

Remembrance Ni May 28,



remembrance ni



Le Grand Hasard Military Cemetery

There are 300 Commonwealth burials from WW1 in Le Grand Hasard Military Cemetery. Two further plots of 138 burials were added to the cemetery in WW2 - all dating from May and June 1940 during the fallback to Dunkirk

Roll of Honour – May 28

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1915

+CASEY, Robert

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Private. 9906. Died 28/05/1915. Born Ballymoney. Enlisted. Hamilton, Lanarkshire. Pink Farm Cemetery, Helles in Gallipoli, Turkey. Ballymoney WM

+MITCHELL, William

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 1st Btn. Private. 4141. Died 28/05/1915. Age 18. Son of William and Elizabeth Mitchell, of 13, Nassau St., Londonderry. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

1916

+WILSON, T

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 7th Btn. Corporal. 23138. Died 28/05/1916. Age 29. Husband to Elizabeth Hogg (formerly Wilson), of 30, Grove St., Belfast. Philosophe British Cemetery, Mazingarbe, France

1917

+CURRAN, Joseph

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 1st Btn. Private. 18869. Died 28/05/1917. Age 21. Son of John and Catherine Curran, of Ervie Cross, Londonderry. Etaples Military Cemetery, France

+SINCLAIR, George Stanley

Royal Irish Rifles, 1st Btn. Second Lieutenant. Died 28/05/1917. Age 20. RBAI and QUB. His brother, Second-Lieutenant H. D. Sinclair was serving in the Royal Irish Rifles. Deceased was a nephew of Colonel Thomas Sinclair, C.S., M.D., F.R.C.S., who telegraphed the news from France, and of Mr. John Sinclair, a member of the Belfast Harbour Board. Son of Samuel and Edith M. Sinclair, of "Inglewood," Adelaide Park, Belfast. Peronne Communal Cemetery Extension, France. RBAI WM, QUB WM

1918

+COCHRANE, Hugh

Royal Engineers, 97th Field Coy. Corporal. Died 28/05/1918. Age 24. Son of Hugh and Elizabeth Cochrane, of 23, Fleet St., Belfast. Pozieres Memorial, France

+CRANSTON, William

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 11th Btn. Private. 24462. Died 28/03/1918. Age 20. Son of Henry and Elizabeth Cranston, of Brook St., Lisbellaw, Co. Fermanagh. St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, France

+NIXON, Alec

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. A Coy. Private. 10233. Died 28/05/1918. Age 26. Son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Nixon, of Culmore, Omagh. Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, France

1919

+DOBBIN, Albert E

Royal Air Force. Aircraftman 2nd Class. 298101. Died 28/05/1919. Age 18. Son of Hugh and Jane Scott Dobbin, of 115, Hillman St., Belfast. Holy Trinity C of I Churchyard, Drumbo

1940

+BAIRD, William Henry

Royal Artillery. 8th (Belfast) HAA Regiment. 21 Bty. Gunner.1476474. Died 28/05/1940. Age 35. Son of Hugh and Grace Baird, of Belfast. Shorncliffe Military Cemetery. Regimental RH, St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast

+CRAIG, Samuel

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 7011030. Died between 28/05/1940 and 02/06/1940. Age 30. He was part of the 9th Infantry Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division in 1940. As one of "Monty's Ironsides" in the British Expeditionary Force, he took part in the retreat through Belgium and France. Son of Robert and Jane Craig. Dunkirk Memorial, France

+GALLOWAY, John

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Fusilier. 6976614. Died 28/05/1940. Age 32. Son of John and Kathleen Galloway; husband to Mary Galloway, of Stewartstown, Co. Tyrone. Dickebusch Old Military Cemetery, Belgium. Stewartstown WM

+GRIEVE, Alfred Victor Forde

RNVR. AB. P/UD/X 1051. Died 28/05/1940. HMS Windsor. Killed during Dunkirk. Joined RNVR 1932. Son of Mrs MD Grieve. Dover (St James's) Cemetery

+HANNA, Thomas John

Royal Warwickshire Regiment, 2nd Btn. Private. 5110616. Died 28/05/1940. Aged 23. Son of Thomas and Alice Hanna, of Billy, Co. Antrim. Dunkirk Memorial, Nord, France

+LESLIE, Thomas

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. Serjeant. 7006851. Died 28/05/1940. Age 37. Son of Thomas Leslie and of Mary Ann Leslie (nee Loughran), of Belfast. Woesten Churchyard, Belgium

+MAILEY, John

Royal Army Service Corps. 13 Troop Carrying Coy. Driver. T/ 162676. Died between 28/05/1940 and 02/06/1940. Age 20. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Mailey, of Belfast. Dunkirk Memorial, France

+MAXWELL, Robert Daniel



Royal Army Service Corps. 13 Troop Carrying Coy. Driver. T/166309. Died between 28/05/1940 and 02/06/1940. Age 39. Son of Robert and Margaret Maxwell, of Portballintrae, Co. Antrim; husband to Ellen Maxwell, of Portballintrae. Dunkirk Memorial, France

+McKEOWN, John Joseph

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Fusilier. 6977332. Died 28/05/1940. Age 27 years old. Son of John and Mary Josephine McKeown, of Magherafelt. Coxyde Military Cemetery, Belgium

+McMANUS, George

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Royal Artillery, 3 Searchlight Regt. Gunner. 1484295. Died 28/05/1940. St James Cemetery, Dover

+McNEILL, George

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn.

+MOFFATT, Robert James

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 7013481. Died 28/05/1940. Age 20 years old. Son of George W. and Daisy Jane Moffatt, of Belfast. Boezinge Churchyard, Belgium

+NOLAN, William

Royal Army Service Corps, 115 Army Transport Coy. Corporal.T/162832. Died Between 28/05/1940 and 02/06/1940. Aged 44. Son of Robert and Frances Nolan, of Comber; husband to Elizabeth Nolan, of Downpatrick. Dunkirk Memorial, Nord, France



+O'HALLORAN, John Patrick

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. Corporal. 7011733. Died between 28/05/1940 and 02/06/1940. Aged 26. Son of John and Bridget O'Halloran of Belfast. Dunkirk Memorial, Nord, France

+RANKIN, William Henry

Irish Guards, 1st Btn. Guardsman. 2718899. Died 28/05/1940. Son of William John and Margaret J Rankin, of Enniskillen. Altdal Main Churchyard, Norway

+REEVES, Frederick Arthur

Northamptonshire Regiment, 2nd Btn. Serjeant. Died 28/05/1940. Aged 29. Son of William John and Caroline May Reeves, Hillsborough. Bus House Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

+SMITH, Lalor

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 7011328. Died 28/05/1940. Aged 28. Son of Robert James Smith and Agnes Smith; husband to Agnes Smith, of Bessbrook. Dozinghem Military Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

+TREANOR, Patrick Joseph

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 7014151. Died 28/05/1940. Aged 20. Son of James and Elizabeth nee

McKevitt Treanor, of Newry. Woesten Churchyard, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

1941

+HARDY, Ronald Edwin William

RN. AB. C/J 113289. Died 28/05/1941. Age 31. HMS Mashona. Bismarck pursuit. Joined aged 15 in 1925. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 07/06/1941). Husband to Elizabeth C. Hardy, Earl Haig Pk., Cregagh, Belfast. Chatham Naval Memorial

+ROBINSON, Edmund Frederick Vessey

RN. Leading Seaman. D/JX 152567. Died 28/05/1941. Age 24. HMS Orion. Orion was a Leander class light cruiser which served with distinction in the Royal Navy during World War II. She received 13 battle honours, a record only exceeded by HMS Warspite, and matched by two others. In the early part of 1941 she was in the Crete and Aegean areas and was also at the Battle of Cape Matapan in March 1941. During an attack on a German convoy headed for Crete on 22 May, she was damaged in a duel with its escort, the Italian torpedo boat Lupo. On 29/05/1941, during the evacuation of Crete, she was bombed and badly damaged while transporting 1900 evacuated troops. Around 360 lives were lost, of whom 100 were soldiers. Son of David and Sarah Robinson, Lisburn. (Lisburn Standard 29/05/1942). Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 46. Lisburn WM

1942



**+McDOWELL, John
Ingram**

RAFVR. Sergeant.
1076263. Died
28/05/1942. Aged 21.
Son of Joseph and
Martha McDowell of
Newcastle. Ballyroney
Presbyterian
Churchyard.
Newcastle WM

1943

**+MAGUIRE, John
Joseph**

Royal Air Force.
Leading Aircraftman.

621253. Died 28/05/1943. Age 23. Son of Joseph and
Catherine Maguire, of Enniskillen. Habbaniya War
Cemetery, Iraq

+TAYLOR, Ralph Edgar

RCAF. Pilot Officer. J/18109. D F M. Died 28/05/1943. Aged
26. 432 Sqdn. Royal Canadian Air Force. Son of Mr. and
Mrs. William Taylor; husband to Winifred Judy Taylor, of
Londonderry. Runnymede Memorial, Panel 178.

1944

+PRINGLE, Jack Donnelly

RAFVR. Flight Sergeant. 1485878. Died 28/05/1944. Aged 21. 263 Sqdn. Aviation accident with 263 Sqdn based at RAF Harrowbeer, Devon. He was the pilot of Hawker Typhoon EK211. On an air-to-air firing and dive-bombing practice, the plane hit the tower of St. Paul's Church. It dislodged around half a dozen stones and crashed in fields below the church. Son of Robert S. Pringle and Margaret Pringle, Belfast. Carnmoney Cemetery. Memorial at St. Paul's Church, Yelverton, Devon.

+WHITESIDE, Thomas John

RAFVR. Sergeant (Radio Operator. Air).1513141. Aged 22. 427 (RCAF) Sqdn. In Halifax III LW365 ZL-W, Operation: Bourg-Leopold. Take off 23.27 Leeming, North Yorkshire, England, to bomb the military camp of Leopoldsburg, Limburg, Belgium. Homebound, shot down by a night-fighter, Lt. Kurt Matzak, 12./NJG1, his 6th victory, SE Leuven: 3.600 m. Crashed 02.04 at the "Lovenjoelseveld" near the railway station at Lovenjoel (Bierbeek), Vlaams-Brabant, Belgium, 7 km ESE of Leuven, Belgium.

Letter of Graves Registration and Enquiries, dated 14/12/1945 states " ... While a representative of M.R. E. Service, was investigating in the vicinity of Lovenjoul, he visited the village churchyard finding there seven graves.

It was ascertained that the seven bodies contained these graves comprised the crew of the Halifax LW365 which crashed near the railway station of Lovenjoul.

According to the mayor, this aircraft exploded in mid-air and debris was scattered over a large area. The wreckage was later removed by the Germans and no trace of the

aircraft now remains ... “. The crew of seven died. Their remains were initially buried in a little churchyard, graves 1-7, at Lovenjoel, Vlaams-Brabant. All were, in 1950, reburied in Heverlee War Cemetery. The other crew members were : P/O B.C. Scobie RCAF; Sgt. J.H. Rudge; F/O A.G. Smith RCAF; F/O N.G. Nahu RCAF; P/O J.J.B. Cardinal RCAF; P/O G.F. Vinett RCAF. Son of James N and Sarah Whiteside, Belfast. Heverlee War Cemetery, Belgium

VETERANS

MURPHY, George H

RN. MCB. Born 28/05/1922. Son of William G Murphy, Bangor. Manager Ulster Bank, Bangor. Seacliffe Rd., Bangor

WRIGHT, Samuel

RN. AB. HMS Norfolk which helped sink Scharnhorst. Joined RN 1938 (Ulster Gazette 28/05/1943). Son of Mr and Mrs W. Wright, Barrack Hill, Armagh. (Ulster Gazette 05/04/1945)

Every day is a Remembrance Day

We will remember them



On this Day – May 28

1917

The German attacks near Hurtebise are repulsed.

1918

The Germans cross the Aisne on a 18 mile front between the Aisne and the Vesle. The Allies fall back as the Germans force the passage of Vesle. The Allies left and right wings make a stand at Vregny plateau and the heights of St. Thierry.

1940

French mountain troops capture the port of Narvik, forcing the German defenders (Gebirgsjaeger units and crews of sunk destroyers) into the surrounding hills and towards the safety of the Swedish border and internment.



Operation Dynamo began to evacuate allied troops from Dunkirk. Over a 10-day period, more than 338,000 soldiers were carried back across the Channel thanks to a flotilla of naval and civilian vessels.

Many troops were able to embark from the half-mile long mole onto British, Canadian and French naval destroyers, as well as a variety of civilian merchant ships. Others had to wade out from the beaches, waiting

for hours in shoulder-deep water.

Hundreds of small boats were recruited to take part in the operation after a BBC Radio broadcast ordered listeners that "all owners of self-propelled pleasure craft between 30 feet and 100 feet in length to send all particulars to the Admiralty". This flotilla of hundreds of merchant marine boats, fishing boats, pleasure craft, yachts and lifeboats became known as the 'Little Ships of Dunkirk'.

The 1940 Dunkirk Veterans' Association Memorial at the Arboretum features sand from the beaches at Dunkirk.

Belgium formally surrenders to the Germans.

The British and French reject capitulation and continue the evacuation and rearguard actions at Dunkirk.

Fighter Command instructed 'Ensure the protection of Dunkirk beaches from first light until darkness by continuous fighter patrols in strength' Another incredible effort - 321 sorties flown - 14 fighters lost. Signal: Senior Naval Officer Dunkirk to VA : Dover-fighter protection invaluable

1941

Roosevelt says Neutrality Act to be repealed.

Lord Woolton announces experimental egg rationing, further restrictions on fish and milk; successful prosecutions under Food Control Orders during war now total 17,319.

British and Commonwealth forces begin evacuating Crete through the port of Sphakia on the southern coast of Crete. The withdrawal is to be covered by two recently landed Commando Battalions. However the garrisons at Retimo and Heraklion will be evacuated separately.

Britain starts rationing of eggs and tightens rationing of fish and milk.

1942

The Russian pocket Southeast of Kharkov continues to be broken in. 200 Poles are taken from Warsaw to the village of Magdalenka and shot. Among them are three women brought on stretchers from Pawiak prison hospital.

Heavy fighting continues at the southern end of the Gazala line, although by now Rommel's forces are beginning to run out of fuel and his tanks are becoming scattered. In order to

shorten his supply lines he decides to punch a hole through the Gazala line.

1943

The U.S. 15th Air Force attacks Italian oil refineries at Livorno.

1944

The US 8th Air Force attacks synthetic fuel-producing plants at Leuna-Merseburg.

In mission to Cologne, US Eighth Air Force B-17s attempt use of GB-1 “Grapefruit” glide bombs for the first and only time.

1945

The British capture traitor William Joyce (“Lord Haw Haw”) in Flensburg, Germany. He was hanged in 1946, the last British person to be executed for treason.

British Twelfth Army HQ is set up in Rangoon.

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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

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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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