



remembrance ni



502 (Ulster) Squadron, RAF Reserve

88 years after its original formation, 502 (Ulster) Squadron, RAF Reserve, reformed at Aldergrove in 2013. There is a Memorial in St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, naming those from the squadron who died in WW2.



One of the most picturesque Great War cemeteries, Le Trou Aid Post near Fromelles. Lovingly maintained by the CWGC.

On this Day – February 15

1916

Londonderry Sentinel - 15th February 1916

An officer of the 12th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles who has arrived home on leave from the front, has given his

impression of the work of the Ulster Division in the fighting line. “The spirit of the men is magnificent, and not only the “Ulster boys” but all ranks of the British and Allied armies exhibit a resolute and determined confidence in their ability to beat their cruel and treacherous enemies. An instance was given of how the astuteness of a non-commissioned officer of the Ulster Division resulted in one sniper being subtracted from the fighting force of the German Army.

At a certain part of the line the “Ulster boys” were being harassed by the sniper, and for a time the whereabouts of the sniper’s hiding place remained an unsolved problem. The non-commissioned officer alluded to be a smart and intelligent man – succeeded in spotting the sniper’s quarters – a barn behind the German trenches. A phone message to the artillery behind the German lines was promptly responded to. The first shell demolished the sniper’s retreat and thereafter there was comparative peace.

The officer speaks eulogistically of the splendid organisation work at the front ; everything in the nature of supplies comes up from the base with clockwork regularity, the men are splendidly fed and clothed, and are as comfortable as the circumstances will permit. He has nothing but praise for the gallant work of our aviators, and air combats which he has witnessed are thrilling beyond the power of description.

16th Btn Royal Irish Rifles - Pioneers

Recruitment tour of County Down. In order to try and boost intake a recruitment tour of County Down was organised, starting on the 15th February and ending on the 27th February, with 150 Officers and men under the command of Major Gardiner and including the newly formed pipe band. It

was followed by 2 horse drawn wagons and a horse drawn field ambulance unit. The schedule was as follows:

- February 15 Dromore
- 16 Ballynahinch
- 17 Dromara
- 18 Saintfield and Crossgar
- 19 Downpatrick
- 20 Clough, Seaforde and back to Downpatrick
- 21 Downpatrick
- 22 Comber via Killyleagh and Killinchy
- 23 Donaghadee via Newtownards
- 25 Comber via Bangor
- 26 Hillsborough
- 27 Lurgan via the Maze, Moira and Maralin.

In each location a marching display would be followed by meetings and speeches after which the troops would be fed, entertained and accommodation provided by locals. The success of this recruiting march is difficult to assess as the strength figures were reported less frequently. Training.

Interspersed with infantry training, the emphasis now switched to pioneering skills in trench, road and railroad construction Trench works. Trenches were constructed in readily available countryside locations and used to replicate known offensive and defensive methods. It was hard manual work as there were no mechanical machines. So, as

practice, 5 foot deep by 1 ½ foot wide trenches were literally dug out by pickaxe, shovel and hands, hard labour by any standards in a peaceful country environment. How much more difficult it must have been in hard ground or muddy conditions, good and bad weather, with hostile fire from sniper, machine gun or artillery and with much deeper and wider dimensions.

Wiring techniques were also taught in conjunction with the trench layouts. It is doubtful that full fitting out of trenches took place as materials were in short supply. (Revetment or revetting).

Road works. On the 8th February 2 officers and 50 other ranks left for Keady where they assisted County Council men in constructing a new roadway at Drumderg nearby. They returned on the 17th and Armagh County Council donated £10 towards comforts for the men in appreciation of their work. Work was also carried out at the rear entrance to Brownlow House, widening the Avenue Road and constructing a new walkway in the park.

Railway Training Again 4 officers and 50 other ranks left on the 3rd February for Skerries, Co Dublin for instruction in pioneer railway work.

1917

The Germans attack west of Maisons de Champagne and penetrate the French salient, gaining several lines of trenches and taking a reported 21 officers and 837 men prisoner.

1918 - Promotion for Lisburn officer

Mr. Tom Malcomson, who has seen much hard service at the front with the Manchester Regiment, has been advanced

to the rank of captain. He was commissioned on 20th July, 1915, and promoted to the rank of lieutenant on 1st September, 1916. His brother Norrie, who is an officer in the Irish Rifles, has also seen (with the Ulster Division) lively doings in the firing line. These officers are sons of Mr. T. Malcomson, manager, Ulster Bank, Lisburn. - The Lisburn Standard

1940

Hitler orders that all British merchant ships will be considered warships.

1941 Great Britain breaks off diplomatic relations with Romania as it is now clear that the Romanians are firmly allied to the Germans.

Norwegian Lutheran bishops denounce Nazi brutality.

1942

Churchill broadcasts to the nation and says the Mediterranean will close to all allied shipping.

Singapore surrenders to the Japanese, a decision prompted as much as anything by the plight of the 1,000,000 civilian inhabitants of the island. 9,000 British, Australian and Empire troops are killed and 130,000 captured, many of which will find themselves working as slaves on the notorious Burma-Thai Railway. The Japanese casualties' amount to around 9,000 killed or wounded.

"Enemy aliens" ordered to be removed from restricted military zones in California.

1943

British Eighth Army arrives at German Mareth Line in Tunisia.

Actress and pin-up girl Betty Grable leaves prints from hands & one leg at Grauman's Chinese Theater in Hollywood.

Dasher in Murmansk convoy 15 February 1943

Convoy JW53 departed Loch Ewe for Murmansk. Twenty-eight warships protected the large group of merchant ships, including the aircraft carrier HMS Dasher. The perils that lay ahead were not confined to enemy U-Boats, Two days into the voyage they encountered a Force 11 gale, with 60ft high waves, wind speeds of over 65kts and temperatures of -25 degF. Six merchant ships turned back, and the roof of a gun turret on the cruiser HMS Sheffield was smashed away by the heavy seas.

PO Brian Phillpot, a TAG on 837 NAS later recalled, "All hands were called onto the flight deck on our second night at sea... the ship's pitching and rolling, coupled with storm-force winds had strained the securing wire lashings (on three aircraft) and they were beginning to move about. It was well nigh impossible to obtain a foothold on the wet deck, and although strenuous efforts were made it became clear it was a losing battle, and a decision was made to assist the worst of the wildly moving Swordfish over the side... next morning g they were gone, leaving only a few tangled wires and other lashings as evidence they had ever been there."

Phillpot goes onto describe a similar situation below decks in the hangar, where Hurricanes were crashing into more Swordfish, and the hangar was eventually declared 'out-of-

bounds'. A torpedo also broke loose from its mounting in the torpedo room. Finally, a 60ft long gash opened in the side of the ship, just above the waterline, when a weld from the hasty conversion of the former banana-boat into an aircraft carrier, split open. The Convoy Commander gave orders for HMS Dasher to detach and take shelter in Seydisfjorour in Iceland. In the calmer conditions some repairs could be effected, however the ship was declared unfit for active service and returned to Dundee escorted by the destroyer HMS Blakney, and entered dry dock in Rosyth. Five weeks later HMS Dasher was at sea again, and entered Lamlash Bay on the Isle of Arran on 26 March. The following day, after conducting of deck-landing practice to work up to her next convoy protection voyage HMS Dasher exploded at 1640 and sank 8mins later, with the loss of 379 lives. The circumstances of the loss are still shrouded in mystery and secrecy.

1944

38 (Irish) Brigade - Campobasso: As St Benedict's Abbey at Monte Cassino was bombed to destruction, the Irish Brigade waited for the roads to be cleared of snow to allow them to move into 5th Army reserve: their times of trial and toil at Cassino & in the Liri Valley lay ahead.

Monte Cassino is devastated by 422 tons of bombs as the Indian and New Zealanders begin their offensive to capture the monastery which is now occupied and defended by paratroopers (the Green Devils) of 1st Fallschirmjager Division.

Hitler permits Field Marshal Model's troops to withdraw to Panther Line and also allows the Korsun pocket defenders to break out towards the relieving forces.

The heaviest raid ever on Berlin is conducted, during which

2,500 tons of bombs are dropped.

The USAAF decimate a Japanese convoy off New Ireland.

1945

Japanese forces are now trapped in the Manila rectangle, which is just 5,000 yards by 2,000 yards.

US Sixth Army lands at Mariveles on tip of Bataan peninsula on Luzon, takes Mariveles and its airfield.

As Japanese advance, US Fourteenth Air Force evacuates last of its eastern China airfields, can no longer raid South China Sea.

Russian troops are now covering the approaches to Danzig. The Red Army captures Sagan in Silesia. The German 11th SS Army begins a counterattack 'Operation Sonnenwende' with three Korps (39th Panzer, 3rd SS Panzer and the 10th SS Korps). However, only the 3rd SS Panzer Korps (11th SS Panzer Grenadier Division "Nordland" and the 27th SS Grenadier Division "Langemarck") are ready and begin their attack South towards Arnswalde, about 30-35 kms southeast of Stargard.

Roll of Honour – February 15

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1915

+MUNSTER, John

Royal Irish Rifles. C Coy. 1st Btn. Rifleman. 13922. Died 28/02/1915. Age 34. Son of John Munster, of Drogheda; husband to R A. Munster, of 44, Seaforde St., Belfast. Estaires Communal Cemetery, France

1916

+SAVAGE, Frank

Royal Irish Rifles. 10th Btn. Rifleman. 13538. Died 15/02/1916. Age 22. Son of Minnie and the late Frank Savage, of Mountpottinger, Belfast. Forceville Communal Cemetery and Extension, France



Looking through the gate to shadows and light at Frankfurt Trench British Cemetery. Somme WW1

+THOMPSON, W

Royal Irish Rifles. 12th Btn. (Central Antrim).

Rifleman. 18818. Died 15/02/1916. After a night of torrential rain the sap he was in collapsed and he died before he was rescued. From Carrickfergus. Hamel military cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel, Somme, France

1917

+NUGENT, Robert

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 1st Btn. Private. 9836. Died of wounds 15/02/1917. Aged 23. Robert, from Percy Street, Belfast, enlisted in March 1910 and served with the Inniskillings pre-war at Tientsin in China and Secunderabad in India. He embarked with the Battalion and took part in the landing at Cape Helles, Gallipoli in April 1915, serving there until January 1916. He moved to France with the Btn. and fought at the Somme where the 1st Inniskillings sustained 549 casualties on 1 July. Robert was wounded, probably at Carnoy on the Somme in January 1917 and succumbed to his wounds at a Military Hospital at Rouen. He was pre-deceased by his younger brother James who was Killed In Action with the 2nd Bn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers at Festubert on 15/05/1915. St. Sever Cemetery Extension Rouen, Seine-Maritime, France

+ROBINSON, Robert

Royal Irish Rifles. 13th Btn. Rifleman. 460. Died 15/02/1917. Age 42. Son of Abel and Margaret Robinson, of Donaghadee. The Robinson family lived in Bow Street Donaghadee. Abel Robinson was a seaman, Margaret worked as an embroiderer and they had four children. Prior

to the Great War Robert worked as a tailor. Robert Robinson and Hannah Kennedy (daughter of Thomas Kennedy, a sailor) were married on 28/03/1904 March 1904 in Ballycopeland Presbyterian Church and they had two children. The Robinson family lived in Donaghadee and Robert was a member of the local contingent of the Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF). Robert enlisted in Belfast and he served with the Royal Irish Rifles. 13th Btn. in 108 Brigade of the 36 (Ulster) Division. Due to illness, he was invalided home in February 1916 for a short time before he returned to active service. On 15/02/1917 Rifleman Robert Robinson died of wounds sustained around 01.00 am the previous day when there was a heavy enemy bombardment followed up by a raid. He is commemorated on Donaghadee and District War Memorial; in Shore Street Presbyterian Church Donaghadee and on the family grave headstone in Donaghadee C of I Parish Church Graveyard

+STEWART, J A

Royal Irish Rifles. 14th Btn. Rifleman. 19861. Died 15/02/1917. Age 24. Son of James and Jane Stewart, of 3, Virginia St., Belfast. Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord, France

1918

+BROWN, William James

Seaforth Highlanders. 3rd/4th Btn. Private. 3981. Died 15/02/1918. Age 36. Son of John and Eliza A. Brown; husband of Ellen Jane Brown, of 19, Riversdale St., Belfast. Belfast City Cemetery

+FINLAY, Samuel Hanna

Canadian Infantry, 8th Btn. (Manitoba Regt.). Private. 829240. Killed by shellfire in the 'vicinity of St. Emile' on 15/02/1918. Born at Cromkill on 02/10/1889. Son of sawyer William Finlay and Mary Jane McCartney, later of Ballee (1901) and eventually of 142, Queen St., Ballymena, Co. Antrim. Aix-Noulette Communal Cemetery Extension.in Wellington Street Presbyterian Church, PCI RH

1941

+BROWN, Howard John

RN. Able Seaman. DEMS Gunner. D/JX 181631. Died 15/02/1941. Age 30. SS Alnmoor - Defensively Equipped Merchant Vessel. Hit by U 123. Son of William and Margaret Brown, Belfast. Husband to Elizabeth Brown, Donnybrook St, Belfast. Father of two children. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 15/03/1941.) Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 46

+CARSON, Robert James

Royal Marines. Marine. PLY/15760. Died 15/02/1941. Age 47. He enlisted in the Royal Marine Light Infantry Plymouth Division on 14/08/1912 and served in both World Wars. He died as a result of a road accident in Johnstone, Glasgow on 15/02/1941. He had 22 years' service in the Royal Marines. Born on 21/09/1894, he was the son of Thomas Carson and Tilly Carson of Omagh and husband to Annie Carson of Empire Drive, Belfast. A gun carriage transported the coffin to the cemetery where a detachment of Royal Naval personnel and a firing party were in attendance. Reverend S.J. Greer conducted a short service in the home at Empire Drive, Belfast, and Reverend R.H. Campbell officiated at the graveside. Belfast City Cemetery, Glenalina Extension

+HAMILTON, Francis Cecil

Royal Ulster Rifles, 7th Btn. Rifleman. 7019634. Died 15/02/1941. Age 21. Son of Thomas and Grace Hamilton, of Lurgan. Lurgan New Cemetery.

+QUIREY, John

Royal Corps of Signals. Signaller. 7006083. Died 15/02/1941. Age 42. Holywood Military Hospital, Co. Down. John served with 3rd Heavy Anti-Aircraft Signals attached to 12th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Signals in WW2. In WW1 he saw action with 36th Ulster Division, rejoining the army before the outbreak of WW2. In the interwar period, Quirey worked in the engineering department of the General Post Office. He was the son of John Quirey and Eliza Jane Quirey (née Harkness) of Mervue Street, Belfast. John Quirey (Senior) had served in the Royal Navy and as well as John, two other sons had joined the army and two had joined the Royal Navy. Signaller Quirey was husband to Mary Quirey (née Rainey) of Clady Road, Dunadry, Co. Antrim. The couple had a son, James Quirey who served with the army in NI at the time of his father's death. They also had three other sons, Sidney Quirey, Albert Quirey, and Stanley Quirey. Belfast City Cemetery, Glenalina Extension

1929

+HOGAN, T

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 4th Btn. Private. 4/28862. Died 15/02/1920. Age 47. Son of James Hogan; husband of Mary Hogan. Born at Enniskillen. Enniskillen Roman Catholic Cemetery

1941

+BROWN, Howard John

RN. Able Seaman. DEMS Gunner. D/JX 181631. Died 15**/02/**1941. Age 30. SS Alnmoor - Defensively Equipped Merchant Vessel. Hit by U 123. Son of William and Margaret Brown, Belfast. Husband to Elizabeth Brown, Donnybrook St, Belfast. Father of two children. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 15/03/1941.) Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 46

1942

+DEMPSTER, William Alexander

RN. Leading Stoker. C/KX79089. Died 15/02/1942. Aged 32. HMS Cleopatra. The cruiser Cleopatra and destroyer HMS Fortune came under attack from Luftwaffe JU-88 bombers near the harbour. A 500kg bomb hit HMS Cleopatra, exploding and killing twenty members of the crew. The damaged ship made it to port and underwent repairs. Born 16/01/1910. Son of Frederick James Dempster and Eliza Jane Dempster of Ballymaccarron Toye, Killyleagh. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 06/03/1942). Malta (Cappucini) Naval Cemetery. Killyleagh WM

+McFEELEY, John

Suffolk Regiment. 4th Btn. Private. 6028740. Died 15/02/1942. Age 28. Son of John and Mary Ann McFeeley, Tenth Street Shankill Road Belfast. Singapore Memorial, Singapore

+LAMONT, Daniel

RAF. Leading Aircraftman. 632213. Died 15/02/1942. Age 23. Son of Mr. and Mrs. John Lamont, Ballymoney; Stepson



**Spectacular picture taken by Chris Murray
Photography at Cross of Sacrifice, Eyre Cemetery,
Stornaway, Western Islands**

of Lena Lamont, Ballymoney. Singapore Memorial, Column 416, Singapore.

+LOW, Peter Francis

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. Captain. 95532. Died 15/02/1942. Age 21. Son of Francis Simon and H. Dorothea Low, of Strangford, Co. Down. Pembroke Military Cemetery, Malta

+McBRIDE, John Robert

RAF. Sergeant. 538895. Died 15/02/1942 Age 27. Son of John And Annie McBride, of Enniskillen. Singapore Memorial, Column 415, Singapore

+McFEELEY, John

Suffolk Regiment. 4th Btn. Private. 6028740. Died 15/02/1942. Age 28. Son of John and Mary Ann McFeeley, of Tenth Street, Belfast. Singapore Memorial, Singapore

1944

+BLAIR, Ernest Bramwell

RAFVR. Sergeant. 1796405. Died 15/02/1944. 578 Sqdn. He was an air gunner on Handley Page Halifax III LW557 LK-Q when the crew took off from R.A.F. Burn, North Yorkshire, England for a night-time bombing raid to Berlin. The raid on Berlin comprised 891 planes, the largest attack on Berlin and the largest non-1000 bomber raid of the Second World War. Blair's Halifax came down, possibly due to an engine failure near the village of Tribohm in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Germany. Before joining the Royal Air Force, Bramwell had served alongside Samuel Joseph Clayton in the Air Training Corps at No. 1829 Squadron Headquarters, Portadown Technical College. Ernest was the son of John and Martha Blair, 12 Carleton Street Portadown. He had been a member of 1st Portadown BB. Runnymede Memorial

+McCONNELL, David Whiteside

RAFVR. Pilot Officer. 158915. DFC. Died 15/02/1944. Age 23. He joined RAF 101 Sqdn at Ludford Magna, Cambridgeshire in 1943. During his time there he completed 14 bombing missions. The award of his Distinguished Flying Cross on 27th September 1943 made the London Gazette on the same day of his untimely death. The citation for McConnell's DFC read: "On his first operational sortie as Captain of Aircraft, this officer flew in an aircraft in which the elevator trimmers became jammed. Pilot Officer McConnell

was forced to fly with both arms around the control column in order to maintain control. He endeavoured to complete the sortie but had to abandon the effort through exhaustion after two hours. In November 1943, he took part in a sortie on Berlin at very short notice, completing it with courage and skill. His fine example has always been praiseworthy". A photo of Pilot Officer McConnell's Lancaster B I DV236 SV-G appears in the book 'Lancaster Squadrons 1942-43' by Jon Lake. Born Bridge St., Newry in 1920, son of David And Ruby Georgina McConnell. Berlin 1939-1945 War Cemetery, Germany

+QUIREY, John

Royal Corps of Signals. Signalman. 7006083. Died 15/02/1941. Age 42. Holywood Military Hospital, Co. Down. John served with 3rd Heavy Anti-Aircraft Signals attached to 12th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Signals in WW2. In WW1 he saw action with 36th Ulster Division, rejoining the army before the outbreak of WW2. In the interwar period, Quirey worked in the engineering department of the General Post Office. He was the son of John Quirey and Eliza Jane Quirey (née Harkness) of Mervue Street, Belfast. John Quirey (Senior) had served in the Royal Navy and as well as John, two other sons had joined the army and two had joined the Royal Navy. Signalman Quirey was husband to Mary Quirey (née Rainey) of Clady Road, Dunadry, Co. Antrim. The couple had a son, James Quirey who served with the army in NI at the time of his father's death. They also had three other sons, Sidney Quirey, Albert Quirey, and Stanley Quirey. Belfast City Cemetery, Glenalina Extension

1946

+HUME, John French

RAFVR. Corporal. 297832. Died 15/02/1946. Aged 44.
Husband of Nancy Hume of Belfast. Dundonald Cemetery

VETERANS

ARCHER, Thomas

RAMC. Lt Colonel. QCB MD 1876. Surgeon Captain
05/02/1881. Served Sudan and S Africa. Retired list, Lydd
1905. Re-engaged from 04/04/1915. Born 21/12/1855,
Caledon. Son of John Archer. Died 15/02/1935, Lydd, Kent

MALCOLM, Harold

RN. Gunner. PoW. In SS Iceland carrying a cargo of 962
tons of oranges from Seville to Bristol. She had been part of
convoy HG53, but had suffered a major engine failure and
was adrift when Hipper approached on 12/02/1941. She
took off Iceland's crew and didn't pursue the convoy
because she was running low in fuel. She took a course
towards Brest. However, she later made radar contact with
what she thought was HG53 and attacked. It was in fact
another convoy SLS64 from Freetown to GB which did not
have accompanying warships. It was then ordered by its
commodore to disperse, and in the melee which followed
several ships were sunk within an hour and many men were
in the sea. Three of the merchantmen fired back and one
struck Hipper's tower mast. In this engagement Hipper sank
seven ships and damaged three more. In all 110 men died
in the sunken ships; 107 were rescued by two of the
convoy's ships which courageously had remained at the
scene. The skipper of Hipper (Meisel) knew that British

warships and planes were heading his way and he was running low in fuel and ammunition, so Hipper left the scene and skirted the Spanish coast to Brest arriving 15/02/1941. Harry Malcolm was a PoW for 4 years in camps in Germany and Poland. Father of Rev. Mercia Malcolm.

McKNIGHT, Alexander

Royal Irish Rifles. 12th Battalion. Rifleman. 6214. Died 15/02/1919. Alexander was born at Mallusk, Co. Antrim, on 23/03/1898, the youngest son of William John and Agnes McKnight, nee Kelso. He later moved to Templepatrick. He enlisted in the Royal Irish Rifles on 12/05/1915 aged 17, and was posted to the Rifle's 11th Battalion, the South Antrim Volunteers. Following training, he embarked with the battalion for active service in October 1915.

He was admitted to hospital with shell shock on 19/08/1916 and rejoined the battalion ten days later. Two days after that, Alexander was one of 207 casualties the battalion suffered when a British gas attack went disastrously wrong. After initially going forward, the gas blew back over the battalion's lines. Three gas cylinders were also found to be leaking. Alexander was hospitalised at Calais and on his return to duty on 14/11/1917 was posted to the Rifle's 12th Battalion, the Central Antrim Volunteers. Eight days later at the Battle of Cambrai, Alexander was wounded with gunshot wounds to the stomach. He was hospitalised and evacuated to England and following convalescence appeared before a medical board which decided that he was no longer fit for service. He was discharged with the Silver War Badge on 07/02/1919. A week later on 15/02/1919, Alexander died in the influenza pandemic.

Alexander is buried in the family plot at St Patrick's Parish Church, Templepatrick and is commemorated on the Memorial Lectern in the Church.

RYAN, Albert Richard

Private Albert Richard Ryan was a member of Lisnaskea 'C' Troop Ulster Volunteer Force, Enniskillen Horse serving during the First World War. He served with the Ulster Special Constabulary between the Wars and returned to Army Service with the North Irish Horse during the Second World War. He lived until he was 82 years old and as it says on his Headstone in Lisnaskea. he was "always a Soldier"

He was born on 02/06/1875 at Aghamore, Lisnaskea, County Fermanagh, son of farmer and ex-soldier Thomas Smith Ryan and his wife Susan Ryan (nee Fawcett). On 06/10/1904 he married Elizabeth Robinson at Holy Trinity Parish Church in Lisnaskea. The couple had four children over the next six years before Elizabeth's death on 27/02/1910. By the time of the 1911 Census, Albert was living at Moughley, Kilmore, County Fermanagh, on the farm of his brother Frederick, his two surviving children living with relatives.

Ryan enlisted in the North Irish Horse between 24 and 26/04/1913 (No.845 - later Corps of Hussars No 71130). He embarked for France on 17/08/1914 with A Squadron, seeing action on the Retreat from Mons and the Advance to the Aisne.

In May 1916 A Squadron came together with D and E Squadrons to form the 1st North Irish Horse Regiment, serving as corps cavalry to VII, XIX, then V Corps until February-March 1918, when the regiment was dismounted

and converted to a cyclist unit, serving as corps cyclists to V Corps until the end of the war.

Ryan remained with the regiment throughout the war, though how much time he spent in France and Belgium and how much at the Antrim depot is not known at present. On 07/06/1919 he was demobilised and transferred to Class Z of the Army Reserve.

According to family recollections, despite his age Ryan also served in World War 2, and was severely wounded. He died on 15/02/1958 and his remains were interred in Lisnaskea.

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.
