

remembrance ni



Remembering Belgian allies

Elements of the Belgian army were located in Northern Ireland following the withdrawal from Dunkirk.

Before that there were many trading links between the two areas due to the import of flax from Belgium for the linen trade. It was not uncommon for leading linen families from N Ireland to have homes in Belgium, and for Belgian flax producers to have homes in Belfast.

Tomorrow, 21st July is Belgium's National Day and every year wreaths are placed at the Cenotaph in London.

Every year since July 1934, a Belgian parade has taken place at the Cenotaph in London on the saturday before the National Day. Belgium is the only non-Commonwealth country in the world that is allowed to parade its troops and bear arms through central London.

Belgium's King Albert I died as a result of a climbing accident. Touched by the death of his nephew and, in recognition of the heroism and sacrifice of the Belgian Army in the First World War, King George V decided to bestow a unique honour on the Belgians never awarded to any other non-Commonwealth nation: a yearly Belgian Parade at Lutyens's Cenotaph, the monument for the dead on Whitehall built from 1919 to 1920 at the request of the then prime minister David Lloyd George.

The tradition, which is a strong symbol of the fraternity between the British and Belgian soldiers during and after both World Wars, was continued.

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Dog survived being a Japanese POW

Judy, a purebred pointer, was the mascot of several ships in the Pacific, and was captured by the Japanese in 1942 and taken to a prison camp. There she met Aircraftsman Frank Williams, who shared his small portion of rice with her.

Judy raised morale in the POW camp, and also barked when poisonous snakes, crocodiles or even tigers approached the prisoners. When the prisoners were shipped back to Singapore, she was smuggled out in a rice sack, never whimpering or betraying her presence to the guards.

The next day, that ship was torpedoed. Williams pushed Judy out of a porthole in an attempt to save her life, even though there was a 15-foot drop to the sea. He made his

own escape from the ship, but was then recaptured and sent to a new POW camp.

He didn't know if Judy had survived, but soon he began hearing stories about a dog helping drowning men reach pieces of debris after the shipwreck. And when Williams arrived at the new camp, he said: "I couldn't believe my eyes! As I walked through the gate, a scraggly dog hit me square between the shoulders and knocked me over. I'd never been so glad to see the old girl!"

They spent a year together at that camp in Sumatra. "Judy saved my life in so many ways," said Williams. "But the greatest of all was giving me a reason to live. All I had to do was look into those weary, bloodshot eyes and ask myself: "What would happen to her if I died?' I had to keep going." Once hostilities ceased, Judy was then smuggled aboard a troopship heading back to Liverpool. In England, she was awarded the Dickin Medal (the "Victoria Cross" for animals) in May 1946. Her citation reads: "For magnificent courage and endurance in Japanese prison camps, which helped to maintain morale among her fellow prisoners, and also for saving many lives through her intelligence and watchfulness".

At the same time, Frank Williams was awarded the PDSA's White Cross of St. Giles for his devotion to Judy. Frank and Judy spent a year after the war visiting the relatives of English POWs who had not survived, and Frank said that Judy "always provided a comforting presence to the families."

When Judy finally died at the age of 13, Frank spent two months building a granite and marble memorial in her memory, which included a plaque describing her life story.

On this day - July 20

1915

Germans debate Zeppelins over Westminster

Vice-Admiral Gustav Bachmann appeals directly to the Kaiser today to lift the remaining restrictions on bombing the City of London left in place by Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg. The Chief of the German Naval Staff argues that limiting raids to the weekend is impractical, given how dependent Zeppelins are on good weather, and raises the French bombing of Karlsruhe as showing prior Entente attacks on civilians. Under pressure the Kaiser relents, asking only that royal palaces be spared with the proviso that buildings of historical interest such as St Paul's are to be spared (though given the inaccuracy of bombing at this time it unlikely that this technicality will make any difference). German Zeppelins now have free reign to attack London and other British targets as they see fit.

The decision follows a long running campaign by both the Army and Navy to remove any restrictions on bombing London. The Kaiser had given permission for raids on military targets, but not the city itself on 9 January. This was extended slightly in February to the area lying east of the

Tower of London but still confined to arsenals, shipyards, and other military objectives. As the War Office, Admiralty, and other important targets were to the west of this, the Chief of the German Naval Staff Admiral Bachmann urged that the existing restrictions be removed.

Whilst there is growing public sentiment for greater attacks on London, one of the key drivers is the delivery of new and improved Zeppelins to the navy which make these attacks easier. (Castle, Ian: The first Blitz. Bombing London in the First World War, published 2015)

1918

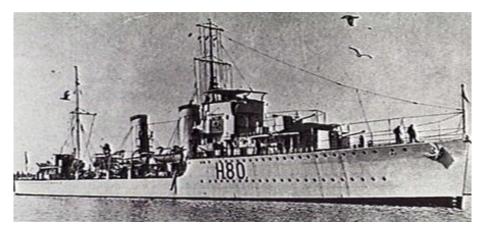
HM Submarine E34 was mined and sunk off Vlieland in the West Frisian Islands. She was lost with all hands: 30 officers



and men. Image shows E34 alongside a depot ship with other submarines,

1918

HM Submarine E34 was mined and sunk off Vlieland in the West Frisian Islands. She was lost with all hands: 30 officers and men. Image shows E34 alongside a depot ship with other submarines,



1940 HMS Brazen

Destroyer HMS Brazen was sunk by German dive bombers while on coastal convoy duty in the Straits of Dover. One crew member was killed during the attack.

S.S. Troutpool Sunk by Mine at Bangor Harbour

On 20th July 1940 at shortly after 2pm the Steam Ship "Troutpool" was at the entrance to Bangor Harbour.

The ship was owned by Pool Shipping Co Ltd of Hartlepool and was carrying a cargo of 7,908 tons of grain from Argentina. She had put into port for degaussing in an attempt to prevent the activation of magnetically operated mines. When this had been done the ship started its engines when it activated a magnetic mine.

This mine had been dropped previously by a long range German Focke-Wulf Condor aircraft from 1st Staffelhof Kampfgeschwader 40. It had flown from Bordeau via Brest to belfast Lough for its Mine Laying Mission.

Some of the crew survived and were rescued by the "White Heather" which later served as a pleasure craft from the same harbour however unfortunately 11 crewmen were killed.

The Condor aircraft headed towards Islandmagee and dropped some more mines however another remained in the racks and while flying at low level attempting to free this mine the Condor was sighted by gunners at Grey Point Fort.

Both left engines of the aircraft failed and the Condor crashed into the sea with 2 of the crew of 5 being lost and their bodies never recovered.

Two of the crewmen of the Troutpool - Thomas Beckett and Shief Ahmed are buried at Bangor New Cemetry with 3 other unidentified sailors from the same incident buried in one grave at Movilla Cemetry in Newtownards.



1944

Destroyer HMS Isis was sunk by a mine off the Normandy landing beaches with tragically heavy loss of life: 152 of her crew were killed. See Roll of Honour below. Page 16



This day in 1944, high-ranking German officers launch operation Walküre, an assassination attempt on Hitler, by Colonel von Stauffenberg, and military coup d'état against the Nazi government. The Führer survives the blast, attributing his good fortune to divine intervention.



Roll of Honour – July 20

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1915

+ PATTERSON, John

RMLI. Sergeant. 11550. Plymouth Division. Died 20/07/1915 of wounds received in action. Enlisted 04/06/1901. Discharged after 12 years 09/06/1913. Joined RFR and served with RM Brigade 15/06/1913 - 20/07/1915. Born Newtownards 10/06/1883. Son of John Patterson. Husband to Lillian Patterson, 'Leahurst', Milton Rd., Cowes. Alexandria (Chatby) Military and War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt. ADM 159/181/11550

+McILROY, William

Royal Engineers,13th Base Park Coy. 2nd Corporal. 17273. Died 20/07/1915. Age 28. Born on 05/03/ 1887 in or near Bellaghy, County Londonderry. He was one of nine children. They were a farming family. Son of John and Marion McIlroy, of Glenvale, Bellaghy. Lancashire Landing Cemetery, Turkey (including Gallipoli). Castledawson WM. Bellaghy Presbyterian Church RH. Bellaghy Masonic Lodge RH

1916

+DONNELLY, John

Royal Irish Rifles, 6th Btn. Rifleman. 7735. Died 20/07/1916. Age 25. Husband to Elizabeth Donnelly, of 70, Bellevue St., Belfast. Salonika (Lembet Road) Military Cemetery, Greece

+FARAGHAN, Thomas Henry

Manchester Regiment, 23rd Btn. Serjeant. 22655. Died 20/07/1916. Age 24. Born Cullybackey. Lived in Oldham and enlisted in Manchester. Son of Mrs. W. J. Faraghan, of 110, Garforth St., Chadderton, Oldham. Theipval Memorial, Somme, France

+MARTIN, S

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 1st Btn. Private. 8706. Died 20/07/1916. Etretat Churchyard, Seine-Maritime, France. Londonderry Diamond WM

+McCRUDDEN, Murtagh

Royal Irish Rifles. 6th Btn. Rifleman. 3/7778. Died 20/07/1916. Age 32. Son of Elizabeth McCrudden, of Belfast. Milltown Roman Catholic Cemetery, Belfast

+McDADE, James

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 9th Btn. C Coy. Private. 23284. Died 20 July 1916. Age 33 Husband of Isabella McDade, of 4, Parkview St., Belfast. Portsdown (Christ Church) Military Cemetery

+McNULTY, James

London Regiment (London Irish Rifles), 2nd/18th Btn. . Rifleman. 4386. Died 20/07/1916. Born Aughnacloy.

Ecoivres Military Cemetery, Mont St Eloi, Pas de Calais, France

+McWHIRTER (or Mewhirter), William

2 Cameronians. Pte. 8798. Died 20 - 24/07/1916. Born Craigs, Cullybackey. Enlisted Hamilton, lived Motherwell. Chambrin Churchyard Ext. Pas De Calais, France. Cullybackey UF Church.

+SIMONTON, Mason

Royal Fusiliers, 20th Btn. Private. 5634. Died 20/07/1916. Age 21. Son of William D. and Jenny Simonton, of 1, Malone Park, Belfast. Serre Road Cemetery No 2, France

+WALLACE, Patrick Joseph

Royal Irish Rifles, 14th Btn. Rifleman. 19811. Died 20/07/1916. Age 23 years old. Son of P. Wallace, of 114, Duncairn Gardens, Belfast, and the late Mary Wallace. Caudry Old Communal Cemetery, France

1917

+CAIRLEY, Robert Frank

Army Pay Corps. Squadron Quartermaster Serjeant. 1036. Died 20/07/1917. Age 36. Served in the South African War. Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Serbian Gold Medal. Son of Robert and Jane Cairley, of Saskatchewan, Canada; husband to Catherine Cairley, of 5, Pacific Avenue, Antrim Rd., Belfast. Mikra British Cemetery, Kalamaria, Greece

+TURNER, Clement Douglas

North Irish Horse. Private.1978. Died 20/07/1917. Born at Longford, County Longford, on 02/03/1897, youngest child of newspaper proprietor (*Longford Independent* and *Westmeath Advertiser*) Robert James Turner, and his wife Annabella Turner (nee Irvine). He was educated at the King's Hospital School, Dublin before being employed as a clerk at the Belfast branch of the Bank of Ireland.

Turner enlisted in the North Irish Horse at Antrim between 25 and 27/11/1915 (No.1978). He embarked for France in November 1916 and was posted to the 1st North Irish Horse Regiment. On 20/07/1917 a party from the regiment came under German shellfire near Ypres. Turner was hit by shrapnel and died later that day. His family received letters from his officers and comrades, containing the familiar expressions of comfort:

He was the youngest in his squadron, and a good boy. His death cast a gloom over us all. He was beloved by all, and was killed instantaneously when going to help another. ... he was such a decent chap and so bright, and he would not offend a child.

He was one of the best – a brave boy. He died a glorious death, and you ought to be proud of him.

By sad chance another North Irish Horseman with the same surname, Stewart Lyttle Turner (See below), was killed on the same day. The two men are buried side-by-side. Son of Robert J. Turner, of Earl St., Longford, Ireland; husband to Annabella Turner, of 111, Ulsterville Avenue, Belfast. Vlamertinghe New Military Cemetery, Belgium

+TURNER, Stewart Lyttle

North Irish Horse. Lance Corporal. 1656. Died 20/07/1917. Age 24. Born at Woodford, County Armagh, on 26/10/1892, son of coachman Robert Turner and his wife Margaret Jane (nee Crossin). By 1911 he was living with his family at North Queen Street, Duncairn, Belfast, and working as a clerk. They later moved to 279 Springfield Road. Turner enlisted in the North Irish Horse at Antrim on 02/06/1915 (No.1656). In 1916 or early 1917 he was sent to France with the regiment, either with a reinforcement draft or as part of E Squadron, which embarked in January 1916. On 20/07/1917 Turner was killed when a party from the 1st North Irish Horse Regiment came under German shellfire near Ypres. Died with Clement Douglas Turner (See above). The two men are buried side-by-side. Son of Robert Turner, of 279, Springfield Rd., Belfast; husband of Margaret Turner. Vlamertinghe New Military Cemetery, Belgium

1918

+BROWN, J

Royal Irish Rifles, 1st Btn. Rifleman.1568. Died 20/07/1918. He had been wounded previously. Born near Magherafelt on 26/12/1891. Enlisted Belfast. He had been a member of Monkstown UVF. His brother Roberrt also lost his life in the war on 01/07/1917. Son of William James and Matilda (nee Knipe) Brown. Husband of Mrs. Esther (nee Potts) Brown, of Wilson's Row, Monkstown and later of 21, Israel St., Belfast. They married in St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, during the war on 01/01/1916. Godewaersvelde British Cemetery, France. Jordanstown Parish Church RH

+FAGAN, James

Royal Irish Rifles,1st Btn.Rifleman. 20461. Died 20/07/1918. Age 20. Son of James and Catherine Fagan, of 53, Mountpottinger Rd., Belfast. Niederzwehren Cemetery, Kassel, Germany

+FARRELL, Stanley Knox

Black Watch (Royal Highlanders), 1st/6th Btn. Second Lieutenant. Died 20/07/1918. Age 20. Son of James and Marion Farrell, of 15, Bathgate Drive, Strandtown, Belfast. La Neuville-aix-Larris Cemetery, France

+HOLMES, David

Royal Irish Rifles, 1st Btn. Lance Corporal. 167. Died 20/07/1918. Age 21. Son of David and Jane Holmes, of 28, William St., Ballymena. Bertenacre Military Cemetery, Fletre, France

+MURDOCK, William Andrew

Royal Irish Rifles,1st Btn. Lance Corporal.15656. Died 20/07/1918. Age 20. Son of Charlotte Murdock, of 6, Canmore St., Belfast, and the late William Andrew Murdock. Berlin South-Western Cemetery, Germany

+McNEICE, Daniel

Royal Garrison Artillery. Gunner. 275556.Died 20/07/1918. Age 36. Son of Daniel and Annie McNeice. Age 36. Shankill Cemetery, Lurgan

+PHILLIPS, Thomas

Royal Irish Rifles, 12th Btn. Rifleman.15/9244. Served previously with Army Cyclist Corps (5944). Died 20/07/1918. Age 22. Born at Lower Wilton St., Belfast on 15/08/1895. Enlisted Belfast. He was taken prisoner at St Quentin on 21/03/1918 and died later of pneumonia. Son of Thomas Phillips, of 2, Mill St., Whiteabbey. Berlin South-Western Cemetery, Germany. Whitehouse Parish Church RH

+SPEERS, W

Guards Machine Gun Regiment, 4th. Private. 2888. Died 20/07/1918. Son of Mrs. A. J. Russell, of 7, Auburn St., Donegall Pass, Belfast. Bagneux British Cemetery, Gezaincourt, France

+TAPPING, Cyril Edward

Royal Irish Rifles. 12th Btn. Serjeant. 19955. transf. to 106th Coy. Chinese Labour Corps (547257). 'Accidentally killed' on 20/07/1918. Cyril signed the Ulster Covenant at Castle Upton, Templepatrick on 28/09/1912 and enlisted in the 12th (Service) Battalion Royal Irish Rifles (Central Antrim Volunteers) at Ballyclare in September 1914 (Service number 19955) embarking for France on 04/10/1915. He was wounded in July 1916 and on recovery was posted to the Chinese Labour Corps, Cyril was born at Templepatrick on 04/09/1895. Son of English parents Edward Thomas Tapping and Lottie Lumb (nee Ingham) Tapping. His father was a gardener/landsteward at Upton Castle, Templepatrick. His mother died the same day as she had given birth to Cyril and her remains buried in St Patrick's Parish Church Graveyard, Templepatrick. Cyril and Ethel Maude Waterson of The Hill, Groomsport, Co. Down, married on 02/02/1918



Waggon Road Cemetery contains 195 First World War burials (36 unidentified), including some who attacked in the Ancre in both July and November 1916.

in Groomsport C of I Parish Church. Charmes Military Cemetery, Essegney, France. St Patrick's C of I Parish Church, Templepatrick WM. Groomsport Parish Church WM

+TONER, John

Royal Irish Rifles, 1st Btn. Rifleman. 20202. Died 20/07/1918. Age 34. Son of Francis and Bridget Toner, of 42, High St., Bessbrook, Co. Armagh; husband of Margaret Ann Holmes (formerly Toner), of 18, Buchannan St., Coatbridge. Bertenacre Military Cemetery, Fletre, France

+TURTLE, John

Machine Gun Corps (Infantry), 62nd Btn. Corporal. 19572. Died 20/07/1918. Age 22. Son of James and Mary Jane Turtle, of 37, Mountcollyer Rd., Belfast. Soissons Memorial, France

1941

+HOUSTON, William John

RN. Stoker 1st Class. C/KX 83859. Died 20/07/1941. Age 29. HM Submarine Umpire. HMS Umpire (N82) was a Uclass submarine built at Chatham Dockyard and sunk in an accident nine days after commissioning with the loss of 22 men. The submarine was sunk while en route from Chatham to join the 3rd Submarine Flotilla at Dunoon, under the command of Lieutenant Mervyn Wingfield. An armed escort trawler, Peter Hendriks, in the southbound convoy accidentally struck Umpire sinking her in 18 metres of water. Four crew members were on the bridge when the submarine sank. William had eight years service, four in submarines. William's brother James had 7 years service in RN. A founder of Queen Mary Accordian Band. Son of Hugh and Louisa Houston, Bryanstang Cottage, Ballynure, formerly of Mountcollyer Rd., Belfast. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 16/08/1941). Chatham Naval Memorial, Panel 47

1943

+ERSKINE, John

RAFVR. Sergeant. 1097361. Died 20/08/1943. Aged 20. 59 Sqdn. Son of Samuel and Mary Erskine, of Ballyclare, Co. Antrim. Runnymeade Memorial, Panel 148

+HASSON, Michael

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. Fusilier. 6981328. Died 20/071943. From Londonderry. Catania War Cemetery, Sicily.

+MONTGOMERY, Thomas

Gordon Highlanders. 5/7th Btn. Private. 7015633. Died 20/07/1943. Age 27. Stepson of Frederick W. Douglas, of Belfast. Syracuse War Cemetery, Sicily, Italy

+REID, Andrew Charles

RAFVR. Flying Officer. 88101. Died 20/07/1943. Aged 38. Son of James and Annie Taylor Reid of Coleraine. Husband to Annie Mary Reid of Coleraine. Coleraine Cemetery

+REID, Victor

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Lance Corporal. 6984285. Died 20/07/1943. The 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers landed on the shores of Sicily in July 1943. Victor Reid was born and lived in County Tyrone. Syracuse War Cemetery, Sicily, Italy. Clogher WM

1944

HMS ISIS

HMS Isis was launched on the Clyde 12/11/1936 and commissioned 02/06/1937. Took part in evacuation of Greece 04/1941 and in sinking U-boat 526 on 19/02/1943 north-east of Benghazi. She was attacked and severely damaged by a Junkers Ju 88 off Beirut after the battle of Crete. On 20/07/1944 Isis struck a mine and sank off the Normandy landing beaches.

+HUTCHINSON, John

RN. Able Seaman. P/SSX 14703. Died 20/07/1944. Age: 32. HMS Isis. Son of David and Elizabeth (Nee Kirkwood) Hutchinson; husband of Alice Hutchinson, Toughblane, Hillsborough. Portsmouth Naval Memorial, Panel 82. Hillsborough WM

+McCOLGAN, John

HMS Caroline, RN, ERA 3rd, Class, MX54816, DSM, HMS Iris. Died 20/07/1944 when Isis struck a mine and sank off the Normandy landing beaches. HMS Isis was launched on the Clyde 12/11/1936 and commissioned on 02/06/1937. Took part in evacuation of Greece 04/1941 and in sinking of U - 526 on 19/02/1943 north-east of Benghazi. She was attacked and severely damaged by a Junkers Ju 88 off Beirut after the Battle of Crete. John joined the Ulster Division RNVR in June 1927 and transferred to the RN in 1937. He was a survivor of HMS Trinidad. She was lost while serving in the Artic on convoy duty after being damaged escorting PQ-13 in 1942. He was awarded the DSM for heroic services on the convoy to Russia. He was accompanied to Buckingham Palace by his brother James McColgan in November 1942. Brother of CPO Edward Carson McColgan, BEM, RNVR. Photograph after Palace presentation in Belfast Weekly Telegraph 23/10/1942. Husband to Mrs S McColgan, Graymount Pk, Belfast. His mother was resident at Adam St., Belfast. Bayeux War Cemetery.

+SMITH, Thomas

RN. Stoker First Class. P/KX 157811. Died 20/07/1944. Age 20. HMS Isis. Over two years' service. Son of Mr and Mrs Thomas Smith, Howard St., South, Belfast. (Belfast Weekly

Telegraph 13/10/1944). Portsmouth Naval Memorial, Panel 86

1944

+BERRY, Albert Edward

Royal Welch Fusiliers. 4th Btn. Fusilier. 5108831. Died 20/07/1944. Age 28. Son of William Albert and Clara Ann Berry; husband of Rosena Berry, of Downpatrick. Bayeux War Cemetery, France

+MARTIN, George Alexander

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 7021483. Died 20/07/1944. Aged 21. Son of Henry and Margaret Martin, of Soldierstown, Co. Antrim. Banneville - La - Campagne War Cemetery, Calvados, France

+SHAW, Frederick

King's Own Scottish Borderers,1st Btn. Lance Corporal 7018861. Died 20/07/1944. Aged 22. Son of Mr. and Mrs. John Shaw; nephew of Mrs. J. Deen, of Ballymena. Banneville - La - Campagne War Cemetery, Calvados, France

+STOCK, Claude James

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 7016953. Died 20/07/1944. Aged 26. Son of William T. and Amy Hilda Stock; husband of Sarah G. Stock, of Ballymena. Banneville-La-Campagne War Cemetery, Calvados, France

+WILSON, Frederick Rainsford

Royal Engineers, 42 Field Coy. Lieutenant. 276488. Died 20/07/1944. Aged 20. Son of the Revd. Geoffrey Moffat

Wilson, M.A., and of Angel Wilson, of Banbridge. Florence War Cemetery, Italy. Campbell College RH

1946

+PURCHASE, Victor Charles John

Royal Corps of Signals. Lance Corporal. 2575889. Died 20/07/1946. New Ground of Holy Trinity Cemetery, Lisburn, Co. Antrim. Lisburn WM

VETERANS

COLE, Richard Alexander

RAFVR F/Lt. BSc 1937 QUB. MIEE, MINucE. Chartered Engineer. MCB Born 20/07/1916. Son of James A Cole, Ravenhill Pk., Belfast. Postwar Belfast.

EAGLESON, William Sloan

RN. Engineer Lieutenant. B 20/07/1888. Son of Samuel Eagleson, Adair Arms, Ballymena. D 12/1969. Campbell College 756.

GREEVES, John Edward Brian

RNVR. Lieutenant (E). Jesus College Cambridge 1938 - 41 (Mechanical Science Tripos). Born 17/04/1920. Son of William Edward and Marion Janet Greeves, Ardeevin, Portadown. Husband to Jill Kathleen nee Ware. They had four daughters and a son. Died 20/07/1981. Campbell College 2597

Every Day is a Remembrance Day

We will remember them

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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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