



remembrance ni

Anzio sinking survivor's Sunday date

**Albert
Kirkpatrick was
in HMS Spartan
when it was sunk
in the Anzio
operations on
29/01/1944**

....and later he
had a date each
week at Derry
Cathedral (Right)

Albert was born in
Armagh where he
attended St
Mark's Parish
School. His family
moved to Portadown. He joined the RN on his 16th. birthday





The Newfoundland Escort Force Bell honours the sacrifices made protecting merchant convoys during World War II. Three bells were commissioned by Royal Navy and Royal Canadian Navy veteran associations. The bells are housed in Derry, Halifax, Nova Scotia and St John's, Newfoundland. The Londonderry escort base, HMS Ferret (HMCS Niobe from 1943 for the RCN), was the largest and most important of the escort bases on either side of the Atlantic. In the UK the number of oceangoing ships based on the city exceeded the combined totals of those at Liverpool, Greenock and Belfast (which opened as an ocean escort base in late 1943).

and began training on the Isle of Man. His pay was a shilling a week.

Whilst at the naval base at Ebrington, Londonderry, he met Isobel, later to be his wife, at a dance. Theirs was the first marriage to be solemnised by Rev. Charles Willoughby as



HMS Spartan was sunk by a Henschel Hs 293 glider bomb in Anzio bay whilst operating in support of Allied landings. She sank one hour after the bomb hit. 46 officers and men lost their lives. Three from NI. See RH.

curate of St Columb's Cathedral. Mr Willoughby was later to be rector of All Saints' Church, Clooney, which has strong RNA links, and he was also Archdeacon of Derry.

After his service with the RN, Albert worked for the GPO (now BT), until his retirement. He was a Past President of the Apprentice Boys of Derry No Surrender Parent Club, Past Master of LOL 1912 and for over fifty years a member of RBP No 237.

He loved animals and never came to the Cathedral on a Sunday without an encounter with Widor, the aptly named

Deanery dog. When the Cathedral bells started ringing Widor would bolt across the cathedral grounds to take up station by the gates and wait on his weekly treat from Albert.

Father to Pat, Marilyn and Augusta. Albert died 05/02/2011. Acknowledgment - Based on an appreciation in St Columb's magazine, March 2011.

On this Day – January 29

1940

The Soviet Union reopens negotiations with Finland through Sweden and indicates that it may withdraw its support for Otto Kuusinen's puppet government should the Finns come to terms. The Finnish 9th Division launches an attack with the aim of destroying the Russian 54th Division in Kuhmo. Luftwaffe attacks British shipping in Channel, sinking four ships.

1941

US and Britain begin secret joint discussions in Washington which will lead to ABC-1 Plan in case of America entering war against Germany.

1942

RAF Bomber Command mounts an attack to sink the Tirpitz, while she is at anchor in Trondheim. The raid is unsuccessful as the Tirpitz survives unscathed

German forces capture Benghazi, along with a large quantity of supplies.

Iran signs treaty of alliance with Britain and USSR, which promise to depart Iran 6 months after Axis defeat.

German troops under Gen. Erwin Rommel retake Benghazi, Libya from British.

1943

Dr. Ernst Kaltenbrunner is appointed the successor to Heydrich.

The Nazi party's 10th Anniversary celebrations are disrupted by the RAF's first low-level daylight Mosquito air attack on Berlin.

Nazis order all Gypsies arrested and sent to extermination camps.

Admiral Donitz takes over from Admiral Raeder as C-in-C of the German Navy.

Advance units of the Eighth Army cross the Tunisian frontier from Libya.

Japanese aircraft attack Wau airfield.

The Battle of Rennell Island occurred as Japanese bombers attacked a fleet of U.S Navy ships near Guadalcanal, in the Solomon Islands. The Allies had invaded the Japanese holdings in Solomon Islands in August of 1942, and the battle for the island of Guadalcanal was one of the fiercest of the campaign. Despite fighting tremendously, the Japanese knew they could not hold the island, and their high command ordered an evacuation in early January 1943. A critical part of this plan was to establish air superiority in the area, so that the US Navy could not interfere with the evacuation. Around the same time, a US Navy task force consisting of six cruisers and two escort

carriers was escorting a group of transport ships carrying reinforcements to Guadalcanal. On January 29th, the ships detected incoming aircraft by radar, but did not confirm they were Japanese until they had already begun the attack. Some forty torpedo and traditional bombers attacked the vulnerable American ships in several waves, and inflicted moderate damage on the fleet. The most significant damage was to the cruiser USS Chicago, which was hit hard and immobilized. The other ships began efforts to tow the ship away, but this took time, and the Japanese bombers returned the following day. In this attack, they sank the Chicago, as well as damaged another destroyer before finally retreating. The battle had ended, and the United States had lost some eighty sailors killed, while the Japanese lost twelve planes. The more important outcome of this action however was that the US Navy was forced to withdraw away from Rennell Island and Guadalcanal, allowing the Japanese evacuation to proceed successfully.

1944

The Luftwaffe bombs London, while 800 USAAF bombers drop 1,800 tons of bombs on Frankfurt am Main and Ludwigshafen.

The RAF hit Berlin for the 14th time.

USS Missouri launched at New York Navy Yard, the US Navy's last battleship.

1945

The allied thrust into Rhineland continues with the capture of Oberhausen, 10 miles Northeast of Duisberg. Quisling

meets Hitler in Berlin for the last time.
US Eighth Army lands in Subic Bay, Luzon; takes San Marcelino airfields.

Seaman Leon LeRoy, returning home to Antioch, California to comfort his recently widowed mother, is bumped off his flight by the dog of Col. Elliott Roosevelt, son of the president.

Roll of Honour – January 29

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1915

+BARHAM, H

Royal Irish Rifles. 1st Btn. Rifleman. 9341. Died 29/01/1915.
Age 24. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Barham, of Belfast.
Royal Irish Rifles Graveyard, Laventie, France

1916

+LOWRY, Hugh George

Royal Irish Rifles, 1st Btn. Rifleman. 7471. Died 29/01/1916.
Age 29. Son of Mr and Mrs William John Lowry, 34,
Arkwright Rd., Belfast. Rue-de-bois Military Cemetery,
Fleurbaix, France

1917

+BINGHAM, John

Royal Irish Rifles, 12th Btn. Rifleman. 18/1080. Died 29/01/1917. See Walker, James below. St Quentin Cabaret Military Cemetery, Belgium

+FULLERTON, Robert

Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment), 2nd Btn. Private. 3631. Died 29/01/1917. Born in Ballymaguigan, Magherafelt. Robert Fullerton was living in Glasgow when he enlisted. Etaples Military Cemetery, Pas De Calais, France. Castledawson WM

+WALKER, James

Royal Irish Rifles, 12th Btn. Corporal. 12/19275. Died 29/01/1917. Aged 20. Son of James and Charlotte Walker, The Laurels, Larne. Prior to enlistment his employment was shown in the 1911 census as a clerk accountant possibly in his fathers auctioneer business. James death was reported on in an article in the Larne Times on the 10th February 1917 and is transcribed below -

Corporal James Walker who was killed in action on 29th January 1917, was the eldest son of Mr James Walker, the well-known auctioneer and valuer and before enlistment was assisting his father in business, having previously gained a valuable knowledge of general office work and insurance work with Messrs Atkinson & Boyd, chartered accountants, Belfast.

“Jim” Walker as he was affectionately known was a lively, intelligent lad of a lovable disposition and the deepest sympathy is felt with his father and mother and their family

in their great loss. He was among the first to join up with the Central Antrim when the battalion was first formed, being then just over 18 years of age and for over two years he held a responsible post in the quartermaster's department. There he gave evidence of administrative ability and recently he was recommended for a commission and was looking forward to a fairly long leave home for training and equipment not having leave since the battalion went out. He was a warm favourite with his officers and the letters to his parents from Major Geo. Thomson, Captain A.A. Luce and Captain the Rev. A. Gibson, C.F. (from which we quote) cannot but be cheering and comforting in the days to come.

Major Thomson says :- He was at his duty in the front line when a shell fell convenient , and killed Jim and a rifleman named Bingham. I had always found him most reliable and trust-worthy, one who always showed great devotion to duty and a thoroughness in everything was asked to do. Had he been spared he would have turned out a good officer.

Captain Luce, in the course of his letter, said : "I had a great appreciation of his fine soldier-like qualities. He had for more than two years done valuable administrative work for the battalion, and lately he had proved himself qualified by his talents and spirit to hold a commission, for which I recommended him, and which no doubt he would very shortly have received.

In the course of a most sympathetic and consolatory letter. Captain Gibson, the chaplain to the battalion, said :- "He was a good lad, and I have known him since I joined the regiment. Many a little kindness he did me when it was in his power.

James Walker was a member of Chaine's No Surrender Lodge and his death was recorded by the Lodge in the Larne Times on the 10th February 1917 the signatories being R Rossboro WM and AV Bustard, Secretary.

St Quentin Cabaret Military Cemetery, Belgium. Larne WM.
Gardenmore Presbyterian Church RH, Larne.

1918

+COTTER, Thomas

Royal Engineers. Sapper. 41667. Died 29/01/1918 at home. Son of William and Mary Jane Cotter. Thomas was born at Aughnacloy, Co. Tyrone. about 1886. Husband to Mary Ann Cotter of 37, Upper Mervue St., Belfast.. Carnmoney Cemetery

+HUGHES, T

Royal Irish Rifles. 3rd Btn. Rifleman. 8549. Died 29/01/1918. Age 29. Son of Mrs. Hughes, of High St., Bessbrook; husband to Annie Hughes, of 5, Fountain St., Bessbrook. St Malachy's Roman Catholic Churchyard, Camlough

1920

+LILLEY, James

RN. Stoker I. K/11769. Died 29/01/1920. He enrolled on 12/07/1911 for 12 years. He had war service in Pembroke, Tyne, Ganges, and Phaeton. HMS Phaeton was one of eight Arethusa-class light cruisers built for the Royal Navy in the 1910s. In February and March, 1915 Phaeton was operating in the Dardanelles in support of the allied landings in Gallipoli. On Phaeton's return to home waters, she was assigned to the 1st Light Cruiser Squadron of the Grand

Fleet and by mid-April 1915 she was operating out of Scapa Floe. On 04/05/1916 she took part in shooting down the Zeppelin L7. Phaeton fought in the Battle of Jutland and in the famous escort of the captured German fleet to Scapa Floe. James Lilley died in HMS Phaeton from the effects of his war service. Born Dromore 30/06/1893. Plymouth (Ford Park) Cemetery. Dromore, Co Down, WM. ADM 188/890/11769

1942

+MacFARLANE, Albert George

RNVR. Telegraphist. D/WRX 741. Died 29/01/1942 at his parents' home. Age 28. HMS Drake, a naval barracks at Devonport, Plymouth. Son of William and Hessie MacFarlane, "Shelbourne", 101 Belfast Road, Bangor. Bangor New Cemetery

1943

+HAMILTON, Samuel Frederick

RN. FAA. Leading Air Mechanic. FAA/FX 76837. Died 29/01/1943. Age: 27. HMS Cormorant, RNAS Station, Gibraltar. Died in N Africa. Son of William John Frederick and Sarah Hamilton, Omagh. Bone War Cemetery. Annaba, N Africa

HMS AVONDALE

+HARRISON, Albert

RN. Stoker 1st Class. D/KX 95801. Date of Death: 29/01/1943. Age: 23. HMS Avonvale. Joined RN in 1938 and served in Illustrious, Furious and others. Son of Sarah

Jane Harrison, Ritchie St., Belfast. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 19/02/1943). Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 82

+MAHOOD, Samuel

RN. Able Seaman. D/SSX 25513. Died 29/01/1943. Age: 23. HMS Avonvale. One of a family of nine. Two brothers served - one with Calgary Highlanders and another, a veteran of WW1, also with the Canadian army. He was a communicant member of his parish church. He had a keen interest in music playing third flute in a town flute band. He joined the RN in 1938. Following training served two and a half years in HMS Rodney and took part in the first battle of Narvik 09/04/1940. He was then in a number of North Atlantic convoys to and from America. He was posted to HMS Avondale, a Hunt-class destroyer. On 29/01/1943 whilst fighting off a heavy air attack Avondale was struck by torpedoes and had to proceed stern forwards to Algiers and then Gibraltar. Samuel Mahood's body was never found. His last telegram was sent home to his mother on 07/01/1943. Son of James and Sarah Mahood, Friar's Place, Banbridge. Seapatrik Parish WM. Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 79, Banbridge WM. Seapatrik C of I Parish WM.

+SHARP, Robert Thomas Cartmel

RAFVR. Sergeant.1530450. Died 29/01/1943. Age 19. 166 Sqd. Son of Robert And Florence Cartmel Sharp, of Belfast. Guidel Communal Cemetery, France

1944

+LOVELL, Stuart James

RAFVR. Flight Lieutenant (Pilot).107258. Died 29/01/1944. Aged 27. 183 Sqdn. Son of Stuart C. Anthony and Clare



St Paul's Cathedral, St. Helena

Mary Lovell, of Portrush; husband to Alicia Lovell, of Epsom, Surrey. His brother, Wing. Cdr. Anthony Desmond Lovell, D.S.O. and Bar, D.F.C. and Bar, D.F.C. (American), also died on service 17/08/1945. Brest (Kerfautras) Cemetery

HMS SPARTAN

HMS Spartan was sunk by a Henschel Hs 293 glider bomb in the Anzio Bay operations. 46 officers and men killed.

+HOUSTON, James

RN. AB. D/SSX 16513. Died 29/01/1944. HMS Spartan. Son of Hugh and L. Houston; husband to Jessie Houston, Israel St., Belfast. Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 86.

+SHANNON, Robert Woods

RN. Died 29/01/1944. Aged 16. HMS. Spartan. Robert was in the forward gun turret. Ballyclare

+WELSH, Thomas Henry

RN. Seaman. Service Number D/JX 423403. Died 29/01/1944. Age 19. HMS Spartan. Son of Mr and Mrs AWelsh, Ebor Parade, Belfast.(Belfast Weekly Telegraph 12/05/1944). Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 88.

VETERANS

ALLEN, Ezekiel

Army Service Corp, Motor Transport. 285143. Born Carrickfergus, abt. 1887. Lived Cheston Street, Carrickfergus. Son to Joseph and Bettie Allen, sisters Sarah, Charlotte and Martha Allen – Brothers Robert and Joseph Allen. Enlisted 29/01/1917. Listed trade – Chauffeur. C of I.

ARNOLD, Wilberforce John James

RAMC. Major. MCB. QUB, BA 1887, MB 1894. Oxon. Captain RAMC 19/04/1916, Major 04/01/1918. Served with RAMC during Boer War 1899 - 1903, St Helena. Served 1914 - 18. Egypt from 15/03/1917. Born 22/04/1867. Son of Dr. Wilberforce Arnold JP, and Grace Arnold, Fountainville Ave., Belfast. Died 29/01/1925. Buried at St Paul's Cathedral, St. Helena (Photo above)

**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

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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Please forward - information about those who served - names, regiment, ship or unit, date of death to houstonmckelvey@mac.com
