



remembrance ni



Aftermath on the Somme - the shattered trees of Delville Wood, all that remained of this area of woodland fought over almost continuously in the summer of 1916. Known as “Devil’s Wood” to those who served there.

The Somme battle - a short retrospective

Within 2 days of fighting the famous 36th (Ulster) Division suffered over 5,000 casualties and 2,069 deaths.

The Battle of the Somme, also known as the Somme Offensive, was a battle of the First World War fought by the armies of the British Empire and French Third Republic against the German Empire.

It took place between 1 July and 18 November 1916 on both sides of the upper reaches of the River Somme in France. The battle was intended to hasten a victory for the Allies. More than three million men fought in the battle and one million men were wounded or killed, making it one of the bloodiest battles in human history.

The French and British had committed themselves to an offensive on the Somme during Allied discussions at Chantilly, Oise, in December 1915. The Allies agreed upon a strategy of combined offensives against the Central Powers in 1916, by the French, Russian, British and Italian armies, with the Somme offensive as the Franco-British contribution. Initial plans called for the French army to undertake the main part of the Somme offensive, supported on the northern flank by the Fourth Army of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF). When the Imperial German Army began the Battle of Verdun on the Meuse on 21 February 1916, French commanders diverted many of the divisions intended for the Somme and the "supporting" attack by the British became the principal effort. The British troops on the Somme comprised a mixture of the remains of the pre-war regular army; the Territorial Force; and Kitchener's Army, a force of volunteer recruits.

The first day on the Somme (1 July) saw a serious defeat for the German Second Army, which was forced out of its first position by the French Sixth Army, from Foucaucourt de Santerre south of the Somme to Maricourt on the north

bank, and by the Fourth Army from Maricourt to the vicinity of the Albert-Bapaume road. This first day was, in terms of casualties, also the worst day in the history of the British Army, which suffered 57,470 casualties, including 19,240 killed in action. These occurred mainly on the front between the Albert–Bapaume road and Gommecourt, where the attack was defeated and few British troops reached the German front line. The battle became notable for the importance of air power, and the first use of the tank in September. Tanks were still being developed and were prone to breaking down.

At the end of the battle, British and French forces had penetrated 6 mi (10 km) into German-occupied territory. This was their largest territorial gain since the Battle of the Marne in 1914. However, key objectives of the Anglo-French

Parmies were unfulfilled, as they failed to capture Péronne and halted 3 miles (5 km) from Bapaume, where the German armies maintained their positions over the winter. British attacks in the Ancre valley resumed in January 1917 and forced the Germans into local withdrawals to reserve lines in February, and ultimately into the scheduled retirement by about 25 miles (40 km) in Operation Alberich to the Siegfriedstellung (Hindenburg Line) in March 1917. Debate continues over the necessity, significance and effect of the battle.

The Victoria Cross record of the 36th (Ulster) Division

In total nine members of the 36th Division were awarded the Victoria Cross



Captain Eric Norman Frankland Bell, 9th Battalion The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 20 years old, July 1st 1916, Battle of the Somme.

2nd Lieutenant James Samuel Emerson, 9th Battalion The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 22 years old, **December 6th 1917**, La Vacquerie.

Lance Corporal Ernest Seaman, 2nd Battalion The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Died 25 years old, **September 29th 1918**, Terhand Belgium.

Fusilier Norman Harvey, 1st Battalion The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Awarded for actions during **October 25th 1918**, Ingoyghem, Belgium.

Second Lieutenant Edmund De Wind, 15th Battalion The Royal Irish Rifles.

Died 34 years old, **March 21st 1918**, Second Battle of the Somme.

Rifleman William Frederick McFadzean, 14th Battalion The Royal Irish Rifles. Died 20 years old, **July 1st 1916**, Battle of the Somme.

Rifleman Robert Quigg, 12th Battalion The Royal Irish Rifles. Awarded for actions during the Battle of the Somme on **July 1st 1916**. Also awarded the Medal of Order of St. George (Fourth Class), the highest honour of the Russian Empire.

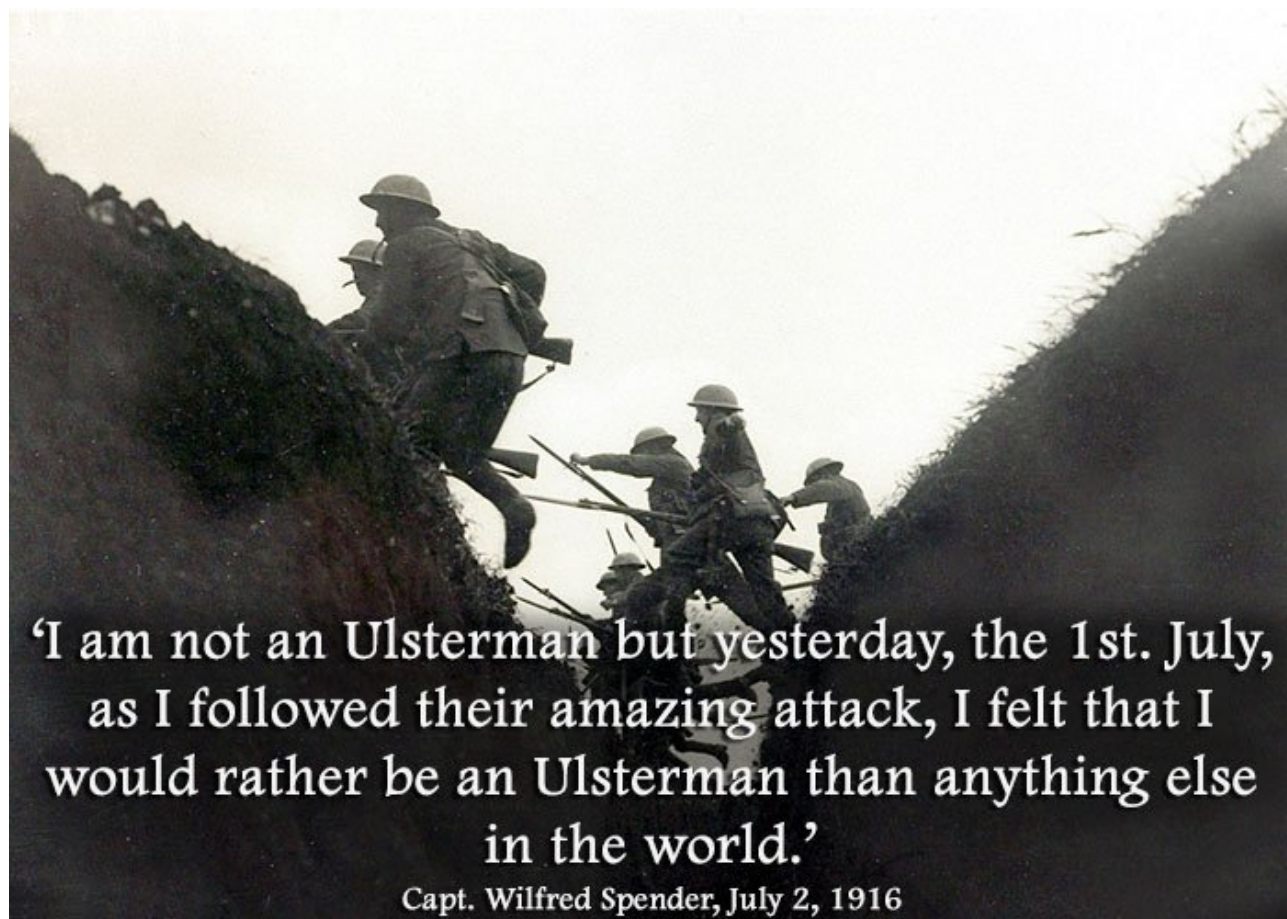
Lieutenant Geoffrey Cather, 9th Battalion The Royal Irish Rifles. Died 25 years old, **July 2nd 1916**, Battle of the Somme

Private Robert Morrow, 1st Btn Royal Irish Fusiliers. Died 23 years old, **April 26th 1915**, Battle of Messines

Tribute by King George V

After the war had ended, King George V paid the following tribute to the 36th Division saying,
"Throughout the long years of struggle ... the men of Ulster have proved how nobly they fight and die ..."

Commendation by former Commanding Officer of the 12th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles



On the 21st July 1916 the Northern Whig received a letter from the first Commanding Officer of the 12th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles Lt Colonel R McCalmont M.P. who was then commanding the 1st Battalion Irish Guards.

Sir :- Will you allow me as the first commander of the 12th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles (Central Antrim Volunteers) to express through your columns my deep and sincere sympathy with the relatives and friends of those of all ranks of the battalion who have given their lives for the honour of Ulster and my best wishes for the recovery of the wounded. Anyone who was concerned in the formation of any unit of the Ulster Division must be proud today of the share it has taken in the recent offensive and the part played by the battalion recruited from North, East and Mid Antrim has been no light one

The casualties have been I fear heavy and I should like the sufferers to know that they have no more sincere sympathiser than yours very faithfully.

R McCalmont, Lieutenant Colonel - Late 12th Batt Royal Irish Rifles (Central Antrim Volunteers)

On this day – July 2

1914

It is announcement that the Kaiser will not attend the Archduke Ferdinand's funeral.

1940



Hitler ordered to start preliminary planning for an invasion of the UK, Operation Seelöwe. The OKW (Oberkommando der Wehrmacht) said that it would take 14 to 28 days to achieve air superiority.

The British liner Arandora Star, carrying 1,500 German and Italian prisoners of war to Canada, is sunk by U-47 off the west coast of Ireland, with many casualties.

1941

The RAF carries out night raids on Bremen and Cologne.

Troops of the German 11th, Romanian 3rd and 4th Armies begin an offensive from Moldavia toward Vinnitsa and the Black Sea port of Odessa.

China breaks off diplomatic relations with Germany and Italy.

1942

Allied convoys QP-13 and PQ-17 pass each other while the German battleships Tirpitz and Hipper prepare to attack PQ-17 in the North Atlantic.

The British hold El Alamein despite heavy attacks, Rommel is now down to 26 tanks.

JCS approves Pacific strategy-a dual Army-Navy attack.

Churchill's government overcomes a parliamentary Motion of Censure in an overwhelming vote.

US Depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps is ordered disbanded, completed 30 June 1943.

1943

Greek guerrillas to come under the direct control of the supreme allied command in the Middle East. U.S. Fifteenth Air Force, raids three airfields in southern Italy.

US troops land on New Georgia in the Solomons.

1944

The end of the battle of the 'Scottish Corridor' in Normandy result in the German counter-attacks failing to eliminate it. Field Marshal von Rundstedt, C-in-C West, is replaced by Field Marshal von Kluge.

German troops evacuate Siena.

The Russians cut the railways to the West of Minsk.

US Army troops land on Noemfoor Island in Geelvink Bay, New Guinea.

US Marines take Garapan, Saipan; Japanese fall back to final defensive line on northern Saipan.

1945

The U.S. submarine Trenchant sinks a Hagura Class Japanese cruiser in the Southwest Pacific.

The British capture secret documents concerning a planned breakout of Honda's 33rd Army in Burma.

USS Barb attacks Kaihyo Island with the first use of rockets by a sub against shore installations.

Roll of Honour – July 2

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1915

+BURTON, Thomas

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Private. 3485. Died 02/07/1915. Born on 30t/08/1878 in the Benburb area. He was only nine months old when his father died. The family later moved to Belfast. Thomas was a flax yarn bundler. Youngest son of David and Mary Jane Burton. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

+CALVIN, William Findlay

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Private. 3413. Died 02/07/1915. Age 18. Son of Mrs. Elizabeth Calvin, of 55, East Bread St., Newtownards Rd., Belfast. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

+COLLINS, George

RMLI. Private. PLY/16508. Plymouth Battalion RND. Died 02/07/1915 of wounds in 2nd (RN) Field Ambulance (SW Head), Dardanelles. Aged 19. Enlisted Belfast 29/12/1913. Deal Battalion at Dunkirk and Defence of Antwerp 1914; MEF 28/02/1915 - 02/07/1915. Born Cork 12/08/1896. He

worked as a bottle washer. Son of John and Elizabeth Collins, Fortuna St., Belfast. 1914 Star issued to mother 03/09/1919. Skew Bridge Cemetery. ADM 159/159/16508.

+HERON, Charles

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 3rd Btn. Lance Corporal. 10404. Died 02/07/1915. Age 20. Born on 29/10/1894 in Clonfeacle, County Tyrone. The 1901 census shows Charles as 6 years old, living with the family at Gorestown, Moy. His father Samuel was a farmer. The 1911 census shows Charles, now 16, working on his father's farm in Gorestown. Charles Heron enlisted in Omagh. Son of Samuel and Mary Heron, of Gorestown, Moy, Co. Tyrone. Lancashire Landing Cemetery, Turkey (including Gallipoli), Moy WM

+McCUSKER, B

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. Private. 3141. Died 02/07/1915. Age 20. Son of Bernard and Mary McCusker, of Annagrane, Brookeborough, Co. Fermanagh. Bouzincourt Communal Cameterey Extension, France

+MONAGHAN, James Joseph

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 1st Btn. Private. 9515. Died 02/07/1915. Son of Robert and Margaret Monaghan, of Belmore St., Enniskillen. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

1916

Composite party from 107th Infantry Brigade

On the morning of 02/07/1916 a composite party from 107th Infantry Bde were sent to support troops still holding the German 1st and 2nd lines at Thiepval. A third of this party became casualties. Five members of this party from 8th (Service) Battalion Royal Irish Rifles (East Belfast Volunteers) are buried at Grandcourt Cemetery:

+BLYTH, Matthew Blyth

8th Btn. Royal Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 3150. Died 02/07/1916. Aged 25. Born Selkirk, Scotland. Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, Somme, France

+RIPPARD, Thomas

8th Btn. Royal Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 8/13441. Died 02/07/1916. Aged 21. From Hudson St, Belfast. Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, Somme, France

+RANSON, Andrew

8th Btn. Royal Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 4745. Died 02/07/1916. Aged 29. Son of Susan and the late Andrew Ranson, of 53, Ravenhill Rd., Belfast. Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, Somme, France

+SILLARS, Thomas

8th Btn. Royal Irish Rifles. Lance Corporal. 1301. Died 02/07/1916. Aged 27. Husband to Mrs. A. Sillars, of 3, Ballyclare St., Belfast. Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, Somme, France

+STEWART, Hugh Henry

8th Btn. Royal Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 13657. Died 02/07/1916. Aged 19. Son of Henry Stewart, of 28, Belvoir St., Belfast. Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, Somme, France

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1916

+ALLEN, Thomas Joseph

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 3978. Military Medal. awarded for his actions at Hamel in which he died on 02/07/1916. Age 38. He was killed shortly after fending off a German counter-attack on captured trenches. He single-handedly drove the enemy backwards by tossing grenade after grenade. He was fatally injured a few minutes after returning to his comrades. Husband to Margaret Allen, of 50, Spring St., Belfast. Father of Samuel and Thomas. Theipval Memorial, France. St Aidan's C of I, Salters Grange, Armagh WM

+ATKINSON, R

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 8/12520. Died 02/07/1916. Age 25. Son of Andrew and Elizabeth Atkinson, of 44, Woodcot Avenue, Belfast. Aveluy Wood Cemetery (Lancashire Dump), Mesnil-Martinsart, France

+ATKINSON, William

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 1/8. Private. 3440. Died 02/07/1916. Age 38 Born in Lisburn, he lived in Glasgow, enlisted at Dunoon. Maroeuil Cemetery, France

+BAIN, David

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 13980. Died 02/07/1916. Age 37. Son of Edward and Mary Ann Bain, of Belfast; husband to Elizabeth Bain, of 4, Mountain View St., Ligoniel, Belfast. Connaught Cemetery, Theipval, France

+BASHFORD, John

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 963. Died 02/07/1916. Age 20. Son of Thomas George and Annie Bashford, of 4, Maria Place, Belfast. Thiépval Memorial, Somme, France

+BAXTER, Robert

King's Own Scottish Borderers, 1st Btn. Private. 16168. Died 02/07/1916. Age 23. Born in Dungannon on 30/06/1893. Presuming that he was injured at the Battle of the Somme, he celebrated his 23rd birthday on the Friday, was injured at the Somme on the Saturday and died on the Sunday. Robert moved to Scotland and was working as a farm servant at Killantrae, Port William, Wigtownshire when he enlisted. Son of Robert and Jane Baxter. Acheux British Cemetery, France

+BLYTH, Matthew Blyth

8th Bn. Royal Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 3150. Died 02/07/1916. Age 25. Born Selkirk, Scotland. Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, Somme, France

+BOYD, William

Royal Irish Rifles, 15th Btn. Corporal. 12215. Died 02/07/1916. Age 28. Son of William Boyd; husband of M. A. Bull (formerly Boyd), of 41, James St., Belfast. Born at Belfast. Serre Road Cemetery No2, France

+BROWN, John

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 10th Btn. Private. 15362. Died 02/07/1916. Age 36. Son of James and Mary Jane Brown, of Londonderry. Puchevillers British Cemetery, France

+CALWELL, Samuel Coleman

Royal Irish Rifles, 12th Btn. Serjeant. 17396. Died 02/07/1916. Age 27. Born on 08/01/1889 and lived in Kells. Son of Robert Torrens Calwell, a farmer, and Mary Elizabeth Calwell, of Ross Lodge, Kells, Co. Antrim. Puchevillers British Cemetery, France. Ballyclare WM, Kells and Eskylane PCI RH, Ballylinney PCI RH

+CALWELL, Samuel Coleman

Royal Irish Rifles, 12th Btn. Serjeant. 17396. Died 02/07/1916. Age 27. Son of Robert Torrens Calwell and Mary Elizabeth Calwell, of Ross Lodge, Kells. Puchevillers British Cemetery, Somme, France

+CAMPBELL, Edward

Royal Irish Rifles. 16th Btn. No. 4 Coy. Rifleman. 790. Died 02/07/1916 at Hamel. Age 33. In 1911 he was working as a linen weaver. Son of Edward and Rachael Campbell, of 79, Coronation St., Laurel Vale; husband of Jane Campbell, of 77, Coronation St., Laurel Vale, Tandragee. Thiepval Memorial, France

+CAMPBELL, Joseph.

Royal Irish Rifles. 8th Btn. A Coy. Rifleman. 12229. Died 02/07/1916. Aged 50. Born in Lisburn. Son of William Campbell and husband of Martha Campbell. Enlisted at Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

+CATHER, Geoffrey St George Shillington

Royal Irish Fusiliers, Adj. 9th Btn. Lieutenant. Adjutant. Victoria Cross. Died 02/07/1916. Age 25. On the 1st July he had gone out into No Man's Land and brought in three

wounded men. He then went back and brought in another man and gave water to another before carrying on to look for more injured, all the while under the gaze of the enemy. On the morning of 2nd July he and a captain named Menaul went out again when enemy machine gun fire struck both of them, wounding Menaul and killing Cather. His body was believed to have been buried near Beaumont Hamel but was later lost and his name was then placed on the Thiepval Memorial. His V.C. is held at the Royal Irish Fusiliers museum in Armagh City. An extract from "The London Gazette," dated 8th Sept., 1916, records the following: "For most conspicuous bravery. From 7 p.m. till midnight he searched 'No Man's Land', and brought in three wounded men. Next morning at 8 a.m. he continued his search, brought in another wounded man, and gave water to others, arranging for their rescue later. Finally, at 10.30 a.m., he took out water to another man, and was proceeding further on when he was himself killed. All this was carried out in full view of the enemy, and under direct machine gun fire and intermittent artillery fire. He set a splendid example of courage and self sacrifice". Son of the late Mr. R. G. Cather and of Mrs. M. M. Cather, of Limpsfield, Surrey. His mother came from Portadown and his father from Coleraine. Theipval Memorial, France

+CINNAMOND, Frederick Charles

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 12666. Died 02/07/1916. Age 21. Son of F. W. and Harriet Alice Cinnamond, of 103, Belmont Rd., Belfast. Theipval Memorial, France

+COCHRANE, Josphe Maxwell

Royal Irish Rifles, 14th Btn. Rifleman.14229. Died 02/07/1916. Age 32. Son of George and Mary Maxwell Cochrane. Native of Belfast. Puchevillers British Cemetery, Somme, France

+CONWAY, John McFadzean

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman.12680. Died 02/07/1916. Age 24. Son of Matthew and Agnes Conway, of 57, Thistle St., Belfast. Theipval Memorial, Somme, France

+CROMIE, David

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman.989. Died 02/07/1916. Age 33. Son of David Cromie; husband of Margaret Cromie, of 35, Rathmore St., Belfast. Theipval Memorial, France

+CRICHTON, John Bell

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Serjeant.753. Died 02/07/1916. Age 42. Husband of Margaret Jane Crichton, of 30, McMaster St., Belfast. Theipval Memorial, France

+CROSSAN, John

Royal Irish Rifles, 9th Btn. Rifleman. 14221. Died 02/07/1916. Age 21. Born off the Shankill, Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Crumlin Road Methodist Church WM, Belfast

+DOHERTY, James

Cameronians (Scottish Rifles), 1st Btn. Private. 11275. Died 02/07/1916. Age 20. A member of the Roman Catholic

Church. Son of Mrs. J. Doherty, of New Row, Keady. Gorre British and Indian Cemetery, France

+DUNBAR, William

8th Bn. Royal Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 12732. Died 02/07/1916. Aged 19. Son of William H. Dunbar, of 12, Downpatrick St., Belfast. Beaumont-Hamel British Cemetery, Somme, France

+DYER, Thomas Arthur

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 12738. Died 02/07/1916. Age 26. Son of Thomas and Isabella Dyer 18 Woodfield Terrace, Inchcore, Co Dublin, LOL 359 Downpatrick. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

+ERVINE, William

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Serjeant. 12757. Died 02/07/1916. Age 21. Son of William James and Susan Ervine, of 4, Rugby St., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, France

+FERRIS, Robert

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 1436. Died 02/07/1916. Age 28. Son of William Ferris and the late Margaret Ferris; husband of Martha Rock (formerly Ferris), of 6, Bradford St., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

+FRENCH, Robert James

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. A Coy. Rifleman. 398. Died 02/07/1916. Age 31. Husband of Catherine French, of 13, Legane St., Ballysillan, Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

+FULTON, Robert

Royal Irish Rifles, 16th Btn. No. 4. Coy. Rifleman.1157. Died 02/07/1916. Age 21. Son of Robert and Mary A. Fulton, of Tullaghmore, Sherrygroom, Co. Tyrone. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Dungannon WM, Newmills Parish C of I
RH

+GINN, R T

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Sergeant. 8801. Died 02/07/1916. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Family Memorial, Dundonald cemetery.

+GORDON, James

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman.895. Died 02/07/1916. Age 21. Son of Joseph and Susan Gordon, of Belfast. Theipval Memorial, Somme, France

+GRAY, William

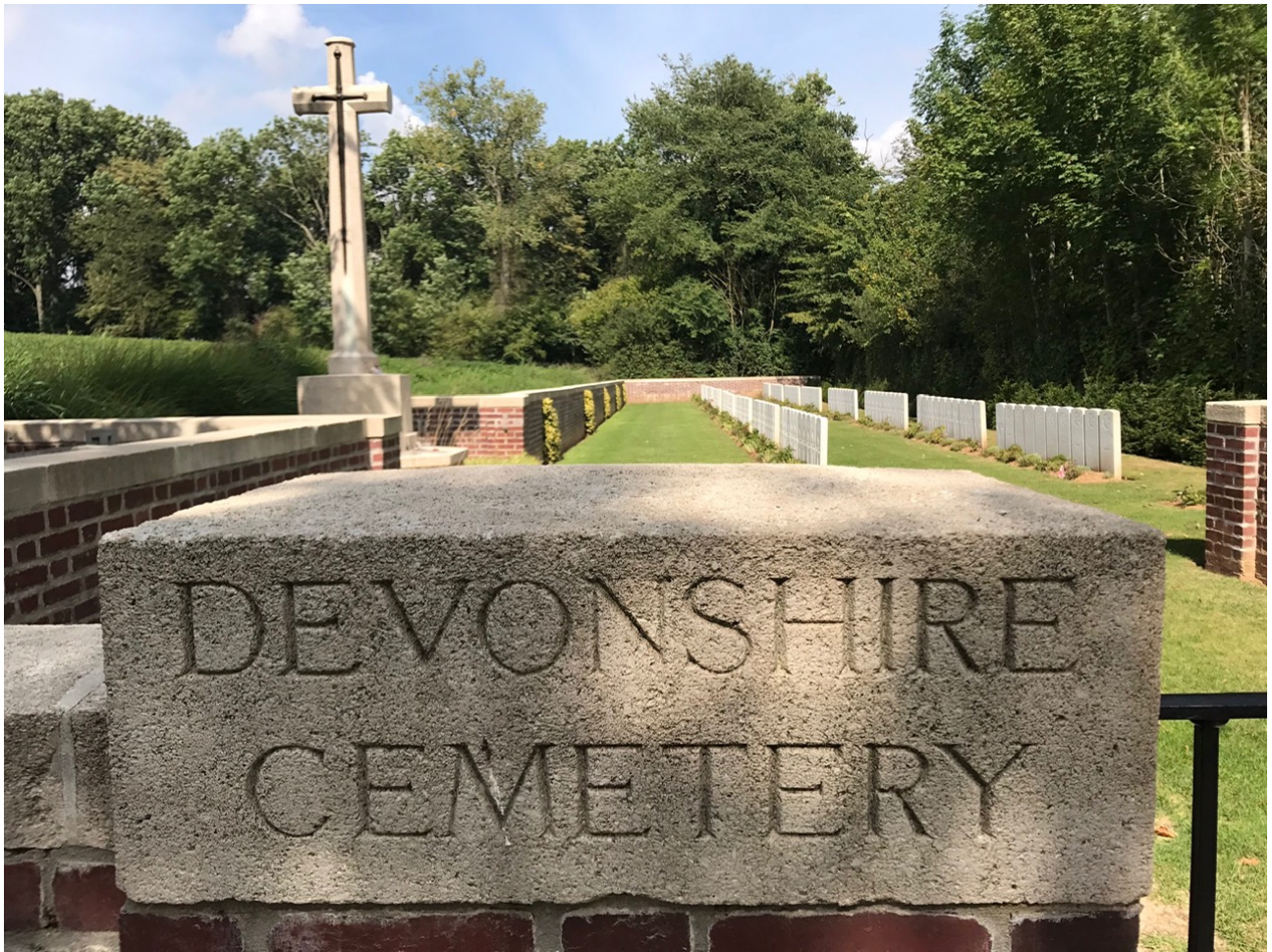
Royal Irish Rifles, 9th Btn. Rifleman. G/14737. Died 02/07/1916. Age 21. Son of David Gray, of 15, Dover St., Belfast. Connaught Cemetery, Theipval, Somme, France

+GREER, Wallace

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman.12847. Died 02/07/1916. Son of Mrs Mary Greer of Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France.

+GUINNESS, Henry

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Lance Corporal. 12849. Died 02/07/1916. Age 22. Brother of John Guinness, of 14,



Belmont St., Woodstock Rd., Belfast, Co. Antrim. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

+HANVEY, Herbert

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Btn. C Coy. Lance Corporal. 9658. Died 02/07/1916. Age 24. Son of James and Jane Hanvey, of Belfast. Acheux British Cemetery, France

+HARRIS, William

Wiltshire Regiment (Wiltshire Yeomanry) 6th Btn. Private. 27780. Died 02/07/1916. Age 18. Son of Elizabeth Crothers (formerly Harris), of 4, Bungalow, Ballyhenry, Belfast, and the late William Harris. Premont British Cemetery, France

+HAYES, James

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 10th.Btn. Private. 27599. Died 02/07/1916. Age 36. James was injured in the 'big push' of the 1st July. Second son of Robert and Sarah Hayes from Burnside, Portstewart, and a member of Burnside L.O.L. 721. His younger brother, Drummer Thomas Hayes, 6th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, was killed in action on 16/08/915, and is commemorated on the Helles Memorial. Puchevillers British Cemetery, France. Portstewart WM, Portstewart Presbyterian Church WM

+HILDITCH, Herbert

Army Service Corps, 596th M.T. Coy. Private. DM2/154976. Died 02/07/1916. Age 17. Son of Robert and Jane Hilditch, of I, Oak St., Belfast. Amara War Cemetery, Iraq

+HODGEN, J

Royal Irish Rifles, 10th Btn. Rifleman. 11336. Died 02/07/1916. Age 26. Son of Hugh and Elizabeth Hodgen, of Belfast. Forceville Communal Cemetery and Extension, France

+HODGEN, William

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 3129. Died 02/07/1916. Age 22. Son of Mr. William Hodgen, of 34, Dee St., Belfast. Cayeux Military Cemetery, France

+HUNTER, Matthew

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 359. Died 02/07/1916. Born Eden, Carrickfergus on 01/01/1887. He lived in Whitehouse. Enlisted Belfast. His name was enscribed on a banner unfurled in June 1921 for Whiteabbey LOL 1868.

Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Jordanstown Parish
Church RH, Whitehouse Parish Church

+JOHNSTON, David

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 8th Btn. Private. 21527. Died
02/06/1916. Aged 18. Son of the late Hugh Johnston. Born
at Cloughmills, Belfast. St Patrick's Cemetery, Loos, Pas de
Calais, France. Dervock PCI RH.

+JONES, James

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 9th Btn. Private. 14353. Died
02/07/1916. Son of Robert and Margaret Jones, of 98,
Union St., Lurgan. Puchevillers British Cemetery, Somme,
France

+KEENAN, George Clements

Royal Irish Rifles, 9th Btn. Rifleman. 15054. Died
02/07/1916. Age 29. Son of Annie Keenan, of 94, Dover St.,
Belfast, Co. Antrim, and the late George C. Keenan.
Thiepval Memorial, France

+KELLS, John

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 12314. Died
02/07/1916. Husband to Annie Kells, of 159, Woodstock
Rd., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, France

+KERR, James

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 12985. Died
02/07/1916. Age 23. Son of Mrs. Isabella Martin, of 43,
Willowfield St., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

+KENNEDY, Samuel

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 12983. Died 02/07/1916. Born Bailieborough, Co. Cavan. Lived in Newtownards. Enlisted Belfast. Son of Thomas and Mary Jane (nee Smylie) Kennedy. Thiepval Memorial, France

+LAURISON, Robert

Royal Irish Rifles. 16th Btn. Rifleman. 809. Died 02/07/1916 at Hamel. Son of John and Sarah Janes Laurison of Laurelvale, Tandragee. Thiepval Memorial, France

+LOGAN, Samuel James

Royal Irish Rifles, 6th Btn. Rifleman. 11073. Died 02/07/1916. Husband of Mary C. Lavery (formerly Logan), of 44, Canning St., York St., Belfast. Salonika (Lembet Road) Military Cemetery, Greece

+LOWRY, Samuel

Royal Irish Rifles. 8th Btn. B Coy. (East Belfast Volunteers). Sergeant. 1139. DCM. He was missing in action on 02/07/1916, age 30, and in September, 1917 was declared to have died on that date. Samuel is the first man of his battalion to be mentioned in dispatches by Sir Douglas Haig. He had been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal "For conspicuous gallantry in action. He led his platoon right up into the enemy's line, where he collected stray men near him and reorganised them under very heavy fire. Before he retired, he gathered many wounded and put them into places of shelter. He has always set a fine example of coolness, cheerfulness, and pluck. He has been wounded".

He is well known in city football circles as captain of Willowfield United F.C., a member of the Ravenhill Road Volunteers, L.O.L. 580, and Willowfield Unionist Club, and before joining the Ulster Division he was employed in the Bakery Division, Ravenhill Avenue, of the Belfast Co-Operative Society. He is well known in junior football circles as the captain of Willowfield United Football Club. Husband to Harriet L. Lowry, 36, Powerscourt Street, Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Belfast Co-Operative WM

+MAGOWAN, John

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 9th Btn. A Coy. Private. 22142. Died 02/07/1916. Age 21. Son of John and Mary Magowan of Ballybreagh, Portadown. Forceville Communal Cemetery and Extension, France

+MARSHALL, David

Royal Irish Rifles, 16th Btn. Rifleman. 656. Died 02/07/1916. Age 23. Son of Samuel and Annie Marshall, of Ivy Cottage, Newtownbreda. Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

+McCRACKEN, Samuel

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 17/1439. Died 02/07/1916. Age 25. Son of Samuel and Sarah McCracken, of Sheeptown, Newry. Puchevillers British Cemetery, France

+McCREERY, Thomas Henry

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. A Coy. Rifleman. 35. Died 02/07/1916. Age 28. Son of Thomas H. and Annie McCreery; husband of Rachel Lemon (formerly McCreery), of 88, Church St. East, Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, France

+McCULLOCH, John

Royal Irish Rifles. 8th Btn. Rifleman. 1378. Died 02/07/1916. Age 18. Son of James McCulloch, of Granshaw, Comber, and the late Mary Leathem McCulloch. Thiepval Memorial, France

+McFALL, Daniel

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 626. Died 02/07/1916. Age 28. Husband to Matilda McFall, of William Street Square, Ballymena. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

+McILWRATH, James

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 13153. Died 02/07/1916. Age 21. Son of Robert Harris, of Railway St., Comber. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

+McINTOSH, James

Royal Irish Rifles. 8th Btn., Lance-Corporal. 13087
Reported as missing on 02/07/1916. is now declared to have been killed on that date. Prior to rejoining the colours, he was employed by the Belfast Co-Operative Bakery, Ravenhill Avenue, Belfast. He was a member of the Willowfield Battalion of the East Belfast Volunteers. His parents lived at 61 Rosebery Road, Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Belfast Co-Operative WM

+McKEE, James Johnston

Royal Irish Rifles. 8th (Service) Btn. East Belfast Volunteers). Rifleman. 8/15425. Killed in action on 02/07/1916, the second day of the Somme offensive, otherwise known as the battle of Albert, Aged 30. He

entered the theatre of war 04/10/1915. James attestation/ service papers did not survive the German air raids during the Second World War. Son of Archibald and Sarah McKee née Riddell, of 25 Deramore Street, Belfast. Theipval Memorial, France. Newtownbreda Presbyterian Church RH. Ballynahinch and District WM.

+McROBERTS, David

Royal Irish Rifles, 16th Bn. Rifleman.736. Died 02/07/1916. Age 21. Enlisted Belfast. Member of Cloughfern LOL 713 (Gwynn's Provident Brethren). David's half-brother, Robert also served with the Royal Irish Rifles. He suffered injuries but survived the war. Son of Nathaniel and Agnes McRoberts, of Dunaney Cottages, Carnmoney, Co. Antrim. Mill Road Cemetery, Theipval, France

+McVEIGH, Robert

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Bn. Rifleman.17/910. Died 02/07/1916. Age 21. Born in Whiteabbey. Nephew of Mrs. Mary J Draney. Theipval Memorial, France

+McWILLIAMS, James

Royal Irish Rifles. 8th Btn. Rifleman. 8/15472. Died 02/07/1916. Age 19. Son of James and Mary Ann McWilliams (nee Downey), of 8, Douglas St., Belfast. Thiepvall Memorial, France

+MILLAR, John

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. D Coy. Rifleman. Died 02/07/1916. Age 23. Son of Alexander and Anna Millar, of

Belfast; husband of Martha Millar, of 144, East Bread St., Belfast. Etaples Military Cemetery, France

+MISKELLY, Samuel

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 15602. Died 02/07/1916. Age 22. Son of Mary Norris (formerly Miskelly), of 7, Bangor St., Belfast, and the late John Miskelly. Theipval Memorial, France

+MORROW, John Bennett

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. D Coy. Rifleman. 13332. Died 02/07/1916. Age 23. Theipval Memorial, France

+MULLAN, David

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. D Coy. Rifleman. 3707. Died 02/07/1916. Age 17. Son of David Mullan, of 61, Witham St., Belfast. Theipval Memorial, France

+MURPHY, William

Royal Irish Rifles, 9th Btn. Rifleman. 840. Died 02/07/1916. Age 26. Son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Murphy, of Westmoreland St., Belfast; husband to Mrs. McPherson (formerly Murphy), of 15, North King St., Belfast. Serre Road Cemetery No2, France

+MURRAY, Charles Stephenson Murray

Royal Irish Rifles, 12th Btn. Captain. Died 02/07/1916. Aged 44. Eldest son of Colonel Alexander Murray, of Portrush. As a young man Charles had joined the 4th Royal Irish Rifles, (his father's battalion), and when he retired from the army he went to Matabeleland, where he joined the mounted police. He served in the Boer War, and took part in the

defence of Mafeking. After his father's death he returned to Portrush, where he was a member of Royal Portrush Golf Club. Captain Murray was the commanding officer of the Portrush company of the Ulster Volunteer Force, and volunteered for service in September 1914. He was injured during the advance of the 1st July and died of his injuries the following day. Warloy-Baillon Communal Cemetery Extension, France

+O'NEIL, A

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn, D Coy. Serjeant. 15713. Died 02/07/1916. Age 30. Son of Charles O'Neil; husband of Maggie McNamara (formerly O'Neil), of 29, Eversleigh St., Belfast. Knightsbridge Cemetery, Mesnil-Martinsart, France

+PALMER, A

Royal Irish Rifles, 15th Btn. Rifleman. Died 02/07/1916. Age 19. Son of William and Martha Palmer, of 18, Kimberley Buildings, Newtownards. Warloy-Baillon Communal Cemetery Extension, France

+PATTERSON, Robert

Royal Irish Rifles. 8th Btn. Rifleman. 863. Died 02/07/1916. Age 36. Son of W. J. and Charlotte Patterson, of Dromore, Co. Down; husband of Mary E. Patterson, of 9, Wayland St., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, France

+PATTON, Joseph

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 1190. Died 02/07/1916. Age 19. A mill worker. Member of LOL 713, Cloughfern District. Enlisted Belfast. His brother Robert also served

with the Royal Irish Rifles, and although wounded, he survived the war. Born Whitewell area 15/02/1897. Son of the late Samuel and E. A. Patton, of Whitewell, Co. Antrim. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Whitehouse Presbyterian Church RH

+PAYNE, Henry

Royal Irish Rifles. 9th Btn. D Coy. Rifleman. 958. Died 02/07/1916 in action at Hamel. Age 18. Son of William and Martha Payne, of 13, Vistula St., Belfast and sometime resident at Callan St., Armagh. Thiepval Memorial, France

+RANSON, Andrew

8th Bn. Royal Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 4745. Died 02/07/1916. Aged 29. Son of Susan and the late Andrew Ranson, of 53, Ravenhill Rd., Belfast. Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, Somme, France

+RAVEY, William

Royal Irish Rifles. 8th Btn. D Coy. Rifleman. 853. Died 02/07/1916. Age 26. Son of John Ravey, of 133, Parkgate Avenue, Belfast; husband of Agnes Ravey, of 34, Glenvarlock St., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, France

+REA, Allen

Royal Irish Rifles. 8th Btn. Rifleman. 13433. Died 02/07/1916. Age 24. Son of John Alexander Rea, of 9, Fitzroy Avenue, Belfast. Serre Road Cemetery No 2. France

+RIPPARD, Thomas

8th Bn. Royal Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 8/13441. Died

02/07/1916. Aged 21. From Hudson St, Belfast. Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, Somme, France

+RITCHIE, John

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman.13443 Died 02/07/1916. Age 22. Born Crumlin, Co. Antrim. In 1911 he was living with the Hibbs family in Roundhill Street, Belfast, working as a machine boy. Foster son of Walter Charles and Martha Hibbs, of 30, Moorfield St., Belfast. Connaught Cemetery, Thiepval, Somme, France

+ROBINSON, James

Royal Irish Rifles. 8th Btn. D Coy. Lance Corporal.12411. Died 02/07/1916. Age 34. Son of the late John and Sarah Robinson; husband of Sarah Robinson, of 4, Saunders St., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, France

+SAVAGE, Joseph

Royal Irish Rifles. 8th Btn. B Coy. Rifleman. 12417. Died 02/07/1916. Age 42. Joseph Savage enlisted in Belfast, he served with the Royal Irish Rifles. 8th Btn. in 107th Brigade of the 36th (Ulster) Division and in the CWGC record that he died on 2 July 1916. In the heat of battle the 8th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles did not make a casualty return on 01/07/1916 and many military historians agree that those 8th Btn casualties listed on the 2 July return were killed in action on 1 July. Born 28/12/1873 in Stewart's Place, Holywood. Son of James Savage, of 22, High St., Holywood, Co. Down, and the late Eliza Savage; husband to Annie Savage, of 42, Epworth St., Belfast. They had at least seven children. Thiepval Memorial, France. Holywood WM

+SHANKS, William Taylor

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 253. Died 02/07/1916. Age 56. Husband of Mrs. E. Maynes (formerly Shanks), of 66, Trillick St., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

+SHIELDS, Samuel

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Serjeant. 13588. Died 02/07/1916. Age 23. Son of Samuel and Sarah Shields, of 33, Upper Frank St., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, France

+SILLARS, Thomas

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Lance Corporal. 1301. Died 02/07/1916. Aged 27. Husband to Mrs. A. Sillars, of 3, Ballyclare St., Belfast. Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, Somme, France

+SILVEY, William John.

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. (East Belfast). Rifleman. 469. Died 02/07/1916. He disembarked in France with the division on 04/10/1915. From the Aughnagurgan area, Co. Armagh. Husband to Louisa Silvery, they had four children and resided in Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

+SLOAN, Joshua

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 9th Btn. C Coy. Private. 14698. Died 02/07/1916. Age 17. Joshua was born in Portadown and enlisted in Belfast; prior to his enlistment he had been a member of D Platoon, Lurgan, Ulster Volunteer Force. Son of Joshua and Elizabeth Sloan, of 46 George Street, Lurgan. Warloy-Baillon Communal Cemetery Extension, France

+STEWART, Hugh Henry

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 13657. Died 02/07/1916. Age 19. Son of Henry Stewart, of 28, Belvoir St., Belfast. Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, Somme, France

+TURKINGTON, William

8th Bn. Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 14607. Died 02/07/1916. Native of Lurgan. Theipval Memorial, France. Lurgan WM

+UPRICHARD, Robert

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. D Coy. Lance Corporal. 857. Died 02/07/1916. Age 36. Son of the late George and Mary Uprichard, of Hill Street, Lurgan. Theipval Memorial, France. Lurgan WM

+WALLACE, James Leahy

Royal Irish Rifles. 8th Btn. Rifleman. 914. Died 02/07/1916. Age 19. Son of William and Margaret Wallace, of 24, Riverview St., Belfast. Serre Road Cemetery No 2, France

+WARKE, Thomas

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 13774. Died 02/07/1916. Age 32. Son of Mrs. Jane Warke; husband of Sarah Ann Warke, of 26, Downpatrick St., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

+WASSON, Albert

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. B Coy. Rifleman. 13821. Died 02/07/1916. Age 19. Son of Alfred and Eleanor Wasson, of 72, Convention St., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, France

+WATTERS, Thomas

The King's (Liverpool Regiment), 5th Btn. Rifleman. 2710. Died 02/07/1916. Age 23. Native of Belfast. Son of William Nassau Watters and Mary Watters, of 2, Mill Cottage, Woolton Rd., Wavertree, Liverpool. Native of Belfast. Wally Orchard Cemetery, France

+WEIR, Samuel

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 13831. Died 02/07/1916. Age 19. Son of Isabella Weir, of Upper Clara Crescent, Bloomfield, and the late W. T. Weir. Theipval Memorial, France

+WHITESIDE, J

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 17/1240. Died 02/07/1916. Age 18. Son of Thomas Whiteside, of 27, Keswick St., Belfast. Mill Road Cemetery, Theipval, France

+WILLIAMSON, Hugh Albert

Royal Flying Corps, 34th Sqdn. and Manchester Regiment. Second Lieutenant. Mentioned in Despatches. Died 02 / 07/1916. Age 29. He was the observer in an aircraft which was shot down. The pilot also died. In 1901 and 1911 censuses he was living in Cheshire. In 1914 he was living in Mullaghbrack in Co. Armagh. He enlisted with the Royal Irish Fusiliers but was commissioned in to the Manchester Regiment and later attached to the Royal Flying Corps. His brother Lieutenant George Williamson of the Manchester Regiment was awarded the Military Cross. Son of Mrs M. A. Williamson, of " Irlam View ", Broad Rd., Sale,

Cheshire, and the late Hugh Williamson. Arras Flying Services Memorial, France

+WILSON, Andrew

Royal Irish Rifles, 13th Btn. 36th Div. Cyclists Coy. Army Cyclist Corps. Rifleman. 9262. Died 02/07/1916. Age 19. Son of Mrs A. Wilson, of 20, Riga St., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France

+WINTER, Albert Arthur

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. (East Belfast Volunteers). Serjeant. 549. Died 02/07/1916. Age 29. Son of Robert and Hannah Winter nee Riddel, of 35 Stoneyford Street ; Husband to Margaret (nee Lawson) Winter, of 5 Avoniel Street, Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, France

1917

+MARTIN, John

Royal Irish Rifles, 12th Btn. Rifleman. 12/18436. Died 02/07/1917. Enlisted on 16/09/1914. Before going overseas he was discharged on 18/03/1916. due to a heart condition. He died in Ballymena. Born near Kells and Connor on 10/04/1896. By 1911 he was living with his father and his sisters in Kilbride. His mother died 27/02/1911. Ballyclare WM, Kilbride C of I RH

+McGUGAN, William John

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. Private/acting-Lance-Corporal. 7911. Died 02/08/1917. He was called up to General Reserve in August 1914. Prior to this he was a member of the Portstewart Company, Coleraine Battalion,

North Derry Regiment, Ulster Volunteer Force. He served with the British Expeditionary Force in Belgium and France. He took part in the Battles of Mons (1914), and of the Rivers Marne (1914) and Aisne (1914); and was wounded in the foot during the Battle of River Aisne. He was awarded the Mons Star. He was killed in action (gassed) on Thursday, 02/08/1917, aged 33 years. His young wife Adelaide Bruce(nee Hutchinson) died tragically in March 1915 and his two very young children also predeceased him. Prior to being called up he was employed as a signalman/ticket collector/porter at Portstewart Railway Station, and prior to that he was a rural postman in the area. He lived at the Gate Lodge, Cromore, Portstewart. His parents, Mr. William (sexton of Aghadowey Parish Church) and Mrs. Mary (nee McQuilkin) McGugan lived in Aghadowey. Portstewart WM, Agherton Parish Church's WM, Boulogne Eastern Cemeter, France

1918

+HAMILTON, Joseph

Royal Air Force, Recruits Depot (Blandford). Air Mechanic 3rd Class. 263964. Died 02/07/1918. Age 32. Born at Belfast. Son of Francis and Jane Hamilton; husband of Florence Lilian Agar (formerly Hamilton), of 5, Old Row, Middleton St. George. Middleton St. George Churchyard

+MORRISON, Eliza Neill

Red Cross. Orderley. Died 02/07/1918 of malaria. Born in Crookedstone, Killead, on 19/04/1888. She served with the British Committee of the French Red Cross. She served with the Scottish Woman's Hospital in Salonika from August 1916 to April 17 returning home after contracting malaria.

The Ballymena Observer (12/07/1918) reported she had recovered and gone to London to work with the Red Cross. However, she contracted influenza and pneumonia which proved fatal. She died at her brother, Dr John Morrison's home in Ennismore Ave., East Chiswick, London. Sadly John died a number of days later of the same illnesses. Their brothers Thomas (2005478) and Kennedy (441029) served with the Canadian forces. Their parents William and Jane (nee Neill) Morrison lived at Killead. Crumlin WM. Killead Presbyterian Church RH. Named on family headstone at Killead Presbyterian Church.

+MOFFETT, Alexander

Royal Irish Rifles, Depot. Rifleman.13284. Died 02/07/1918. Age 27. Son of Robert Moffett; husband of Elizabeth Moffett, of 26, Fox St., Belfast. Carnmoney Cemetery

1920

+GIBSON, W

Royal Army Service Corps. Shoeing Smith. T/15310. Died 02/07/1920. Husband of M. Gibson, of 49, City St., Belfast. Belfast City Cemetery

1942

+KENNEDY, James Sheriff

RAFVR. Sergeant (Wireless Op./Air Gunner). 980725. Died 02/07/1942. 104 Sqdn. El Alamein War Cemetery, Egypt. Agherton Parish WM, Portstewart

1944

+GALLAGHER, John

Royal Ulster Rifles. 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 14431679. He died as a result of shrapnel wounds on 02/07/1944. Aged 19. He landed with B Company 2nd Btn. on D-Day, 06/06/1944 at Sword Beach. The Battalion saw heavy fighting during the following campaign in Normandy. Son of John Gallagher and Jennie Gallagher of Eglinton, Co. Londonderry. La Deliverande War Cemetery, Douvres, Normandy, France.

1945

+CUNNINGHAM, George Nethercott

RNVR. FAA. 717 Squadron . Sub Lieutenant (A). Died 02/07/1945. Age 21. HMS Merganser. He joined the RAF in November 1942, from No. 1135 ATC Squadron. Part of his training as a pilot was completed with the US Navy in Florida. In November 1944 he transferred to the FAA and was granted a commission. Killed when his Fairey Barracuda dived into the Moray Firth in the course of a training exercise while shore-based at Rattray. Son of Henry and Jeanie Cunningham, Benburb St., Belfast. Family Memorial, Carnmoney cemetery

1946

+STEELE, George E A

RAFVR. Warrant Officer. 1021148. Died 02/07/1946. Age: 25. Husband to Margaret Wylie Steele. Son of George and Elizabeth Steele (nee Boyle) of 85 Princes Street, Ballymena. Runnymede Memorial, Egham Surrey, Panel 285.

VETERAN

Birth of submarine ace from Islandmagee

BOYD, Robert

RN. Captain. DSO, DSC. Served as an ordinary seaman on Head Line ships from November 1918 until early 1921. He later joined the Royal Navy, and commanded submarines during WW2. MiD May 1942. He was awarded the DSO in 1942 followed by the DSC in 1944. Between Nov 1942 and July 1945 he commanded four different submarines. Commanded HMS Untiring from Feb 1943 - December 1944 when she sank ten German craft. He was promoted Captain in 1956 and retired from the Royal Navy in 1959. Born Islandmagee, 02/07/1903. Son of Robert Boyd, RNR, who served in WW1.

Every Day is a Remembrance Day

We will remember them

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Information about individuals who served - please forward to remembrance ni at

houstonmckelvey@mac.com

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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