



remembrance ni



## **Cherisy Road East Cemetery**

On 12/04/1917 the village of Heniel was captured in a snowstorm by the 56th (London) and 21st Division. Cherisy Road East Cemetery was made by the burial officers of the 30th and 33rd Divisions. The cemetery which is east of the

village of Heninel contains 82 WW1 burials, 19 of which are unidentified.

## On this Day – January 20

### 1916

On Thursday 20th January 1916 the Ballymoney Free Press and the Northern Counties Advertiser recorded the birth of Jane Verner, the daughter of James and Annie Verner of Dunsevrick.

Less than 6 months later James would make the ultimate sacrifice whilst serving with D Company, 12th Battalion (C.A.V.) Royal Irish Rifles on the 1st of July 1916, the opening day of the battle of the Somme. James and Annie had also three other children Annie, Edward and William.

Rifleman James Verner is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial and in Dunluce Parish Church, Bushmills.

### 1918

The escort ship HMS Mechanician was torpedoed and sunk in the English Channel 8 nautical miles (15 km) west of St. Catherine's Point, Isle of Wight, by the German SM UB-35 ( Imperial German Navy) with the loss of thirteen of her crew.

## **1939**

Adolf Hitler dismissed Hjalmar Schacht as President of the Reichsbank and appointed Walther Funk to replace him.

## **1940**

Britain and France agree to send troops and supplies to aid Finland, but they do not arrive in time.

## **1941**

Compulsory fire watching duty introduced in Great Britain. With Hitler's tacit support, Marshal Antonescu suppresses a rebellion by the Iron Guard in Romania.

Emperor Haile Selassie crosses the Abyssinian border at Um Idla.

President Roosevelt inaugurated for his third term.

## **1942**

Nazi officials hold notorious Wannsee Conference in Berlin to organize the 'Final Solution to the Jewish Problem', the extermination of Europe's Jews. (Wannsee is a suburb of Berlin). In practice this meant that all Jews in occupied Europe were to be transported to the east. The able bodied were worked until they died, while the remainder were put to death.

British troops capture Benghazi.



The Japanese 55th Division crosses the Thai-Burmese border from Raheng. They quickly threaten Moulmein in Burma, using the same tactics as in Malaya of outflanking British forces through the Jungle.

**1943**



38 (Irish) Brigade - 2 LIR in Tunisia: "F & G Coys led an assault on Pts 279 & 286 to the south of Grandstand Hill. They gained positions on the hill tops, but the concrete hard nature of the ground made it impossible to dig in adequate defensive positions: During the daylight hours of 20th January, the 2 companies were subjected to incessant artillery & mortar bombardment. That night, there was a massive German counter attack, likened to a cavalry charge, & the 2 other rifle companies, E & H, were brought



up as reinforcements. They too suffered heavy casualties from sustained artillery & mortar fire & dive bombing by JU-88s. The LIR's positions were overrun & Pt 286 was re-occupied by the counterattacking forces. A total of 250 London Irishmen were killed, wounded or captured on 20th & 21st January.”

Daylight raid by the Luftwaffe hits a school in London, killing 44 children and one teacher.

Russian progress continues in the Caucasus.

First destroyer escort type ship, Brennan (DE-13), commissioned at Mare Island CA.

## 1944

The RAF makes its heaviest raid on Berlin, with 700 bombers dropping more than 2,300 tons during the 11th raid of the 'Battle of Berlin'.



Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder is appointed Deputy Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force. ACM Sir Arthur Tedder assumes duties as Deputy Supreme Commander Allied Expeditionary Force and was responsible for the Allied air attacks preparing the Normandy invasion. After the War, he became Chief of the Air Staff, effectively the head of the RAF.

Allied forces in Italy begin unsuccessful operations to cross the Rapido River and seize Cassino.



The Red Army recaptures Novgorod.

## 1945

The French First Army under de Lattre attacks against the Colmar Pocket in Alsace.

Franklin D. Roosevelt is inaugurated for his fourth term.  
The Allies sign a truce with the Hungarians.



# Roll of Honour – January 20

*Representing their comrades who died on this day*

## 1915

### **+TAYLOR, William**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Depot. Serjeant. Died 20/01/1915. He was one of three brothers who served in the army during the Boer War in South Africa. After his term of service had expired he returned to Cookstown to work. He was married with seven children. At the outbreak of the First World War he joined his old regiment as a recruiting officer. During this time he contracted pneumonia and died on 20/01/1915. Cookstown New Cemetery. Cookstown WM



## Cherisy Road East Cemetery

1916

### **+AIKEN, James**

Royal Irish Rifles, 15th Btn. Rifleman. 12504. Died 20/01/1916. Age 22. Son of Eliza Jane Aitken, of 22, Ayr St., Belfast, and the late John Aiken. Sucrerie Military Cemetery, Colincamps, France

### **+JENKINS, William**

Royal Irish Rifles. 18<sup>th</sup> Btn. Rifleman. E Coy. 18/1139. Died of cerebrospinal fever in Purdysburn Hospital, Belfast. on 20/01/1916. Aged 25. Born on 06/06/1890 in Ardraccan,



Navan, Co Meath. He was the only surviving son of Robert and Maria (nee Lang) Jenkins who were married on 16/08/1878 in Ardracran C of I Parish Church. Willie Jenkins moved to Bangor where he worked as a gardener at *Seacourt* for Samuel Cleland Davidson (Sirocco Works). Both Willie Jenkins and William George Rowan boarded at 107 Abbey Street, Bangor. William George Rowan who was from County Cavan, also worked as a gardener and he was killed in action during WW1. Prior to enlisting, Willie Jenkins was a member of 'C' Company of the 1<sup>st</sup> Btn, North Down Regiment, Ulster Volunteer Force and he was a member of Cleland's Royal Standard Temperance LOL 769 (Bangor). He enlisted in Bangor in November 1915. Two months later, on 16/01/1916, Rifleman Willie Jenkins died. The date of death on his death certificate is 16 January (20 January in CWGC records). He was buried with full military honours in Belfast City Cemetery which contains almost 300 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

### **+LENNOX, Alfred James**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Second Lieutenant. Died 20/01/1916. Age 26. Armagh Royal School. Enlisted with the Black Watch in Perth in October 1914 and disembarked in France on 02/05/1915. On 01/05/1915 he received a gun shot wound and was admitted to a field hospital. Whilst being transported on a barge down the Somme, an Irish nun who was a nurse heard an Irish accent amongst Scottish soldiers. She enquired where he was from and when she heard it was Armagh, she said she would get in touch with the convent there. A letter was sent which the family received assuring them that their son was not seriously injured. He re-joined his unit in September 1915 and was commissioned into the Royal Irish Rifles. After training he

was posted to the 2nd Btn. On 19/01/1916 he was reported missing believed to be killed by a shell at Vimy Ridge. Only son of William and Mildred Lennox, of 24, Abbey St., Armagh. Ploegsteert Memorial, Belgium

## 1917

### **+BELL, G**

Royal Flying Corps. Air Mechanic 3rd Class. 53490. Died 20/01/1917. 76th Home Defence Sqdn. Husband to Jane Bell, of 47, Sheriff St., Belfast. Ripon Cemetery, Yorkshire

### **+CALDWELL, William**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers 10th Btn. Private. 19134. Died 20/01/1917 along with John Cochrane, entry below. From Garvagh. Brother of James who was wounded twice serving in the same battalion. Berks Cemetery Extension, Belgium

### **+COCHRANE, John Ross**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers 10th Btn. Private. 22978. Died 20/01/1917. Age 19. Son of Mr. James and Mrs. M. Cochrane, of Fawney Fort, Cross, Londonderry. Jim Donaghy recounts the sad story of Jack Cochrane from a friend who signed up with him... " It was a bitter cold day in Plug Street wood (Ploegsteert Belgium). My friend wee Jack Cochrane was a member of the new guard of D Company and he was now staying in the dugout that I had been in the previous three days. Before I left with B Company, Jack gave me chocolates and biscuits from a big parcel he had been sent from home. It was a special parcel, a present to him from his mother for his 20th Birthday. When my hands were full, he was still giving me things and filled my pockets with little luxuries from home. Later there was a

bombardment and one of the last shells, a Minnie (huge mortar shell) hit the dugout Jack was in. All that was left were several sandbags. I was so sorry for Jack. He was a good friend, the chap that had signed up the same day as myself. A grand wee chap, so he was!" Also killed instantaneously in the dugout were Pte.W. Caldwell and L/Cpl A. Leacock. Berks Cemetery Extension, Belgium

### **+CROTHERS, Samuel**

South Lancashire Regiment. 2nd Btn. Company Serjeant Major. 6880. Died 20/01/1917. Age 32. Son of Henry and Ellen Crothers, of Belfast; husband to Cissie Wagner (formerly Crothers), of 829, Pottsville St., Pottsville, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. London Rifle Brigade Cemetery, Belgium

### **+ELLIS, William**

Royal Irish Rifles. 5th Btn. Rifleman. 6064. Died 20/01/1917. Age 32. Son of John Rowles Ellis and Jennie Ellis, of Eastbourne; husband to Angelina Ellis, of Belfast. Dundonald Cemetery, Belfast

### **+LEACOCK, A**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 10th Btn. Lance Corporal. 15683. Died 20/01/1917. Age 31. Son of John and Mary Anne Leacock. Berks Cemetery Extension, Belgium.

## **1918**



**+BIRNEY, William**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 7th/ 8th Btn. Private. 18800. Died 20/01/1918. Believed to be from Eden, Carrickfergus.

Tincourt New British Cemetary, France

**+JAMESON, James**

RN. Stoker I. SS107068. HMS Raglan. Died 20/01/1918.

Aged 28. Enrolled 25/05/1908 for 5 and 7 years. Served to 17/05/1913. Joined RFR 18/05/1913. Served from

13/07/1914 in Victorious, Talbot, St. George, Europa and Raglan (18/01/1916 - 20/01/1918). Born Belfast 12/05/1890.

Son of James and Jane Jameson, Belfast; husband to Annabella Jameson, Little Patrick St., Belfast. Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 28. ADM 188/1113/107068

**+TOWELL, William**

RN. SS/100382. Stoker 1st Class., HMS Raglan. Died 20/01/1918. Age 32. Son of James and Lizzie Towell, Belfast; husband to Annie Towell, St. Leonard St., Belfast.

Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 28. St Patrick's Ballymacarrett WM

**1940**

**+DONNELLY, Bernard**

Pioneer Corps. Private. 13007682. Died 20/01/1940. Aged 45. Son of B. Donnelly and Mary Donnelly; husband to Elizabeth Donnelly, of Belfast. Belfast (Milltown) Roman Catholic Cemetery

**1941**



## **Cherisy Road East Cemetery**

### **+GORDON, William**

RNPS. Ordinary Seaman. LT/JX 205399. Date of Death: 20/01/1941. Age: 24. H.M. Trawler Relonzo. Son of William and Sarah Gordon, Annalong. Lowestoft Naval Memorial. Panel 6

### **+HAINES, Charles William**

RN. AB. D/SSX20239. Died 20/01/1941. Age 30. Nephew of Mr and Mrs John Thomas, Winchester St., Belfast. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 01/02/1941). Llanharan and Peterson Cemetery, Glamorgan

**+McILHINNEY, DAVID**

RNR (Patrol Service). Seaman. LT/X 78660C. Died 20/01/1941. Age 31/ H.M. Trawler Foamcrest, a decoy or Q-ship. A fishing smack (Lowestoft-registered LT. 649) conversion. Son of James and Emily McIlhinney; husband to Jean McIlhinney. Grimsby (Scartho Road) Cemetery, Lincolnshire. Memorial Holy Table, Cairncastle Parish Church

**+McKNIGHT, Guy**

Royal Artillery. 102nd Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, 315 Battery. Gunner. 1523252. Died 20/01/1941. Age 29. Husband to Hannah McKnight of Belfast. Dundonald Cemetery

**1942**

**+DONNELL, Andrew**

Royal Artillery. 31 Field Regt. Gunner. 880013. Died 20/01/1942. Aged 27. Son of John James Donnell and Margaret Donnell, of Strabane, Co. Tyrone. Benghazi War Cemetery, Libya

**+KELLY, Colman**

RN. Leading Stoker. P/KX 91522. Died 20/01/1942. Age 24. HM Submarine Triumph. He joined the submarine service after serving two years in HMS Repulse. His brother James, a Petty Officer, also served. Son of Thomas and Bridget Kelly, Camlough, Newry, formerly of Abyssinia St., Belfast. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 22/02/1942 (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 23/10/1942). ). Portsmouth Naval Memorial, Panel 68, Column 1



**+McCANN, Charles**

RN. AB. D/JX 183563. HMS President III. Died 20/01/1942. Age 39. John Mitchell St., Newry. St Mary's Catholic Cemetery, Newry

**1943**

**+ATKINSON, George Edward**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. London Irish Rifles. Serjeant. 7012459. Died 20/01/1943. Age 28. Over 220 officers and men were killed, wounded or missing in action during the taking of a well-defended German position at Hill 286 during the Tunisian campaign. Born Dun Laoghaire, later lived in Armagh. Son of Fred and Francis Mary Atkinson. Husband to Mary Elizabeth Wane. Medjez-el-Bab Memorial, Tunisia

**+LIVINGSTONE, John**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Fusilier. 6984125. Died 20/01/1943. Age 22. Son of George and Helen Elizabeth Livingstone, of Londonderry. Medjez-el-Bab

**+LOUGHBRIDGE, William**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. London Irish Rifles. Lance Corporal. 7019600. Died 20/01/1943 on Hill 286. Age 24. Son of Elizabeth McIlwaine, of Parkmore, Co. Antrim. Medjez-el-Bab

**+McDOWELL, William**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. London Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 7011302. Died 20/01/1943 on Hill 286. Son of Robert G. and Agnes McDowell, of Belfast. Medjez-el-Bab

**+McDOWELL, William Thomas**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. The London Irish Rifles. Lance Corporal. 7011302. Died between 20 and 21 January 1943. Son of Robert G. and Agnes McDowell, of Belfast. Medjez-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunisia

**+MILLS, James**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. London Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 7019573. Died 20/01/1943 on Hill 286. Son of George and Mary Mills, of Larne. Medjez-el-Bab

**+SMYTH, Joseph**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. London Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 7020056. Died 20/01/1943 on Hill 286. Age 21. Son of William John and Mary Smyth, of Newtownards. Medjez-el-Bab

**+WALLACE, Robert**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. London Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 7019499. Died 20/01/1943. Foster-son of Margaret Anderson, of Ballymoney. Medjez-el-Bab

**1944**

**+KIRKLAND, Thomas John**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 1st Btn. The London Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 7020219. Died 20/01/1944 from wounds received in the advance in Italy. Age 21. Enlisted when he was 18. Saw service with the 8th Army in North Africa and Sicily. Son of William and Elizabeth Kirkland, of Collone, Co. Armagh. Sangro River War Cemetery, Italy

**+RAINEY, John**

Pioneer Corps. Private. 1469326. Died 20/01/1941. Age 52. He also served in The Great War. Son of Alexander Rainey and Susan Rainey of Charlemont, Co. Armagh. Husband to Margaret Rainey of Tandragee, Co. Armagh. St. Mark's Church of Ireland Churchyard, Tandragee

**VETERAN**

**JOHNSTON, John**

RN. Stoker First Class. 297960. Enrolled 24/07/1901 for 12 years. Re-enrolled 01/09/1914 for hostilities. War service in Empress of India. In event of him being missing, RN Torpedo factory in Greenock was to be notified. Born Coleraine 20/01/1882. ADM 188/482/297960

# Every day is a Remembrance Day

***We will remember them***

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**Information about individuals who served - please forward to remembrance ni at email below**



## remembrance ni

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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](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com)

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**Please forward** - information about those who served - names, regiment, ship or unit, date of death to [houstonmckelvey@mac.com](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com)

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