



remembrance ni



Unknown Warrior - Irish chaplains key role in new Army Museum

Padre Andrew Totten an army chaplain from Belfast played a key role in a museum built at the Defence Academy in Shrivenham which houses artefacts carried by the creator of the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior.

Remembrance Day in 2020 marked the centenary of the national monument in Westminster Abbey. Army chaplain Rev David Railton MC came up with the idea for the tomb which represents the thousands of unknown soldiers killed during wartime.

He stood with troops at battles including High Wood, the Aisne and Passchendaele while carrying a wooden cross and altar candlesticks through the trenches.

The simple, 5-inch-high cross used by Rev Railton on the Western Front has his name and unit in his own handwriting in pencil on the base. (See photo page above).

This and the candlesticks found their way back to the Home of Chaplaincy, like so many other religious objects carried by padres on campaigns.

The Armed Forces' Chaplaincy Centre (AFCC) moved from Amport House to Beckett House at Shrivenham in 2020.

Former AFCC principal Padre Andrew Totten said that Padre Railton's prized possessions were given pride of place in the new Royal Army Chaplains' Museum which opened in 2021.

Padre Andrew sees a parallel between what David Railton recognised as the bereaved relatives' desperation for somewhere to mourn their loved one and what he himself observed as a chaplain on operations in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Unlike in the First World War, personnel who were killed in Afghanistan and Iraq were repatriated to the UK, but their comrades in arms felt the need to remember them somehow, to create their own, very personal memorials.

Mr Totten said: "Soldiers who lost comrades felt the need to create tributes, and even symbolic graves, for their fallen friends. Many a small patrol base had a corner for memorials where soldiers could reflect on their own loss."

Rev Railton supported soldiers, buried the fallen, comforted the wounded, wrote to the families of missing and killed troops, and helped survivors pay tribute to their lost comrades.

He received the Military Cross for rescuing an officer and two men under heavy fire on the Somme.

He thought of repatriating the body of an unidentified fallen colleague from the battlefields after seeing the grave of an unnamed soldier of the Black Watch in a back garden near Armentières.

The sad scene made him realise how distressing it would be for relatives who would never know where their husband, father or son was buried or had died.

On Armistice Day 1920, David Railton's vision was realised when the coffin of the Unknown Warrior, covered by his own wartime Union flag, was laid to rest with full honours in Westminster Abbey, in the presence of King George V, field marshals, and admirals..

Padre Geoff Withers, an RAF chaplain from Northern Ireland, was Padre Andrew Totten's successor as principal of the AFCC. He explained that Beckett House has another significant link with the monument.

Hanging in the Grand Hall is a painting by Frank Salisbury depicting soldiers from across what was then the British

Empire standing in reverence at the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior.

In the bottom corner of the painting rests the wedding bouquet of the Queen Mother, a poignant symbol that was replicated by her daughter the Queen when a bouquet of her wedding flowers was laid by her Equerry on the corner of the tomb in Westminster Abbey during an act of remembrance.

First officer serving with 1st Btn Royal Irish Rifles to fall in WW1

Captain Bertram Allgood was the first officer of the Royal Irish Rifles. 1st Btn to fall in WW1

He died on 06/12/1914, aged 40. At the outbreak of the First World War Captain Allgood was called up for service and joined the 3rd Btn Royal Irish Rifles on 14/08/1914; he went to the Front with the 1st Battalion on 7 November. He was the first officer serving with 1st Btn Royal Irish Rifles to be killed during the First World War. The death of Captain Bertram Allgood was reported in the *Newtownards Chronicle* because he had lived in Newtownards when he was Adjutant of the 4th Btn Royal Irish Rifles.

Bertram Allgood was born on 11/02/1874 in Bellingham, Northumberland. He was the second son of Major-General George Allgood CB and Elizabeth Allgood (who died on 14/02/1874, three days after Bertram was born). Major-General George Allgood served in the Indian Army and became Chief Constable of Northumberland.

Bertram Allgood was educated at Eton from 1888 until 1891 and became a career soldier who served in both India and Ireland. He enjoyed hunting and polo and was a member of the Naval and Military Club.

He was appointed Second Lieutenant 15 May 1897 in the Royal Irish Rifles, Lieutenant on 10 August 1898 and Captain on 6 February 1904.

During the South African War, he was serving with the 1st Battalion at Calcutta and he continued to serve in India until 1905, when he reported for duty to the Depot at Belfast. He returned to India but came back again to Belfast before serving for a time with the 2nd Battalion at Dover.

He was appointed Adjutant of the 4th Battalion on 19 November 1911 at Newtownards and he kept that appointment until he retired from the Army in February 1914 and joined the Reserve of Officers.

On 08/04/1913 Captain Allgood and Isobel (Isa) Edith Cochrane Bayley married at Paddington Holy Trinity Church. On 07/08/1914 their daughter, Elizabeth Mary Cochrane Allgood was born. During the Second World War Elizabeth Mary Cochrane Allgood was a Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) nurse.

Estaires Communal Cemetery and Extension, France. He is named on six memorials in Northumberland.

On this Day – December 6

1918



The 2nd British Cavalry Brigade and armoured cars enter Cologne.

1938

France and Germany sign a treaty of friendship.

1939

Soviet attacks against the Mannerheim line are beaten back by the Finns with heavy Red Army casualties.

Germany warns neutral ships to resist the British blockade.

1940

The Western Desert Force begins Training Exercise No.2. This was a 60 mile approach march to their concentration point, designated Piccadilly, approximately 20 miles south of Maktila.

War Guilt trial in Vichy France indicts MM Blum, Daladier, La Chambre and Gen. Gamelin.

Greeks occupy Santi Quaranta, Albania. Italian Supreme Commander Badoglio resigns ~at his own request; replaced by Gen. Cavallero.

SS executes mentally ill inmates in Stralsund and Chelm, Poland, including Hitler's second cousin, Aloisia Veit.

General Ugo Cavallero assumes command of Italian army (Comando Supremo) after Marshal Badoglio resigns.

1941

Zhukov extends the Red Army's counter-offensive along the whole Moscow axis in an attempt to prevent Panzer Groups 3 and 4 from outflanking Moscow from the northeast. To launch this offensive, Zhukov uses 4 armies on the right flank of his own West Front.



The United Kingdom declared war on Finland, Hungary, and Romania, following the signing of the Tri-partite Pact and Finland's alliance with Germany.

An RAF Hudson aircraft spots Japanese transports sailing west off Cape Cambodia towards Malaya.

The British, having feared a surprise Japanese attack for a number of months now, had developed a plan codenamed 'Matador', to advance forces into southern Thailand should the Japanese attack, in order to deny the Japanese use of the airfields and ports at Patani and Singora.

However, the implications of violating Thai neutrality and more importantly the possible US reactions, dissuaded the British from launching 'Matador'.

Roosevelt makes a personal appeal to the Japanese Emperor Hirohito for peace.



US battleships USS Oklahoma, Arizona and Nevada arrived at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, 1 day before the Japanese attack on the US naval base.

1942

Germans victorious in tank battle at Djebel el Guessa, Tunisia.

1943

Monte Camino is finally taken by U.S. Fifth Army.

<https://www.italystarassociation.org.uk/history/monte-camino-the-first-battle-5th-november-1943/>

Soviets take Yeysk on Sea of Rostov, cutting off German Army Group A.

1944



Leading Aircraftman Fred Fazan from No. 122 Squadron dressed up as Father Christmas and handed out presents to Dutch children at the Squadron's airfield at Volkel, Holland in December 1944.

The Japanese capture Tushan, south of the Nationalist capital of Chungking.

1945

The United States extends a \$3 billion loan to Great Britain to help compensate for the termination of the Lend-Lease agreement.

USASTAF (USA Strategic Air Forces) based in the Pacific, is inactivated.

A letter home from an Irish Brigade officer

Tuesday 6th December 1943

From behind the front line north of the River Sangro

(The Irish Brigade attack on German positions north of the River Sangro connecting Fossacesia and Mozzagrogna began on the morning of 30 November. 1 RIrF was either supporting action or in action until the evening of 5 December when it was pulled out the line for rest. The 8th Army continued to attack the eastern end of the German Winter line along the River Moro until offensive action was suspended on 26 December 1943)

My Dearest Olive,

I am sorry I have not been able to write for some time but the BBC and newspapers probably made the reason fairly obvious. Sometimes I wondered if I would ever write again but thank goodness I came through alright and now I think we are in for a nice long rest.

Well, I thought the spell in October pretty bad, but I think this was even worse. A brief day by day description will give you some idea of what we went through.

We spent several days in a concentration area right by the artillery and day and night we were kept awake by the thunder of their guns. Then one night, we marched about ten miles, waded across a river (*Sangro*), and lay up in an assembly area. I will never forget my runner, severely wounded since, poor little fellow, following me into the river and exclaiming in tones of great surprise, 'Jesus, it's cold'. The following day and night we lay in our slit trenches and the next morning moved forward. We were subject to some very heavy shelling, which caused a number of casualties including Alan Smyth (*Lt Albert Smyth*), killed. He was the third officer in the Company. We had another icy cold night without any blankets, greatcoats, or food and the following day went into a big attack. For once, the 'Faughs' had an easy time: the line being broken for us. Though we advanced quite a distance, we met with very few casualties and captured a lot of prisoners. That night, coming back to the ration point, I fell over a cliff and crashed down about 40 feet. I was rather stunned and very sick for a time.

The next day, we 'mopped up' over a considerable area of rough country. That night, we were fairly comfortable in a farmhouse and managed to get some sleep at last. The next day and night was fairly quiet. Early the following morning, I received a message to take over command of 'A' Coy immediately as Toby Jewell had been wounded. This Coy has just come back from a violent 36 hour patrol and I found I had one officer Edward, 1 Sergeant, 2 Corporals, and 2 L/Cpls. I spent the day reorganising and that night we

marched forward about 12 miles and took up a position on a ridge as the most forward troops of the 8th Army.

The next morning, it was discovered the Germans had come up onto the same ridge that night and the most confusing battle imaginable occurred. The CO kept my Company in reserve for a time but suddenly the Germans broke through the centre and brought heavy MG fire to bear on the Battalion HQ. The CO said to me, 'Take what's left of your Company up as quick as you can, Lawrie, and clear the ridge'. God, what an order!

Somehow, we reached the top and then came the task of locating these posts. At first, I put a section in front but the men were tired and jittery and would not push forward and I had to go in front myself. We were being fired at all the time but could not locate the position. Eventually, I got a pretty shrewd idea and got my Brens down to fire and found only one of them was working, so this Bren gunner and I, with my Tommy gun, kept a fire duel with the Hun. Suddenly, he stopped, but we kept on for a short time and then worked round to find that we had killed 3, wounded 2 and the rest had managed to get away, but they left their weapons behind.

When I told the CO over the wireless he said, 'Well done, well done indeed'. That night, we dug in on the ridge and the following day were subjected to very heavy mortar fire. We were being relieved in the evening and I had two most unpleasant reeces to make. That night, we were relieved and marched back 12 miles and even then we were shelled most of the way back.

Casualties reached a fair number: Tommy Wood (Major Richard Wood) killed, McNally wounded, we have very few officers left but Denis, Edward (who supported me splendidly) and Dicky Richards are alright. Poor little 'Ginger' Rhodes (L/Cpl Bertram Rhodes) who I told you about was killed, 19 years of age. He was 2 L/Cpl of a Section and the Corporal in command of the Section had struck up a tremendous friendship with him and he initially went mad, starting to push forward, shooting and shouting wildly. He had to be knocked unconscious and is at present insane. That is war, Olive, stripped of all the nice wireless and newspaper talk. We certainly hated the Hun yesterday, one man waved a white flag and then shot down two of our men. He did not live long.

The strain has been appalling, I feel an old tired man but I suppose will recover after a rest. I have just taken over command of 'B' Coy, my old Company and the men seem delighted to have me back with them and I am overjoyed to be commanding my own boys who I know will support me through 'thick and thin'. We are all desperately tired. I have not had a change of clothing for about 3 weeks and feel absolutely filthy. Last night, I took my boots off for the first time in 9 days.

All my love to you and dear little Valerie, darling.

Your devoted husband

Lawrence

(Major Lawrence Franklyn Vailes)



Roll of Honour – December 6

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1915

+O'NEILL, Joseph

Connaught Rangers, 5th. Btn. Corporal 9357. Died 06/12/1915. Age 20. Born about 1895 in Magherafelt. Son of Joseph and Lizzie O'Neill nee Hunter. Joseph was living and working in Glasgow at the outbreak of war when he enlisted with the Connaught Rangers. Joseph had two other brothers who died in the war. Private Francis O'Neill was killed in action on the 29/03/1915 while serving with the 2nd Inniskillings in trenches at Festubert. Private Peter O'Neill was killed in action on 30/05/1915, while his battalion was in Brigade reserve at White House, Gallipoli. Doiran Memorial, Doiran Military Cemetery, Thessaloniki. Coagh WM, Coagh Soldiers and Sailors WM 2013

+SARGAISON, William Henry

Royal Dublin Fusiliers, commissioned and posted to Connaught Rangers, 5th Bn. Second Lieutenant. Died 06/12/1915. Son of Walter and Elizabeth Sargaison, of 8,

Clara Park, Neill's Hill, Belfast. Doiran Memorial, Greece.
Family Memorial, Dundonald Cemetery

1916

+HOGSHAW, Robert

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers 9th Btn. Private. 17517. Died 06/12/1916, killed by a trench mortar. Age 21. Youngest son of James and Martha Hogshaw of Crossglebe, Sandholes, Cookstown. He was an active member of Sandholes Presbyterian Church and Sandholes LOL, and was a member of Dungannon Company of Ulster Volunteers. When the Ulster Division was formed he volunteered for service though only 17. He was wounded and spent some time in base hospital before rejoining his unit in Belgium. Pond Farm Cemetery, Heuvelland, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Sandholes PCI RH, Cookstown WM

+KANE, William

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 1st Btn. Private. 10220. Died 06/12/1916. Age 24. Son of William and Agnes Kane, of 92, Mervue St., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, France

+MORTIMER, Bernard

Royal Scots Fusiliers. 10th Works Bn. transf. to (TR/2/20882) 77th Bn. Training Reserve. Private. 18908. Died 06/12/1916. Age 28 years old. Son of Arthur and Marget Mortimer, of 83, Unity St., Belfast. Balgay Cemetery, Dundee

1917

+CAPPER, Bass Durand

Royal Flying Corps. Captain. Died 06/12/1917. Age 29. Died at Coombe Lodge Hospital, Great Warley, Essex, from injuries received while flying as an observer just a week before. He was educated at King William's College, Isle of Man, and previous to the war was engaged in the firm of B. Capper and Co., Ltd., Belfast. He was an active member of the Ulster Volunteer Force, and being an expert motorist he volunteered immediately the war broke out, joining the Royal Engineers as a despatch rider, being probably the first man in Ireland to volunteer in this capacity. He went to France on the 26th September, 1914, and was attached to General Headquarters under General French. After six months there he was, at his own request, transferred to the 7th Division, with which he saw much active service on nearly all parts of the Western front. In the summer of 1916 he received a commission in the Royal Flying Corps, and for several months was regularly on duty over the German lines. In the dining room of the Ulster Reform Club there is a 1912 painting 'The Passing Train' by Lucy Kemp-Welch with dedicatory plaque - Presented by Mr Bass Capper to the Ulster Reform Club in memory of his son Captain Bass Durant Capper Royal Flying Corps 1917. Second son of Bass and Alice Capper, Lenoxvale, Belfast. Belfast City Cemetery

+CLAWSON, Sydney

Royal Irish Rifles, 14th Btn. Rifleman. 16335. Died 06/12/1917. Belfast. Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Nord, France

+CROSS, John

Royal Irish Rifles, 14th Btn. A Coy. Rifleman. 16360. Died 06/12/1917. Age 25. Enlisted August 1914. Son of William A. and Sarah A. Cross, of 174, Cliftonville Rd., Belfast. Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Nord, France

+EMERSON, James Samuel

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Bn. Second Lieutenant. VC. Died Between 05/12/1917 and 06/12/1917. Aged 22. Son of John and Ellen Emerson, of Collon, Drogheda, Co. Louth. An extract from "The London Gazette," dated 12th Feb., 1918, records the following

"For repeated acts of most conspicuous bravery. He led his company in an attack and cleared 400 yards of trench. Though wounded, when the enemy attacked in superior numbers, he sprang out of the trench with eight men and met the attack in the open, killing many and taking six prisoners. For three hours after this, all other Officers having become casualties, he remained with his company, refusing to go to the dressing station, and repeatedly repelled bombing attacks. Later, when the enemy again attacked in superior numbers, he led his men to repel the attack and was mortally wounded. His heroism, when worn out and exhausted from loss of blood, inspired his men to hold out, though almost surrounded, till reinforcements arrived and dislodged the enemy." Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Nord, France

+FERGUSON, David Harvey

3rd New Zealand Rifle Brigade, NZEF. 3rd Battalion. Rifleman. 20133. Died 06/12/1917 at Gheluvelt, Ypres. Age

21. He was a member of the Ulster Volunteer Force before he moved to New Zealand. There he lived at 40 Coromandel Street, Wellington and worked as a grocer's assistant for the Bolton Company, Oriental Bay. He enlisted on 01/05/1916 and left Wellington for England on 19/08/1916. He marched into Sling Camp, Salisbury Plain on 25/10/1916 and left there for France on 15/11/1916. He marched into Camp at Etaples on 16/11/1916. He had a period of leave from 21/10/1917 until 10/11/1917 when he re-joined his Battalion. Born on 07/03/1896 in Castle Square, Bangor. Son of John and Elizabeth (nee McCombe) Ferguson (nee McCombe, sometimes McComb) who were married on 03/10/1895 in Holywood C of I Parish Church. The Ferguson family lived in Castle Square, Bangor; in Queen's Parade, Bangor and at 48 Princetown Road, Bangor. Polygon Wood Cemetery, Belgium (Grave G. 14). Bangor and District WM. Royal British Legion (Bangor Branch) Memorial Plaque. Comrades of the Great War (Bangor Branch) Album in North Down Museum. Bangor C of I Parish Church (St Comgall's) RH

+IRVINE, John

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Btn. Serjeant. 20783. MM. Died Between 05/12/1917 and 06/12/1917. Aged 28. Son of T. G. and Magadelene Irvine, of Beagh, Fivemiletown. Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Nord, France. Fivemiletown WM, Clogher WM, Fivemiletown Methodist Church WM

+ROBERTS, William

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Btn. Private. 23244. Age 35. Died Between 05/12/1917 and 06/12/1917. Born about 1882 in Aughnacloy, County Tyrone. William enlisted in

Enniskillen while he was living in Monaghan. His younger brother George Roberts had been killed eight months earlier, in April 1917. Son of Mrs. Sarah Jane Roberts, of Drumbern, Derrygorry, Emyvale, Co. Monaghan. Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Nord, France. Dungannon WM

+SKILLEN, George

Royal Irish Rifles, 14th Btn. Rifleman. 18773. Died 06/12/1917. Aged 29. Son of Hugh and Kate Skillen, of Edenagarry, Rathfriland, Co. Down. Rocquigny-Equancourt Road British Cemetery, Manancourt, Somme, France. Newcastle WM

+TAYLOR, Hugh

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Btn. formerly 12th Btn. Private. 28056. Died Between 05/12/1917 and 06/12/1917. Age 19. Born in Termoneeny, near Tobermore. Son of Matthew and Bella Taylor, of Oatlands, Killykergan, Coleraine. Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, France

+WHITESIDE, Albert

Royal Irish Rifles, 17th Btn. 2nd Lieutenant. Died 06/12/1917. Age 20. He is on the list of the first Ulster Volunteers to join the 11th RIR. Born Antrim. Son of Samuel and Sarah Whiteside, High Street, Antrim. Albert was a member of Antrim Masonic Lodge. Cambrai Memorial Louverval, France. First Antrim Presbyterian Church WM, Antrim Masonic Lodge memorial.

+WOODS, James Edwin

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Btn. Lieutenant. Died 06/12/1917. Aged 21. Son of Mr and Mrs Frederick Wilson and Maria of 6, St John's Park, Knockbreda, Belfast. In 1911 he was living with his parents and siblings at 63, Ravenhill Road, Belfast. He is also commemorated on the war memorial in Knockbreda parish church, Belfast and on the Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, France. St Jude's C of I, Belfast, WM, Knockbreda parish church, Belfast WM

1918

+FETHERSTON, John McDonald

RNVR. Sub-Lieutenant. HMML 218. Died 06/12/1918. Age 21. Died of pneumonia on board Hospital Ship Kara Para in the East Mediterranean. Son of John William Fetherston, Montono, Malone Park, Belfast. Photo in Belfast Telegraph 10/12/1918. Member of QUB OTC c.1916. Campbell College 1026. QUB WM. Royal Portrush Golf Club RH. East Mudros Military Cemetery, Lemnos, Greece.

+SHANNON, William Samuel

RNR. Leading Seaman. 5107/B. SS Nero. Died 06/12/1918. Age 29. Son of David Shannon, Castle Terrace, Larne; husband of Jane Shannon. Larne New Cemetery. Larne WM

1940

+BLOOMFIELD, Frederick

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 6th Btn. Fusilier. 7044877. Died 06/12/1940. Age 27. Holywood Cemetery

+McATEER, Robert Bateson Pelan

RN. HM Submarine Regulus. Petty Officer Cook (S) D/MX 48386. Died 06/12/1940. Age 29. Son of Thomas and Agnes Jane McAteer, of Belfast ; husband to Margaret Joyce McAteer, of Belfast. Plymouth Naval Memorial

1941

+BARR, Robert

RAFVR. Sergeant (Wireless Op./Air Gunner). 1108927. Died 06/12/1941. Aged 21. Son of Alexander and Annie Barr, Rothesay House, Coleraine. Ramsey Cemetery, Huntingdonshire

+FARLEY, William Herbert

Royal Army Service Corps. Captain. 183847. Died 06/12/1941. Age 32. Son of the Revd. Professor W. J. Farley, and of Jeannie Elizabeth Farley, of Portstewart. Brother of Flight-Lieutenant Norman Kyle Farley, a medical graduate, who died in October 1949 of war service related conditions (Belfast News Letter 22/10/1949). The family originally came from Thomas St., Armagh. Halfaya Sollum War Cemetery, Egypt

+FISHER, Alfred Mandale

RAFVR. Pilot Officer. 103592. Died 06/12/1941. Aged 26. On that date, his Hawker Hurricane IIB Z3499 of 615 Sqn scrambled from a new base at RAF Angle, Pembrokeshire, Wales. The plane failed to return in unknown circumstances. Born June 1915. Son of Alfred Fisher and Harriett Florence (Rita) Fisher (née Mateer) of 4 Cliftonville Avenue, Belfast. He was the youngest of 4 siblings. In 1933, aged 18 years

old, Fisher had a brush with the law. Listed in documents as a stockbroker's stepson from 61 Myrtlefield Park, Belfast, the teenager stood accused of the theft of high performance sports cars. A group of friends stole the motors including a Riley and an MG. With his family background, and an expensive legal team, Fisher avoided a custodial sentence. Later the same year, he reoffended and this time received a month's imprisonment. After this, the family sent the young man to South Africa for a period. He returned home after the death of his stepfather on 10/03/1935. With the outbreak of WW2 he enlisted in the RAFVR. The Gazette reports his enlistment date as 16/08/1941 when he joined RAF 615 Squadron in Surrey, England. Runnymede Memorial, Panel 32. Family memorial, Belfast City Cemetery.

+JEFFERSON, Henry

RN. AB. D/JX192729. Died 06/12/1941. Age 26. HMS President III. Son of Walter and Sarah Jefferson, Benson St., Lisburn. Another son was serving with the North Irish Horse. (Lisburn Standard 09/01/1942) Plymouth Naval Memorial. Panel 38. Lisburn WM

1942

+KIRK, Joseph

Royal Artillery. Gunner. 6984413. Died 06/12/1942. Aged 19. 140 Bty., 40 Lt. A.A. Regt. Son of Samuel and Thomasena Kirk, of Drumreaney, Co. Tyrone. Benghazi War Cemetery, Libya. Dungannon WM, Castlecaufield C of I WM

1944

+CLARK, Thomas Roderick Jackson

RNVR. Acting Sub Lieutenant. Died 06/12/1944. Age 20. Volunteered in July 1943 and was commissioned in 1944. HMS Bullen was steaming about seven miles north-east of Cape Wrath in Scotland. At 0950 Bullen was torpedoed by U-775. The single torpedo that struck the ship did so almost dead-centre and the frigate split in two. Although the stern section remained afloat for about two hours, the forward section sank almost immediately. Of the crew 71 died and 97 survived. Eldest son of Major Thomas Jackson Clark and Mary Vera Eileen Clark, Upperlands House, Upperlands, Co. Londonderry. Major Clark rejoined the Army on the outbreak of war. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 22/12/1944). Chatham Naval Memorial, Panel 79

+HARKINS, Andrew

Royal Canadian Engineers. Sapper. D/16141. Died 06/12/1944. Aged 37. Son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Harkins, of Belfast, Northern Ireland; husband of Mary Harkins, of Verdun. Montreal (Mount Royal) Cemetery, Quebec, Canada

+HOPKINS, Henry Millar

Royal Engineers. 13 Field Sqn. Sapper. 1882345. Died 06/12/1944. Aged 35. Son of Hugh and Elizabeth Hopkins; husband of Sarah Marshall Hopkins, of Carrickfergus. Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery, Gelderland, Netherlands

+WINTERS, Joseph Henry

Royal Canadian Army Service Corps. Private. B/85466. Died 06/12/1944. Age 44. He emigrated in 1920 and married

in 1931. He enlisted and arrived in NW Europe in September 1944. He died in a traffic accident. Son of John and Elizabeth Winter, Derrycrew, Loughgall. He emigrated in 1920 and married in 1931. He enlisted and arrived in NW Europe in September 1944. Husband to Susan Price Winters, of Toronto, Ontario. In his enlistment and other documents Joseph signed as Winters. Adegem Canadian War Cemetery, Belgium

VETERANS

+AULD, John

Gunner. Royal Field Artillery. 30th Siege battery attached to the Guards Division. Also served with British Army on the Rhine after the war. Born 06/12/1889 in Ballybracken, Ballynure. Son of John Auld, a farmer and Matilda (nee Ternahan) Auld. John Jnr married. They had four children. Ballynure Presbyterian Church WM

BARBER, Joseph

RN. CERA. M5480. Enrolled 01/01/1913 for 12 years. War service in Victory II, Queen Mary, Vernon and Royal Sovereign. Served to 06/12/1928. Born Belfast 24/09/1888. ADM 188/1028/5480

+DOUGLAS, Charles

Charles (Jock) passed away peacefully on 06/12/2020, at Blair House Care Home Newtownards, aged 98 years. Late resident of Kilmakee Park, Gilnahirk. He was husband to the late Betty and father of Heather, Mervyn, and Mark. After WWII he came home, and said little or nothing of his service. Charlie served as a radio operator within the Signals Intelligence Organisation. Serving at both home and abroad Charlie's most dangerous posting came during the

war against the Japanese when he was based in India. Working alone, Charlie manned a secret Direction Finding post on the coastline where the threat from a Japanese (submarine based) raiding party was ever present. His only protection was a handgun with six rounds. After the war Charlie remained within the world of Signals Intelligence as a civilian radio operator working for MI8c at Gilnahirk Wireless Station and other GCHQ locations around the world. On retirement, Charlie was not a man to put his feet up but went on to enjoy a career within the television and film Industry working as an extra. His most famous role was that of a corpse in "Game of Thrones."

McKEE, Herbert Malcolmson

RNVR. Lt.Cdr. GM. GM awarded for 'gallantry and undaunted devotion to duty. Mine disposal UK Aug to Oct 40.' Investiture 27/05/1941. Probationer Second Second Lieutenant. Lieutenant. 06/12/1940. Lieutenant Commander 04/1943. 12/1940 HMS Vernon - torpedo school and experimental establishment, Portsmouth. 06/12/1940 - 04/1941 HMS Drake - RN Base Devonport for miscellaneous services. 12/1941 - 08/1943 HMS Prosperine - minesweeper and anti-submarine base, Lyness, Scapa Floe. 11/10/1943 - 12/1943 HMS Cormorant - RN base Gibraltar. 13/12/1943 - 07/1945 HMS Pigmy - submarine base, Gibraltar. Rtd. 04/1946. Law, QUB 1932

Every day is a Remembrance Day

We will remember them

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masthead.**

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 houstonmckelvey@mac.com

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