nee Browne) had a son they named William Angus Bartlett Stokes (named after William Angus Browne) and he was killed in the Second World War. Flying Officer (Wireless Operator/ Air Gunner) William Angus Bartlett Stokes (No. J/18752) served with 295 (RAF) Squadron in the Royal Canadian Air Force and he was 24 when he died on 11 June 1943. He was buried in Heanton Punchardon (St. Augustine) Churchyard, Devon. John Boyd Iliff and Emily Davidson Iliff (nee Browne) had a son they named William Angus Boyd Iliff (named after William Angus Browne) and he was knighted by the Queen in 1961.

CHRISTIE, Robert

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Foundation member of QUB Services Club

+CUPPLES, William

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Captain. Died 25/09/1915. Age 20. MCB. Faculty of Medicine 1912 - 14. Member of the Training Corps 1913. Son of Mr. and Mrs. William Cupples, Malone Avenue, Belfast.. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial.

+DRUMM, John

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 7th Battalion. Sergeant. 29674. Died 08/06/1917. Age 22. Member of the Training Corps 1915 - 16. Son of Robert and Elizabeth Drumm, Belmore St., Enniskillen. Lussenthoel Military Cemetery.

+DUNLOP, Charles

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Second Lieutenant. Died 22/10/1914. Friends' School, Lisburn. RBAI. Charles was the first Instonian to die in the war. Member of the Training Corps 1909. He subsequently entered Sandhurst and was sent to the front shortly after passing out, where he served in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, being gazetted to Lieutenant in September 1914. Charles died of wounds received in the Battle of the Aisne at the age of 22, while waiting for an amputation. He was reported of being very fond of his horse and before he died was most concerned about what had happened to it. In the March 1915 edition of School News, an Instonian officer serving with the Royal Army Medical Corps wrote: "Charles was the most noble-minded, the most honourable of boys, the most upright of men, and the truest friend. He was my oldest and best friend and no-one could have had better. According to the testimony of his fellows, he did his work nobly and bravely and his example and courage in the field will long remain a bright spot in the memory of those whose fortune it was to serve under him." Charles was son of the late Fleet Surgeon James Dunlop and Elizabeth Dunlop of Edenderry House, Ballylesson, Belfast. Les Gonards Cemetery, Versailles, Yvelines, France. Lisburn WM. RBAI WM

+GORDON, John

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Battalion. Lance-Corporal. 3509. Died 01/07/1916. Age 22. Member of the Training Corps 1914. Son

of James and Elizabeth Gordon, Whitewell, Belfast. Ancre British Cemetery, Beaumont - Hamel.

+GRAHAM, James Lawson

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Battalion. Lieutenant. Died 30/09/1918. Age 27. Member of the Training Corps 1915. A sister Edith served in France with the Nursing Corps. An obelisk commemorating James Lawson was erected at the Boardmills Second Presbyterian Church by his Uncle Dr. James Graham. Dr. Graham who was Belfast Coroner from 1905 until his death in 1932 travelled to the church's Remembrance Service from his home in Helens Bay every year, paying homage to his nephew by laying a wreath on the Memorial. A letter detailing the circumstances surrounding James' death was sent to his father by army Chaplain Rev. W G. Murphy. The chaplain wrote: "Your son fell in action on the morning of Sunday September 29. We moved up to the attack and it was as he was leading his company forward very gallantly he fell mortally wounded by a machine gun bullet. He was one of the best among our officers and a very good man personally. We all loved him and feel a great sense of loss. His body was sent back to be buried well behind our lines which were pushing forward at this time. He helped and helped most signally to win an advance that will be memorable in this division and will do much to hasten the end of the war." Lieutenant Graham's Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel R.S. Knox said he died "the most gallant death a soldier could die, leading his company in the forefront of the advance. He was liked exceedingly by his men with whom he was always on the best of terms and had the rare gift of inspiring confidence in them," the Lieutenant Colonel concluded. Son of Samuel J. and Agnes Graham, of Maple Vale, Boardmills, Co. Down. Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 70 - 72, Second Boardmills Presbyterian Church memorial

+GRUBB, Donald James

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 5th Battalion. Second Lieutenant. Died 15/08/1915. Age 20. Educated at Wesley College, Dublin, he "was well known in sporting circles, being a first class swimmer, and a player who was not easily thrown aside in the rugby field". He had

entered the linen business sometime before 1914 and joined the QUB OTC on the outbreak of war in 1914. Gazetted to the Inniskillings in September 1914, he was later posted as Signalling Officer to 5 RInF. He left for the Dardanelles from Basingstoke on 10/07/1915, landing with his battalion at Sulva Bay on 07/08/1915. He was KIA eight days later. After gaining his commission, he landed with his regiment at Suvla Bay on 07/08/1915. On 05/08/1915 the 5th Inniskillings were directed to take Kidney Ridge, and shortly after noon that day, they advanced and made moderate progress until they reached the plain at the foot of the hill. The advance then stopped due to very heavy artillery and enemy machine gun fire. More advances were made, but all were in vain. By 2000 hours orders were sent from Brigade Headquarters to withdraw back to the position they held at noon that day. An order was given to go out and collect the wounded, and by midnight over 100 wounded men were retrieved. The task was completed by 0400 hours the next morning. The casualty count was high, 6 Officers had been killed and 14 wounded, with 28 other ranks killed and 230 wounded. 78 men were posted as missing. Almost half the Battalion strength was gone since landing at Suvla Bay in early August. His Commanding Officer in writing of Lieut. Grubb says "he met his death while bravely attending the wounded at great personal risk under a very heavy fire". Donald spent a time in Cookstown and worked at Gunnings factory. Born Belfast 31/05/1895. Only son of the Rev. James and Jessie Grubb, Donegall Square, Belfast, Belfast. Helles Memorial, Cape Helles, Gallipoli, Panel 97

+HOLLYWOOD, Arthur Carson

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Lieutenant. Died 01/07/1916. Age 24. Faculty of Medicine 1909 - 10. Friend's School, Lisburn, and RBAI. He joined the Royal University of Ireland in September 1909, and served as the company commander of F Company of the Willowfield Battalion of the Ulster Volunteer Force in 1913 and 1914. He was working in his father's business on the Albertbridge Road, Belfast, as a rent agent, and living in Helen's Bay, County Down, when he joined the 108th Field Ambulance, part of the 36th (Ulster) Division, on 12/09/1914, as a Staff Sergeant. Arthur was commissioned into the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers on 19/04/1915,

and joined the 9th Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers in January 1916, being posted to A Company,. He was subsequently appointed Lieutenant on 29/02/1916. He was killed on 01/07/1916 during the Ulster Division attack on the west bank of the River Ancre. Sgt Whitsell stated, "The first wave of men left the British trenches followed by the second wave to which Lt Hollywood belonged. I followed them with the 3rd wave of men. I saw Lt Hollywood jump into the German trench. I was then wounded and saw no more. Before this attack, Lt Hollywood showed me the rips in his steel helmet where he had been hit, but seemed to be all right then." Private Stewart and Private Coppleton both stated that they saw Arthur being killed at Hamel, just after leaving the 1st line German trench about 13.00. Private Cobain wrote that he saw Arthur being "hit by a machine gun bullet during the advance". It was reported that Private Nelson, who was wounded in the attack, lay beside his body for a night. Sgt Slater reported that he saw the body being brought in, and that it was buried in the Hamel village graveyard, but Arthur now has no known grave. The telegram announcing his death arrived one day apart from that announcing the death of his brother. Arthur was born on 29/12/1891 in Ballymacarrett, Belfast, the son of James and Elizabeth Hollywood, of "Bayswater", Princetown Road, Bangor and later of Red Gorton, Helen's Bay, County Down. Theipval Memorial, Pier 15, Bangor WM

+LEONARD, Francis Patrick Mapletoft

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 8th. Battalion. Lieutenant. Died 29/04/1916. Age 26. Member of the Training Corps 1914. Enlisted in the U.P.S. Bn. Royal Fusiliers, Sept., 1914. Gazetted Sept.1914. Campbell College. Son of the late Francis Mapletoft Leonard and Jessie Leonard, of Belfast. Loos Memorial, Panel 60

+LOWDEN, Norman

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Battalion attached 109th T.M. Battery. Lieutenant. MiD. Died 21/03/1918. Age 22. Member of the Training Corps 1915 - 16. Son of Mr. and Mrs. James Lowden, Easton Avenue, Belfast. Savy British Cemetery, Aisle, France

+McFAULE, J

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Second Lieutenant. There is no CWGC ref.

+McKINSTRY, James McNeill

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Battalion. Second Lieutenant. Died 02/12/1916. Age 21. He joined the Training Corps, on 29/09/1914. James wrote this letter to his mother on 19th June 1916: "Dear Mother, I am going up to the trenches and what happens to me is in God's hands. If I am knocked out, do not mourn for me for this is the fire through which we must pass to a happier world. May God comfort and keep you from all harm and give you length of days to see your children's children. I want everything to go on as usual no matter what happens and I would rather nobody should go in black for me. I commit you to God who is a safe rock in time of storm and who guards and watches over us all. With deepest love and affection to yourself and the rest of the family. I remain, sweet Mother, your affectionate son, James. PS Do not have any regrets about me as you gave me everything a Mother can give and you were the one person I admired and loved most in this world." James' battalion were in the front line near Beaumont Hamel from 18/11/1916. On 23/11/1916, a party of 80 men of the battalion, in conjunction with three companies of the Lancashire Fusiliers took part in an attack on Munich Trench. Their objective was to rescue a party of the 97th Infantry Brigade located in dugouts and to return them to their own lines. The attack commenced at 3.30pm and they succeeded in entering Munich Trench but were unable to rescue the missing men, and returned. One officer of the battalion was killed, three wounded, including James, and over 60 other ranks were also casualties. James subsequently died of his wounds in Warloy Special Hospital. Born on 09/05/1895 in Cookstown, he was the son of Robert and A.R. McKinstry, Rugby Road, Belfast. Warloy-Baillon Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, France. RBAI WM

+PURDY, Richard Shaw

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 6th Battalion attached 8th Battalion. Second Lieutenant. Died 11/09/1916. Age 25. Member of the Training Corps 1915. Son of Joseph and Mary Hannah Purdy;

husband to Annie Maud Purdy, Ormeau Road, Belfast. Corbie Communal Cemetery Extension

+SUTHERLAND, George Hay

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Battalion. Lieutenant. Died 02/11/1918. Age 43. Member of the Training Corps 1915. Son of Alexandre and Mary Sutherland, Larne. Terlincthun Military Cemetery, Wimille. Pas de Calais, France

The Inniskilling Battalions

1st Battalion

04.08.1914 Stationed at Trimulgherry, India.

Dec 1914 Embarked for England arriving at Avonmouth and then moved to Rugby and joined the 87th Brigade of the 29th Division. Mar 1915 Deployed to the Mediterranean arriving in Mudros in April 1915.

25.04.1915 Landed in Gallipoli and engaged in various actions against the Turkish Army including;

First Battle of Krithia, the Second Battle of Krithia, the Third Battle of Krithia, the Battle of Gully Ravine, the Battle of Krithia Vineyard, the Battle of Scimitar Hill.

09.01.1916 Evacuated from Gallipoli to Egypt due to severe casualties from combat, disease and harsh weather.

18.03.1916 Deployed to France arriving at Marseilles and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

1916

The Battle of Albert, The Battle of the Transloy Ridges,

1917

The First Battle of the Scarpe, The Second Battle of the Scarpe, The Third Battle of the Scarpe, The Battle of Langemarck, The Battle of Broodseinde, The Battle of Poelcapelle, The Battle of Cambrai.

05.02.1918 Transferred to the 109th Brigade of the 36th Division; 1918

The Battle of St Quentin, The Actions at the Somme Crossings, The Battle of Rosieres, The Battle of Messines, The Battle of Bailleul,

The First Battle of Kemmel Ridge, The Battle of Ypres, The Battle of Courtrai, The action of Ooteghem.

11.11.1918 Ended the war at Roncq north of Tourcoing, France.



Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers remembered on Dungannon War Memorial

2nd Battalion

04.08.1914 Station at Dover as part of the 12th Brigade of the 4th Division and then moved to Norfolk.

22.08.1914 Mobilised for war and landed at Havre and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

The Battle of Le Cateau, The Battle of the Marne, The Battle of the Aisne, The Battle of Messines 1914.

06.12.1914 Transferred to the G.H.Q. Troops.

26.01.1915 Transferred to the 5th Brigade of the 2nd Division;
1915

Winter Operations 1914-15, The Battle of Festubert, The Battle of Loos.

22.07.1915 Transferred to the Third Army Troops.

18.11.1915 Transferred to the 14th Brigade of the 5th Division.

24.12.1915 Transferred to the 96th Brigade of the 32nd Division;
1916

The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Bazentin, The Battle of the Ancre.

1917

Operations on the Ancre, The pursuit of the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line.

03.02.1918 Transferred to the 109th Brigade of the 36th Division;
1918

The Battle of St Quentin, The Actions at the Somme Crossings, The Battle of Rosieres, The Battle of Messines, The Battle of Bailleul, The First Battle of Kemmel Ridge, The Battle of Ypres, The Battle of Courtrai, The action of Ooteghem.

11.11.1918 Ended the war at Roncq north of Tourcoing, France.

3rd (Reserve) Battalion

04.08.1914 Stationed at Omagh and then moved to Lough Swilly and then Londonderry.

April 1918 Moved to Oswestry and absorbed the 4th and 12th Battalions as part of the West Lancs. Reserve Brigade.

4th (Extra Reserve) Battalion

04.08.1914 Stationed at Enniskillen and then moved to Lough Swilly and then Buncrana.

1916 Moved to Clonmany and then back to Buncrana.

April 1918 Moved to Oswestry and absorbed by the 3rd Battalion.

5th (Service) Battalion

Aug 1914 Formed at Omagh as part of the First New Army (K1) and then moved to Dublin to join the 31st Brigade of the 10th Division.

Early 1915 Moved to Kildare and then Basingstoke.

July 1915 Deployed to the Mediterranean arriving at Mudros.

07.08.1915 Landed at Gallipoli and engaged in various actions against the Turkish Army including;

Battle of Sari Bair, Capture of Chocolate Hill and Hill 60.

Oct 1915 Deployed to Salonika and engaged in various actions against the Bulgarian Army including;

The Battle of Kosturino, Retreat from Serbia, Capture of the Karajokois, Capture of Yenikoi.

Sept 1917 Deployed to Egypt and then Palestine and engaged in various actions during the Palestine Campaign including;

Third Battle of Gaza, Capture of the Sheria Position, Capture of Jerusalem, Defence of Jerusalem.

28.05.1918 Left the 10th Division and deployed to France, embarking at Alexandria via Taranto arriving at Serqueux.

19.07.1918 Transferred to the 198th Brigade of the 66th Division; The Battle of Cambrai, The Pursuit to the Selle, The Battle of the Selle, a phase of the Final Advance in Picardy.

11.11.1918 Ended the war near Avesnes.

6th (Service) Battalion

Aug 1914 Formed at Omagh as part of the First New Army (K1) and then moved to Dublin to join the 31st Brigade of the 10th Division.

Early 1915 Moved to Kildare and then Basingstoke.

July 1915 Deployed to the Mediterranean arriving at Mudros.

07.08.1915 Landed at Gallipoli and engaged in various actions against the Turkish Army including;

Battle of Sari Bair, Capture of Chocolate Hill and Hill 60.

Oct 1915 Deployed to Salonika and engaged in various actions against the Bulgarian Army including;

The Battle of Kosturino, Retreat from Serbia, Capture of the Karajokois, Capture of Yenikoi.

Sept 1917 Deployed to Egypt and then Palestine and engaged in various actions during the Palestine Campaign including;

Third Battle of Gaza, Capture of the Sheria Position, Capture of Jerusalem, Defence of Jerusalem.

28.05.1918 Left the 10th Division and deployed to France, arriving at Marseilles.

07.06.1918 Transferred to the 43rd Brigade of the 14th Division.

18.06.1918 Transferred to the 103rd Brigade of the 34th Division.

29.06.1918 Transferred to defend the Lines of Communication

16.07.1918 Transferred to the 151st Brigade of the 50th Division and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

The Battle of the St Quentin Canal, The Battle of the Beaurevoir Line, The Battle of Cambrai 1918, The pursuit to the Selle, The Battle of the Selle, The Battle of Valenciennes.
11.11.1918 Ended the war near Monceau N.W. of Avesnes, France.

7th & 8th (Service) Battalion

Oct 1914 Formed at Omagh as part of the Second New Army (K2) and then moved to Tipperary and joined the 49th Brigade of the 16th Division.

Aug 1915 Moved to Finner Camp and then Working.

Feb 1916 Mobilised for war and landed in France and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;
1916

The Battle of Guillemont, The Battle of Ginchy.

23.08.1917 Amalgamated with the 8th Battalion to form the 7/8th Battalion.

1917

The Battle of Messines, The Battle of Langemark.

22.04.1918 Reduced to training cadre with surplus personnel transferred to the 2nd Royal Irish Regiment.

1918

The Battle of St Quentin, The Battle of Rosieres.

17.06.1918 Transferred to the 102nd Brigade of the 34th Division.

26.06.1918 Transferred to G.H.Q. Troops and reconstituted with 18 Officers and 857 men from the 8th Rifle Brigade.

03.07.1918 Transferred to the 89th Brigade of the 30th Division;
1918

The capture of Neuve Eglise, The capture of Wulverghem, The Battle of Ypres, The Battle of Courtrai.

11.11.1918 Ended the war N.W. of Lessines, Belgium.

9th (Service) Battalion (County Tyrone)

Sept Formed at Omagh from the Tyrone Volunteers and then moved to Finner Camp as part of the 3rd Brigade of the Ulster Division.

02.11.1914 The formation became the 109th Brigade of the 36th Division.

Jan 1915 Moved to Randalstown and then Ballycastle and then Bordon area.

Oct 1915 Mobilised for war and landed in France and engaged in various actions on the Western front including;

1916

The Battle of Albert (the Division suffered server casualties in this Battle and took the rest of the year to rebuild).

1917

The Battle of Messines, The Battle of Langemarck, The Cambrai Operations, The capture of Bourslon Wood.

1918

The Battle of St Quentin, The Actions at the Somme Crossings, The Battle of Rosieres, The Battle of Messines, The Battle of Bailleul, The First Battle of Kemmel Ridge, The Battle of Ypres, The Battle of Courtrai, The action of Ooteghem.

11.11.1918 Ended the war in Roncq north of Tourcoing, France.

10th (Service) Battalion (Derry)

Sept 1914 Formed at Omagh from the Derry Volunteers and then moved to Finner Camp as part of the 3rd Brigade of the Ulster Division.

02.11.1914 The formation became the 109th Brigade of the 36th Division.

May 1915 Moved to Randalstown and then Seaford and then Bordon area.

Oct 1915 Mobilised for war and landed in France and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

1916

The Battle of Albert (the Division suffered server casualties in this Battle and took the rest of the year to rebuild).

1917

The Battle of Messines, The Battle of Langemarck, The Cambrai Operations, The Capture of Bourslon Wood.

21.01.1918 Disbanded in France and remaining personnel (7 Officer and 150 men) transferred to the 2nd Battalion.

11th (Service) Battalion (Donegal & Fermanagh)

Sept 1914 Formed at Omagh from the Donegal & Fermanagh Volunteers and then moved to Finner Camp as part of the 3rd Brigade of the Ulster Division.

02.11.1914 The formation became the 109th Brigade of the 36th Division and then moved to Enniskillen.

Jan 1915 Moved to Randalstown and then Seaford and then Bordon area.

Oct 1915 Mobilised for war and landed in France and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

1916

The Battle of Albert (the Division suffered severe casualties in this Battle and took the rest of the year to rebuild).

1917

The Battle of Messines, The Battle of Langemarck, The Cambrai Operations, The capture of Broulton Wood.

21.01.1918 Disbanded in France and remaining personnel (20 Officer and 400 men) transferred to the 9th Battalion.

12th (Reserve) Battalion

April 1915 Formed at Enniskillen from the depot companies of the 9th 10th & 11th Battalion

June 1915 Moved to Ballyshannon and then Newtownards and then returned to Inniskilling as part of the 15th Reserve Brigade.

1916 Moved to Finner Camp.

April 1918 Moved to Oswestry and absorbed by the 3rd Battalion.

13th (Service) Battalion

11.06.1918 Formed in France from the 11th garrison Guard of the 119th Brigade of the 40th Division.

13.07.1918 The title 'Garrison' dropped and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

1918

The Final Advance in Flanders, The Battle of Ypres.

11.11.1918 Ended the war south of Roubaix, France.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Friends of The Somme - Mid-Ulster Branch

Forces War Records

Imperial War Museum

Long, Long Trail Awinding

Londonderry Sentinel

Leo Reynolds

Somme Roll of Honour

Three Cheers for the Derrys

War Time Memories Project

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. Dr McKelvey is a Past President of Queen's University Services Club. He may be contacted at houston.mckelvey@btinternet.com

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