



remembrance ni



Lieutenant Colonel Ion Goff, Commanding officer, 2 London Irish, RUR, died this day in 1944. Cassino War Cemetery

On this Day – May 15

In the newspapers - May 15

15th May 1915 - Belfast Newsletter.

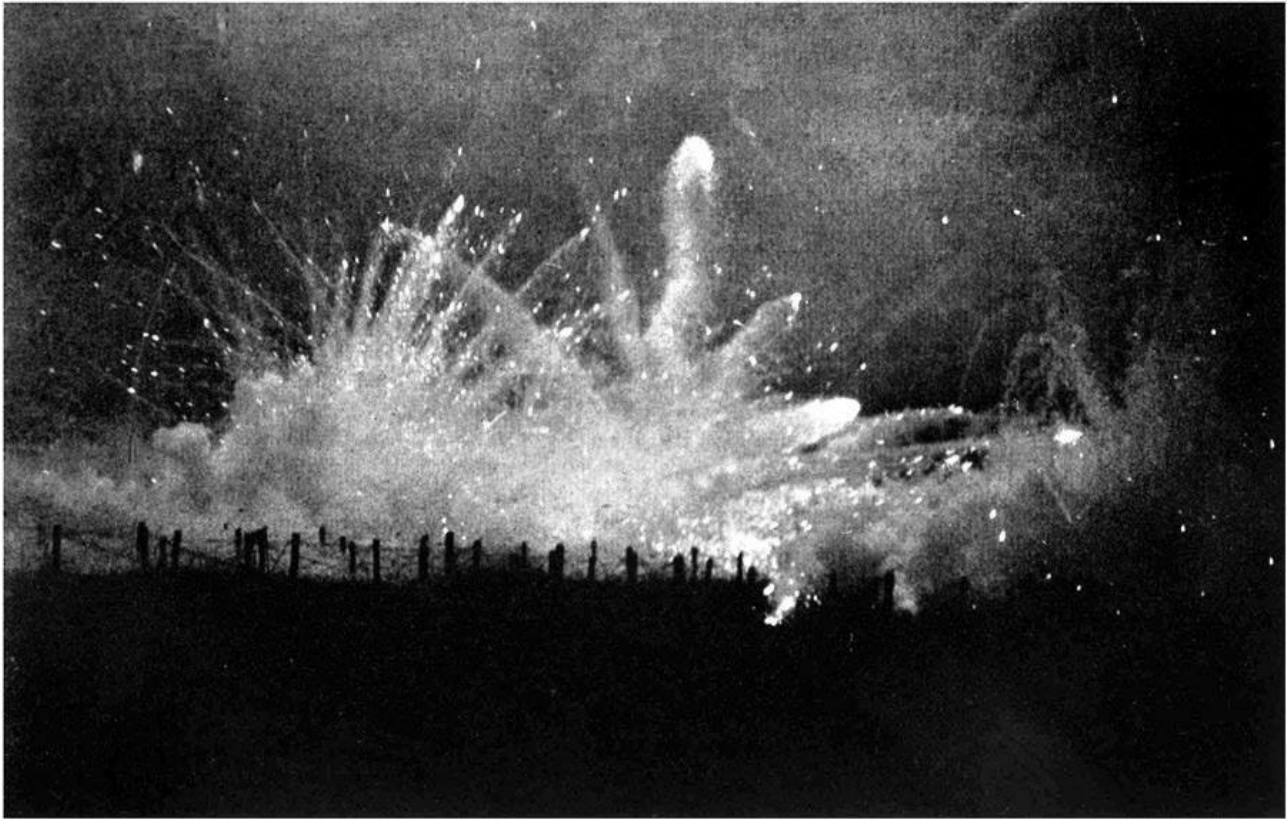
17-INCH SHELLS AT YPRES

A Derry Soldier's Description.

A gunner of the Heavy R.F.A., writing to his parents in Derry, expresses the opinion that it will take another winter to end the war.

"I suppose by this time," he proceeds, you will have heard about the great projectile the Germans are using-the 17-inch shell. Well unfortunately for YPRES, it's too true. The sights in the town would make you feel sick. There isn't a whole house in it; it's heartbreaking to see poor people's houses battered to the ground. Some of the people had to run in the middle of their meal. I've seen houses in which a shell entered through the roof and exploded in the kitchen, blowing some the furniture into the streets and wrecking the place. God only knows how many families are buried beneath these ruins; those people who escaped with their lives are scattered over France and Belgium. The only signs of life I could see in the town in a tour a day or two ago were two cats and a dog. As to this 17-inch shell, it is like an

express train to hear it coming through the air. When it strikes the crash can be heard for miles, and the earth



German barrage fire at night

shakes for least a four-mile radius. When the shell is coming our chaps look at their watches, and say, 'Here is the 8:30 express.' Day after day our bombardment was kept continually. Between gun-fire and rifle-fire and the sounds of bursting shells the place is like a little hell. Now, however, as the result of extremely hard fighting, we are in a much better position.

15th May 1915 - Belfast Newsletter.

THE EFFECTS OF SHELL-FIRE

Ballycastle Man and the Big German Guns.

A non-commissioned officer at the Front, writing to a friend in Ballycastle, says - "There is not a living person who can

be indifferent to those enormous 17-inch shells. The gun that fires them is 9 1/2 miles away. One shell comes over every ten minutes to a second.

“We can hear it long before it passes over. It sounds like a child’s heart-rendering scream in the distance. It quickly gets louder and louder in tone. It makes you feel as if you want to run for your life, but you don't know where to run to miss it. It ends in an enormous crash, louder than any clap of thunder you have ever heard. The you see enormous column of black smoke, and, according to what it strikes, the air is filled with anything varying from stones, bricks, timber, and parts of wagons to horses and human beings.

‘These are the famous "Jack Johnson" shells. The interval between these visitors is filled in with shrapnel shells, but it is a pleasure to live among those after the other cursed things. But in spite of all this we are far from dismayed (the writer adds). We are hammering away at them, and, as we have now plenty of men, plenty of guns, and enough ammunition to make a promising start, it is now their turn to receive hell. I am convinced that their turn has come, but I fear we shall lose many good men."

15th May 1915 - Belfast Telegraph

6 Army Chaplains attached to the Ulster Division

Church of Ireland

Rev Canon Richard King, Limavady

Rev Richard Ussher Greer, Banbridge

Rev Charles Maning, Comber



A band of the 36th Ulster Division

Presbyterian

Rev John Wright, Ballyshannon Rev David Mitchell,
Broughshane

Wesleyan

Rev William Jasper Robinson, Skibbereen

“All six are permanently attached to the division, and will
accompany it on active service.”

1915

Linfield and Belfast Celtic combined beat a Rest of Belfast
team 4 - 2 at Grosvenor Park on May 15, 1915. Proceeds
were in aid of wounded soldiers. 10,000 people attended.

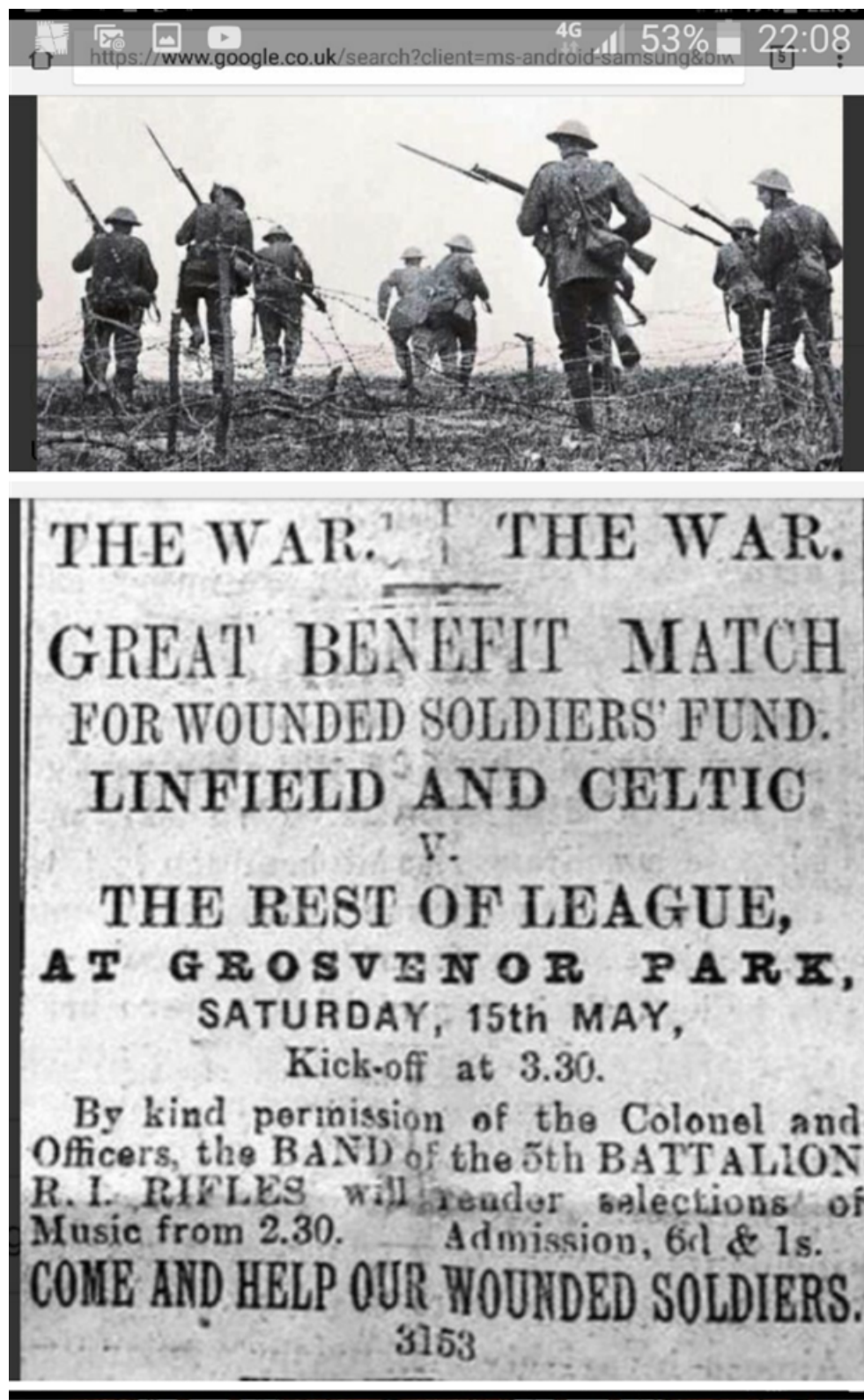
The following report was published on 16th May 1915

FOR THE WOUNDED SOLDIERS AND SAILORS

Benefit Football Match in Belfast

Nearly £200 was realised on Saturday afternoon for the wounded sailors' and soldiers' fund as a result of the benefit match played at Grosvenor Park

between a team composed of Belfast Celtic and Linfield



Assistant



Photos



Albums



Sharing

players against an eleven drawn from the Rest of the Irish League.

Presenting a set of gold scarf pins to the winning side-Celtic-Linfield-the Lord Mayor (Mr. Crawford McCullagh, J.P.) said he had been pleased to see such a fine game, played by a splendid set of footballers, and well attended by the public. He was a great believer in football, which taught men to "play the game" in ordinary life. He congratulated the winners on their success, and the other side, although not successful, put up a very good fight. (applause.)

As that was, he understood, practically the last match of the season, he suggested that as many of those present as possible should "sign on" for the bigger game that was now taking place at the front (applause.)

The entire proceeds of the match played that day amounted, he understood, to nearly £200, and were to be devoted for the benefit of wounded soldiers and sailor, and without being invidious he thought it was their duty to return thanks in particular to Captain Howland and Mr. David W. McGonigal for the great assistance they had given in conjunction with the committee.

In conclusion he urged upon every available young man the duty of joining the army, because, although things were going well at present, every man would be needed to enable them to bring it to a successful issue. (Loud applause.)

Souvenir copies of the paper were sent to Sandy Row and Shankill Road Bluemen serving at the Front.

1916

12th Royal Irish Rifles - Hamel Sector .The trenches we're shelled intermittently all-day

1917

General Petain is appointed to command the N and NE French Armies, General Foch succeeding him as CGS, with wide powers.

1940

Official announcement that British weekly butter ration will be reduced from 8oz to 4oz per head.

The German XX.Panzerkorps (Hoth) repels a counter-attack by French armored forces, destroying 125 out of 175 tanks. An attack by 6th Army (von Reichenau) against the Dyle line in Belgium is repulsed.

After the fall of Rotterdam the Dutch Army surrenders (10,000 casualties).

The German 20th Panzer Korps (Hoth) repels a counter-attack by French armored forces, destroying 125 out of 175 tanks. An attack by 6th Army (von Reichenau) against the Dyle line in Belgium is repulsed.

In Paris, panic breaks out over reports of a German breakthrough at Sedan with thousands of civilians fleeing the city for the west and south of the country, clogging the roads for Allied military traffic which is attacked by Luftwaffe bombers and fighter bombers.

RAF Bomber Command (Peirse) begins a strategic air offensive against targets inside Germany by attacking industrial installations in the Ruhr, but with minimal effect.

1941

Roosevelt tells Vichy France to 'choose between Germany and US'.

RAF night raids on Hanover, Berlin, Hamburg and Cuxhaven.

Ernie Bevin says that he would not negotiate with 'murderer' Hess. It's reported that the Dame of Sark has been deported to a German concentration camp as a reprisal for civil disobedience.

Announced that British losses in France and Norway were 13,250 killed and approximately 41,000 taken prisoner out of 437,000 men engaged.

The Luftwaffe begin preparatory attacks against Crete.

The first British jet-powered aircraft, the Gloster E.28/39, takes to the air at RAF Cranwell on its maiden flight. This was not the first jet-powered aircraft to fly, however; that honor fell to the German-built Heinkel He 178 in August 1939.

The British Army under Auchinleck, begins an offensive against the Afrika Korps and manage to recapture Halfaya Pass, Sollum and Capuzzo.

1942

Gasoline rationing goes into effect in the Eastern United States.

The Royal Navy Cruiser HMS Trinidad was attacked by more than twenty Ju-88 bombers as she was returning home after being damaged while escorting Convoy PQ-13 in March 1942. All attacks missed, except for one bomb that struck near the previous damage caused by one of her own torpedoes during a previous engagement, starting a serious fire. Sixty-three men were lost, including twenty survivors from HMS Edinburgh which had been sunk two weeks earlier. The decision was taken to scuttle her and she was torpedoed by HMS Matchless and sank in the Arctic Ocean, north of North Cape.

British forces retreating from Burma reach the Indian frontier. General Stilwell crosses the border in to Assam in India.

1943

Stalin announces the dissolution of the Komintern, the Communist International working for world revolution.

1944

Beginning of deportation of Jews from Hungary to Auschwitz.

2 London Irish (38 Brigade) 1400hrs, 2 LIR near Cassino:

"**Lt-Colonel Ion Goff** was down, mortally wounded, and a few minutes later the CO of the 16th/5th Lancers, Colonel John Loveday, followed him.

Ion was a very charming man and possessed the ideal temperament for coping with our riflemen."

The Germans begin a withdrawal from the Gustav Line to new positions, called the Adolf Hitler or Dora Line, some 30 miles to the South of Rome.

A Japanese attack on Hunter's Hill, North of Kohima is repulsed.

1945

38 (Irish) Division -Brigadier Pat Scott in Austria

"I had been told by the Croat Liaison Officer that there was no question of their surrendering to the Yugoslavs. The Yugoslavs on their side were equally determined that the Croats were not going to get out of their clutches.."

The Axis Croation forces that surrendered to British troops in Austria are handed over to Tito's partisans who without delay proceed to massacre them, killing a total of 110,000, including women and children.

The U.S. Tenth Army is now within 2,000 yards of Naha docks.

May 15 - Inniskilling Fusilier became POW in retreat to Dunkirk

Fusilier Hugh White of the 2nd Btn, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, was captured on 15/05/1940 in the retreat to Dunkirk fighting in the rear guard. An estimated 50,000 British soldiers did not make it back from France.

It was reported in a local paper on June 24, 1940. that "Mrs. Hanna White, 34 Spencer Street, Belfast has received official notification that her son, Fusilier Hugh White, of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, is missing.

"Fusilier White has been with the Inniskilling's for almost two years. He was formerly employed by the Belfast Corporation."

Fusilier Hugh White became POW number 17186. and spent his first period of captivity in Stalag XXA. He was held for the remainder of his time in one of the harshest POW camps Stalag Camp number 344 at Lambinowice, Poland.

This camp was in the Wehrkreis VIII region, Breslau (Wroclaw). Breslau became a fortress under Hitler's orders. It was the last camp to be liberated which was on St Patrick's Day, 17/03/1945. All together Hugh spent 5 years and 20 days as a prisoner of war. He was eventually released on the 3rd June 1945.

Kriegsgefangenenlager Prisoner of War Camp	XX A (1)	Datum Date	11.7.40
Name Surname	WHITE	Vorname Christian Name	HUGH
Dienstgrad u. Truppenteil Rank and Unit	FUS.	R. INNISKILLING FUS.	
Geburtsdatum Date of birth	12.6.1918	Geburtsort Native-place	IRELAND
Letzter Wohnort Last dwelling	34 SPENCER STREET	BELFAST	
Adresse meiner Angehörigen Home Address	34, SPENCER STREET	BELFAST	
Unverwundet — leicht verwundet — in deutsche Kriegsgefangenschaft geraten — Unwounded — slightly wounded — prisoner of war in Germany — befinde mich wohl. I am well.			
(Nichtzutreffendes ist zu streichen) (Passages non apposite to the point to be cancelled)		H. WHITE Signature	

He was reported as missing the day before his cousin Samuel was K.I.A.

He saw the remainder of his time out in Stalag Camp number 344 and was eventually released on the 3rd June 1945.

He was awarded the 1939/45 Star and British War Medal.

There are personal accounts of the veterans who had been taken along the 6 month death march from Dunkirk.

One report in a diary of a soldier was that he had witnessed another POW bending down to pick up a German soldiers discarded cigarette butt being beaten to death by the German soldier with the butt of his rifle.

1945. He was awarded the 1939/45 Star and British War Medal.

004

S.W.

Kriegsgefangenenlager Prisoner of War Camp	<u>Stalag VIII B</u>	Datum <u>22-8-43</u> Date
Name <u>WHITE</u> Surname	<u>106979985</u> Vorname <u>HUGH</u> Christian Name	
Dienstgrad u. Truppenteil Rank and Unit	<u>Fus. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.</u>	
Geburtsdatum <u>12-6-1912</u> Date of birth	Geburtsort <u>BELFAST, N. IRELAND</u> Native-place	
Letzter Wohnort <u>Stalag X+A (37)</u> Last dwelling		
Adresse meiner Angehörigen <u>34 SPENCER STREET.</u> Home Address		
<u>BELFAST, CO. ANTRIM, N. IRELAND</u>		
Unverwundet - leicht verwundet - in deutsche Kriegsgefangenschaft geraten - Unwounded - slightly wounded - prisoner of war in Germany - befinde mich wohl. I am well		
(Nichtzutreffendes ist zu streichen) (Passages non apposite to the point to be cancelled)		
Signature <u>HUGH WHITE</u> <u>Hugh White</u>		P.O. Nr. <u>17196</u> - 1013.

There are personal accounts of the veterans who had been taken along the 6 month death march from Dunkirk.

One report in a diary of a soldier was that he had witnessed another POW bending down to pick up a German soldiers discarded cigarette butt being beaten to death by the German soldier with the butt of his rifle.

Hugh White died 03/12/2010



Hugh White

WHITE, Hugh "Chalky" June 12, 1918 - December 3, 2010. Hughie "Chalky" member of the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers served with the Expeditionary Force in France from 1939 to 1946, passed quietly the evening of December 3rd with his family at his bedside. He is survived by his wife Jean, children, Audrey, Robert, Colleen, and their

spouses, 8 granddaughters and 8 great grandchildren. Hughie touched many hearts in his life, and will be sadly missed. He was "A FIRST CLASS MAN".

Roll of Honour – May 15

Representing their comrades who died on this day

The Battle of Festubert 15-17 May 1915.

Remembering today the officers and men of the 2nd Btn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who fought at the Battle of Festubert 15-17 May 1915. In the battle the battalion sustained 650 casualties including 264 killed in action.

+ANDERSON, Richard

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Private. 3430. Died 16/05/1915. Age 19. Cousin of Catherine Mulholland, of 22, Edith St., Belfast. Le Touret Memorial. Pas de Calais, France

+ATTRILL, Richard

Hampshire Regiment. 2nd Bn. Private. 8528. Died 15/05/1915. From Londonderry. Alexandria (Chatby) Military and War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt

+CAIRNS, Hugh John

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. Lance Corporal. 4354. Died 16/05/1915. Served as H.J. Kearns and is so named on the Le Touret Memorial. Pas de Calais, France

+CAMPBELL, James

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Private. 3729. Died 15/05/1915. Age 21 years old. Son of Robert and Mary Campbell, of 14, Collier St., Johnstone, Renfrewshire. Born at Sion Mills, Co. Tyrone. Bethune Town Cemetery, France

+DEANE, Joseph

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. Lance Corporal. 3872. Died 15/05/1915. Age 21. Son of Mrs. Sarah Deane, of 13, Nailor's Row, Londonderry. Le Touret Memorial, France

+HAMILTON, John

Irish Guards. Private. 5594. Died 15/05/1915. According to the Lisburn Standard he was, "killed in one of those charges that made the name of the Irish Guards famous". Born and living in Lisburn, he was an Orangeman and member of Lisburn LOL 207. At the outbreak of the war he was working in Scotland and enlisted at Clydebank, Lanark. Second son of John Hamilton of Linenhall Street, Lisburn. His brother James Hamilton had joined 11 RIR and at the time of John's death was training at Clandeboye. Guards Cemetery, Windy Corner, Guinchy, France

+HANDS, Robert

King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment). 1st Btn. Private. 10892. Died 15/05/1915. Age 20. Son of Annie Hands, of 58, Westland St., Belfast. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial

+McCALL, William

Royal Irish Rifles. 8th Btn. Rifleman. 13217. Died 15/05/1915 from pneumonia in a hospital which is now the site of the Belfast City Hospital. He had been training with his battalion at Ballykinlar. Born Donegore 28/01/1891. By 1911 he was living with the Gray family and working as a farm servant. Son of the late James McCall and of Margaret McCall (stepmother), of Donegore. Donegore C of I Churchyard. Antrim Town WM

+MORGAN, John Joseph Leo

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Lieutenant. Died 16/05/1915. Lt John Joseph Leo Morgan. Born at Newtownards on 28/01/1884 where his father was a Sgt in the Militia, John enlisted in the Royal Irish Rifles as a Bugler in 1902 and served with the Regiment's 1st Bn in India and Burma for many years. In 1914, he was commissioned as 2nd Lt. and posted to 2nd Bn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, arriving in France on 28/11/ 1914. He was mortally wounded at Festubert whilst bringing messages back from the front line as communications had broken down. Husband of M. M. Morgan, of 37, York Rd., Aldershot. Bethune Town Cemetery.

+NUGENT, James

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Bn. Private. 11162. Died 16/05/1915 at Festubert . Brother of Private Robert Nugent, 1st Btn. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who died of wounds 15/02/1917. From Percy Street, Belfast. Le Touret Memorial, Pas de Calais, France

1917

+SCOTT, John Suffern

Canadian Infantry 8th Btn. Sedrgeant. 923. Died 15/08/1917 . Age 21. Son of James Scott of Bellagharty, Ballyronan, Magherafelt. He was born on 15/07/1896. He emigrated to Canada, where he worked as a labourer and was unmarried. He enlisted at Valcartier Camp in Quebec on 21st September 1914 and joined the 8th Battalion Canadian Infantry. Rue-Petillon Military Cemetery, Fleurbaix, France. Cookstown War Dead Book

+WILSON, Robert Henry

RAMC. Captain. Attached 84th Royal Field Artillery. Died of wounds 15/05/1917 in the Duchess of Westminster Hospital, Le Touquet. Age 26. Robert had been tending a wounded soldier on April 21, when he himself was injured by a shell splinter. In his book, 'Sailing Ship and Sugar Planter', Hubert Greer records that his older brother John Wilson of Ballylagan was with him in the days before he died. Educated at RBAI and QUB 1910 - 1915 (M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.). Born Ballylagan, Ballynure on 02/05/1891. Son of Mr and Mrs Henry Wilson of Straid, Ballynure. (Report of wounding Belfast Newsletter 02/05/1917 and 5/5/17. Roll of Honour in Belfast Newsletter 23/05/1917). Etaples Military

Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Ballylinney Presbyterian Church WM, Ballynure Methodist Church RH, Ballyclare WM. QUB WM, 1910-15 RBAI WM.

1940

+BEATTIE, James

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 7010762. Died 15/05/1940. Son of James Beattie of Memel St., Belfast. Husband to Isabel Beattie of Aberdeen St., Belfast. Pre-war he worked in the shipyard. Aged 30. Kessel-Lo Churchyard, Vlaams-Brabant, Belgium

+BRIERS, Charles William

Northamptonshire Regiment, 2nd Btn. Private. 5883545. Died Between 15/05/1940 and 04/06/1940. Aged 25. Son of Charles and Mary Ann Briers; husband to Anna Elizabeth Briers, of Ballynahinch. Maroeuil Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

+COYLE, Joseph

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 7012201. Died 15/05/1940. Age 26. Killed by artillery fire at Louvain, Belgium. Son of Joseph and Mary Coyle, of Lislea, Co. Armagh. Dunkirk Memorial, France

+DOYLE, Charles

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 7011327. Died 15/05/1940. Aged 27. Killed by artillery fire at Louvain, Belgium. Had served seven years with three on reserve. Born in Belfast. Lived with his wife, a native of Armagh at

Banbrook Hill, Armagh. They had three daughters. Kessel -
Lo Churchyard, Vlaams-Brabant, Belgium

+MANNING, Edward

RN. Seaman Cook. P/MX 52387. Died 15/05/1940. Age 24.
HMS Wivern. Joined RN aged 19 in 1936. Had been
expected home in next two or three years to be married to a
Belfast woman. Arrangements had been made for the
wedding. Son of Ellen Manning, Belfast, whose husband
was killed in a motor accident the previous St. Stephen's
night. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 25/05/1940). Deal
Cemetery

1941

+CRAWFORD, Harry

RAFVR. Sergeant. 984906. Died 15/05/1941. Aged 22.
Killed in Action. Family Memorial. First Dunboe Presbyterian
Church Cemetery

+NEWTON, James Lyle

RAFVR. Sergeant (Wireless Op./Air Gunner). 983323. Died
15/05/1941. Aged 20. Educated MCB. Accountancy clerk.
Born 18/08/1920. Son of J A S Newton, Picardy Ave.,
Belfast. Upper Heyford Cemetery, Oxfordshire. Castlereagh
WM

1944

+CORMICAN, John

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 6th Btn. Fusilier. 6980314. Died
15/05/1944. Aged 26. Killed in the assault on Monte

Tamburrini and Point 86. Son of Andrew and Mary Cormican, of Crumlin, Co. Antrim. Cassino War Cemetery, Italy

+CRAIG, Alexander Spence

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers attd.King's Own Scottish Borderers. Captain.100910. Died 15/05/1944. Aged 23. Faculty of Applied Science and Technology 1939 QUB. Son of James and Louisa Florence Craig, of Knock, Belfast, Northern Ireland. Imphal War Cemetery. QUB WM

+ELLIOTT, Thomas Henry

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 6th Btn. Fusilier. 6983246. Died 15/05/1944. Aged 34. Killed in the assault on Monte Tamburrini and Point 86. Son of Thomas H. and Margaret Elliott, of Belfast; husband to Jennie Elliott, of Belfast. Cassino War Cemetery, Italy

+JACKSON, Robert

Royal Ulster Rifles, The London Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Corporal. 7021058. Died 15/05/1944. Aged 21. Son of Samuel George and Agnes Jackson, of Ballyduff, Co. Antrim. Cassino War Cemetery, Italy

+JOHNSTON, James

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 6th Btn. Fusilier.14401888. Died 15/05/1944. Aged 19. Killed in the assault on Monte Tamburrini and Point 86. Son of Samuel and Phoebe Johnston, of Belfast; husband to Agnes Johnston, of Belfast. Cassino War Cemetery, Italy

+ROLLINS, George

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 6th Btn. Lance Corporal.
14418439. Died 15/05/1944. Aged 19. Killed in the assault
on the village of Vendittis, near Cassino on Monte
Tamburrini and Point 86. Son of George and Lena Rollins, of
Ardtree, Cookstown. Cassino War Cemetery, Italy.
Stewartstown WM, Cookstown WM

+SHAW, Samuel

1st Btn. Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders. Private.
2992044. Died 15/05/1944. Age 23. Husband to Elizabeth
Shaw of Tullygarley. Son of Andrew and Margaret Shaw.
Cassino War Cemetery, Italy.

VETERANS

CALDWELL, John

RN. Stoker First Class. SS111771. Enrolled 06/02/1912.
War service in Swiftsure, Pembroke I, Bacchante, Pyramus
and Egmont. Served to 08/06/1920. Born Coleraine
15/05/1893. ADM 188/1117/111771

FORSYTHE, Kirk

HMS Caroline. RNVR. Surgeon - Commander 1939 - 45.
Surgeon - Captain 1953. VRD. Mentioned in despatches. In
1939, he was appointed as SMO to HMS Cairo (AA cruiser)
in which ship he served throughout the Norwegian
campaign of 1940 (Mentioned in Despatches). Relieved in
06/1941, after a month at RNB. Portsmouth, appointed to
HMS Attack 07/1941 and became SMO Motor Gun Boat

Base at Portland. In 01/1943 appointed Staff Medical Officer to Flag Officer West Africa, HMS Eland. 09/1943 appointed to HMS Shrike as SMO, Air Station, Maydown, Londonderry. 07 - 12/1945 appointed assistant to Medical Director General in the Admiralty, for duty in connection with the appointments of junior medical officers. Served in the Ulster Division post war. Hon. Physician to the Queen 1957. President of QUB Services Club 1958. Born 26/06/1904. Son of John Forsythe, Lisadell, Cliftonville Road, Belfast. Died 15/05/1987. MB BCh BAO, QUB 1927. Campbell College 1485.

HARVEY, Harold

RN. MCB. Born 15/05/1912. Son of Robert Harvey, Knock Rd., Belfast.

McKEE, Jean Johnston

WRNS. MCB. Born 15/05/1921. Daughter of James McKee, South Parade, Belfast. Civil Service

TORRIE, Edwin Cecil

RNVR. Surgeon Lieutenant. He graduated from Queen's University Belfast in 1940 following a mandatory internship. He volunteered for military service and was commissioned Surgeon Lieutenant in RNVR, where served throughout World War II. He saw active service in many theatres of war, but particularly in escort duties of convoys in the North Atlantic. After demobilisation in 1945, he returned to the Royal Victoria Hospital where he proceeded to MD. Following a brief period in General Practice in Belfast he specialised in Public Health serving mainly in what was to become the Northern Health and Social Service Board. He

was well known as the 'Schools Doctor' when he was the Schools' Medical Officer based at Castle Street, Ballymena before being promoted to District Administrative Medical Officer. Over his life-span he served on some 26 committees, many of them linked to his profession. Dr Torrie was also a member of many associations linked to his service during World War II, including lifelong membership of the Burma Star and the Royal Naval Associations. He had a life-long love of the sea. One of his hobbies was boat-building and over a 35-year period he had built 23 sailing boats for family and friends. He was the eldest son of Rev. E.G. Torrie, former minister of Terrace Row, Presbyterian Church, Coleraine. Husband to Mary Helen Crawford Hodgett. Married at Donegall Square Methodist Church, Belfast, June 1942. Groom's brother in army uniform was best man. App Sci, QUB 1944. Died 15/05/2004, aged 88. Main Street, Cullybackey

A contemporary newspaper report -

Dr Edwin Cecil Torrie, MD,DPH,MFCM,JP died at his home on Main Street, Cullybackey on Saturday, May 15, aged 88.

A well-known figure in the village, Dr Torrie had lived in Cullybackey since 1955. Originally from Coleraine, he was the eldest son of Rev. E.G. Torrie, former minister of Terrace Row, Presbyterian Church, Coleraine.

He graduated from Queen's University Belfast 1940 following a mandatory internship. He volunteered for military service and was commissioned Surgeon Lieutenant in RNVR, where served throughout World War II. He saw active service in many theatres of war, but particularly in escort duties of convoys in the North Atlantic.

After demobilisation from the Royal navy in 1945, he returned to the Royal Victoria Hospital where he proceeded to MD. Following a brief period in General Practice in Belfast he specialised in Public Health serving mainly in what was to become the Northern Health and Social service Board.

Many will remember him in his role as the 'Schools Doctor' where he was the Schools medical Officer based at Castle Street, Ballymena before being promoted to District Administrative medical Officer.

Over his life-span he served on some 26 committees, many of them linked to his profession. Dr Torrie was also a member of many associations linked to his service during World War II, including lifelong membership of the Burma Star and the Royal Naval Association.

Dr Torrie had a life-long love of the sea. One of his hobbies was boat-building and over a 35- year period he had built 23 sailing boats for family and friends.

Dr Torrie was a founder member of Cushendall sailing and Boating Club in the early 1960's and was an active member and previous commodore of the club. Indeed one of his greatest loves was sailing in the Western isles of Scotland with his friends,

He and his wife were active supporters and fundraisers for RNLI and Dr Torrie was a past Chairman of the Institute.

He met his beloved wife Mary during his time in the Royal Victoria Hospital where she was a nurse and they were married for 60 years until her death in July 2002. His passing is deeply mourned by his four children, Gill, Peter,

Richard and Alison, their spouses and children, the extended family and friends.” Dr Torrie died 15/05/2004.

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

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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