



remembrance ni



Legacy of Belfast's unofficial WW1 photographer

When Belfastman George Hackney was called to fight in World War I in October of 1915, he brought his camera with him. He defied orders and risked facing court-martial to document life on the front line.



Lance-Corporal George Hackney

George was born in Belfast in 1888 and joined the Young Citizen Volunteers (YCV) from the Boys Brigade in 1912.

He was part of a mass enlistment in September 1914 when the YCV was incorporated into the 14th Battalion of the Royal Irish Rifles. Taking his new Klimax camera with him, George was sent to training camps in Co. Donegal at Finner, Co. Antrim at Randalstown and the south of England before sailing to France in October 1915. George survived the carnage of the Battle of the Somme but was invalided out soon afterwards and sent to Sheffield to recuperate in September 1916. He spent the rest of the war in Ireland and England working as a trainer.

His incredible collection now at the Ulster Museum, Belfast, is a testimony to life behind the scenes in a war that saw over 37 million soldiers killed – where the men laugh, write letters home, huddle for warmth and read the newspaper.

But the Lance Corporal didn't just capture the daily routine; he risked his life to document exact moments that have recorded the deeds of the Ulster Division in history books.

One of his photographs captures the 36th Ulster Division forcing German soldiers to surrender in the Battle of Somme, July 1916. He hid in the field and used a folding camera, slightly bigger than a phone.

Hackney lived into his 80s and shared the images with the loved ones of those photographed.

His friends urged Hackney to donate the collection to the Ulster Museum before his death, and they were published for the first time after a museum curator handed them to a filmmaker in 2012.

Hackney's photographs from WWI include:



Randalstown Camp, County Antrim 1915. The 14th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles moved to Randalstown from Finner Camp in January 1915, where they remained until moving to England in July.

In Randalstown, they stayed in wooden huts, and Hackney photographed the interior and exterior of these huts



Randalstown Camp, Co. Antrim, 1915. Hackney's friend John Ewing from Belfast writes in a diary or a letter home, while his comrade lies sleeping in his bunk. Ewing was later promoted to sergeant and won the Military Medal for bravery in the field.



English Channel, October 4, 1915. The Battalion sailed

from Southampton to Boulogne on the former Isle of Man paddle steamer Empress Queen. Some men are seen sleeping on the deck while others look overboard for the threat of German U-boats.



A photograph of George Hackney, taken at Poulainville, Picardy, Northern France, October 1915. Hackney was made a Lance Corporal the day before the Battalion left for France, along with his friend John Ewing. Before advancing to the Front, the men were billeted in a barn in the village of Poulainville.

Other photos -

Sgt. James Scott, photographed at Seaford, East Sussex at some point between July and October 1915 (See Page 1).

Thiepval Wood, June 1916. Paul Pollock, standing, and smoking. He was the son of the Presbyterian Minister at St Enoch's Church in Belfast, where George Hackney

attended. Paul was killed on 01/07/ 1916, the first day of the Battle of the Somme. His body was never found.

The astonishing moment the 36th Ulster Division forced German soldiers to surrender in July 1916.

July/August 1916 at Ploegsteert Wood near Messines, Belgium. This is where the 14th Battalion was redeployed after the devastation of the Battle of the Somme.

BBC fim maker's discovery

George Hackney himself lived into his late 80s, and his collection was donated to the Ulster Museum before his death in 1977.

However, the photographs sat in the archives unseen by the public, until a curator showed them to a filmmaker.

Two years later his documentary was broadcast on BBC One Northern Ireland - [The Man Who Shot the Great War](#). It brought the remarkable story of George Hackney and his photography to life.

Its director, Brian Henry Martin, said a series of lucky coincidences helped to unlock the secrets of this treasure trove of insight into life and death on the Western Front.

"I was first introduced to these photos in the Ulster Museum's archive by Dr Vivienne Pollock in 2012 while working on a documentary about the Ulster Covenant, and it immediately raised so many questions," he says.

"Unofficial photography was banned on the Western Front, so who took these photos, how did they manage it and why have we not seen them?"

His research led him to the Royal Ulster Rifles Museum in Belfast city centre, where he hoped the 36th (Ulster) Division's war diary could provide some vital clues about where and when the photographs were taken.

"When I got there, someone else was looking at the diary so we ended up jostling over it and passing it back and forth - we ended up chatting and it turns out that the guy was Mark Scott, whose great-grandfather was Hackney's sergeant," he says.

Three of the photographs were of Sgt James Scott, who was killed at the Battle of Messines in Belgian West Flanders in May 1917, and they had been held by the Scott family.

"He must have given the photos to Sgt Scott's widow, and that opened up a window in that we realised that what Hackney was doing was giving the photos to the families of the men he'd photographed, many of whom didn't come back," he says.

Mr Martin says that as a documentary maker, his chance meeting with Mark Scott turned out to be especially fortunate.

"In making the film, we were looking to speak to a relative who is emotionally involved in the story, someone who knows about World War One and someone who can tell us about photography, and Mark could do all three," he says.

Wartime photographers faced strict restrictions, and it may seem surprising that Hackney managed to bring his camera to the front without being detected.

However, Mr Martin says the camera he used was quite small and "could be folded up to be not much bigger than a smartphone".

"Technology had really taken off in that era, and as an amateur photographer George was at the cusp of that, spending the years before the war honing their skills," he says.

You can view some of George's photography at the Ulster Museum and on its web site -

<https://www.nmni.com/collections/highlight-tours/the-george-hackney-collection-the-first-world-war-in-photographs>

Acknowledgments - Irish Central, Ulster Museum, BBC NI

On this day – July 26

26th July 1917 Belfast Newsletter

REWARDS FOR GALLANTRY.

Second-Lieutenant James McMechan. "A" Company commander, 10th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (Derry Volunteers), (Ulster Division), has been awarded the Military Cross for gallantry in the Messines battle.

MILITARY MEDAL.

14481 **Sergeant. James Parke**, 11th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, (Ulster Division) who has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry in the Messines battle, is the

only son a Mr. Thomas Parke, J.P., Rosebank, Moville. County Donegal. He was severely wounded on the 1st July 1916.

15531 Lance-Corporal John Gallagher, 10th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, (Ulster Division) son of the late Mr. James Gallagher and Mrs. Gallagher, 8, Foze's Lane, Derry, and grandson of Mr. William Gallagher, Snr. Bishop Street Within, Londonderry.

15909 Corporal William Nicol, 10th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, (Ulster Division) son of Mr. Matthew Nicol and Mrs. Nicol, 10, Queen Street, Londonderry.

16012 Corporal Andrew Sinclair, 9th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, (Ulster Division*) son of Mr. Archibald Sinclair, 4, Hawthorn Terrace, Londonderry.

25899 Private Philip McLoughlin, Royal Dublin Fusiliers (Lewes Gun Section), who recently spent a few days with his sister, Mrs. Cunningham, at Rostrevor, has been awarded the Military Medal.

17273 Corporal Herbert Blackmore, 12th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles, (Ulster Division) has been decorated with the Military Medal for gallantry and devotion to duty in holding an advance post against a German attack of 60 men. Corporal Blackmore, had eight men under his command and repulsed the attack, which was assisted by an artillery barrage. Corporal Blackmore is a son of Mr. George Blackmore, Quay Road. Ballycastle, and a member of Armoy Company of the Ulster Volunteer Force.

1914 - From Childers' personal yacht 'Asgard', Erskine and Molly Childers, Mary Spring-Rice and others land 900



Mauser rifles at what is now known as the Howth Gun Running. These guns were distributed among the Irish Volunteers and used in the Easter Rising.

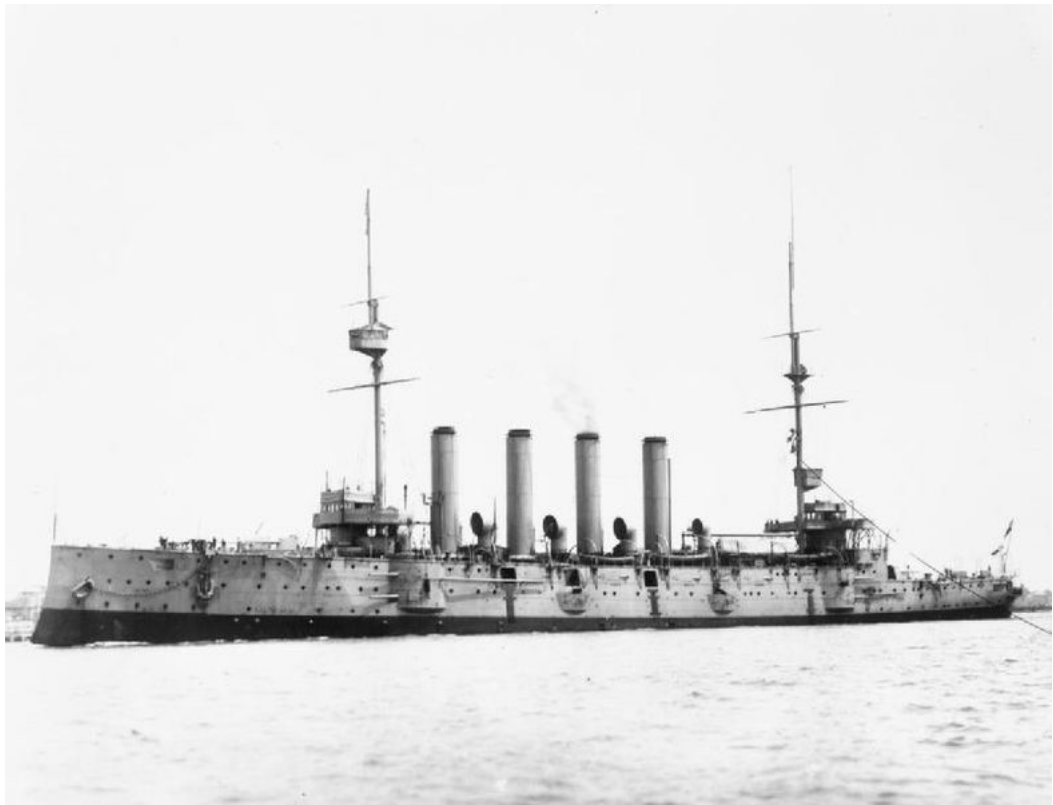
1917

Minelayer HMS Ariadne (Photo next page), a converted cruiser, was torpedoed and sunk by German submarine UC-65 off Beachy Head. 38 of her crew lost their lives.

Continued German attacks north of the Aisne and at Mont Haut (Champagne) are reportedly repulsed.

1918

Edward "Mick" Mannock VC, was shot down by AA fire and died. Mick whose mother was Irish was one of the highest scoring pilots in the RFC/RAF during WW1 with 61



Minelayer HMS Ariadne - see 1917 page above



confirmed kills. For his role in WW1, he was posthumously award the Victory Cross.

1936

The Vimy Memorial was unveiled by King Edward VIII.

Work began on the monument in 1925 and eleven years later, on 26 July 1936 it was unveiled to a crowd of more than 100,000, including 6,000 Canadian veterans who had travelled overseas for the ceremony.

The memorial commemorates by name 11,000 Canadian servicemen who died in France - many of them in the fight for Vimy Ridge - who have no known grave. It is maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission on behalf of Veterans Affairs Canada

Hitler agrees to send troops and aircraft to aid Franco's Nationalists in the widening civil war in Spain. By the end of the year, 7,000 German military personnel will be in action there.

The SS became an independent organisation of the party with Heinrich Himmler at its helm

1940

Secretary-General of League of Nations, Joseph Avenol, resigns.

1941

Three Soviet armies are encircled and destroyed in the Mogilev area.



3,800 Jews killed during a pogrom by Lithuanians in Kovno.

Italian motorboats attack Valetta harbour in Malta. All eight boats are sunk.

General Sir Claude Auchinleck flies to London for talks about future offensive operations to relieve Tobruk.

By Presidential order, all Japanese assets in the US are frozen, and all shipments of metal and petroleum are stopped.

British notice of denunciation of commercial agreements with Japan.

The Flying Tigers: the First American Volunteer Group (AVG) of the Chinese Air Force in China under Chennault with 100 planes.

Proposal made for a neutral Indochina. New Philippine command under MacArthur.

1942

An Australian attack at Alamein fails and the Eighth Army goes over to the defensive after taking 7,000 Axis prisoners. This concludes the first battle of El Alamein.

Army Group A begins its advance from Rostov and the lower Don toward the Caucasus region.



1943

Photo above - The handover of Toome Airfield, Co. Antrim from the Royal Air Force to the United States Army Air Force on 26th July 1943.

Marshal Badoglio is appointed head of Italy by the Italian King after the arrest of Benito Mussolini. The Marshal immediately excludes all Fascists from his new cabinet and dissolves the Fascist Party.

A number of Waffen SS divisions are ordered to be transferred from Russia to Italy, but only the 1st SS Panzer Division is actually redeployed.

1944

Narva is finally captured by the Red Army. The Russians reach the Estonian border.

President Roosevelt arrives in Hawaii for a conference on Pacific strategy with Gen. Douglas MacArthur and Admiral Chester Nimitz. FDR authorizes MacArthur's plan to liberate the Philippines instead of bypassing them, as desired by the Navy and Nimitz.

1945



Minesweeper HMS Vestal (Photo) was struck and heavily damaged by a Japanese kamikaze aircraft and subsequently scuttled off Phuket, Thailand. Vestal was the last Royal Navy ship lost to enemy action in WW2.

38(Irish) Brigade. London Irish War diary - "While news was coming through from home of the landslide election of a Labour government, in Austria, work on apprehending SS

38(Irish) Brigade. London Irish War diary - "While news was coming through from home of the landslide election of a Labour government, in Austria, work on apprehending SS

personnel continued - interspersed with sporting activity & a farewell dinner for those earmarked to be sent to the Far East". Photo below.

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F.A. Page, Vol. I. Monthly War Diaries will be enclosed in A.P. 50119. If this is not available, and for Intelligence Summaries, the cover will be prepared in manuscript.				WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY		Unit 2nd LONDON IRISH RIFLES.	
Month and Year JULY 1945				(Delete heading not required).		Commanding Officer Lt.Col. J.H. Goldswell, M.C., D.S.O.	
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information			References to Appendices	
Field (AUSTRIA)	25	1800	SITREP(contd): who had escaped from ROSENBAU camp, apprehended in TURRACH area; these two men were found to be wounded, apparently by a shot-gun, and were evacuated to a hospital in FELDKIRCHEN. Further investigations being made regarding the shooting. Political Suspect - Fritz Kopp, acting-Sturnführer S.A., arrested and handed over to 68 FSS.				
	26	1400	Triangular-Contest Athletics Meeting at VILLACH Stadium. 1 R.I.R.F. - 43½ pts; 2 L.I.R. - 36½ pts; 138 Fd Regt RA - 15 pts.				
		1800	SITREP: 2 SS personnel apprehended and handed over to 68 FSS. One German officer, found to be without identity papers, evacuated to Jaeger.				
		1800	Bn Pipe Band played Retreat at Officers' Mess.				
		1930	Farewell Dinner given for officers leaving for Far East. Lt.Col. H.E.N. Bredin, DSO, MC, was present.				
	27	1030	Bde Comdr visited R.H.Q.				

Tokyo rejects the Potsdam Declaration. It's the Allies' last call for Japan's immediate and unconditional surrender. US, Britain and China demand the unconditional surrender of Japan during WWII

Components of the Atomic Bomb "Little Boy" are unloaded at Tinian Island in the South Pacific.

Winston Churchill resigned as Britain's prime minister after his Conservatives were soundly defeated by the Labour Party. Clement Attlee became the new prime minister.

Roll of Honour – July 26

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1916

+McCRORY, John

Leinster Regiment. Private. 3332. Died 26/07/1916. Age 19. Son of Thomas and Margaret McCrory, of Belfast. Milltown Roman Catholic Cemetery, Belfast

+McMURRAY, C

Seaforth Highlanders, 4th Btn. Private. 3966. Died 26/07/1916. Age 29. Son of George and Matilda McMurray; brother of Mrs. E. J. Harris, of 15, Springmount St., Belfast. Daours Communal Cemetery Extension, France

+TOSH, James

Connaught Rangers, 6th Btn. Private. 4691. Died 26/07/1916. Age 23. Son of Robert and Eliza Tosh, of Ballywildrick, Articlave, Co. Londonderry. Dud Corner Cemetery, Loos

1917

+DEVINE, Michael

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. Private. 20510. Died 26/07/1917. Age 30. Son of Charles and Mary Devine, of Strabane. Wimeraux Communal Cemetery, France

+DOUGLAS, James

Royal Irish Rifles, 16th Btn. A Coy. Rifleman. Died 26/07/1917. Age 50. Husband to Annie E. Douglas, of Maghera, Waringstown. (09/08/1917 Belfast Newsletter). Dickebusch New Military Cemetery Extension, Belgium.

+GRIMASON, J

Royal Irish Rifles. 16th Btn. Rifleman. 456. Died 26/07/1917. Age 37. Son of William and Mary Grimason, of Ballyknock, Tandragee. Poperinghe New Military Cemetery, Belgium

+HARRISON, A

Royal Irish Rifles, 9th Btn. Rifleman. 19009. Died 26/07/1917. Age 30. Husband of Margaret Harrison, of 200, Cupar Rd., Belfast. Colchester Cemetery.

+MARTIN, Herbert

Royal Irish Rifles, 16th Btn. Rifleman. 6395. Died 26/07/1917. Age 24. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Martin, of Belfast. Poperinghe New Military Cemetery, Belgium

+McGRATTAN, J

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 7th Btn. Private. 22957. Died 26/07/1917. Age 24. Son of Mary McGrattan, of 15, Bazaar St., Portrush. Mendinghem Military Cemetery, Belgium

+MENABNEY, James

Royal Irish Rifles, 16th Btn. A Coy. Rifleman. 4036, Died 26/07/1917. Age 20. Son of John Menabney, Old Orange Hall, 3 New Street, Lurgan, was killed less than a week after returning from short leave at home. (08/08/1917 Belfast Newsletter) Dickebusch New Military Cemetery Extension, Belgium.

+WATT, J

Army Service Corps, S Siege Park, attd. XVIII Corps Heavy Artillery. Private. M2/114952. Died 26/07/1917. Age 34. Son of David and Essie Watt, of Bilynefearn, Co. Down; husband of Marion Watt, of 36, Kilronan St., Duncairn Gardens, Belfast. Mendinghem Military Cemetery, Belgium

1918

+CALLAGHAN, Thomas George

Canadian Infantry. 3rd Btn. Private. 2393574. Died 26/07/1918. Age 34. He served three years, the minimum time, in the Royal Irish Fusiliers. Born 07/10/1883 in Richhill. He and Sarah Jane Nesbutt married in St Anne's Church, Belfast on 29/03/1903. They had three children. Thomas emigrated to Canada on 01/08/1913. Sarah and the children landed in Quebec off the Empress of Britain which had

sailed from Liverpool. Their final destination is recorded as Chicago, Illinois. George and his wife had separated by 04/08/1917 when he enlisted. He was then living at 1881, Clybourne Avenue, Chicago. Son of George and Frances Callaghan. Wailly Orchard Cemetery, France

+HANNA, Frank Leslie

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 3rd Btn. formerly (Horse Transport) Army Service Corps. Lieutenant. Died 26/07/1918. Age 24. Son of Francis and Marion Hanna, of Gayfield, Finaghy Park, Belfast. Born at Bangor, Co. Down. Knockbreda Cemetery, Belfast

1920

+McCLURG, William

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 6th Btn. Private. 22233. Died 26/07/1920. Son of Edward McClurg, of Church Hill, Killyleagh. Killyleagh C of I Churchyard

1941

+BOYLE, Daniel

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 70th Btn. Fusilier. 6985092. Died 26/07/1941. Aged 19. Son of Daniel and Isabell Boyle, of Balnamore, Ballymoney. Our Lady and St Patrick churchyard, Ballymoney

1942

+ROCK, William George

RAF. Flight Sergeant. 649532. Died 26/07/1942. Age 23.138 Sqn. Son of George and Elizabeth Mary Rock, of Broughshane. Vire New Communal Cemetery, France

+RONEY, Hugh

Royal Artillery. Bombardier. 43rd Searchlight Regiment (5th Battalion Duke of Wellington's Regiment [West Riding]). Died in Portadown 26/07/1942. Aged 39. Born on 17/07/1906, he was the son of James William Roney and Mary Isabella Roney (née Lewis) of 17 Watson Street, Portadown. Husband of Phoebe Rooney. The couple had two children. Seagoe C of I Churchyard, Portadown. Portadown WM

1943

+ALDERDICE, George Frederick

RAFVR. Flying Officer (Pilot). 120401. Died 26/07/1943. Aged 21. 61 Sqn. He was flying in Lancaster III ED613 from Syerston to Essen in Germany. Flying Officer Alderdice was known as "Paddy" because he was from Northern Ireland. He had learned to fly in the United States under the Arnold Scheme and during his training he became a close friend of Arthur "Sandy" Sandison who was from the Shetland Islands.

They trained together for a year in Georgia, sharing a room throughout. After they had gained their wings in January 1942 they were both then enrolled as flying instructors for

the next group of British recruits, remaining in Georgia for most of 1942.

Sandy Sandison returned to the UK in late 1942, underwent bomber conversion and became a pilot on Lancasters in 619 Squadron. He completed a full tour of operations and reached the rank of Squadron Leader.



George Alderdice's war grave is in Reichswald Forest War Cemetery

George "Paddy" Alderdice was very sadly killed on his very first Operation. He was initially reported as "Missing". In a letter to his Parents dated 3rd August 1943 Arthur Sandy Sandison wrote:-

"A terrible thing happened on last Sunday's trip to Essen. Paddy did not return. Honestly it came as a terrible shock to me, and I still can hardly believe it.

"It was Paddy's first operation with his crew.

"He was a long way behind me on this job and I wish I could have helped him on his way a bit.

“Anyone’s first trip is the worst one.

“There is so much to learn, and no second chances, as one mistake and you’ve had it.

“It was a tough target for a first trip too.

“Essen is considered the hottest spot in the Ruhr, and in Germany as it’s right in the middle of a big belt of defences.

“We were on but we didn’t hear a thing from Paddy’s crew, not that we ever do, so all that we can hope for is that they are prisoners of war – the next best thing.”

Son of Gerald Leslie and Katherine Anne Hay Alderdice, of Lisburn. Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Nordrhein - Westfalen, Germany

+GATES, Thomas

RAFVR. Sergeant Air Gunner. 1483399. Died 26/07/1943. Aged 20. 158 Squadron. Grandson of Thomas and Kathleen Gates of Erskine Terrace, Whitehouse; Nephew of Albert Gates of Whitehouse. Carnmoney C of I Churchyard

+GREER, Samuel John

RAF. Sergeant. 611098. Died 26/07/1943. Aged 22. 214 Sqdn. Son of J. M. W. And Mary Greer, Bloomfield, Belfast. Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Germany

+McCRORY, James

Royal Field Artillery, 21 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment. Gunner. 1822703. Died 26/07/1943. Gunner McCrory was with the 21st Light when he was captured by the Japanese. He died as a prisoner of war, put to work building the Thailand-Burma Railway. Son of Patrick and Mary McCrory. James

McCrory was the husband of Florrie McCrory. Kanchanaburi War Cemetery. Dungannon WM

+REID, Joseph

RNR Patrol Service. Stoker Petty Officer. LT/2026V. Died 26/07/1943. HMS Drangey. He joined RN in 1914 and was recalled from reserve at outbreak of war. Wife and son resident, Glenview St., Belfast. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 27/08/1943). Durban (Stellawood) Cemetery, South Africa.

+SMYTH, John Stanley

RAFVR. Pilot Officer (Navigator). 139301. Died 26/07/1943. Aged 29. 51 Sqdn. He joined up in July, 1942, and on completing his training in England and the U.S.A., he received his commission as Pilot Officer in March, 1943. His bomber was shot down in July 1943 and his body was recovered from the sea and was buried in August in the cemetery at Castrum, North Holland. Born 18/04/1914. He was educated at Main Street PES. and Bangor Grammar School being a playing member of the School Rugby XV. Later playing for Bangor Rugby Club. Gained the Q.U.B. Matriculation in 1931. On leaving school, John became an apprentice in the pharmacy business of Mr. R. M'Cutcheon, Bangor. He qualified as a Member of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland and was later in the employment of Mr. R. Morrow, Conway Square, Newtownards. Son of John and Sarah Smyth (nee McClean); husband to Olive Maude McKay Smyth, of 78 Beechwood Avenue, Londonderry. They married in August 1941, and their son was born on 09/12/1943. His younger brother, Sergeant Bertie Smyth, R.A., was captured at Tobruk in June, 1942. Castricum Protestant Churchyard, Noord-Holland,

Netherlands.Hamilton Road Presbyterian Church, Bangor
Family memorial in Bangor Cemetery

+WEIR, Frederick Edward

RAFVR. Corporal.1303050. Died 26/07/1943. Aged 29. Son of Thomas and Mary Jane Weir, of Lurgan. Khanchanaburi War Cemetery, Thailand, Lurgan WM

1944

+CORRY, George Stanley

RAF. Flying Officer (Pilot). 49879. 225 Squadron. Died: 26/07/1944. Age 23. Born in 1921, George Stanley Corry was the eldest son of Herbert F. Corry and his wife Isobella (nee Kirklands), Bryansburn Road, Bangor. . Educated at Royal Belfast Academical Institution. Member of the QUB OTC. Enlisted with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in 1940 and received a cadetship to Sandhurst in April, 1941. Later that year he was commissioned in the North Irish Horse, and transferred to the R.A.F. in 1942. After receiving his wings he was promoted Flying Officer in mid-1943. On the morning of 29/07/1944 his parents received an airgraph from him only to receive a telegram that evening to inform them that their son had been killed on active service in Italy. Florence War Cemetery. Recorded on family memorial in Bangor Cemetery. QUB RH

+WRIGHT, Derek

Royal Ulster Rifles. 2nd Btn. Rifleman.14613429. Died 26/07/1944. Aged 19. Hermanville War Cemetery, Calvados, France

1945

+FORSYTHE, James Stanfield

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Lance Corporal. 7013284. Died 26/07/1945. Aged 24. Son of William John Forsythe and Martha Forsythe (née Stewart) of Belfast. Carnmoney Cemetery.

+RONEY, Hugh

Royal Artillery. Bombardier. 43rd Searchlight Regiment (5th Battalion Duke of Wellington's Regiment [West Riding]). Died in Portadown 26/07/1942. Aged 39. Born on 17/07/1906, he was the son of James William Roney and Mary Isabella Roney (née Lewis) of 17 Watson Street, Portadown. Husband of Phoebe Rooney. The couple had two children. Seagoe C of I Churchyard, Portadown. Portadown WM

+SMART, William Joseph

RAVR. Warrant Officer (Wireless Operator (Air)). 1021128. Died 26/07/1945. Aged 26. 205 Sqdn. Son of George A. Smart and Mary Smart, of Portadown. Madras War Cemetery, Chennai, India

VETERANS

CLARKE, Harold.

At his death Harry Clarke was Northern Ireland's last surviving Battle of Britain airman.

Little is known about Wing Commander Harry Clarke's wartime achievements. A modest person he never spoke to the Press and did not made his logbook public.

Having been educated at Dale Holme Private School on the Ballygomartin Road, Belfast, Harry Clarke joined the RAFVR in July 1930 aged 22 and was called up for full-time service as soon as war was declared. He did his initial training at St Leonard's-on-Sea and the Elementary Flying School in Brough before being posted to the RAF Kinloss in Scotland. During the Battle of Britain he flew with 610 Squadron in a Spitfire, registration number DW-D.

Harry's battle-flying career came to an abrupt end in September 1940 while giving a pupil pilot some dog-fighting practise in the air. When the pupil hit his aircraft head on, Harry's parachute harness was sliced. He bailed out and luckily his foot caught in a strap and Harry came tumbling to earth hanging upside down, with only one leg in the parachute harness. Amazingly he survived the fall but had suffered head and neck injuries and was returned to Northern Ireland as a test pilot.

He lived in Saintfield. Died 26/07/2010 aged 92

CORRY, Joseph Stoupe

Royal Artillery Captain WOPE 1936 QUB. Born 22/04/1916. Died 26/07/2006. Husband to Anne Coulter Corry. Brother of Samuel David Corry, RAMC attached to No. 3 Commando. Captain.MiD. Died 20/08/1942. Aged 28. Son of Samuel and Anna Corry. Movilla Cemetery, Newtownards

SMITH, Margaret Sarah

WRNS. MCB. Born 26/07/1922. Daughter of Alexander Smith, Dungannon. Post war - teacher. New South Wales, Australia

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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