



remembrance ni



Padre Pat Kelleher (centre) who was awarded an immediate Military Cross for his actions at Casino with the Irish Brigade in 1944.

## **Derry Gunners die in Battle of Wadi Akarit in Tunisia**

**Bombardier Neil Murray and Gunner Tommy McCarter were both killed during the Battle of Wadi Akarit in Tunisia.**

They were members of Mac Troop, equipped with German 88mm anti-aircraft guns in a ground role.

The Troop had been created from volunteers from 9th (Londonderry) and 51st (London) Heavy Anti Aircraft Regiments in Tripoli to support 2nd New Zealand Division in Eighth Army's advance into Tunisia.

Mac Troop, named for Brigadier H.M.J. 'Mad Mac' McIntyre, commander of 2 AA Brigade, was attached to 4th NZ Field Regiment.

The Troop was formed at the request of Brigadier Weir, CRA (Commander Royal Artillery) of 2nd NZ Division, and General Freyberg, its GOC, who had requested that 3.7-inch HAA guns be provided to the Division for the fighting in Tunisia; it was Freyberg and Weir's intention that the guns be used in a ground role.

No 3.7-inch HAA guns could be spared but there were captured 88s with considerable stocks of ammunition and so 88s were issued. The request had come after Freyberg and Weir had watched a demonstration of anti-tank and field firing by 25 Battery at a training range at Azizia south of Tripoli. (A spot famous for being where the hottest surface temperature ever recorded had been noted). During the demonstration Sergeant Jim Peoples' gun had scored a direct hit on a tank at extreme range, blowing its turret off.

During the opening bombardment at Wadi Akarit, the four guns of Mac Troop each fired over 200 rounds in support of 50th (Northumbrian) Division since the New Zealand Division was in reserve. While there was little counter-battery fire, German aircraft were active and one Jabo dropped bombs on Mac Troop's positions. One gun took a

direct hit, killing one man immediately while another died minutes later.

Tommy McCarter was the gunner killed outright while Neil Murray died in Richard Mulhern's arms. (Mulhern was the youngest soldier in the Regiment, having celebrated his 16th birthday after 9th (Londonderry) arrival in Egypt.)

Neil Murray had served in the Irish Defence Forces and enlisted in 25 Battery of 9th Regiment on formation. Tommy McCarter was also a member of 25 Battery.

A New Zealand medical orderly, Bdr L.H. Shearer, dashed to help the wounded even as bombs were still falling.

While the initial commander of Mac Troop was Captain Downing of 51st (London) HAA Regiment, he was succeeded by Captain Hume Stewart-Moore of 26 Battery - Thanks to Richard Doherty for this input and insight.



# On this Day – April 6

## **1915**

Royal Navy ordered false bow waves to be painted on its ships in order to confuse enemy submarines as they prepared firing solutions for their torpedoes. The aim being to falsely indicate the ships speed.

## **1916**

As the Germans regain two craters at St. Eloi, at the Battle of Verdun they make progress between Bethincourt and Hill 265.

## **1917**

US declares war on Germany, enters World War I. Two days after the U.S. Senate voted 82 to 6 to declare war against Germany, the U.S. House of Representatives endorses the declaration by a vote of 373 to 50, and America formally enters World War I. When World War I erupted in 1914, President Woodrow Wilson pledged neutrality for the United States.

## **1938**

The United States recognizes Nazi Germany's conquest of Austria.

## 1940

The RAF spots units of the Kriegsmarine steaming North towards Narvik and Trondheim loaded with troops and equipment.

British Ministry of Food announces “Kitchen Front” campaign to save food.

Germany recalls all 1, 2, 5, and 10-pfennig coins to reclaim copper & bronze; will use zinc instead.

## 1941

A posthumous Victoria Cross is awarded to Flying Officer K Campbell for an attack this day on the German battlecruiser Gneisenau while docked in the port of Brest in France. He was flying a Bristol Beaufort N1016 (OA-X) of No. 22 Squadron, RAF Coastal Command.

German, Italian and Hungarian forces begin the invasion of Yugoslavia and Greece. The Luftwaffe carries out several devastating bombing raids against Belgrade and all but wipes out the Yugoslav air force on the ground.

The Luftwaffe launches an air attack against the Greek port of Piraeus from bases in Bulgaria. During the raid, the British ammunition ship Clan Fraser is hit and explodes in a massive fireball, wrecking the harbour and port facilities.

Australian forces capture Benghazi along with six senior Italian Generals. Italian forces make repeated attempts to break through the weak British blocking forces at Beda Fomm, but cannot.

Lieutenant General Erwin Rommel is appointed to command the German forces being sent to Africa.

Six Beaufort torpedo-bombers attack the German cruiser Gneisenau, anchored in Brest harbour. One, piloted by Fg Off Kenneth Campbell, makes a successful attack before being shot down, inflicting serious damage that took six months to repair. For this, Campbell was awarded a posthumous VC.

## **1942**

German troops invade Yugoslavia. After 11 days of fighting, Belgrade surrenders unconditionally.

Axis bombers attack the port of Alexandria in Egypt.

The Japanese make landings on Manus Island in the Bismarck Archipelago.

The Japanese air raid on Vizagapatam and Cocanada, India tips India into Allied camp.

First U.S. troops arrive in Australia. Germany cuts rations of bread, meat, fats.

Due to heavy Luftwaffe raids, British begin to withdraw surface ships from Malta to Gibraltar and Alexandria.

700 Japanese-Americans are assembled at Santa Anita Racetrack.

## **1943**

British and American forces in Tunisia launch an attack against the 5th Panzerarmee.

## **1944**

**38 Irish Brigade near Cassino:**

"At Cassino, Father Dan would walk calmly, soft hat & stick even when shells were falling"

# 1945

**London Irish Rifles** - the start of Operation Grapeshot saw the 1st Bn LIR join the attack across the River Reno.. the final push to the Po.

38. (Irish) Inf. Brigade 78 RA C.O.D. (as per 13 Corps) 1st Bn. The Royal Irish Fusiliers.		Date of Recommendation Passed Forward Received 9 May 44 Brigade 78 May 44 Division 11.5.44 Corps 14 May 44 Army 26 May 44 ARI 2 June 44	
Scheduling No. (To be left blank) 178160		Chaplain Class 4. Daniel	
Name KELLEHER		28 JUN 1944	
(1) Surname to be in CAPITALS. (2) Christian Names must be shown (in small letters).			
Action for which commended. (Date and place of action must be stated).		Recommended by J.W. Durnill Lt. Col., Command I R. D. F. Recommended T.E.D. Spott Major General, Command 36 (Irish) Inf Bde.	Honour on Award. M.C. Immediate
On the 6th April 1944 Rev Kelleher was at Bn HQ in the CAIRO area when heavy shelling was reported in the village of CAIRO causing several casualties to one of the platoons. Rev Kelleher immediately raced to the village which was under very heavy shelling. He found the wounded men and assisted the stretcher bearers in their work, carrying wounded men in his arms at great personal risk to the shelter of a ruined building. He comforted the badly wounded men and assisted the over-worked stretcher bearers in applying bandages to their wounds. His cheerfulness and practical assistance undoubtedly saved the lives of two men and gave fresh proof of his unflinching devotion to duty.		Major General, GOC 78 Div. Lt. General, GOC 13 Corps. Awarded M.C. 26. 24. 8. 44	GRANTED AN IMMEDIATE M.C. H.R. Alexander 20857 GENERAL Commander in Chief Allied Central Mediterranean Force
Map Ref ITALY 1/100,000 Sheet 172. CASERTA G8424.			

Sarajevo falls into the hands of Yugoslav partisans.

Preceded by a tremendous artillery and air bombardment, the 3rd Belorussian Front with Four armies, 137,000 men, 530 tanks and 2,400 aircraft begin their final assault against

Kaigun, which is held by 35,000 German troops. The Battle for Vienna begins.

Japanese launch air counterattack ('Floating Chrysanthemum I') on the U.S. Fleet off Okinawa: 800 planes, including 355 kamikazes, strike US naval and ground forces; 400 shot down.

Yugoslav Partisans liberate Sarajevo.

# Roll of Honour – April 6

*Representing their comrades who died on this day*

**1915**

**+DONALDSON, Robert**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Btn. Private. 14593. Died 06/04/1915. Age 21. He was born on 06/01/1894 in Dromore, Clogher. He was the second youngest of six children. The family lived in Dromore Middle, near Clogher. His father was a builder and farmer. Robert Donaldson enlisted at Finner Camp, County Donegal. He was serving with the 9th Btn of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers when he died of influenza and scarlatina during Easter furlough at his home at Dromore Middle, Clogher. Son of John and Sarah A. Donaldson, of Dromore, Middle, Clogher. Fivemiletown Church of Ireland Churchyard. Fivemiletown WM, Clogher WM

**+FERRIS, Samuel Bernard Clutton**

10th (Prince of Wales's Own Royal) Hussars, attached 11th Reserve Cavalry Regiment. 2nd Lieutenant. Died 06/04/1915. Keevil (Saint Leonard) Churchyard, Wiltshire. Strandtown WM

**+MAJOR, William Henry**

Royal Munster Fusiliers, 1st. Btn. Private. Died 06/04/1915. Seapatricks C of I Parish WM, Banbridge

**+McCANN, John**

Royal Irish Rifles. 1st Btn. D Coy. Rifleman. 8405. Died 06/04/1915. Age 27. Son of Thomas McCann, of 52, Cecil St., Newry. Rue-du-Bois Military Cemetery, Fleurbaix, France

**1916**

**+CAIRNS, Alexander**

4th (Queen's Own) Hussars. Private. 1982. Died 06/04/1916. Age 26. Son of Robert and Matilda Cairns, of 36, Cosgrove St., Belfast. Picquigny British Cemetery, France

**+CAMPBELL, Randolph Churchill Beastall**

Royal Irish Rifles, 14th (Service) Btn. Rifleman. 14/14168. Died 06/04/1916. Aged 21. Son of Mr. Hugh Alexander and Mrs. Charlotte Elizabeth Campbell, of 16 Cyprus Park, Belfast. Native of Ballynahinch, Co. Down. Recorded as signing the Ulster Covenant in 1912 at Ballynahinch Town Hall. Hamel Military Cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel, Somme, France. Strandtown WM

## **+DORRITY, George**

Royal Irish Rifles, 14th (Young Citizen) Btn. B Coy.  
Rifleman.16443. Died 06/04/1916. Age 21. Son of William  
Dorrity, of 29, Elaine St., Stranmillis, Belfast. Hamel Military  
Cemetery, Hamel. France

## **+EGAN, Pierce**

Chaplain to the Forces. 4th Class. Attached to 1st Battalion  
British West Indies Regiment. Died of dysentery 06/04/1916  
in Alexandria, Egypt. Listed in the 1901 Belfast/Ulster Street  
Directory as curate assistant of Derry Cathedral. Husband of  
Jessie Helen Egan, Spencer Rd., Eastbourne. Chatby  
Military Cemetery, Alexandria. St Columb's Cathedral Derry  
WM

## **+ERVINE, Charles J**

Northumberland Fusiliers, 27th (Tyneside Irish) Btn. Second  
Lieutenant. Died 06/04/1916. Age 22. A member of Cregagh  
Cricket Club. The Club has the following on record - "Of the  
thirty Cregagh cricketers who served in the war eight lost  
their lives. Between them they were well decorated including  
two Military Crosses and five Military Medals. They included  
men like Second Lieutenant Charles J. Ervine ...was  
involved in an intriguing incident on St. Patrick's Day 1916.  
A German patrol had planted a German flag directly in front  
of the Tyneside Irish, halfway across no man's land. This  
was received as an insult and it was decided that the flag  
should be removed. On the night of 15/16 March 1916  
Charles Ervine was selected to go and retrieve the flag. He  
succeeded in his task and later assisted in nailing the stolen  
flag to a freshly prepared flagpole containing the green flag  
of Ireland. One conspirator reflected: "*Proudly the green*

*banner floated out, while of course we flattered ourselves that the black white and red of Prussia hung its head in shame below."* That evening the officers and men enjoyed an impromptu concert in the trenches. 'A Nation Once Again' and 'Who Fears To Speak of '98' were followed by 'The Boyne Water', "*in the hope that there might be some native of Homburg opposite who would recognise the air*" said Captain Davey." Son of Robert and Mary Ervine, of "Moylena," 190, Cregagh Rd., Belfast. Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord, France. Cregagh Cricket Club  
RH

### **+FOSTER, George**

Royal Irish Rifles, 14th Btn. Rifleman. 14619. Died 06/04/1916. Age 21. A Boiler Maker. Son of Alexander and Susan Foster, of 76A, Beechfield St., Belfast. Hamel Military Cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel, France

### **+McDAID, George**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 7th Btn. Private. 16555. Died 06/04/1916. Age 29. Son of Ann McDaid, of Daisy Hill Cottages, Londonderry. Abbeville Communal Cemetery, France

### **+REID, William Henry**

Royal Irish Rifles, 14th Btn. Rifleman. 18678. Died 06/04/1916. Age 24. Son of the late William Reid, of Bloomfield, Belfast. Hamel Military Cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel, France

### **+PAISLEY, Richardson J**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Btn. Private. 19810. Died 06/04/1916. Age 18. Born Aughnacloy 27/12/1897. Eldest of two sons. By 1911 family was living in Clogher. Richard was a member of the Clogher UVF and Fardross LOL. Son of Robert and Hannah Paisley. La Clytte Military Cemetery, Belgium. Clogher WM. St Macartan's Cathedral WW1 Tablet

**+ROSS, Daniel**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 8th Btn. Private. 13373, Died 06/04/1916. Age 24. Son of Daniel Ross, of 3, McDonnell St., Belfast. Philosophe British Cemetery, Mazingarbe, France

**+STEPHENSON, William**

Royal Irish Rifles, 14th Btn. Serjeant. 19849. Died 06/04/1916. Age 25. Son of William R. and Fanny Stephenson, of 26, Fitzwilliam St., Belfast. Hamel Military Cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel, France

**1917**

**+BROWNE, Robert**

Seaforth Highlanders, 1st/4th Btn. Lance Corporal. 200978. Died between 08/04/1917 and 10/04/1917. Age 20. Son of Robert and Margaret Browne, of 1, St. Jude's Avenue, Belfast. Nine Elms Military Cemetery, Thelus, France

**+GIBSON, John Alexander**

Royal Irish Rifles, 9th Btn. Rifleman. 18/452. Died 06/04/1917. Age 18. Son of Alexander and Jane Gibson, of 37, Agincourt Avenue, Belfast. Pond Farm Cemetery, Belgium

## **+MORTON, Charles**

Royal Irish Rifles. 9th Btn. Rifleman. 17/6426

Died 06/04/1917. Age 21. Native of Craigmore, Newry. Son of Thomas and Elizabeth Morton, of 25, Charlemont Square East, Bessbrook, Co. Armagh. Pond Farm Cemetery, Belgium

## **1918**

## **+BREW, John George**

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 9th (North Irish Horse) Btn. Major. Died of wounds in captivity 06/04/1918. Age 41. Enlisted in Portadown as a Private in the Royal Irish Fusiliers.

Occupation given was a Ship's Master. Commissioned Captain 01/12/1914. Wounded in the head at the Ancre 01/07/1916 while Officer Commanding (D) company, admitted to 8th General Hospital Rouen and transferred to England 6th July. Rejoined the 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers 11/12/1916. Acting Officer Commanding at Messines June 1917. On 26/03/1918 during the "German Spring Offensive" Major Brew, Colonel M J Furnell, Colonel Green and driver were travelling in a staff car when advancing German troops captured them. As they were being transferred back to the German lines enemy soldiers who didn't realise that they had been captured opened fire on them, Major Brew was wounded in the lungs and died of wounds in captivity.

Born 14/09/1876 in Gateshead Durham. Son of John George and Jane Isabella (Chater) Brew, Carrickblacker Road. Portadown, Co Armagh. Member of (4) Portadown UVF. Member of Masonic Lodge No 219 Portadown. First

went to sea 1893 on Barque Charles Courtsworth. In 1897 joined Heyn & Sons Belfast, saw service on Steamships Rathlin Island, Torr Head and Teelin Head. He and Annie Moffat Clow married 19/04/1905. She was a daughter of William Moffat Clow JP Federal House, Portadown. They had 3 children and lived at "Rathlin," Carrickblacker Road, Portadown. Roye British Cemetery, Somme, France. Portadown WM. Portadown First Presbyterian Church (Edenderry) WM

### **+DONNELLY, John**

Royal Dublin Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Private. 28679. Died of wounds 06/04/1918. Aged 21. John Donnelly was the son of John and Annie Donnelly of Coleraine St., Kilrea. He was born on 12/10/1895 in Kilrea. He was one of eleven children. The family lived in Movanager, Kilrea. Both John and his father were labourers. John enlisted in Edinburgh. In March 1918 he was badly wounded and was taken from the front and transferred by ship to Southampton hospital in England. His left leg was so badly injured and infected that it had to be amputated at the thigh. Southampton (Hollybrook) Cemetery, Hampshire, Kilrea WM

### **+MAGILL, Herbert Thomas Ferguson**

Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians). Private. 2270336. Died 06/04/1918. Age 23. Son of Samuel and Sara Whiteside Magill, of Larne. St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, France. Larne WM

### **+McILWRATH, James**

Royal Marine Light Infantry, 1st R.M. Bn. R.N. Div. Private. PLY/18372. Died 06/04/1918. Age 19 years old. Son of

Alexander and Sarah McIlwrath, of 8, Queen Victoria St.,  
Connswater, Belfast. Pozieres Memorial, France

**+YOUNG, Henry**

RMLI. Private. 1339 (S). Portsmouth Division. 2nd RM Btn.  
RND. Died 06/04/1918. Enlisted 11/01/1916. 2nd Royal  
Marine Battalion, BEF, 26/09/1916 - 06/04/1918. Born  
Ravarra, Ballygowan 14/08/1896. Next-of-Kin: Sister, Agnes  
McKee, Ravarra, Ballygowan. Pozieres Memorial, Panel 1,  
Somme. Ballygowan - PCI RH. ADM 159/205/1339

**1919**

**+HARGAN, Edward**

North Irish Horse. Private. H/72055. Died 06/04/1919 from  
phthisis. Age 28. Born Moylena, Muckamore 02/05/1886.  
Enlisted Antrim 02/04/1918. Discharged 31/07/1918 at York  
as being no longer fit for war service. Son of William and  
Mary (nee Wylie) Hargan. Husband to Elizabeth (nee  
McCormick) Hargan of Church St., Antrim. They married in  
St Comgakks Roman Catholic Church on 21/07/1914 and  
had four children, Mary, Charles, Agnes and a son Edward  
who died before his first birthday. Brookwood 1914 - 1918  
Memorial. UK Book of Remembrance, Berkshire

**+WILSON, William Alderdice**

Royal Irish Rifles, Attd. King's African Rifles. Lieutenant.  
Died 06/04/1919. Age 27. Son of William Richard and  
Thomasina Wilson, of Tintern, Lisburn. Nairobi South  
Cemetery, Kenya

**1940**

## **+MAGUIRE, James Willie**

Border Regiment. Private. 3593573. Died 06/04/1940. Age 35. Son of John Maguire, and of Annie Maguire, of Derryadd, Co. Fermanagh. Nantes (Pont-du-Cens) Communal Cemetery, France

**1941**

## **+HARVEY, Thomas Harcourt**

R.A.C. 6<sup>th</sup> Royal Tank Regiment. Second Lieutenant. 189077. Died 06/04/1941. Age 21. Son of Robert Harvey and the late Mary Elena Harvey (née Harcourt) of Railway Street, Poyntzpass, Co Armagh.

The family lived in Moyglass, Enniskillen where Harcourt was born. After Robert Harvey became the Headmaster of Poyntzpass Public Elementary School in 1932, the family settled in Railway Street near the school. Harvey enlisted in the Royal Tank Regiment in 1938 after leaving Dundalk Grammar School, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

By 1940, he was a Regimental Signal Officer in North Easter Africa serving under General Archibald Wavell during the successful advance on Benghazi, Libya. In March 1941, Rommel's Afrika Korps counterattacked and the Allied forces retreated. During this retreat, between 04/04/1941 and 06/04/1941, 6<sup>th</sup> Royal Tank Regiment came under attack from the Luftwaffe. With vehicles destroyed and water and fuel shortages, the regiment abandoned several tanks.

C Squadron of the regiment experienced many difficulties during those few days. On 05/04/1941, the regiment lost contact with the squadron. The Commanding Officer dispatched 2 lorries under the command of Captain HB Ball.

Second Lieutenant Harvey was the navigator. They were to travel 10 miles south, establish contact with, and assist C Squadron. They returned without success and the following day were due to move northward towards Marua.

The lorries followed orders issued to Sergeant Watson and set off to Marua. Captain Ball and Second Lieutenant Harvey delayed while the Poyntzpass man began to make a cup of tea that would cost his life. While having tea with Captain Ball, troops from Rommel's Afrika Korps surrounded the men, killing Harvey and taking Ball prisoner. Ball wrote to the Harvey family in Poyntzpass and wished to meet them after the war. The Captain died in captivity and never got to fulfill the wish. El Alamein War Memorial, Egypt, Lurgan WM

### **+HAYES, Alexander**

RNPS. Engineman. LT/KX 111106. HM Yacht Torrent. Died 06/04/1941. Aged 37. Son of Samuel and Sarah Hayes, of Belfast. Lowestoft Naval Memorial, Panel 6

**1943**

### **+DUNLOP, Samuel**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Serjeant. 6977824. Died 06/04/1943. Aged 28. Son of Robert and Elizabeth Dunlop, of Banbridge. Rangoon Memorial, Myanmar

### **+KANE, William**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Bn. Lance Serjeant. 6977656. Died Between 06/04/1943 and 08/04/1943. Age 27. Son of William and Mary Kane, of Coleraine. Rangoon Memorial, Myanmar

## **+McCARTER, Thomas James**

Royal Artillery. 9 HAA Regt. Gunner. 1451870. Died 06/04/1943. Aged 31. Son of John and Margret McCarter, of Drumahoe, Co. Londonderry. Sfax War Cemetery, Tunisia. Derry Cathedral WM

## **+MURRAY, Neil**

Royal Artillery, 9 HAA. Regt. 25 Bty. Bombardier. 1457726. Died 06/04/1943, Battle of Wadi Akarit, Tunisia. Aged 35. Son of Neil and Mary Ann Murray; husband to Vera Murray, of Bridge St., Londonderry. Medjez-El-Bab Memorial, Tunisia



## **The Medjez-El-Bab Memorial**

The Memorial, which was designed by Sir Hubert Worthington, OBE, RA, FRIBA, and built by the Imperial, later The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, stands in the Medjez-el-Bab War Cemetery. The War Cemetery, three miles outside the town of the same name, is about forty miles to the south-west of Tunis and is set in a beautiful countryside with hills on two sides.

Two square stone pavilions flank the entrance gateway to the Cemetery and the Stone of Remembrance beyond, on a raised terrace at the rear of the Cemetery, stands two pergolas at each end of a long wall with the Cross of Sacrifice between. On the piers and walls of these pergolas are inscribed the names of the 1959 missing soldiers whom the Memorial commemorates.

On the wall facing the Cross of Sacrifice are the words - On this famous Battleground of the ancient World two armies converged from the west and the east in the year 1943 to set free North Africa, and make open the way for the assault upon Southern Europe.

### **+ROBINSON, James Mairs**

Black Watch (Royal Highlanders) 1st Btn. Captain. 160770. Died 06/04/1943. Age 35. Son of David J. M. and Annie Mairs Robinson; husband of Frances Perioli Robinson, of Kells, Co. Antrim. Sfax War Cemetery, Tunisia

## **+WALLACE, Herbert Noel**

East Yorkshire Regiment, 5th Btn. Major. 63581. Died 06/04/1943. Age 28. Son of Jeremiah Thomas Wallace and Elizabeth Wallace, of Bangor. Sfax War Cemetery, Tunisia

## **+WILSON, Daniel Martin**

Royal Artillery, 64th (London) Medium Regiment. Captain. MC. 100950. Died 06/04/1943. Aged 37. On 02/09/1939, he gained promotion to 2nd Lieutenant. The post in The Gazette refers to him as a former Cadet Company Sergeant Major in the Junior Division of the Officer Training Corps at Shrewsbury School. A keen sportsman, he was awarded a Blue for athletics whilst a student at King's College, Cambridge. The Gazette on 22/04/1943, announced the award of a posthumous Military Cross to Lieutenant (Temporary Captain) Wilson of Farnham, Surrey. A British paper carried news of Captain Wilson's death. It suggests that family and friends may have known him as Tim. He was the only son of the late Honourable Mr. Justice Wilson and Eleanor Wilson of 11 Deramore Drive, Malone Road, Belfast, and husband to Isabella Mary Frothingham Wilson of Montreal, Quebec, Canada. In 1943, the couple lived at New Acre, Great Austins, Farnham, Surrey. Medjez el Bab Memorial, Béja, Tunisia, North Africa. His name also features on one of two memorial stones in the Grand Hall of the Royal Courts of Justice, Chichester Street

## **1945**

**+HERRON, Samuel**

Royal Marines, 28th Bn. Marine. PLY/X 113927. Operation Orange. Died 06/04/1945. Age 20. Son of James and Elizabeth Herron, of Ballyclare. Bergen-op-Zoom War Cemetery, Netherlands

**+KANE, David**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2<sup>nd</sup> Btn. Rifleman. 7043667. Died 06/04/1945. Aged 38. Son of Samuel and Elizabeth Kane, of Tobermore, Co. Londonderry. Rheinberg War Cemetery, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany

**+KIPLING, Dudley Ernest Rudyard**

Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, att'd. 1st Bn. West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own). Lieutenant. 337252. Died 06/04/1945. Age 21. Son of Dudley Farnsworth Kipling, and of Isabel Sarah Kipling, of Londonderry. Taukkyan War Cemetery, Myanmar

**+RICHARDS, Donald Norman Russell**

Royal Engineers. 4 Field Sqn. Sapper. 1929082. Died 06/04/1945. Age 20. QUB WOPE. Son of John Russell Richards and Rose Kate Richards, of Andover, Hampshire. Groesbeek Memorial Panel 2. in Netherlands.

**+RYAN, Martin**

East Lancashire Regiment, 1st Btn. Corporal. 3384041. Died 06/04/1945. Age 35. Son of Tim and Ann Ryan; husband to Alice Ryan, of Holywood, Co. Down. Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Germany

## **+THOMPSON, Victor Arnold**

RAFVR. Flight Sergeant. 1076295. Died 06/04/1945. Aged 21. No 26 OTU. He was a Wireless Operator / Air Gunner on board Vickers Wellington HE928 with RAF No. 26 Operational Training Unit. The Mark X bomber collided in mid-air over Hogshaw, Buckinghamshire with Vickers Wellington LN540 from the same OTU while taking part in a bombing exercise. Both planes came down near the railway line at Winslow, Buckinghamshire.

Flight Sergeant Thompson had 4.5 years' service with the Royal Air Force. He enlisted aged 17 years old and flew missions in the Middle East where he received injuries. After recovering, he returned to flying with Bomber Command and completed his number of raids over Germany. Having been offered a role as an instructor, he chose to remain in the bombing crews. His brother Trooper Hugh Thompson served with the North Irish Horse and saw action in Italy.

He was the second son of Robert Thompson and Kathleen Thompson of Elsinore, 36 Doury Road, Ballymena.

Ballymena Cemetery.

**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

[houstonmckelvey@mac.com](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com)

# 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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