



remembrance ni



In today's Roll Matt Smyth and James Young of the West Belfast Volunteers died on the Somme in 1916. Daniel McCartney a Belfast submariner was lost in 1918, Thomas Clifford, a Derry seaman who was at Jutland, survived the war. The RN Officer who recovered the Enigma machine died this day in 2015. See photos of a 40 strong dismounted escort party of the Ni Horse at the funeral of their Hon Colonel, the Duke of Abercorn. Photo - RSM Paul Dockrell of 3 Regiment Army Air Corps, with Zephyr, a

female bald eagle adopted by the Army Air Corps at their HQ in Middle Wallop, Hampshire, as its first mascot in 2011.

SNIPPETS from NIH History.....

FUNERAL of the DUKE of ABERCORN

Hon. Colonel of the NORTH IRISH HORSE

Died 3rd January 1913

Funeral at Baronscourt Co. Tyrone 7th January

A full dress, dismounted escort party of 40 North Irish Horse personnel
including Officers, NCO's and Other ranks
represented the regiment

The cortege was led by 4 Pipers of the
ROYAL IRISH FUSILIERS
who played "Lord Lovat's Lament"



c/o B.A.



On this Day – January 3

1940

President Roosevelt calls for \$1.8 billion in defense appropriations.

1941

The Luftwaffe's X Fliegerkorps arrives in Italy.

In their first major action in WWII the Australian 6th Division breaks through the Italian defences around Bardia,

After suffering heavy losses, the Italian Air Force withdraws its aircraft from supporting the German Luftwaffe in the Battle of Britain.

1942

At the U.S. Army Air Forces Headquarters James H Doolittle begins planning an air raid against Japan

Churchill and Roosevelt announce the unified ABDA (American, British, Dutch and Australian) Command in the Southwest Pacific, under General Wavell, with Lieutenant General Brett as his deputy.

Japanese land at Brunei on Borneo in Netherlands East Indies.

Gen. Chiang Kai-shek named Commander in Chief of Allied Forces in China.

Gunner's letter home in 1942 published in Portadown News

On 03/01/1942, the Portadown News published a letter home from a local man on the frontlines.

Bombardier Charles "Scotty" Lawson of Portadown, Co. Armagh wrote home with updates from several local soldiers in his Artillery Regiment.

“Hello Portadown, we are all keeping fine. Weather is terrible. But the boys can take it. We are all being posted to different Regiments, and the boys are anything but happy. Where we go we don't know. After being through Dunkirk and all the tough spots, it isn't easy to just say goodbye to all your pals...

Hello **Tommy Lutton**, what do you want to say?

“You can tell them I am going on the guns and there will be a deal more shining to do than there was on the Searchlights, but I am glad of the change. I was tired running up and down the beam every night to see if we were on ‘Jerry’”.

Here is **Mosie Mulholland** of Mourneview Street. To us, he is Sergeant Mulholland. Well, Mosie, what have you to say?

“It's practically all over now. I'll be walking up Portadown Street at the '12th' to the tune of the Big Drums”.

May I add that Mosie said that in Bethune, 1940,. What 12th he's alluding to, I don't know.

Of course, you all know the famous '**Dusty**' **Millar**, who hails from Thomas Street. Well 'Dusty' is keeping fine and has asked me to remember him to the workers of Portadown Weaving Co.

Billy Baxter of Mourneview Street (nice smiling boy is Billy) has just arrived here beside me. Wishes to be remembered to all his friends in the 'Port'. Our Detachment Commander, Sergeant Johnny Duke, who comes from Knocknamuckley direction, has asked me to convey his good wishes to all his friends. I have been with Johnny for a considerable time, including action on Dunkirk beach. He is a good man at his job, and one of the best Detachment Commanders in the Battery. Now, we are all leaving him".

1943

Army Group A begins a general withdrawal from the Caucasus.

Convoy JW-51B arrives without loss at Murmansk.

Soviets take Mozdok and Malgobek in Caucasus.

Germans defeat French and take Fondouk Pass in Tunisia.

1944

Monty is reported to be back in Britain in order to take command of the British contingent of the Allied Expeditionary Force.

The US Fifth Army begins an offensive against the German forces in Italy who are entrenched in the Gustav Line along the Rapido river, with its centre at Cassino.

Top US Marine ace, Maj. Gregory “Pappy” Boyington, shot down by Japanese Zero near Rabaul, but he survives the war as a POW.

In the Solomons, US launches offensive on New Britain from Cape Gloucester.

1945

The U.S. First Army counter-attacks on the northern side of the Ardennes salient.

British troops take Akyab in western Burma, unopposed.

The fighting ends in Manila.

US Navy organizes hunter-killer group to intercept U-boat believed to be bound for New York with V-weapons.

2015

Lt Cdr David Balme died aged 95. As a Sub Lieutenant in 1941 Balme led the party from HMS Bulldog to U-110 which recovered the Enigma machine and code books that allowed Alan Turing’s team at Bletchley to break Hydra code, saving untold lives and shortening the war.



Roll of Honour – January 3

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1916

+SMYTH, Matthew

Royal Irish Rifles, 9th Btn. (West Belfast Volunteers). Rifleman. 9/15906. Died 03/01/1916. Aged 34. Formerly employed by J & E Hall, Queen's Rd., Belfast. Member of the Orange Order and the Royal Black Preceptory. Survived by his wife and four children, 5 Gardiner St., Belfast. Sucrierie Cemetery Colincamps, Somme, France

+YOUNG, James

Royal Irish Rifles, 9th Btn. (West Belfast Volunteers). Corporal. 13929. Died 03/01/1916. Aged 38. Lieut. John H Berry of D Company in a letter stated he had been in action that morning and was shot by a sniper, and died almost instantly. Worked pre-war as a plater in Workman & Clark. Member of Ashley Temperance LOL. Left a wife and daughter, 30 Glencollyer St., Belfast. Sucrierie Cemetery Colincamps, Somme, France

1917

+FLEMING, Vesey

New Zealand Rifle Brigade, 1st Btn. Rifleman. 18642. Died 03/01/1917 of shell wounds to his feet. Born on 21/12/1894 in Desertmartin, Magherafelt. Vesey Fleming emigrated to New Zealand. He arrived in Wellington, New Zealand in Jan 1914. He was working for Robert Vesey in Mangapapa. He gave his next of kin as his brother, R Fleming, who also lived in Mangapapa, Gisborne. His mother had been widowed between 1897 and 1901. Estaires Communal Cemetery, France. Lecumpher Presbyterian Church RH

+GRANT, Malcolm

Royal Irish Rifles, 15th Btn. Lance Serjeant. 15/14659. Died 03/01/1917. Age 35 years old. attd. 107th Trench Mortar Bty. Son of the late James and Margaret Grant, of 19, Hudson St., Belfast; husband to Mary Grant, of 10, Hudson St., Belfast. Ration Farm (La Plus Douve) Annexe, Belgium

+McAFEE, Johnston

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. Company Quartermaster Serjeant. 6717. Died 03/01/1917. Age 36. Served in the South African Campaign. Son of Mrs. McClatchey, of 111, Donegall Rd., Belfast; husband to Elizabeth Jane McAfee, of Portland School House, Birr, Co. Tipperary. Salonika (Lembet Road) Military Cemetery, Greece

+REILLY, P

Royal Engineers. Sapper. 19800. Died 03/01/1917. Age 27. He enlisted in 1910 and disembarked in France in October 1914. He was discharged in August 1916 due to sickness and he died at home. Son of Patrick and Catherine Reilly, of

26, Linehall St, Armagh. St Patrick's Roman Catholic Cemetery, Armagh

1918

+McCARTNEY, Daniel

RN. Leading Stoker. K/3632. HM Submarine G8. Died 03/01/1918. Age 26. Loss of vessel in North Sea. Born Belfast. Son of Daniel and Margaret McCartney, Wigton St., Belfast. Chatham Naval Memorial, Panel 29

+SMYTH, William James

Royal Irish Rifles, 12th Btn.(Central Antrim Volunteers). Lance Corporal. 18798. Died 03/01/1918 of tuberculosis. Age 21. Enlisted 16/09/1914, discharged 09/12/1916, due to illness. Silver War Badge No. 115105, William was also entitled to the trio of medals, 1914-15 Star British War and Victory medal. Son of John and Martha (nee Jenkins) Smyth, of 14 Ardmore Terrace, Green Road, Ballyclare. United Kingdom Book of Remembrance, Brookwood 1914-1918 Memorial. Ballyclare WM

1919

SCOTT, J A

Royal Irish Rifles. Depot. Lance Corporal.1214. Died 03/01/1919. Aged 20. Son of William Scott, of Ballyward, Banbridge. Ballyroney Presbytertarian Churchyard, County Down

+WILSON, John James

Military Labour Corps. Lieutenant. Died 03/01/1919. Age 54. Born at Larne Harbour. Son of the late William and Mary Wilson. Upanga Road Cemetery, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

1941

+McCANN, Patrick

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 8th Btn. Fusilier. 6979006. Died 03/01/1941. Age 22. Son of John and Sarah McCann, of Lurgan. Pembroke Military Cemetery, Malta. Lurgan WM

1943

+DAWSON, George

RN. Able Seaman. C/JX 334601. M.V. British Vigilance. Died 03/01/1943. Aged 21. Son of Richard and Mary A. Dawson, Lurgan. Chatham Naval Memorial Panel 68. Lurgan WM

1944

+ATCHESON, Samuel Cunningham

RAFVR. Pilot Officer (Pilot). 161591. DFC. Died 16/03/1944. Aged 24 57 Sqdn. Son of Caldwell and Rebecca Atcheson, of Drumquin, Co. Tyrone. Vevey (St Martin's) Cemetery, Switzerland.

+McLAUGHLIN, Edward Colhoun

RAFVR. Sergeant. 2204122. Died 03/01/1944. Aged 20. 100 Sqdn. Son of Edward and Jennie McLaughlin, of Ballyronan, Co. Londonderry. Runnymede Memorial, Panel 233.

1945

+NAPIER, William

Royal Army Medical Corps. Major. Mentioned in Despatches WW1.100465. Died 03/01/1945. Aged 49. M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S., B.A.O. Son of Alexander and Hester Napier; husband to Katherine Margaret Napier. Ballee C of I Churchyard, County Down. QUB WM

1946

+CROMIE, David

Royal Artillery. Gunner. 1458587. Died in hospital in Belfast 01/01/1946. Aged 39. 8th (Belfast) HAA Regiment. He was honorary treasurer of the Belfast branch of the Royal Artillery Association. Born 05/05/1907. Son of Samuel and Emily S. Cromie. (née Bell) of Woodvale Pass, Belfast. Married Elizabeth Eileen Dixon on 26/04/1933. The funeral took place on 03/01/1946 from their home at Dhu Varren Parade, Belfast. Belfast City Cemetery, Glenalina

VETERANS

BAILLIE, John Strachan

RN. Writer III. M18286. Enrolled 03/01/1916 for hostilities. War service in Pembroke, Eurasia and Egmont until 05/10/1917. Born Belfast 28/07/1896. ADM 188/1054/18286

CAMPBELL, John Morton

RN. AB. J51521. Boy service. Enrolled 11/04/1918 for 12 years. Served to 03/01/1927. War service in Impregnable, Neptune, Vivid I and Greenwich. Born Belfast 11/04/1900. ADM 188/750/51521

CLIFFORD, Thomas

RN. AB. 221834. HMS Valiant. Jutland. Boy service from 07/08/1902. Enrolled 30/04/1905 for 12 years. Served in Vivid, Valiant (13/01/1916 - 01/10/1916) and Adventure. Served to 03/01/1919. Born Londonderry 30/04/1887. ADM 188/390/221834

DARRAGH, James Alexander

RN. Stoker I. SS109487. Enrolled 28/12/1909 for 5 and 7 years. War service in Newcastle, Dido, Pembroke II, Arethusa, Anemone and Swiftsure. Invalided 03/01/1917. Born Belfast 15/07/1891. ADM 188/1115/109487

FLEMING, William

RN. Stoker First Class. 305532. Enrolled 21/12/1903 for 12 years. Re-engaged 21/12/1915. Served to 03/01/1926. War service in Vivid. Born Belfast 19/04/1882. ADM 188/498/305532

JOHNSTON, Philip Moore

RND. RNAS. RNVR Sub-Lieutenant. Enlisted 03/01/1916. Taken on strength of Officers' Camp, Blandford 19/05/1916. Transferred to RNAS. Son of Philip Johnston, Coolen, Sydenham Avenue., Belfast. ADM339

MARTIN, Victor Alexander Faris

RAFVR. Flight Lieutenant Medical Branch. Air Force List 03/01/1938. MB 1941 QUB.

+McCONNELL, William John

Royal Ulster Rifles. 1st (Airborne) Battalion. Corporal. Landed in Normandy on D Day 06/06/1944. He served throughout the war. After the war he would work on buses in Belfast. Then he re-enlisted to the Royal Ulster Rifles, 1st Btn, 7020064, to serve in the Korean war, William was killed in action on 03/01/1951 at the battle of Seoul .

William, a Cogry man, enlisted into the Royal Ulster Rifles along with his best mate, Robert Loughlin of Burnside. Both men would be drafted into the 1st Battalion in 1942. Robert also would go on to be sent with the battalion to Korea near Happy Valley in early 1950 where he would be wounded in action in fighting in January, 1951. Willy would be walked north with the rest of the men who had been taken p.o.w. He would later die from his wounds and a blood disorder (berryberry).

McLAUGHLIN, Francis Hugh

RN. Chief Yeoman Signals. 230121. Boy service from 10/03/1904. Enrolled 18/08/1904 for 12 years. Re-engaged 18/08/1916. Served to 03/01/1923. War service in New Zealand and Vivid I. Born Omagh 18/05/1886. ADM 188/407/230121

STEWART, William

K17454. Born Belfast 03/01/1895. ADM 188/901/17454

Every day is a Remembrance Day

We will remember them

**To return to Home Page - click on Remembrance NI
masthead.**

**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

Copyright - all material in this **remembrance ni** publication is copyright, and must not be reproduced in print or electronically.

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

