



# remembrance ni



## Flatiron Copse War Cemetery

Flatiron Copse was the name given by the army to a small plantation a little to the east of Mametz Wood. The ground was taken by the 3rd and 7th Divisions on 14 July 1916 and an advanced dressing station was established at the copse. The cemetery was begun later that month and it remained in use until April 1917. Two further burials were made in August 1918 and after the Armistice, more than 1,100 graves were brought in from the neighbouring battlefields and from smaller cemeteries,

## **Derry Fusiliers in the hell of Passchendaele**

The Third Battles of Ypres 1917, more commonly known as the battle of Passchendaele, took place between July and November 1917. It actually consisted of eight officially listed 'battles'.

### **Mustard Gas 8th August 1917**

On the night of 7th August 1917 the 10<sup>th</sup> Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers moved up to the front line at Passchendaele and in the darkness they entered a nightmare world. Carrying their heavy kit whilst struggling through deep, sticky mud, the light from flares and explosions illuminated a sea of water-filled shell holes and thick mud. There were no trenches as they flooded, so men had little protection from the high explosive shells and machine-gun fire and took cover where they could.

At 1am on 8th August as the battalion relieved the 15th RIR from their stint in the front line, suddenly, without warning, artillery shells fell among them. This time they were not filled with explosives, but the German's new horror weapon ... mustard gas.

Gas masks offered some protection for the eyes and lungs from gas clouds, but were not effective this time as men had been heavily splattered by the liquid gas and it burned through their uniforms creating huge blisters as big as the

palm of the hand and burning through flesh to the bone. Others had no time to fix their gas masks.

Cpl. W. Adams, Pte H. Burnside and Pte J. Colhoun died shortly after with Pte H. Campbell and Pte J. Leighton dying a few hours later from their wounds in the most excruciating pain.

To the rest of their comrades, who tried to give them assistance in that dark hellhole, the sights they witnessed through the foggy eye-pieces of their gas masks must have been both dreadful and horrifying. Bulging eyes ... blistered and restricted windpipes and lungs. That night an additional twenty men were wounded by the gas with eighteen others wounded through shelling and machine-gun fire.

This 10 day stint in the front line was only beginning ... and there was a lot more agony to come at Passchendaele.

## On this day - August 8

### Bar to Military Medal for action 8 - 11 August 1918



Private Edward W McKeown (UD/203; D/21257)  
Serving with the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons  
(London Gazette 11 December 1918)

For the role he played in the regiment's advance between 8 and 11 August 1918.

At least two men named McKeown served in the 6th (Inniskilling) Dragoons Service Squadron. Sergeant Edward W. McKeown (No. UD/203, later D/21257) of Tyrone, enlisted in the squadron in late 1914 or early 1915.

He arrived in France with the squadron on 06/10/1915, which was at the time attached to the 36th (Ulster) Division as divisional cavalry.

On 16 November McKeown was convicted of drunkenness by a Field General Court Martial and was reduced to the ranks and ordered to receive two months Field Punishment No.1. On 10/01/1916 he rejoined the squadron and was immediately sent to the base of the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons Regiment.

At the beginning of 1918 he was awarded a Military Medal, probably for his role in the regiment's fighting on 01/12/1917 during the Battle of Cambrai. Following the regiment's actions between Beaucourt and Caix during between 8-11 August, he was awarded a Bar to his Military Medal.

He was discharged on 22/05/1919

## **Born on this day 1897 Sunk this day 1915**

### **Boy service - HMS India sinking and POW WW1**

#### **MAGILL, Joseph Vincent Mahood**

RN. Boy. J34313. Boy service from 29/01/1915. Enrolled 08/05/1915 for 12 years. Served in Impregnable, Pembroke I, India (25/05/1915 - 08/08/1915), and President V where he is recorded as a POW from 14/11/1918 - 31/12/1918. Invalided 02/07/1919. HMS India was sunk by U-boat off

coast of Norway 08/08/1915. Survivors were interned as PoW in a camp at Jorstadmoen. Born Belfast 08/05/1897. His family were evacuated from Belfast to south Armagh during the blitz of 1941 and remained there. ADM 188/715/34313

## 1915



The high point of the New Zealand effort at Gallipoli, the capture of Chunuk Bair underlined the leadership qualities of Lieutenant-Colonel William Malone.

## 1916

Battle of Pozières - German advances failed to gain ground. French allies advanced north of Hardecourt (N Somme); at Fleury & the Thiaumont work (Verdun).

## 1917

Somme of the worst weather reported in 70 years continues in Flanders

## 1918



Allied troops break through the German lines at Amiens. The attack marks the start of what will become known as the Hundred Days Offensive -- the final push that brings an end to the First World War. Sometimes referred to as Canada's Hundred Days campaign. In the campaign, the Germans were pushed back into Belgium, leading to their surrender. Canada suffered 45,835 casualties during the 100 Days as they fought 47 German Divisions

## 1940

The Luftwaffe renews its attacks against Channel convoys and its escorts, with heavy air battles occurring over the Channel. The Germans lose 31 aircraft against the RAF's 16.

The Home Secretary announces July civilian air raid casualty figures as 258 killed and 320 seriously injured.

British forces pay increased by 6d per day; privates' pay up to 17s 6d a week.

Romania introduces anti-Jewish measures restricting education and employment, then later begins “Romanianization” of Jewish businesses.

## **1941**

Uman pocket eliminated. 103,000 Russian prisoners taken by the Germans.

## **1942**

Six convicted Nazi saboteurs who had landed in the United States were executed in Washington, D.C.

The commander of US ground forces, Eisenhower establishes a HQ in the UK.

U.S. Marines take the unfinished airfield on Guadalcanal and name it Henderson Field after Maj. Lofton Henderson, a hero of Midway.

Japanese naval counter-attack beaten off in Solomon Islands.

## **1943**

38 (Irish) Brigade resting.

1 RIrF- A quiet day spent resting, sorting out & cleaning of weapons for next advance. During this period, enormous quantities of grapes, pears, apples, tomatoes & onions were consumed.

6 Innisks- Bathing in the Simeto. Back to compo rations. A Royal decree places Italy under a state of siege.

Lt. John F. Kennedy and PT-109 crew rescued from island in the Solomons by Navy patrol boat.

The US Seventh Army lands at Sant' Agata on Sicily's north coast to outflank Axis, takes San Fratello Ridge and Sant' Agata, but fails to cut off German retreat.

## 1944

3,462 tons of bombs are dropped on the German lines South of Caen by 1,020 RAF planes.



RAF Dakota KG545 271 Squadron unloading casualties evacuated from France



German panzer ace Michael Wittmann has been killed after being ambushed by Allied tanks in Normandy.

British or Canadian tanks penetrated the upper hull, igniting the ammunition. The resulting fire engulfed the tank and blew off the turret.

### Patton's Third Army takes Le Mans

British, Canadian and Polish forces of the First Canadian Army launch Operation Totalize, South of Caen, with 600 tanks and 720 guns - the first phase of what would become the fight for the Falaise Pocket, leading to the destruction of most German forces in Normandy.

American troops complete the capture of the Mariana Islands.

Eight German officers are hanged in Berlin for their role in the July 20 Hitler assassination plot; by February 3, 1945, 4,980 will be executed.

## 1945



Soviets declares war on Japan, pouring more than 1 million Soviet soldiers into Japanese-occupied Manchuria, northeastern China.

USSR establishes a communist government in North Korea  
President Harry S. Truman signed the United Nations Charter.

## Roll of Honour – August 8

*Representing their comrades who died on this day*

**1915**

### **+ANDERSON, David**

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 5th Btn. Private. Died of wounds at sea on 08/08/1915. Born at Springwell Street, Ballymena 21/06/1898. Son of George and Mary Jane Anderson, nee Hasson. His parents, labourer George from Ballee and Margaret Jane from Ballymarlow, had married in 1st Ballymena Presbyterian Church on 14/01/1878. The family had moved to Belfast and were at North Street in 1901 and McTier Street in 1911. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey.

### **+CARRON, Frank**

Royal Irish Rifles. 6th Btn. Rifleman. 10653. Died Sunday 08/08/1915. He was born in Stewartstown about 1878. The family was shoemakers who lived in the Square in Stewartstown. Age 27. Son of Dan and Mary Carron, of

Stewartstown, Co. Tyrone. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli). Stewartstown WM

### **+GALLAGHER, George**

Highland Light Infantry. 7th Btn. Private. 2225. Died 25/08/1915. Age 20. George enlisted in Glasgow before the outbreak of war. According to reports on 25/08/1915 he volunteered to go for water and was shot by a sniper. Born on 01/02/1895 in Bellaghy. By 1911 George had left school and was working as a weaver like his brother and mother. His father was a labourer. Son of William and Margaret Gallagher, of Hillhead, Castledawson. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey. Castledawson WM

### **+GILL, Henry Albert George**

Private 598, 15th Battalion, Australian Imperial Force. Killed in action in the Dardenelles 08/08/1915. Aged 29. Born 102, Newtownards Road, Belfast. Enlisted Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. Embarked at Melbourne on HMAT Ceramic on the 22/12/1914. Son of Mrs. Mary Agnes Gill of 102, Newtownards Road, Belfast. Farmer by trade. Emigrated aged 24 years. Educated at the Intermediate School, Queen's College, Royal University of Ireland. Cousin of Gill of Tamworth, Sidney and of Gill of Emu Creek, Melbourne. No known grave. Lone Pine Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey. Panel 46. Magheragall Parish Church WM

A covering letter sent by Gill's sister Eva from 102 Newtownards Road, Belfast on 03/03/1920 to the authorities in Australia reads, "herewith I return you the form for Roll of Honour and for the Histories of Australia with the particulars

filled in by my mother as requested about our beloved Albert. This is all we know as yet, and if later we learn of any other details that might be of interest to you we will send you.

His mother wrote "He was one of the best & one of the few - my liberal minded large-hearted son - Without a minutes delay he went at the call of duty his letters from the Dardanelles were always cheerful. The last letter we received from him was dated 30th July 1915 then he was reported missing from 8th August and in November we received a letter from a Pioneer Sergt of the London Regiment who wrote that he had found my son and buried him and that he seemed to have had an <...cannot decipher..> death. He was lying on his side and in his outstretched hand he held a copy of the New Testament. The book was officially forwarded to me it was the book we had sent him with his name & home address written therein the mark of his thumb is on the mouldering cover of the book. this is all that has come to me from <..... cannot decipher...> death."

In his will Albert Gill left, "the whole of my property and effects and all my money to my mother ... [and] in case of my mother's death to my sister Eva". There was not much to leave. The single packet of belongings eventually returned to his mother included, a New Testament, match box, rubber stamp, 3 bracelets, 1 anklet, a purse, diary, 2 hair brushes, a razor, letters, military book, cards, French Grammar, an English/Arabic manual, pocket notes and a silk shawl.

The Testament though may well have been of particular value. In 1916 Mary Gill was awarded a pension of £2 per fortnight.

**+LAVERY, Thomas**

Royal Irish Rifles. 6<sup>th</sup> Btn. Sergeant. 9573. Died 08/08/1915. Aged 21. Born and living in Ballinderry, Co. Antrim, he enlisted at Belfast. Son of Margaret Lavery of Gortrainey, Ballinderry. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

**+LEE, Isaac**

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 5th Btn. Private. 13174. Died 08/08/1915. Age 21. Son of Mrs. Hughena Lee, of 62, Aberdeen St., Belfast. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

**+MAHON, George**

Royal Munster Fusiliers. 7th Btn. Private. 5285. Died 08/08/1915. Son of Roger Mahon, of 120, Bishop St., Londonderry. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli). Londonderry Diamond WM

**+McCANN, James E**

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 5th Btn. Private. 13393. Died 08/08/1915. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

**+McKEEVER, J J**

Army Service Corps. 4th Div. Supply Unit. Private. T4/124423. Died 08/08/1915. Age 50. Born at Waterside, Londonderry. Son of John and Jane McKeever. Brother in

law of Thomas Logue, 2 Melrose Terrace, Waterside,  
Londonderry. Reading Cemetery, United Kingdom.  
Londonderry Diamond WM

**+McLAUGHLIN, James**

Machine Gun Corps (Infantry). 112th Coy. Private. 6077.  
Died 08/08/1916. Age 23. Brother of William McLaughlin, of  
43, Nailor's Rd., Londonderry. Thiepval Memorial, France.  
Londonderry Diamond WM

**+MORGAN / HALL, Joseph**

Royal Dublin Fusiliers. 1st Btn. Private. 18065. Died on  
Sunday 08/08/1915 at 87th Field Ambulance, Gallipoli,  
following action at at the Southern Barricade near Gully  
Ravine. Joseph Hall was the son of William Hall. Joseph  
served under the alias of Joseph Morgan. In his will, he  
makes an admission that his name was Joseph Hall. All  
military documents refer to Private Joseph Morgan. Pink  
Farm Cemetery, Helles, Turkey (including Gallipoli).  
Cookstown War Dead Book

**+PENN, William**

Royal Munster Fusiliers, 7th Btn. Private. 5320. Died  
08/08/1915. Age 18. Son of William and Mary Penn, of 73,  
Hardinge St., Belfast. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including  
Gallipoli)

**+WALLBANK, Leonard**

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 5th Btn. Company Quartermaster  
Serjeant. 9322. Died 08/08/1915. Born in Stoke on Trent.  
Enlisted in 1906 with 1<sup>st</sup> Btn Royal Irish Fusiliers and in 1911  
transferred to the reserve battalion in Armagh. He married a

local woman, Ann Lucy Boyd, in St Mark's C of I, Armagh. They then lived in Barrack St. On outbreak of war he joined the 5<sup>th</sup> Btn and gained quick promotion due to his previous service. He disembarked in Gallipoli and died in action the following day. His medals and death plaque are on display in the regimental museum in Armagh. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

## 1916

### **+BRENNAN, John**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 1st Btn. C Coy. Private. 9328. Died 08/08/1916. Age 26. Son of Hugh and Ann Brennan, of Moneygar, Trillick, Co. Tyrone. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

### **+COLE, Millar**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 1st Btn. C Coy. Serjeant. 7422. Died 08/08/1916. Age 31. Son of James Cole, of Portadown; husband to Mary Ann Cole, of Ann St., Gilford, Co. Down. Potijze Chateau Wood Cemetery, Belgium

### **+DALY, John Joseph**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Private. 4594. Died 08/08/1916. Age 22. Son of John and Julia Daly, of 68, Herbert St., Crumlin Rd., Belfast. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

### **+FITZSIMONS, Robert**

Royal Irish Fusiliers 1st Btn. Private. 10398. Died 16/08/1916. Son of the late William and Agnes Fitzsimons,

of Moyrafferty, Lurgan. His aunt and uncle live at 72 John Street. Railway Dugouts Burial Ground, Belgium

**+KANE, James**

Irish Guards. Private. 5334. Died 08/08/1916. Father of Elizabeth Kelly, of 14, Kearney's Villa's, Knockloughrim, Magherafelt. St Peter's Roman Catholic Cemetery, Glasgow

**+McERVEL, John Harold**

The King's (Liverpool Regiment), 1st Btn. attd. Manchester Regiment. Major. Died 08/08/1916. Age 32. Brother of Anna McErvell, of 110, Eglantine Avenue, Belfast. Bernafay Wood British Cemetery, France

**+McFADDEN, H**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 1st Btn. Private. 9588. Died 08/08/1916. Age 32. Son of Jane McFadden, of 45, Long Tower St., Londonderry. Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium. Londonderry Diamond WM

**+McLAUGHLIN, James**

Machine Gun Corps (Infantry). 112th Coy. Private. 6077. Died 08/08/1916. Age 23. Brother of William McLaughlin, of 43, Nailor's Rd., Londonderry. Thiepval Memorial, France. Londonderry Diamond WM

**+PATTERSON, Thomas James**

Royal Army Medical Corps, 109th Field Ambulance. Private. 41239. Died 08/08/1916. Age 20. Born Islandreagh, Muckamore. Worked as a railway labourer pre-war. Son of James and Annie Patterson, of 14, Glasgow St., Belfast.

Berks Cemetery Extension, Belgium. Rosemary Street  
Presbyterian Church RH

**+STEWART, J**

Royal Irish Rifles. 11<sup>th</sup> Btn. Rifleman. 7275. Died 08/08/1916.  
Aged 18. Son of Robert and Jane Stewart, Main St.,  
Randalstown. New Irish Farm Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen,  
Belgium.

**+SWANN, James Arthur**

Royal Irish Rifles, 11<sup>th</sup> Btn. Serjeant. 11/19786. Died  
05/08/1916. Aged 23. Son of Jane Swann, of Fountain St.,  
Antrim, and the late David Swann. Antrim New Cemetery.  
Antrim District LOL 13 WM

**+WRIGHT, Alexander Allen**

King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment), 1st/4th Btn.  
Captain. Died 08/08/1916. Age 29. Son of Joseph S. Wright,  
of Belfast. Theipval Memorial, Somme, France

**1917**

**+ADAMS, William Hanna**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 10<sup>th</sup> Btn, formerly North Irish  
Horse. Died 08/08/1917. Age 30. Enlisted in the North Irish  
Horse at Antrim in June or July 1915 (No.1700). William  
Adams had been a breadserver in the employment of  
Messrs. A. Reid & Son, Coleraine. He was one of the  
smartest troopers in the cavalry section of the U.V.F. In  
June, 1915, he joined the North Irish Horse, and his skill as  
a horseman won him early promotion to the rank of

sergeant. In November, 1916. At the end of December 1916 he was one of forty North Irish Horsemen who volunteered to transfer to the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (No.40635). They embarked for France on 09/01/1917 and were posted to the 10th Battalion, joining it at Ploegsteert Wood on the Ypres front. Adams was posted to B Company. On 08/08/1917 Adams was killed in action during the opening phase of the Third Battle of Ypres. The battalion war diary for the day reads: The enemy at intervals shelled the front line & supports ... The shells are mostly H.E. of large calibre, with a good few shrapnel and armour piercing shells. The total casualties, including last nights are:- 2 Other Ranks killed, 24 O.Rs. gassed and 18 O.Rs. wounded. "B" Company suffered very heavily in casualties. Born 03/03/1885 at Gate End, Ballymoney. Son of labourer John Adams and his wife Sarah (nee Workman). The family moved to 61 Dundella Street, Belfast. around 1890. On 25/11/1908 William and factory worker Maggie Wilson Ross married at Coleraine. She later lived at Brook St., Coleraine. His occupation at the time was coachman. He was a well-known member of the Orange and the Black Institutions, being connected with L.O.L. No. 355 and R.B.P. No. 99. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

### **+ANDERSON, William**

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 7th/8th Btn. Private. 21099. Died 08/08/1917. Age 19. Son of William and Mary Ellen Anderson, of 214, Leeson St., Belfast. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium.

### **+BECK, James.**

Royal Irish Rifles. 11<sup>th</sup> Btn. A Coy. Rifleman.17244. Died 08/08/1917. Aged 19. He enlisted at Lisburn and embarked with 1<sup>th</sup> Btn. for France from Bordon Camp in October 1915. Wounded on the Somme on the 01/07/1916, Born in Hillsborough, he lived in Longstone Street, Lisburn and served his time in Messrs. Millar and Stevensons' Bakery. A member of the Christ Church Company Church Lads' Brigade and of the UVF. Son of the late John Beck and Annie Rogan, formerly Beck, and step-son of Moses Rogan of Lisburn Street Hillsborough and formerly 46 Sloan Street, Lisburn, Co. Antrim. His sister was Leta Beck. The news of James Beck's death was received by his mother in a letter from her other son Rifleman Hugh H. (Harry) Beck who was also on active service. He and his wife Lizzie lived at 80 Longstone Street, Lisburn while a sister Mary Craig and her husband John lived at number 19. All the family inserted death notices in the Lisburn Herald on the 1 September 1917. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium.

### **+BURNS, William**

Royal Irish Rifles. 9<sup>th</sup> Btn. Rifleman.1248. Died 08/08/1917. Aged 26. Born in Derriaghy, Co. Antrim, he enlisted at Belfast. He was the son of William Burns of "Willowbank", Knockbreda Road, Cregagh, Belfast. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

### **+BURNSIDE, H**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 10<sup>th</sup> Btn. Private. 27871. Died 08/08/1917. Age 24. Husband to Margaret Burnside, of Taylor's Row, Coleraine. Wieltje Farm Cemetery, Belgium

**+CAMPBELL, Hugh**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 10th Btn. Private. 19518. Died 08/08/1917. Age 20. Son of James and Emily Jane Campbell, of Fernleaster, Macosquin, Coleraine. Wieltje Farm Cemetery, Belgium

**+CAMPBELL, James**

Royal Irish Rifles, 9th Bn. Rifleman .9919. Died 08/08/1917. Age 30. Son of William and Mary Campbell, of "Island Vale," King's Rd., Knock, Belfast. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium.

**+CLARKE, Charles**

Royal Irish Rifles, 7th Btn. Rifleman. 1745. Died 08/08/1917. Age 19. Son of Charles Clarke, of 27, Little Charlotte St., Belfast. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium.

**+COLHOUN, James**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 10th Btn. B Coy. Private. 19527. Died 08/08/1917. Age 22. Son of J. Alexander Colhoun and Anne Colhoun, of Waterside, Londonderry. Mendinghem Military Cemetery, Belgium. Londonderry Diamond WM

**+CURRAN, Stanley**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 5423. Died 08/08/1917. Age 19. His brother James died at the Somme on 01/06/1916. Their father John served during the war with transport attached to the Royal Irish Rifles. A brother David served in the Royal Navy. Son of John and Sarah Curran, of 54, Rathfriland St., Banbridge. Ypres, Menin Gate,

Memorial, Belgium. Seapatricks Parish Church RH,  
Banbridge

**+DAVIES, William**

Royal Irish Rifles, 10th Bn. Rifleman. 14361. Died  
08/08/1917. Age 34. Son of James and Elizabeth Davies, of  
Belfast. Brandhoek New Military Cemetery, Belgium

**+DONNELLY, Patrick Joseph**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. C Coy. Lance Corporal.  
10814. Age 22. Died 08/08/1917. Also served at the  
Dardanelles. Son of Edward and Eliza Jane Donnelly (nee  
Grant), of 42, Amon St., Old Lodge Rd., Belfast. Coxyde  
Military Cemetery, Belgium

**+EDMONDS, George Edgar**

Royal Irish Rifles, 7th Btn. Rifleman. 10707. Died  
08/08/1917. Age 24. Son of William Edmonds, of 214,  
Roden St., Belfast. Tyne Cot Cemetery, Belgium

**+ELLIOTT, Charles**

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 2706. Died 08/08/1917.  
Age 24. Husband to Josephine Elliott, of 13, Disraeli St.,  
Crumlin Rd., Belfast. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial,  
Belgium.

**+GORDON, William**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 7th Btn. D Coy. Corporal. 13447.  
Died 08/08/1917. Age 28. He was born in Broughshane and  
enlisted in Belfast. Son of David and Matilda Gordon, of 21,  
Ottawa St., Belfast. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium.

## **+HILL, Matthew John**

Royal Irish Rifles, 7th Btn. Rifleman. 9877. Died 08/08/1917. Age 20. Son of Matthew and Lizzie McGrath Hill, of Broughshane. Ypres, Menin Gate, Memorial, Belgium. 2nd Broughshane Presbyterian Church RH.

## **+IRVINE, David**

Royal Irish Rifles. 11<sup>th</sup> Btn. Rifleman. 2225. Died 08/08/1917 a few weeks after returning from home on leave. He enlisted at Crumlin and embarked with 11 RIR for France from Bordon in October 1915. Born in Derriaghy, he lived at 4 Low Road, Lisburn. An apprentice in the Co-operative Society, and a former member of Railway Street Church Boys Brigade. He was the son of Adam and Agnes Jane Irvine of Wilson Street, Low Road, Lisburn. Captain Lindsay, one of his officers, wrote to his mother saying, "It is with the greatest grief that I have to tell you that your son ... died of wounds last Thursday. We had gone up to a forward position in the new line, and while there he was hit by a shell and died in the aid post shortly afterwards. He was a splendid boy, and very highly thought of. He has been in charge of our Company Signallers for some time and was most capable and efficient in his work. His loss is very keenly felt by us all. I feel the loss of our men terribly – how much we should like them all to get back to those who love them; but I feel there is something better for all those brave hearts. The loss is ours, the gain is theirs. Something better must be in store for them. This is a very real comforting thought, and I hope it may be a comfort to you". Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Belfast Co-Operative WM

**+KENNEDY, Alexander**

Royal Irish Rifles, 11th Bn. Rifleman. 3794. Died 08/08/1917. Aged 32. He lived at Buick Row, Ahoghill. Son of James and Eliza Kennedy, of Cullybackey Rd., Ahoghill. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. 2nd Ahoghill (Trinity) Presbyterian Church RH

**+LARKIN, Robert**

Royal Irish Rifles, 10th Btn. Rifleman. 19/783. Died 08/08/1917. Age 19. Son of Robert and Margaret Larkin, of 15, Courtrai St., Belfast. Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium

**+LEMON, Moses**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Private. 7356. Died 08/08/1917. Age 43. Son of the late James Lemon. Born at Belfast. Belfast (Dundonald) Cemetery

**+McGOWAN, Thomas**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 10th Btn. A Coy. Lance Corporal. 19689. Died 11/08/1917. Age 22. Son of Joseph and Margaret McGowan, of 5, Bond's Place, Waterside, Londonderry. Poelcapelle British Cemetery, Belgium. Londonderry Diamond WM

**+McKIMM, Noble M**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 9th Btn. Private. Died 08/08/1917. Brother of Lizzie McKimm, of Drumlaghey, Fintona, Co. Tyrone. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

**+McMASTER, William**

Royal Irish Rifles, 9th Btn. Rifleman. 939. Died 07/08/1917. Aged 20. He was born in Portglenone and enlisted Ballymena. He was the youngest son of William and Mary Jane McMaster, Cullybackey. Ypres Memorial (Menin Gate), Belgium. Cullybackey UF Church RH

**+McMATH, Thomas James**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 10th Btn. Corporal. 27747. Died 08/08/1917. Aged 21. Born on 23/08/1896 in Kilrea. He was the second of five sons. They lived in Kilrea town. His father was an agricultural labourer. Thomas left school and had become a telegraph messenger for Kilrea postal service. Son of Thomas and Mary Jane McMath, of The Diamond, Kilrea. Wieltje Farm Cemetery, Ypres, West Vlaanderen, Belgium. Kilrea WM

**+McNABB, John**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Private. 16369. Died 08/08/1917. Age 23. Born 15/11/1893 at Ballyrock, Bushmills to Mary McNabb, of Islandcarragh, Bushmills. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Duncairn Presbyterian Church, Belfast WM

**+MEGARRY, James**

Royal Irish Rifles. 11th Btn. Serjeant. 19694. Died 08/08/1917. Age 24. Son of William Henry Megarry, of Largy, Crumlin, Co. Antrim. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

## **+MILLER, William**

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 7th/8th Btn. Private. 15317. Died during the Third Battle of Ypres on 08/08/1917. Born and lived in Pomeroy. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium. Cookstown War Dead Book

## **+PARKHILL, Matthew**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 10th Btn. Private. 19102. Died 08/08/1917. Age 29. Son of Margaret J. Parkhill, of Culmore, Londonderry, and the late William Parkhill. Wieltje Farm Cemetery, Belgium. Londonderry Diamond WM

## **+PATTERSON, Samuel M**

Royal Irish Rifles, 11th Btn. A Coy. 18610. Rifleman. Died 08/08/1917. Aged 39. Born, living in and enlisted at Lisburn. He embarked with 11th Btn for France from Bordon in October 1915. Reported wounded in late August/early September 1916. He was the eldest son of the late Rainey Patterson who, according to the Lisburn Herald, "was well known in the pork trade", and Mary Ann Patterson of 26 Old Hillsborough Road, Lisburn. In a letter to his mother, Second Lieutenant Davidson wrote, "As his platoon officer I feel his loss not only as a gallant soldier, but because of the comradeship that existed between all of us. He was killed by a shell that fell in the trench where he was standing. He will be greatly missed by his companions as well as myself, as he had always a cheery word for everyone. He died as a soldier with his face towards the enemy in the cause of Right against Might". His brother Private John Patterson served in the RInF and in August 1917, was in hospital as a result of wounds received in action. He had to have one of

his toes amputated. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Ypres, Belgium

### **+PHAIR, George**

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 8723. Died 08/08/1917. Age 22. Son of George and Susan Phair, of 20, Laganvale St., Stranmillis Rd., Belfast. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium.

### **+POLLOCK, Victor**

Royal Irish Rifles, 11th Btn. Rifleman. 7292. Died 08/08/1917. Age 22. Born Union Workhouse, Antrim on 27/06/1895. Member of Thornhill LOL 651 and UVF. Enlisted Belfast. Son of Thomas and Lizzie (nee Nutt) Pollock, of Church St., Antrim. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium. Antrim WM, Antrim District LOL 13 WM, First Antrim Presbyterian Church RH

### **+STEWART, James**

Royal Irish Rifles, 11th Btn. Rifleman. 7275. Died 08/08/1917. Aged 18. Born Muckleramer, Drummaul on 28/02/1898. Enlisted at Clandeboye, Co. Down. He had two brothers who served. One was William who had been wounded and captured on 01/07/1916 at Theipval, and Samuel (420458) who served with the Canadians.. Son of Robert and Jane Stewart, Main Street, Randalstown. New Irish Farm Cemetery, Ypres, Belgium. Randalstown Old Presbyterian (The OC) Church RH

### **+TAYLOR, Samuel F**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. Serjeant. 10124. Died 08/08/1917. Age 24. Son of John and Mary Taylor, of 111,

Fountain St., Londonderry. Coxyde Military Cemetery,  
Belgium

**+UPRICHARD, Thomas John**

Royal Irish Rifles, 7th Btn. Rifleman. 8947. Died 08/08/1917.  
Son of Mr and Mrs.T. Uprichard, of 5 Victoria Place, Lurgan.  
Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Ypres, Belgium

**+WARKE, Jasper McCleery Warke**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 9th Btn. Private. 28026. Died  
08/08/1917. Age 20. Son of John and Elizabeth Warke, of  
52, Abercorn Rd., Londonderry. Lijssenthoek Military  
Cemetery, Belgium

**+YOUNG, Andrew**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 9th Btn. Corporal. 22670. Died  
08/08/1917. Age 26. Son of Robert and Ann Jane Young, of  
Craigmonaghan, Castlederg, Co. Tyrone. Ypres (Menin  
Gate) Memorial, Belgium

**1918**

**+ATKINSON, William George.**

Canadian Infantry, 116th. Btn. Private. 249793. Died  
08/08/1918. He joined up 27/06/1916 at Toronto aged 28.  
occupation, plasterer. He was posted to the 208th Overseas  
Battalion. He had previously served for 3 years with the 5th  
Royal Irish Rifles. He embarked from Halifax then 208th  
Battalion for England 03/05/1917, disembarking at Liverpool  
14/05/1917. All the soldiers were taken to the Canadian

Camp at Witley, Surrey. Whilst at the camp he was transferred to 2nd Canadian Reserve Battalion. On 12/02/1918 he was transferred to the 8th Reserve Battalion to the Canadian Forces Transit Camp at West Sandling, Kent. On 29/03/1918 he embarked for France where he was posted to the 116th Battalion. Born in Co. Down on 29/10/1887. Born 29/10/1887 at Hillsborough to Samuel and Sarah Atkinson, nee McCauley. 1901 residing with his parents and siblings at 11 Park Street, Hillsborough. Husband to Mrs. Dorcas Atkinson of "The Lodge", Hillsborough Castle, Hillsborough, Co. Down. They married on the 21/05/1909 at Hillsborough Church. Hourges Orchard Cemetery, Domart-sur-La-Luce, France.

**+CORDNER, James Henry**

Tank Corps, 15th Btn. Lieutenant. Died 08/08/1918. Age 22. Son of William John and Sarah Cordner, of South Park Villas, Park Rd., Belfast. Cerisy-Gailly Military Cemetery, France

**+COWAN, Andrew Forsyth Crawford**

Canadian Infantry, 116th. Btn. Private. 249711. Died 08/08/1918. Aged 33. He enlisted at Toronto on the 05/06/1916 aged 31. Born in Belfast on the 29/04/1885, he had an address in Drumbeg and at Dupont Street, Toronto. Husband to Minnie Cowan of Dupont Street and subsequently 278 Soudan Avenue, Toronto. Horges Orchard Cemetery, Domart-sur-la-Luce, Somme, France

**+CREIGHTON, Ernest**

Canadian Infantry. 13th Btn. Lieutenant. Died 08/08/1918. Age 27. He was born on 21/05/1891 and after leaving

school joined the Royal Irish Constabulary as a policeman. In 1913 Ernest emigrated to Canada and continued his work with the police there. He enlisted in the Army at Toronto on 30/08/1915. He was described as being five feet eleven and a quarter inches tall, with blue eyes, light brown hair and a ruddy complexion. Again his worth attracted the attention of his superiors and he was selected for a Commission, being sent to England to qualify for that position. Youngest son of James A. and Sarah A. Creighton, of Doons, Cookstown. Hangard Wood British Cemetery, Somme, France. Cookstown WM. Kildress C of I Parish Church RH

### **+CROFT, Robert**

Tank Corps, 5th Btn. MGC(T). Corporal. Died 08/08/1918. Aged 24. Born in Lisburn, he enlisted at Dublin and served in the ACC (2848), before transferring to the 5th Btn Tank Corps. Son of James and Susan Croft of "The Cottages", Clandeboye. Hangard Communal Cemetery Extension, France

### **+McCLOY, George Sterrett**

35th Bn. Australian Infantry, A.I.F. Corporal. 3097. Died 08/08/1918. Son of John and Sarah McCloy, both teachers living in Glenarm. They had married in Glenarm Church of Ireland Church on 11/08/1886. George McCloy was born at Glenarm on 22/05/1890 Husband to E. M. McCloy, of 33, Trafalgar St., Stanmore, New South Wales

### **+MITCHELL, Alexander Scott**

Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians), Private. 2000180. Died 08/08/1918. Vimy Memorial, Pas de Calais,

France. Canadian First World War Book of Remembrance.  
Larne Grammar School Memorial

## **1919**

### **+McKELVEY, P**

Northumberland Fusiliers Service. Serjeant. 49587  
Died 18/08/1919. Milltown Roman Catholic Cemetery,  
Belfast

## **1921**

### **+SHANNON, Thomas**

RMLI. Private. 17502. Plymouth Division. Died 08/08/1921.  
Age 24. Enlisted 13/10/1914. In RM Brigade 18/08/1915 -  
05/04/1916. Invalided out 12/04/1916. Born Belfast  
21/11/1896. Son of Samuel and Mary Jane Shannon, Riga  
St., Belfast. He was the last Great War fatality to be buried  
in Belfast City Cemetery. ADM 159/161/17502

## **1940**

### **+ANTHONY, Crawford**

RAF. Leading Aircraftman. 623211. Died 08/08/1940. Aged  
29. Son of William and Jane Anthony of Carrickfergus;  
Husband of Martha Bell Anthony, Carrickfergus.  
Carrickfergus cemetery

## **1943**

**+ALEXANDER, Alex**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. Fusilier. 6982857. Died 08/08/1943. Age 23. Son of Joseph Alexander, and of Jan/e E. Alexander, of Belfast. Catania War Cemetery, Sicily, Italy

**+BARRISKILL, William John**

RAFVR. Sergeant. 1126133. Died 08/08/1943. 104 Sqdn. Enrolled 1940. On completion of his training he was posted to No. 104 Squadron at Hani West in Tunisia. He joined the squadron, which flew twin-engined Vickers Wellingtons, at the beginning of June 1943. With the war in North Africa over the squadron was carrying out raids on targets in Sicily and Italy. On 7 August he took off in his Wellington for a night raid on a target in Sicily. The aircraft was never seen again. Son of David and Charlotte Barriskill, of Ballyoran, Portadown. Malta Memorial Panel 8

**+BOYLE, Charles**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. Corporal. 6980523. Died 08/08/1943. Age 28. (Served as O'Boyle), Son of Joseph and Mary Boyle, of Belfast, Catania War Cemetery, Sicily, Italy

**+RODGERS, Thomas George**

RAFVR. Flying Officer. 126149. Died 08/08/1943. Aged 25. Thomas was with Flying Officer Allister Francis Shapcott, Royal Australian Air Force on an Air Test and non-operational flight in an Anson aircraft from 1510 Flight when there was an in-flight collision with a Mosquito aircraft from 333 Norwegian Squadron piloted by Lieutenant

Commander Ofendor who was Officer Commanding of the Squadron. Son of Edward and Frances Rodgers of Finaghy, County Antrim. Knockbreda Cemetery

## 1944

### **+O'FEE, James Edward**

Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. 18 Sqdn. Sergeant. 1544258. Died 09/08/1944. Age 24. He was part of a crew of four which had taken off in a Boston aircraft from Cesena in Italy at 2230 on the night of 08/08/1944. It was on a night reconnaissance sortie. The aircraft was shot down in the early hours of the following morning by the flak near Savignano sul Rubicone. The four man crew were lost. Son of James and Jenny O'Fee, of Kilrea. Cesena War Cemetery, Italy. Kilrea WM

### **+McNABNEY, Samuel**

RAFVR. Pilot Officer (Air Bomber). 164928. Died 08/08/1944. Age 20. 7th Sqdn. His aircraft took off from RAF Oakington, Cambridgeshire at 10.05 pm on the evening of the 7th August, part of a group of 1019 planes that was to bomb five targets ahead of ground forces. 660 were able to do so.

His aircraft, Lancaster ND460, was shot down by night fighters between 11:39 pm and 12:06 am. In 1946 investigators questioned available eyewitnesses including a Mr. M. Revault. He said the 4-engined bomber crossed low over Bolbec and was on fire.

It partly disintegrated in the air, the wreckage covering an area of about 1000 square metres. One falling engine hit a house and killed a young French woman and her child.

The largest part of the burning fuselage crashed onto a hilltop on the edge of the town. There were no survivors. Mr. Revault indicated that six charred bodies were recovered but they were not able to identify individuals apart from Samuel McNabney.

His body still had his ID discs. The aircraft service number was painted on a piece of the wreckage and this further identified the aircraft and crew.

Son of Samuel and Agnes McNabney, of Ballymena. Samuel McNabney, served in the Royal Engineers during the Great War. Bolbec Communal Cemetery. Harryville Presbyterian Church RH.

**+MORRISON, George**

RAFVR. Sergeant. 2210235. Died 08/08/1944. Aged 19. 15 Sqdn. Son of Arthur I. and Florence Morrison, of Belfast. Runnymede Memorial, Surrey, Panel 234

**+SCOTT, Elizabeth**

Corporal Elizabeth Scott (W/49605) served in the Auxiliary Territorial Service. Corporal. W/49605. Died 08/08/1944. Aged 49. No family details. Carnmoney Cemetery, Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim.

**+WILLIAMS, Robert**

Irish Guards, 3rd Btn. Lance Corporal. 2719388. Died 08/08/1944. Aged 22. Adopted son of Thomas and Eliza Williams, Londonderry; nephew of Violet M. Finlay,

Londonderry. St. Charles De Percy War Cemetery,  
Calvados, France. Carlisle Rd., Presbyterian Church RH,  
Londonderry

**1945**

**+HADDEN, Samuel Strange**

RAFVR. Aircraftman 2nd Class. 1795663. Died 08/08/1945.  
Age 22. Son of Thomas and Jeannie Ross Gourley Hadden,  
Belfast. Vereeniging Old Town Cemetery, Mil. Plot. South  
Africa

**+THOM, David Millar**

RN. Able Seaman. D/JX.306996. Died 08/08/1945. Age 22.  
HMS Tyne. Four years' service. Had been captain of the rifle  
team in HMS Raleigh who won the shield. Prior to joining  
the RN, he was a member of Whiteabbey B Special  
Constabulary, of which his father was district commandant.  
He was also a staff sergeant in the 88th Company  
(Whiteabbey) Boys' Brigade. Son of Robert and Elizabeth  
Thom, Concrete Rd., Whiteabbey. Sydney War Cemetery.

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**+THOM, David Millar**

RN. Able Seaman. D/JX.306996. Died 08/08/1945. Age 22. HMS Tyne. Son of Robert and Elizabeth Thom, Whiteabbey. Sydney War Cemetery

**1946**

**+WALLACE, John**

RAFVR. Corporal. 1504000. Died **23/08/1946**. Age 47. 241 Squadron. Husband to Jean Wallace, Ballymena. Son of William and Elizabeth Wallace. Randalstown Presbyterian Old Congregation Church Yard.

**VETERANS**

**+WHITE, John Sinclair**

RAMC. Lt Colonel. CO 3rd Northern General Hospital 1914 - 18. CBE. QCB MD 1874. CBE 01/01/1919. Born 1858. Son of John White, Moneymore. Husband to Barbara. Died 08/08/1920

**CHRISTIAN, Charles Ronald**

RNVR. Surgeon Sub Lieutenant. Surgeon Probationer. Surgeon Sub Lieutenant 02/08/1918. QUB MB 1921, BCh DPH 1922. RAMC Lieutenant 30/01/1924. Captain 1927. Major 1934. Lt Colonel 1940. Served to 1953. Born 15/03/1900. Son of Denis (Col. Sgt. Infantry OTC) and

Catherine Christian, Colenso Parade, Cromac, Belfast. Died 08/08/1956

**FLECK, David McVea**

RAMC. Captain. Ballymena Intermediate School. QCB. MB 1987. Born 1886. Son of George and Rachel Fleck, Greenhill, Broughshane. Husband to Alice. Died 08/08/1943 Bristol.

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***We will remember them***

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The **remembrance ni** programme is overseen by Very Rev Dr Houston McKelvey OBE, QVRM, TD who served as Chaplain to 102 and 105 Regiments Royal Artillery (TA), as Hon. Chaplain to RNR and as Chaplain to

## Remembrance Ni August 8

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](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com)

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