



remembrance ni

## Female medical trailblazer

**Isabel Addley Tate is the only woman to be named on the Queen's University War Memorial.**

Isobel Addey Tate lived and died before women had the vote. The path she chose was not a simple or easy one but women like her did much to alter the way women were to live and work in the 20th century.

She was one of the first women graduates in medicine. Isobel studied medicine at what was then The Queen's College, of the Royal University of Ireland in Belfast, and graduated in



1899 with the associated degrees of Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery and Bachelor of Arts in Obstetrics.

Isobel worked initially in Dublin and continued her studies. In 1902, she qualified as a Doctor of Medicine from the Royal University of Ireland.

On the 1901 Census, Isobel was living in Beverley in Yorkshire and working as an assistant to a surgeon.

In 1904, she was awarded the Diploma of Public Health from the Victoria University, Manchester and was appointed Resident Medical officer at Burnley Union Infirmary. She was Medical inspector of schools, Shropshire and then for Lancashire Education Committee.

### **Volunteered for medical service in Serbia**

The outbreak of World War 1 created new opportunities for women and gave Isobel an opportunity for an adventurous range of career experiences.

In 1915 she joined The Serbian Relief Fund, in a unit set up by Mabel Anne St Clair Stobart, known as the Third Serbian Relief Unit. The Serbian Relief Fund was one of number of humanitarian initiatives trying to alleviate the serious medical problems in this part of the Balkans. Queen Mary was a patroness of the Serbian Relief Fund, Board members included such prominent people as Lloyd George, Winston Churchill and Cardinal Born. Isobel contracted typhoid fever soon after she arrived in Serbia, and was sent to Belgrade Hospital but was sent home just before the retreat from Serbia.

In early 1916, Louisa Aldrich-Blake, Surgeon at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital and Dean of the London School of Medicine for Women, approached all the women on the Medical Register to work with the wounded troops from the various fronts.

The woman doctors were not treated as equals since they were not awarded rank, grading, uniforms, or even the ration and billeting allowance that all male doctors received.

### **Service in Malta**

Isobel Addey Tate volunteered for service with RAMC and embarked for Malta on 24th August 1916.

She initially took up duties at St Paul's Military Hospital and subsequently the Military Hospital Valletta.

The casualties from Gallipoli and Salonika were treated in the military hospitals in Malta, although this reduced when German submarines attacked hospital ships.

In early 1917 Isobel was in charge of the Bacteriological Unit in the Valletta Military Hospital.

This was to be her last post for on 28th January 1917 she died of 'congestion of the brain' (due to typhoid fever) at Victoria Junction, Sliema, Malta.

In all, 82 lady doctors served in war hospitals in Malta during the First World War.

At the time of Isobel's death her mother Isabella Tate was resident at Ruskerry, Donegal Park Avenue, Belfast.



## Laurentic mined off Lough Swilly

SS Laurentic was a British ocean liner of the White Star Line. She was converted to an armed merchant cruiser at the onset of WW1. On 25/01/1917 she was tasked with delivering 43 tons of gold to Canada to pay for munitions needed on the Western Front.

On the afternoon of 25/01/1917 the ship pulled in to Buncrana to leave off sick sailors and departed after minor maintenance.

At 1755 she was two miles off Fannad Head when she struck a mine on her left side, followed twenty seconds later by a second mine. As the ship began to sink Captain Norton ordered all men to the life boats.





The night was bitterly cold with blizzard conditions. Many of the men from the boiler rooms were in light vests. The ship sank beneath the waves in twenty minutes and came to rest sixty metres below sea level.

354 lives were lost including at least seven from Northern Ireland.

71 of dead were buried in one large grave in Fahan churchyard with an ecumenical service. The Admiralty afterwards erected a monument over the grave inscribed with the names of the officers and men interred there.

Of the 475 officers and ratings onboard, 354 lost their lives. Others are buried in the many graveyards around Lough Swilly and beyond.



All of the dead are commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial in Devon, England.



Armed merchant cruiser HMS Laurentic (ex White Star SS Laurentic) Some of her cargo of gold remains unrecovered.



# On this Day – January 25

**1918**

## **Military Honours for Tyrone family**

### **The Witness 25/01/1918**

Lieut. Hugh Campbell has been awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous bravery and skilful handling of his men, and for important work successfully performed in the operations at Cambrai. He had previously won the D.C.M. in April, 1916. Sapper James Campbell, R.E., was awarded the Military Medal for distinguished bravery and devotion to duty Under heavy fire in the Somme offensive. These young men held lucrative positions in a large shipyard in Newcastle, and both volunteered when the war broke out. Samuel Campbell, who has been serving for over a year with the Canadians, was wounded four times, and is at present in hospital in Oxford. Thos. Campbell, who volunteered at the outbreak of war, is in training with the Canadians. The oldest brother, Second-Lieutenant William Campbell, Middlesex Comp. Signal Officer, was killed while engaged signalling in operations at Passchendaele. He had seen active service throughout the greater part of the Boer war. He filled an important position in the Telegraph Engineering Department, London. These five young men are sons of Mr. John Campbell, Minaduff,

Gortin, Co. Tyrone. Tyrone may well be proud of such loyal and heroic sons.

## **1940**

Nazis choose the town of Oswiecim (Auschwitz) in Poland near Krakow as site of new concentration camp.

Canadian Prime Minister Mackenzie King dissolves Parliament; new elections to be held.

US auxiliary ship Bear reaches deepest penetration by any ship yet into Antarctica.

## **1942**

Thailand declares war on Britain and the US.

Japanese troops begin landing at Lae in New Guinea.

Australia begins full mobilization of all assets at its disposal.

The US enquiry in to the disaster at Pearl Harbor finds Admiral Kimmel, then the C-in-C of the US Fleet, guilty of dereliction of duty. A court martial is announced later.

German troops capture Msus, which threatens the 4th Indian Divisions position at Benghazi. Lieutenant General Ritchie, orders the 4th Indian Division to withdraw to a line running from Derna to Mechili, but this order is countermanded by General Auchinleck who wanted the 8th Army to counter-attack. However, the 8th Army was to widely dispersed and Rommel's forces were advancing to quickly.

## **1943**



Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt end the Casablanca Conference with their announcement of the demand for the unconditional surrender of Germany and Italy.

The Red Army succeeds in splitting the remnants of 6th Army into a northern and a southern pocket. German forces evacuate Armavir and Voronezh.

Stalin's Order of the day says that the Red Army has routed 102 German divisions in the last two months.

The Pentagon opens—the largest office building in the world.

Guadalcanal Diary by Richard Tregaskis is published.

## **1944**

Night-fighter ace, Major Prinz zu SaynWittgenstein who claimed 83 victories is killed.

Diary entry by Hans Frank, Gauleiter of Poland, concerning the fate of 2.5 million Jews originally under his jurisdiction – “At the present time we still have in the General Government perhaps 100,000 Jews.”

Australian advances in New Guinea are announced, with the Japanese cleared from the ‘Shaggy Line’.

Japanese destroyer Suzukaze was torpedoed and sunk northwest of Ponape by the American submarine Skipjack.

## **1945**

Zhukov cuts off the Fortress city of Posen which holds 66,000 Germans and continues his 50-mile a day advance.

**The Battle of the Bulge ends** - the Battle of the Bulge came to an end as retreating German forces reached their original positions from the start of the offensive. As the year 1944 came to an end, Nazi Germany's position was desperate. Their enemies were closing in from both sides, and manpower reserves were critically low. With the chance for victory slimming every day, the German leadership pinned their last hopes on one final counteroffensive, similar to the one executed so successfully in France in 1940. They hoped to drive the Western Allies back and force them to make peace. This would in theory allow the Germans to focus all of their strength to the east, against the Russians. Reserves were collected and forces in the east were sent west until the Germans had amassed over 200,000 men and 500 tanks and armored vehicles. The offensive was launched on December 16th, 1944, and was initially very successful.

The Western Allies believed the Germans to be incapable of further offensive abilities and were caught off guard. Additionally, the poor winter weather severely limited Allied airpower. However, when the weather cleared and Allied numerical superiority began to tell, the German offensive ground to a halt. By the new year, the Germans were again fighting a defensive battle. The depleted German forces fell back steadily until they reached the Siegfried Line, marking the end of the battle. The offensive cost the Allies between 90,000 and 100,000 casualties, in addition to over 800 tanks. More importantly however, the Germans lost over 100,000 men killed or captured, along with 600 plus tanks. These losses would be crippling to the German forces already struggling to defend themselves, and would bring a much quicker end to the war. The Battle of the Bulge was

the last major German offensive of the war, and its conclusion marked the end of most organized resistance on the Western Front.

## Roll of Honour – January 25

*Representing their comrades who died on this day*

**1915**

### **+LOUGHREY, Sam**

Scots Guards, 1st Btn. Private. 10371. Died 25/01/1915. Age 20. Born 31/10/1894 in Kilrea. He served his time to the boot trade and left Kilrea for Glasgow in 1913. He enlisted there at the outbreak of war. Youngest son of Samuel and Mary Ann Loughrey, of Movanager, Kilrea. Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery, France. Kilrea WM

### **+McALLISTER, William**

Scots Guards. Guardsman. 10266. Died 25/01/1915. Age 27. Enlisted: Edinburgh 08/09/1914. Born: Knockanavery. Son of Samuel McAllister, Culduff, Ballymoney. Arras Road Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Ballymoney WM

### **+McBRIDE, John**

Scots Guards. 1<sup>st</sup> Btn. 5108. Died 25/01/1915. Aged 30. Pre-war John McBride Junior worked as an agricultural labourer and he was an Army Reservist. He enlisted in Glasgow, served with the Scots Guards, 1<sup>st</sup> Btn. Initially he was reported by the War Office as missing in action on



25/01/1915 and subsequently it was officially confirmed that he must be presumed to have been killed in action on or since that date. Born on 09/01/1885 in the townland of Glastry, Kircubbin. A son of John and Margaret (Martha) McBride (nee McMaster) who were married on 24/12/1882 in St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Nunsquarter, Kircubbin. They had nine children. The McBride family lived in the townlands of Glastry, Lisbane, Ballygarvin and Innishargie. Le Touret Memorial, France

### **+McCLEARY, Andrew**

Scots Guards, 1<sup>st</sup> Btn. Guardsman.12428. Died 25/01/1915. Aged 31, he was born at Clough, Co Antrim and enlisted in Bo'ness. He was husband to Annie McCleary, 27, Murrayfield Terrace, West Lothian, Scotland. He was possibly Andrew McCleary, son of miner John McCleary and his wife Elizabeth Young of Skerry East, near Clough. There is no record of the family in Ireland in 1901 or 1911 and they may well have emigrated to Scotland long before the Great War. Le Touret Memorial, France.

## **1916**

### **+KEANE, Stephen Vincent**

Royal Navy. Ship's Steward Assistant. 347362, HMS Victory, Aged 25 he died 25/01/1916 of pulmonary tuberculosis at 37 Dufferin Avenue, Bangor – just fifteen days after his father Richard died on 10/01/1916 (aged 77) at the same address. Stephen like his father joined the Royal Navy. He joined at Portsmouth on his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and it was noted that he was 5 feet 4¾ inches tall with black hair, hazel blue eyes

and a dark sallow complexion. He had a mole on his right forearm. He served at the Battle of Falkland Islands and at the Dardanelles and was admitted to Malta Hospital in May 1915 with a pulmonary condition. He was invalided out of the Navy in June 1915. Stephen Vincent Keane was born on 11/07/1890 in Helen's Bay Coastguard Station. A son of Richard and Elizabeth Keane (nee Sumner, sometimes Summers) who were married around 1874/1875. Richard Keane served as a Coast Guard in the Royal Navy and he and Elizabeth lived in Cork, Wexford and Whitehead, Co Antrim before they came to live in Helen's Bay, Co Down. They had at least eight children. Stephen's sister Minnie was with him when he died. His family paid for an additional inscription on his CWGC headstone to commemorate his brother, Able Seaman John Ernest Keane 225455 who was lost in Submarine B9 on 05/08/1915, aged 27. Bangor Cemetery, Newtownards Road, Bangor. Bangor and District WM

**1917**

## **HMS Larentic**

### **+LARMOUR, Edward Archibald Rice**

RNR. Lieutenant (E). HMS Laarentic. Died 25/01/1917. Age 36. Son of Annabelle Steele (formerly Larmour), and the late Edward Armour, Belfast; husband to Johanna Margrietha Larmour, Streeton Ave., Wallasey, Cheshire. Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 23. IMR

### **+LAVERTY, William Aicken**

RN. Leading Seaman. 218192. HMS Laarentic. 25/01/1917. Age 30. Enrolled 04/02/1904 for 12 years. War service in Fantome, Vivid I, Pelorus, Cormorant and Laarentic

(01/08/1916 - 25/01/1917). Born Belfast 04/02/1886. Son of James and Jane Lavery, Ravenscroft St., Connswater, Belfast. Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 20. McQuiston Memorial - PCI RH. ADM 188/383/218192

**+McKEAN, James**

RN. Leading Seaman. 209507. HMS Laurentic. Died 25/01/1917. Age 32. Enrolled 13/03/1902 for 12 years. Served to 14/03/1914. Joined RFR 15/03/1919. War service in Laurentic. Born Belfast 13/03/1884. Son of James and Mary Ann McKean, Canning St., Belfast. Plymouth Naval Memorial. York Street - PCI WM. ADM 188/366/209507

**+McQUADE, Alexander**

RN. Stoker I. 277718. HMS Laurentic. Died 25/01/1917. Age 50. Born Belfast. Son of William and Martha McQuade; husband to Annie Jane McQuade, Wimbledon St., Belfast. Plymouth Naval Memorial. IMR

**+MITCHELL, Robert Ririe**

RNR. Engineer Lieutenant. HMS Laurentic. Died 25/01/1917. Age 32. Born on 10/10/1885 at 59 Cotton Street, Aberdeen. A son of William and Jane Mitchell (nee Ririe). William Mitchell worked as an iron ship plater journeyman and he and Jane had at least five children. After Robert's mother, Jane Mitchell, left Aberdeen she lived at 3 Church Avenue, Holywood. In 1912 Robert's brother, William Mitchell, was living in Holywood. Holywood cemetery. Holywood WM. High Street Presbyterian Church, Holywood, RH

**+REID, Robert Anderson**

RNVR. Clyde 211969. HMS Laurentic. Died 25/01/1917. Age 22. Born Balnamore, Co. Antrim. Son of Robert and



Mary Anderson Reid, Earlspeak Ave., Newlines, Glasgow.  
Ballymoney WM. Portsmouth Naval Memorial, Panel 28

### **+STEELE, Thomas**

RNR. Lieutenant. HMS Laientic. Died 25/01/1917. Age 26.  
Born Gilford. Son of Alexander and Anna Maria Steele. In  
1901 Alexander Steele was living in the townland of  
Loughans, Tullylish (between Banbridge and  
Portadown). Thomas was husband to Annie (nee Gorman)  
Steele, Hamilton Rd, Bangor. They married on 15/12/1916  
in Knockbreda C of I Parish Church Belfast. They had been  
married for just six weeks before his death. Buried in All  
Saints Churchyard, Tullylish, Co Down. Bangor Grammar  
School archives. Trinity Presbyterian Church, Bangor WM.  
Gilford WM. Gilford - PCI RH.

There are 61 men who died in HMS Laientic buried in  
Upper Fahan (St Mura's) C of I graveyard, and 2 buried in  
Cockhill Catholic graveyard, in County Donegall.

**1917**

### **+BELL, Hugh**

Royal Irish Rifles, 5th Btn. Rifleman, 3159. Died 25/01/1917.  
Age 49. Served in the South African Campaign. Long  
Service and Good Conduct Medal. Husband of Mary Anne  
Bell, of Rathfriland St., Banbridge. Banbridge Town  
Cemetery

## **+TATE, Isabel Addley**

Military Hospital, Malta. Died 28/01/1917. The only woman to be named on QUB War Memorial. QUB MB 1899, BCh, BAO, MD 1912. See article above

**1942**

## **+ADAMS, Kenneth Duncan**

RAFVR. Pilot Officer. 106212. Died 25/01/1942. Aged 31. Before joining the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, Kenneth Adams was a Captain in the Royal Artillery. He was one of a crew of six aboard a Vickers Wellington IC aircraft (Z9098) that was on its way from RAF Portreath in Cornwall to Gibraltar. As they were flying over the British Armed Boarding Vessel (ABV) HMS *Loch Oskaig* near Cape Carvoeiro in Portugal, shots fired in error from the ship's anti-aircraft guns hit the aircraft. When they tried to land on a beach near Sesimbra, four of the crew were killed. Sergeant John Kevin Evans and Sergeant Leonard Francis James Harris were severely wounded.

He and Patricia Harrison of Kings Worthy, Winchester in Hampshire were married on 7 January 1942 in St. Mary's Church, Kings Worthy. Less than three weeks later, Kenneth was killed and, after Kenneth died, Patricia lived in Prestbury, Cheshire.

Kenneth, was born on 02/08/1910 at 6 Eileen Gardens, Windsor Park, Belfast. Son of William George Duncan Adams and Wilhelmina (Mina) Adams (née Stafford) who were married on 27/04/1904 in Osborne Park Methodist Church, Belfast The Adams family lived in Belfast, at 6 Eileen Gardens, at 15 Windsor Park and later at *The Hill*,

Newforge, Malone Road. William George Duncan Adams was a linen merchant and his business was in Adelaide Street, Belfast. William and Mina Adams had at least three children: Arthur William Stafford; Margaret Kathleen and Kenneth Duncan.

Kenneth Adams attended Rockport School and Campbell College, Belfast. His older brother, Arthur William Stafford Adams, also attended Campbell College. Lisbon (St. George) British Churchyard, Portugal. Campbell College WM, Rockport School RH

### **+PLANT, Samuel**

ERA Third Class. D/MX56532. Died 08/05/1942. HM Submarine Olympus. Four years service. Pre-war he was a coppersmith in Vickers Barrow-in-Furness. Husband to Ellen (nee Wilton) Plant, Linfield Rd., Belfast. They were married 16 months previously at Fisherwick Presbyterian Church. After a four day honeymoon the bridegroom had to return to active service. (Belfast Telegraph 29/05/1942). Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 68

**1944**

### **+DUMIGAN, John Beattie**

RN. Convoy Signalman. C/JX 234041. S.S Fort Bellingham. Died 25/01/1944. At 00.16 hours on U-360 (Becker) fired a spread of three FAT torpedoes at the convoy JW-56A in the Barents Sea north of North Cape in 73°45N/24°48E. There were three hits. In fact, the only ship hit was that of the convoy commodore Cmdr I.W. Whitehorn RN, the Fort Bellingham (Master James Ninian Maley). It fell behind the convoy, where she was sunk by U-957 with a T-3 torpedo at 06.53 hours the same day. The master, the commodore,



four naval staff members, 22 crew members and seven gunners were picked up by HMS Offa (G 29) (LtCdr R.F. Leonard, RN) and landed at Murmansk. Two crew members were taken prisoner by U-957. 18 crew members, 16 gunners and two naval staff members were lost including JB Dumigan. Son of John and Martha Dumigan; husband to Rhoda M. Dumigan, Carrickfergus. Chatham Naval Memorial, Panel 76

**1946**

**+McFARLAND, Samuel**

Royal Artillery. Gunner.1486790. Died 25/01/1946. Aged 29. 24 Battery, 9 Heavy Anti Aircraft Regiment. Son of John McFarland and of Martha K. McFarland of Limavady. Aghanloo Church of Ireland Churchyard

**VETERAN**

**KNOX, Robert Sinclair Knox, DSO & Three Bars, DL**

Robert Sinclair Knox was an officer in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in the First World War. He was one of seven British officers to be awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) four times during the conflict.

Knox was born on 02/03/1881 near Coleraine, County Antrim, the son of William John Knox and Nancy MacAfee. After being educated in Ballymoney, he worked in Coleraine. He was an Ulsterman associated with the North Derry Regiment of the Ulster Volunteers.

Knox married Ivy Lynch.

When the First World War broke out, Knox volunteered to serve in the 10th Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (the Derry Volunteers), formed with other Irish volunteers into the 109th Brigade of the 36th (Ulster) Division. He arrived in France in October 1915 and Knox became major in June 1916

Knox's Distinguished Service Order (DSO) was gazetted on 10/01/1917. He was also wounded, and Mentioned in Despatches. He saw action at the Third Battle of Ypres and the Battle of Cambrai. He was awarded the first Bar to his DSO on 18/02/1918. With the citation published on 16/07/1918

Knox commanded the 10th (Service) Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in 1917, and then the 9th Battalion in 1918. The 10th (Derry) and 11th (Donegal and Fermanagh) Battalions of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers were disbanded in February 1918 and the officers and men were absorbed into the 1st and 2nd Battalions. Both joined the 9th (Tyrone) Battalion in the 109th Brigade. The Brigade faced the German spring offensive near Saint-Quentin on 21/03/1918, suffering heavy casualties, and was subsequently formed into a composite battalion commanded by Major Knox. He received a second Bar to his DSO, gazetted on 13 /09/1918.

Knox took command of the 9th Battalion in April 1918, and a third Bar to his DSO was gazetted on 07/03/1919. Two other officers were awarded a third bar at the same time, Archibald Walter Buckle and W.R.A. Dawson.

Knox was demobilised in February 1919, retaining the rank of lieutenant colonel. An award of the French Croix de guerre was gazetted on 23/06/1919.

Knox became Deputy Lieutenant for County Londonderry in August 1938. He was also chairman of the Coleraine harbour commissioners, and a director at Hugh T Barrie, a business which sold and exported potatoes and other produce. He served as a lieutenant colonel in the Royal Engineers in Second World War, finally retiring in 1949.

Knox's medal group was sold at Spink and Son in December 1997.

Robert Sinclair Knox died on 25/01/1963 aged 81.

# Every day is a Remembrance Day

***We will remember them***

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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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