



remembrance ni



## The UVF dry land sailors honoured by the Tzar

**Royal Navy Armoured Cars - 111 Royal Navy personnel from Northern Ireland were involved in what is perhaps the most bizarre linking of Irish politics with the international relations of the First World War.**

**Men from the UVF (Ulster Volunteer Force) armed with Canadian rifles which were most likely smuggled in avoiding the Royal Navy, served in the Russian empire in what has been dubbed “The Czar’s British Squadron”**

**- an armoured car squadron of the Royal Naval Air Service. Three of the armoured cars in the squadron were christened 'Ulster', 'Londonderry' and 'Mountjoy'.**

This division made its own particular contribution to naval history. It produced its own newspaper - "The Archangel Herald". Its officers claimed the record for singing "God save the King" at the most northerly location of the war on 12/12/1915. Many of the men were honoured with Russian awards - especially the Order of St. Stanislaus and St. George. Every officer and man was presented with a specially designed waistcoat by Her Highness Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein.

The Russian Armoured Car Division were sailors on dry land, fighting from armoured cars and trenches. They faced conditions ranging from the acutely freezing temperatures within the Arctic Circle, the extreme heat and dust of the desert terrain of Armenia, to the Flanders like mud of the Danube delta. They fought in Asia Minor, Rumania, Russia, and Austria, against Kurds, Turks, Bulgarians, Germans and Austrians. They served with Cossacks and Siberian Army Regiments and rubbed shoulders with Poles, Serbs, Czecho Slovaks, Tartars, and many other ethnic groups which at that time were a part of the once vast but by then sadly depleted armed might of Czarist Russia.

### **The key men : Churchill, Carson and Locker-Lampson**

In the negotiations which created this scenario, three politicians were key - Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, Sir Edward Carson, the Dublin born Ulster

Unionist leader, and his cousin, Oliver Locker-Lampson, a Conservative Unionist Member of Parliament.



Locker-Lampson was a Cambridge educated lawyer. He was the Unionist Member of Parliament for Huntingdonshire (East Anglia). In December 1914 he was commissioned into the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve with the rank of Lieutenant Commander. This was largely based on an understanding with Winston Churchill, that he would personally fund the establishment of an armoured car squadron for the Royal Naval Air Service's Armoured Car Division. The purpose of the division was to rescue downed flyers from no-man's land and to protect the relevant supply chains. Some authors state that the RNAS was in advance of the army in developing lightly armoured cars. Indeed for a period during the war the navy was in advance of the army in the development of tanks, often referred to as land ships.

The RNAS engaged in inter service rivalry on land as well as in the air, possessing for a time the UK's only mechanised land forces in the form of the RNAS Armoured Car Section made up of squadrons of Rolls-Royce Armoured Cars. Commanded by Commander Charles Sansom the section was originally equipped with unarmoured touring cars and intended to provide line of communications security and to pick up aircrew who had been forced to land in hostile territory. Samson saw the possibilities when he armed one vehicle with a Maxim Gun and ambushed a German car near Cassel on 04/09/1914. He then had a shipbuilders in Dunkirk add boilerplate to his Rolls Royce and Mercedes vehicles. The new armoured car squadrons were soon used to great effect forming part of Naval mechanised raiding columns against the Germans. By November 1914 the Section had become the Royal Naval Armoured Car Division (RNACD) eventually expanding to 20 squadrons. As trench warfare developed, the armoured cars could no longer operate on the Western Front and were redeployed to other theatres including the Middle East, Romania and Russia.

To establish his squadron Locker Lampson turned to his cousin Sir Edward Carson. In the 555 men in the squadron, the majority from England were from Tyneside and Norfolk. 111 men of the squadron were from Northern Ireland.

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72 of the North Irish personnel were drivers and mechanics and this expertise was reflected in the ranks granted - Petty Officer and Chief Petty Officer. There would appear to have been a read across in equality of rank to Engineering Artificers.

After training at Whale Island, Hampshire, and in north Norfolk near his family home - Newhaven Court, Cromer, Locker-Lampson's No. 15 Squadron was sent to France, and operated in the unoccupied portion of Belgium on attachment to the Belgian Army during much of 1915. 15 Squadron had 12 Lancasters and 3 Seabrook armoured lorries. By the end of 1915, with the development and static nature of trench warfare little scope remained for armoured cars on the Western Front and most of the RNAS's armoured car squadrons were disbanded by the Admiralty.

However, due to a concern for Russia's capability, three squadrons of RNAS armoured cars were assembled and sent by ship to Murmansk as the Armoured Car Expeditionary Force (ACEF), also known as the Russian Armoured Car Division, with Locker-Lampson in command in order to show support for Britain's Russian ally. The ACEF operated with the Russian Army in several areas, including Galicia, Romania, and the Caucasus.

According to David Fletcher's "War Cars", the Russian Armoured Car Division was formed in 1915 from 15 & 17 Squadrons, with 1 Rolls-Royce, 33 Lancasters, 3 to 5 Pierce-Arrows, later another Rolls-Royce was added and 9 Fords.

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Petty Officer Mechanic, John Armstrong, son of a Belfast linen merchant, returned from Australia to the family home at Clandeboye, Bangor, in 1912. He joined the RNAS in March 1915 serving with No.15 Squadron in Belgium and France. His dairy provides the following outline of the Russian Armoured Car Division's activities





### **Model of RNAS Armoured Car**

Aug/Sept 1916 Caucasian front (facing the Turks)  
Nov/Dec 1916 Romanian front (facing the Bulgarians)  
Dec 1916 Awarded Russian Medal of St George for gallantry during action in Topalul (Dobruja region of Romania). The medal was presented by General Sirelius in Hirsova (Romania) 8/12/1916.  
Dec 1916/Jan 1917 Continuing service on Romanian front.  
Feb/April 1917 Served on Russia/Romania border.  
March 1917 outbreak of Russian Revolution.  
June 1917 Served in Galicia (NE province of Austria-Hungary) in support of the Brusilov offensive (last major Russian action of WW1).  
July 1917 Withdrawn to base in Proskurov (Russia)  
Sept 1917 Returned to England  
After the Bolshevik Revolution of October 1917, the ACEF was withdrawn from Russia.  
Many of the men from Locker Lampson's unit then

transferred across to the Motor Machine Gun Corp on their return to UK and were sent out to Baku under General Dunsterville to defend the oilfields there. It became known as “Dunsterforce” and was under Army control, from Jan 1918. Dunsterforce had 24 Austins and 16 Ford vans. It served in Persia and Turkey, though without Commander Locker-Lampson, who in 1918 became the Ministry of Information's Russian Representative.

Locker-Lampson had become somewhat entangled in Russian politics. He said later that he had been asked to participate in the 1916 assassination of Rasputin, and that he had a secret plan to get Tsar Nicholas II out of Russia after his abdication in March 1917. It is also alleged that in September 1917 he was involved in Kornilov's attempted coup against the provisional government of Kerensky.

### **Men from Northern Ireland played a key role in the Russian Armoured Car Division**

**Lt-Commander Sir Walter Dorling Smiles DSO, great grandfather of Bear Grylls, was one of Locker-Lampson's key officers in Russia 1916-18 and 2nd-in-command of Duncars in Dunsterforce in 1918. He was born in 1883 in Portavo, Donaghadee, Co. Down. His grandfather was Samuel Smiles, author of 'Self Help'. He was the Ulster Unionist MP for Co. Down from 1950 until his death. He died in the sinking of the Princess Victoria during the Great Storm of 31 January 1953.**

His DSO citation referring to the events of 10/08/1917, states - “Lieut Walter Dorling Smiles, R.N.V.R. In recognition of his services with a Naval Armoured Car Squadron in France, Belgium, Persia and Roumania. He was wounded on the 28th November, 1916, in the Dobrudja. On coming

out of hospital he volunteered to lead a flying squadron for special duty round Braila, and his gallantry on this occasion was the chief factor of success. On one occasion, when in action with a light armoured car, he got out twice to start it up under heavy fire. Being struck by a bullet he rolled into a ditch and remained there all day under fire, having sent back a message to the Russian Colonel in command asking him to allow none of his soldiers in any circumstances to risk their lives to save his car. He did not escape until night.”

Local newspapers reported on the Russian Armoured Car Division's actions. One commentator said the squadron's exploits were regularly reported in the North Down Spectator like a Boy's Own adventure serial.

The Ballymena Observer on June 1, 1917, reported - “**Petty Officer E. J. Crawford**, son of Mr. J. A. Crawford, Clough, who was with Commander Locker-Sampson MP, Armoured Car Division in Russia and Rumania is at present home on leave. He has made a good recovery from wounds he received in the Rumanian retreat in November last. Petty Officer Crawford was in charge of a machine gun and he received his wound when the car in which he was working was going to the rescue of a Russian car which had got stuck. He had just opened the door to throw out a rope when he was sniped in the arm and immediately afterwards a shell burst close to the car and he received severe injuries on the left shoulder and side. For meritorious work on this front he received the medal of St. George from the Russian Government.”

A Northern Irish sailor holds the unfortunate status of being the first, member of the RACD, to lose his life in Russia. This occurred during the journey south in 1916 when, on



11th June, PO Joseph Donnelly of Alexandra Park Avenue, Belfast, was drowned during general bathing parade, taking place at a railway stop on the River Don at Kisetirinta (near Rostov).

In all, four Irishmen died in service with the unit and eight were wounded in action. Out of the unit as a whole there were 17 deaths and 7 reported 'missing in action', later confirmed as Prisoners of War (of whom 3 died in captivity).

## **RUSSIAN ARMoured CAR DIVISION ROLL OF HONOUR**

### **+DONNELLY, Joseph**

RNAS. Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer. F/9833. HMS President II. Died 11/06/1916. Age 28. Accidentally drowned in Russia. Son of Thomas and Margaret Donnelly, Alexander Park Avenue, Belfast. Formerly from Castledawson. Buried Rostov [Bratski] Cemetery. Haidar Pasha Memorial, Turkey

### **+GRAHAM, Joseph James**

RNAS. Petty Officer Motor Mechanic. F/9892. Russian Armoured Car Brigade. Died 24/04/1917. Age 21. Order of St. George, 4th Class (Russia). Husband of Annie Maria Graham, Glenvarlock St., Castlereagh Rd., Belfast. French-Algerian Plot, Slobozia Military Cemetery

### **+GRAHAM, Skeffington T. C.**

RNAS. Petty Officer Motor Mechanic. F/2852. Russian Armoured Car Brigade. Died of dysentery in hospital whilst a PoW in Turkey 01/01/1917. Age 32. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Graham, Dunmurry, and husband to Mary J. S. Graham, Alton Avenue, Toronto, Canada. Address also

found as Upper Canning St., Belfast. Haidar Pasha Cemetery, Istanbul, Turkey. Haidar Pasha Cemetery was first established for Crimean war burials and was used during the First World War by the Turks for the burial of Commonwealth prisoners of war. After the Armistice, when Istanbul was occupied, further burials were made mainly from No 82 General Hospital and graves were brought in from other civil cemeteries in the area.

**+McFARLAND, John**

RNAS. Chief Petty Officer Mech III. F/2863. Russian Armoured Cars. DSM. Medals of 2nd, 3rd and 4th Classes of the Order of St. George (Russia). Died 01/07/1917. Age 36. Son of William and Jane McFarland; husband to Mary M. E. McFarland, Northumberland St., Belfast. Pozan Memorial, Poland

**RUSSIAN ARMoured CAR DIVISION  
THEY SERVED**

**ALLEN, John**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Chief Petty Officer. Harper Street, Belfast.

**ALLEN, William**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer. Grosvenor Road, Belfast

**ANDREWS, William**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer.  
Lyndhurst Villas, Ballygomartin Rd., Belfast

**ANDREWS, W**

RNR. Petty Officer. Russian award. Gresham St., Belfast

**ARMSTRONG, Arthur**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer.  
Kendal Street, Belfast

**ARMSTRONG, John**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer. John was born on 25/01/1886 to father, William Armstrong (a linen merchant trading as Wm. Armstrong & Son, Upper Queen Street, Belfast) and mother Elizabeth. One of nine children - seven sisters and one brother - at Ballysallagh House, Clandeboye, Bangor, Co Down. John worked with his father in the family linen business as a salesman before travelling to Australia in 1910 where he worked on McConnells Cattle Station in Queensland. John returned home to Bangor in 1912 and joined the Royal Naval Air Service in March 1915 serving with No. 15 Squadron in Belgium and France before going to Russia. John did not join Dunsterforce as his only brother, Billy (seven years younger than John) had just been killed on 27/12/1917 (age 24) while serving with the 14th Bn Black Watch in Jerusalem. Son of William Armstrong, Ballysallagh House, Clandeboye, Co. Down.

**ARTHUR, Hugh**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division Petty Officer.  
Beechfield Street, Belfast

**ASH, Joseph**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. PO.  
Northumberland Street, Belfast

**BEATTY, George Robert**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. 21 University  
Street, Belfast

**BELLIS, Samuel Arnott**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer.  
Daheim, Ballymena

**BELLIS, Samuel Arnott**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Son of  
Samuel Arrott and Jane Swiney Bellis. Born 21/3/1880,  
Tullyaighnish Manse, Ramelton, Co. Donegal. Entered  
Royal School Dungannon 1892. Died September 1942,  
Leicester. In 1918 resided at Waveney Cottages, Ballymena.  
West Church Ballymena - PCI RH

**BENSON, Edward White**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Ballymoney  
Rectory, Co Antrim

**BLAIR, Arthur Angus McDonald**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Allworthy Ave,  
Antrim Rd, Belfast

**BOYD, Henry Stanley**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Greenwood,  
Lisburn

**BRENNAN, Patrick**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. PO.

**BROWNLEE, Lawson McKitterick**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Cross of St. George. Russian Armoured Car Division. Dunster Force. Wounded. Percy Street, Belfast. Agnes Street - Presbyterian Church

**BRYANS, S A**

RN Gunner. Russian award. The Cottages, Antrim

**BRYARS, David Livingstone**

RNAS. Petty Officer. MiD August 1917. Russian Armoured Car Division. Cromwell Rd, Belfast. Son of Thomas and Eliza Ann Bryars, Irish Street, Dungannon. Father was a grocer and auctioneer. Royal School Dungannon 1905-08. Emigrated to USA in 1910. Occupation motor car driver.

**CAMERON, Joseph**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer. Main Street, Gilford

**CARSON, John**

RN. WO. Russian award. Omeath St., Belfast

**CHAMBERS, Henry Douglas**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer. Clifton Terrace, Coleraine

**CLARKE, Charles**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer. Princess Street, Portrush

**CLEGG, Richard**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer. Bow St, Donaghadee



**COWAN, Matthew**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Ballycarry Street, Belfast

**CRAWFORD, Edward James**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer. Medal of St George. Medical student QUB. Wounded in East Russia.

"Petty Officer E. J. Crawford, son of Mr. J. A. Crawford, Clough, who was with Commander Locker-Sampson MP, Armoured Car Division in Russia and Rumania is at present home on leave. He has made a good recovery from wounds he received in the Rumanian retreat in November last. Petty Officer Crawford was in charge of a machine gun and he received his wound when the car in which he was working was going to the rescue of a Russian car which had got stuck. He had just opened the door to throw out a rope when he was sniped in the arm and immediately afterwards a shell burst close to the car and he received severe injuries on the left shoulder and side. For meritorious work on this front he received the medal of St. George from the Russian Government." Ballymena Observer, 01/06/1917.  
Cloughgalldarragh, Clough, Ballymena. CPA Magazine 1917.

**CREIGHTON, William David**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer.  
Rosebank, Whitehead

**CUNNINGHAM, John**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Hilltop, King St, Newcastle.

**DAVIDSON, William Foster**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer.  
Victoria Rd, Bangor

**DEAN, Samuel**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. PO. Shandon  
Street, Belfast

**DEMPSTER, Robert**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer.  
Russian award. Paxton Street, Belfast

**DICKIE, Robert**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer. Son of  
Mr RJ Dickey, Kilcreen House, Killagan, Co Antrim.  
Ballymena Academy.

**DOAK, Robert**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer.  
Hallidays Rd, Belfast

**DONNELLY, Joseph**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Alexandra Park  
Ave, Belfast

**DOWNS, Robert John**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. PO. Brooklands  
Street, Belfast

**DYSART, John Oliver**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer.  
Disraeli Street, Belfast

**ERVINE, George Gray**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Son of

William James and Susan Irvine, Magdala St., Belfast.  
Crescent - PCI RH

**FERGUSON, Joseph Henry**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer. North  
Parade, Belfast

**FERGUSON, Samuel James**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer.  
Glenside, Ballyregan, Dundonald,

**GILLESPIE, Frederick James**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer.  
Belmont Rd, Belfast

**GRAHAM, Alexander**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Russian award. Wounded. Glenmachan Cottage, Belmont,  
Belfast

**GRAHAM, Joseph James**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
George St, Portadown

**GRAHAM, Nathaniel**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Russian Award. Wounded. Glenmachan, Belmont, Belfast.

**GRAHAM, Skeffington**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Upper  
Canning St, Belfast

**GRAHAM, William**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Reid  
St, Cregagh Rd, Belfast

**GRAHAM, William**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Glenmachan, Belmont, Belfast

**HARRIS, Charles Cunyngham Eccles**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Fitzroy Ave, Belfast

**HARRISON, John**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Ashville, Skegoniel Ave, Belfast

**HARVEY, James**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer. Upper  
Frank Street, Belfast.

**HENDERSON, William**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer.  
Clonlee, Bloomfield, Belfast

**IRVINE, Isaac**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer.  
Dundela Street, Belfast

**JEFFREY, George**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.and  
Dunster Force. Brookland St, Belfast

**JOHNSTON, William Henry**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Petty Officer.  
Farmyard, Norwood Tower, Strandtown

**KENNEDY, William**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Little  
Grosvenor St, Belfast

**LARMOUR, Joseph**

RNAS. Petty Officer M. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Roseberry Rd, Belfast

**LAWTHER, David**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Canagullin. Killinchy - PCI RH

**LINDON, Robert John**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Gamble Street, Belfast

**LLOYD, Edward**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Upper  
Townshend Rd, Belfast

**MacFARLANE, J**

RNAS. Chief Petty Officer. Russian award. Langford St.,  
Belfast

**MACK, Chris**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Walnut St, Donegal Park, Belfast

**MACKLYN, Walter Edmund**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Moore  
St, Belfast

**MARSHALL, Stanley**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Princetown Villas, Bangor. Trinity - PCI RH

**MacDONAGH, Brederick Mears**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Ruby  
Lodge, Bangor



**MacDONALD, George**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Order of St. George.  
Deramore Avenue, Belfast. Cooke Centenary - PCI RH

**MacDOWELL, James**

RNAS. Lieutenant. Russian Armoured Car Division. Russia  
and Rumania in 1916. James MacDowell papers PRONI  
T3896. Bangor

**MacFARLANE, John**

RNAS. Chief Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Lanford Street, Belfast

**McALPINE, Robert Alexander**

RNAS. Chief Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division  
HQ. Church Street, Bangor

**McCAUSLAND, Samuel Osborne**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Brigade. Order  
of St. Stanislaus (Russia). B 01/10/1892. D 16/11/1920. Son  
of Wm. McCausland, Cherryvale, Ravenhill Rd., Belfast.  
Campbell College 901. RBAI. Newtownbreda - PCI RH

**McCLELLAND, Thomas Lyle**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Fitzwilliam Street, Belfast

**McCONNELL, Edward**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car  
Division. Valentine Street, Belfast

**McCREADIE, Robert**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Springfield Rd, Bangor. Hamilton Road - PCI RH

## **McCULLOUGH, Frederick James**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Belgravia, Belfast.

## **+McCULLOUGH, Frederick James**

RNAS/RAF. Frederick James McCullough's name appears on the Fitzroy Avenue Presbyterian Church War Memorial plaque (although the surname is spelt McCulloch) and in the PCI Roll of Honour for the Fitzroy Avenue congregation.

After RBAI, Frederick McCullough studied civil engineering at Queen's University Belfast, where he gained military and leadership training as a member of the Officers' Training Corps.

On 15/11/1915, he was appointed to the Royal Naval Air Service (Russian Armoured Car Division) as a Petty Officer. He served in Russia under Commander Locker-Lampson before returning home to receive a commission in the Royal Garrison Artillery on 13th October 1916. He served with the Brigade Head Quarter's staff in France and was subsequently transferred to the 53rd Squadron Royal Flying Corps, as Flying Officer (Observer) on 08/10/1917.

He was killed in action on 08/11/1917. A report was received from the officer commanding the 10th Loyal North Lancashire Regiment stating that on 15th November: "when in the lines my unit found the bodies of two British airmen in "no-man's land", they were recovered and buried in the Northern end of Hollebeke Church. A cheque-book and letters were found on one of the bodies which showed it to be that of 2nd Lt L W Middleton RFC". This officer was reported missing when flying with Frederick James McCullough, so it was accepted that the other body was his.

Frederick James McCullough was re-interred in Voormezeele Cemetery in Flanders, Belgium. RBAI WM, QUB WM. QUB OTC RH. Fitzroy - PCI RH

**McCULLOUGH, John Oliver**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Abbey Street, Bangor

**McDONALD, George**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Station Rd, Larne, Co Antrim

**McDOWELL, Robert**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Bangor. Dairy at PRONI. Entry for Monday 18 December 1916 - "Arrived at Tulcea [Rumania] about 12 noon where we met the Scottish Women's Hospital. Met Mrs Maguire of Bangor. Introduced myself. Told her the difficulty we had with the mails both sending and receiving. She said the hospital people had the same difficulty. Funny thing I met a Mrs Faithful who told me she had a brother in the 1st Royal Irish Regiment at Salonika, Harold's regiment."

**McFERRAN, John Malachy**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Euston Street, Belfast

**McGAFFIN, John Alexander**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Dehli Street, Ormeau Rd, Belfast

**McGIMPSEY, William**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Sunnyside, Ballyholme, Bangor

**McGLADRIGAN, John Joseph**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Washington Street, Belfast

**McKEE, William James**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Springfield Rd, Bangor

**McKEOWN, William**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Masonic Lodge. Mill Street, Portaferry

**McQUOID, James**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Eversleigh Street. Castlereagh - PCI RH

**METCALF, James**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Derwent St, Belfast

**MILLAR, John Herbert Wilson**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Enlisted  
16/11/1915. Son of late Thomas Millar & Mary Wilson,  
Inchaleen, Garvagh. Married and lived in Portrush. Died of  
illness 30/11/1919. Aged 31. Ballywillan Old Cemetery.  
Portrush Presbyterian Church WM

**MILNE, George**

RNAS. POM. Russian Armoured Car Division. Beatrice Rd,  
Bangor

**MITCHELL, John Howard**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Strangmore Terr., Crumlin Rd., Belfast

**MURRAY, James**

RNAS. Chief Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Glenside. First Holywood - PCI RH

**NESBITT, Samuel**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Brookmount Street, Belfast

**NORTH, William Wesley**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Woodstock Road,  
Belfast

**NUMMIE, David**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. York  
Road, Belfast

**ORR, Charles**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Abbey  
Street, Bangor

**PINKERTON, John Dick**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Served in Russia and Rumania 1916 - 17. Pinkerton Papers  
PRONI D3754 include a typescript memoir. Later studied at  
North Western University, Evanston, Illinois, where he  
qualified as a dentist and practised in New Zealand. Was  
imprisoned by the Japanese after the fall of Singapore.  
Memoir - "From Ice to Rice". Ballaghmore, Ballymoney

**RICHARDSON, Henry F E**

RNAS. Chief Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Winnebah, Donaghadee

**RITCHIE, William**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Quay  
Place, Bangor



**ROBERTSON, Edward**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Russian award.  
Killowen Street, Belfast

**ROBINSON, Patrick**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Woodstock Road,  
Belfast

**RUSSELL, David**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division, Ballymaghee,  
Bangor

**SCOTT, J J**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Isoline  
Street, Belfast. McQuiston Memorial - PCI RH

**SEYERS, William Charles**

RNAS. Russian Armoured Car Division. Abbey Street,  
Bangor

**SMILES, Walter**

RNVR. RND Armoured Car Squadron. Lieutenant  
Commander. DSO. Russia and Rumania 1916 - 1918.

DSO citation - 10/08/1917 "Lieut Walter Dorling Smiles,  
R.N.V.R. In recognition of his services with a Naval  
Armoured Car Squadron in France, Belgium, Persia and  
Roumania. He was wounded on the 28th November, 1916,  
in the Dobrudja. On coming out of hospital he volunteered to  
lead a flying squadron for special duty round Braila, and his  
gallantry on this occasion was the chief factor of success.  
On one occasion, when in action with a light armoured car,  
he got out twice to start it up under heavy fire. Being struck  
by a bullet he rolled into a ditch and remained there all day  
under fire, having sent back a message to the Russian

Colonel in command asking him to allow none of his soldiers in any circumstances to risk their lives to save his car. He did not escape until night.”

Born 08/11/1883. Son of William Holmes Smiles, director of Belfast Ropeworks. In the 1920's he managed a tea estate in Assam, became involved in local government, and was a member of the Assam Legislative Council.

He was Conservative Member of Parliament for Blackburn from 1931 to 1945. He was re-elected in 1935 but stood for Down in Northern Ireland at the 1945 Westminster election as a Unionist. The two-seat constituency was split in 1950 into North Down and South Down. He won North Down that year and remained its MP until his death 31/01/1953. He lost his life in the sinking of the MV Princess Victoria off Larne Lough, in the Great Storm. He was succeeded by his daughter, Patricia Ford. He is the great-grandfather of explorer, and Hon. Commodore RNR, Bear Grylls. Westbank, Strandtown, Belfast. Smiles papers PRONI D3437.

### **SMYTH, James**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Elmgrove Terrace, Belfast. Eglinton Street - PCI RH

### **STANFIELD, James**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Donegall Pass, Belfast

### **STOREY, Robert James Craig**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Main Street, Randalstown

**SUNNERTON, Joseph**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Chatsworth Street, Belfast

**SWAN, Robert**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Halcombe Street, Belfast

**SWAN, William Douglas**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Halcombe Street, Belfast

**THOMPSON, Arthur**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Portallo Street, Cregagh Rd, Belfast.

**THOMPSON, Benjamin**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Orient  
Gardens, Belfast

**THOMPSON, Robert**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. 45  
Westmoreland Street, Belfast

**TITTERINGTON, Albert Edward**

RNAS. Chief Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Windsor Gardens, University Rd, Belfast

**TOTTON, William**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division. Blyth  
Street, Belfast

**USHER, William**

RNAS. Petty Officer. Russian Armoured Car Division.  
Ballywater Park, Ballywalter

## On this day – August 10

**1916**

THE RANK AND FILE.

Other Districts.

... [Elliott, Trooper W.](#), Service Squadron, Inniskilling Dragoons, Lough Eryes, Lisbellaw, wounded.

*(Belfast News-Letter, 10 August 1916)*

**1917**

**SMILES, Walter**

RNVR. RND Armoured Car Squadron. Lieutenant Commander. DSO. Russia and Rumania 1916 - 1918.

DSO citation - 10/08/1917 "Lieut Walter Dorling Smiles, R.N.V.R. In recognition of his services with a Naval Armoured Car Squadron in France, Belgium, Persia and Roumania. He was wounded on the 28th November, 1916, in the Dobrudja. On coming out of hospital he volunteered to lead a flying squadron for special duty round Braila, and his gallantry on this occasion was the chief factor of success. On one occasion, when in action with a light armoured car, he got out twice to start it up under heavy fire. Being struck by a bullet he rolled into a ditch and remained there all day under fire, having sent back a message to the Russian Colonel in command asking him to allow none of his soldiers in any circumstances to risk their lives to save his car. He did not escape until night."

Born 08/11/1883. Son of William Holmes Smiles, director of Belfast Ropeworks. In the 1920's he managed a tea estate in Assam, became involved in local government, and was a member of the Assam Legislative Council.

He was Conservative Member of Parliament for Blackburn from 1931 to 1945. He was re-elected in 1935 but stood for Down in Northern Ireland at the 1945 Westminster election as a Unionist. The two-seat constituency was split in 1950 into North Down and South Down. He won North Down that year and remained its MP until his death 31/01/1953. He lost his life in the sinking of the MV Princess Victoria off Larne Lough, in the Great Storm. He was succeeded by his daughter, Patricia Ford. He is the great-grandfather of explorer, and Hon. Commodore RNR, Bear Grylls. Westbank, Strandtown, Belfast. Smiles papers PRONI D3437.

## 1943



38 (Irish) Brigade at the Simeto river:

38 (Irish) Brigade at the Simeto river: 1 RIrF - CO called to 36 Brigade HQ for recce & conference for forthcoming operation. 38 Brigade to take Mt Albetto. 2 LIR - Battalion warned to move & concentrate across River Simeto. Died on this Day: Rifleman David McClatchey - See Roll of Honour below.

## 1945



Faced with the threat of more atomic bombs and the menace of the Soviets, Japan announced that it was willing to surrender provided the future status of the Emperor could be assured.



## Roll of Honour – August 10

*Representing their comrades who died on this day*

**1915**

**+BUCHANAN John**

Royal Irish Rifles, 6<sup>th</sup> Btn. Corporal. 10638. Died August 10/08/1915 at Gallipoli. He was born in and enlisted at Ballymena, though he lived in Belfast. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

**+CLEMENTS, William**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Private. 10721. Died 10/08/1915. Age 19. Son of William and Annie Clements, of 101, Lilliput St., Belfast. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

**+CONLON, Owen**

Royal Irish Rifles, 6th Btn. Rifleman. 10931. Died 10/08/1915. Age 20. Son of Owen and Margaret Conlon, of 8, Omar St., Belfast.

A cousin writes - Believed to have fallen during the Battle of Sari Bair, which the battalion fought shortly after landing at Anzac Cove on the evening of 5 August 1915. As his



remains were never recovered like so many, there is no grave for Owen, simply a mention on the Helles memorial.

An extract from the diaries of James Healy Hamill Pollock from Ballymoney, Co Antrim, who served as Machine Gun officer with 6th Royal Irish Rifles, which was part of 10th (Irish) Division:

"Monday 9th. What a day. We came up close to the firing line. A staff officer yelled to me to get my guns up into action on a ridge. I did it in half an hour. More than half A Company are gone and there is no report of B or D. A battalion advanced just as I got up to the ridge and we're nearly all wiped out. Lavery is wounded. I have shot one sniper. Pettigrew got 2. There is very little to do for the guns. I can't get ammunition or water. The Hampshire's are getting full in the fight it's awful to see them going down before the shrapnel It is reported the Turks are going to attack.

"Tuesday 10th. My God what a night. We can't last long at this if some reinforcements don't come. We drove off one attack. A Company are nearly all gone. We were attacked about 5.30 again and lose every [ ] my 2 guns. I was shot about 7 or 8 in the head. The Commanding Officer and all but 3 or 4 officers are gone. I'm on a hospital ship.

"Sunday 15th. I left Anzac on a hospital ship for Mudros. At Mudros I was shifted on to the Georgia cattle boat on Wednesday. Wednesday night we moved up to Mudros Bay stayed on the Georgia with 850 wounded till Saturday morning when we got aboard the Aquitania. Left Mudros for Home this morning." Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

**+FALLS, Thomas**

Royal Irish Rifles, 6th Btn. D Coy. Rifleman.10934. Died 10/08/1915. Age 19. Son of John Falls, of 162, Cambrai St., Belfast, and the late Charlotte Falls. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

**+GALLAGHER, John**

Royal Irish Rifles, 6th Btn. A Coy. Rifleman.7355. Died 10/08/1915. Age 43. Son of John and Margaret Gallagher, of Cavan; husband to Annie Gallagher, of 112, Utility St., Belfast. 7<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Cemetery, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

**+GORDON, D**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Private. 3406. Died 10/08/1915. Age 19. Born in Belfast. Son of James Gordon, of I, Bunker Hill Court, Charlestown, Boston, Mass., U.S.A. Shorncliffe Military Cemetery, Kent

**+HAYDOCK, Richard**

Royal Irish Rifles, 6th Btn. Lance Corporal.4503. Died 10/08/1915. Age 19. Son of Richard Haydock, of 84, Fortingale St., Belfast. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

**+KENNEDY, John**

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 5th Btn. C Coy. Private.18200. Died 10/08/1915. Son of James and Sarah Jane Kennedy; husband to Catherine Kennedy, of 38, Primrose Hill, Armagh. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

## **+LENNOX, Edward**

Royal Irish Rifles. 2nd Btn. Rifleman.40953. Died 10/08/1915 during the attack on Westhoek, part of the Third Battle of Ypres. Around April 1916 at Kilrea he enlisted in the cavalry (Hussars No.24918) and after spending some time at the cavalry reserve at the Curragh, was posted to the North Irish Horse at Antrim. In December 1916 Lennox volunteered to transfer to the Royal Irish Rifles (No.40953). Initially posted to the 1st Battalion, in January 1917 he was posted to the 2nd Battalion and embarked for France. In 1917, Edward's battalion was moved into trenches at Langemarck near Ypres, Belgium, where they were to take part in a preliminary battle before the main attack at Passchendaele. The battle of Langemarck was due to start on the 16th August with the 36th fighting alongside their former foes in Ireland, the 16th (Irish) Division.

Sir Philip Gibb's account from the time stated: "They were left in the line for sixteen days before the battle, and were shelled and gassed incessantly as they crouched in wet ditches. Every day groups of men were blown to bits, until the ditches were bloody and the living lay by the corpses of their comrades. Every day scores of wounded crawled back through the bogs, if they had the strength to crawl. Before the attack on August 16th the Ulster Division had lost nearly 2,000 men. Then they attacked and lost 2,000 more and over 100 officers."

Edward Lennox was one of that first 2,000, killed on the 10th August 1917. Unsurprisingly, his body never found. His brother James also served in the First World War under different circumstances. He had emigrated to the USA before the War, but returned to Europe as a soldier in the

U.S. Army. He survived and returned to see out his days in Manhattan. Edward Lennox was born on 11/12/1896 at Moynock, Kilrea, County Londonderry, son of farmer Robert Lennox and his wife Jane Lennox (formerly Lennox). Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West Vlaanderen, Belgium. Kilrea WM. A plaque in St Patrick's church, Kilrea, where he had been a Sunday school teacher.

### **+LEWIS, William**

Royal Irish Rifles, 6th Btn. Rifleman. 10501. Died 10/08/1915. Born in Blaris Co. Antrim, he lived and enlisted in Lisburn. He was the son of Margaret Lewis of 40 Ballynahinch Road, Lisburn. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

### **+LOUGHLIN, James**

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 5th Btn, Sergeant. 5/11787. Died 10/08/1915. Age 42. Born at Keady, Co. Armagh. Son of Daniel and Bridget Loughlin. Husband to Elizabeth Loughlin, Bandon Rd., Cork. Green Hill Cemetery, Gallipoli, Turkey

### **+LYONS, Thomas**

Royal Irish Rifles, 6th Btn. Rifleman. 11501. Died 10/08/1915. Age 22. Son of Peter and Emily Lyons, of 7, Greenland St., Belfast. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

### **+McGLINCHEY, Robert**

Royal Dublin Fusiliers, 6th Btn, C Coy. Private .13034. Died 10/08/1915. Aged 34. Enlisted at Kilsyth, Stirlingshire, Aug., 1914. Son of Robert and Mary McGlinchey, of Kildrum, Killea, Londonderry. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

### **+McILFATRICK, Daniel**

Royal Irish Rifles, 6th Btn. Rifleman.10499. Died 10/08/1915. Aged 27. Born in Coleraine, he enlisted at Lisburn. In the Lisburn Standard of 24/09/1915 his wife had been notified that he had been wounded at Gallipoli but was, “without information as to the extent of wounds or the name of the hospital where he is under treatment and would be glad to receive news from any of her husband’s comrades”. He was the son of William and Mary McIlfatrick of Ballinamallard, Co. Fermanagh and husband of Annie McIlfatrick of 44 Church Street, Lisburn. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

### **+McINTOSH, Daniel**

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 5th Btn. Private. 15760. Died 10/08/1915. Aged 38. Born Ballycastle. Son of John and Jane McIntosh, Mill Street, Ballycastle. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey. Ballycastle WM

### **+McLAUGHLIN, John**

Royal Irish Rifles, 6th Btn. A Coy. Rifleman.11131. Died 10/08/1915. Aged 25. Born at Derry, enlisted at Belfast. Son of Mrs. Mary McLaughlin, of 8 Meadowbank Place, Lisburn Rd., Belfast. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

### **+McQUADE, William**

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 5th Btn. D Coy. Private. 12220. Died 10/08/1915. Age 40. Husband of Mary McQuade, of 4, Britton St., Belfast. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

## **+MORGAN, William**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Btn. Private. Died 10/08/1915. Aged 20. Born and living in Lisburn in Longstone Street, before the war he was employed in Marsh's Biscuit Factory in Belfast. A member of the UVF (Tyrone Volunteers) he enlisted in Belfast. He was the son of the late James and Eliza Ann Morgan of 43 (or 34) Longstone Street, Lisburn, Co. Antrim. At the time of her son's death Eliza Morgan was married to Thomas Cathcart who was himself on active service. In a letter to Mrs. Cathcart, Major Muriel wrote, "Your son was a good soldier and died doing his duty. We have lost a good comrade". Rev. John Redmond, the Chaplain wrote, "Your son's Company Officer spoke to me in the highest terms of him. He was a good soldier and showed great courage in the face of great personal peril. In the discharge of his duty he was faithful, even unto death; and what greater or nobler thing could be said of any man. He gave his life for a great and righteous cause that is worthy of the sacrifice, and you have great reason to be proud of his memory. Still, as his mother, his loss will be very sad news to you. Will you please accept my heartfelt sympathy with you in your great sorrow, and I earnestly pray that God may give you His own comfort and sustain you in this time of great trouble". Family notice in the Lisburn Herald on 08/09/1917. New Irish Farm Cemetery, St. Jean-Les-Ypres, Belgium

## **+NEILL, Rifleman Albert E**

Royal Irish Rifles, 20th Btn. Died 10/08/1915 at home. Lived at the Maze. Blaris Old Cemetery, Lisburn

**+PEWS, Robert S**

Royal Irish Rifles, 6th Btn. Rifleman. 11150. Died 10/08/1915. Born in Omagh, he enlisted at Lisburn. He was the son of Mrs. Eliza Jane Pews of 31 Gregg Street, Lisburn and brother of William George Pews. Official confirmation of his death was only received by his mother late in 1916 or in early January 1917. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

**+ROBINSON, James Henry**

Royal Irish Rifles, 6th Btn. C Coy. Lance Corporal. 10677. Died 10/08/1915. Age 17. Son of William John and Sarah Robinson, of The Chief Fire Station, Belfast. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

**+STAFFORD, David James**

6th Bn. Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Private. 13377. Died 10/08/1915. Aged 28. Son of James Stafford, of Savanaghanroe, Eglish, Dungannon, Co. Tyrone. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

**1916**

**+CROZIER, James**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Private. 21285. Died 10/08/1916. Age 29. Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Crozier, of Bridge St., Irvinestown, Co. Fermanagh. Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium

**+McGARRY, John**

5th Bn. Queens Own Cameron Highlanders. Private. S/ 22767. Died 10/08/1916. Aged 20. Born in Hamilton, Scotland. Son of Francis McGarry, and a brother of P.



McGarry, a hairdresser in Ballycastle. Thiepval Memorial, panel 15b. Ballycastle WM

### **+NEILL, Albert V**

Royal Irish Rifles. 20<sup>th</sup> Btn. Rifleman 110. Died in Military Hospital, Belfast of carcinoma of the lung on 10/08/1916. Age 28. Born 1885 at Co.Wexford to Thomas and Anna Maria Neill. In 1901 aged 16 with his parents at 127 Maze, County Down, still at school. His father was Acting Sergeant, Royal Irish Constabulary. In 1911 his parents were at 111 Maze. Albert was a farm labourer to the Fullerton family at 58 Maze, Co Down. Blaris Old Burial Ground, Co. Down.

### **+THOMAS, David**

Royal Irish Rifles, 15th Btn. Rifleman. 19/58. Died 10/08/1916. Age 43. Husband to Mary Thomas, of 57, Sussex St., Belfast. Ration Farm (La Plus Douve) Annexe, Belgium

### **+WATSON, James Norman**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 1st Btn. A Coy. Second Lieutenant. Died 10/08/1916 from gas poisoning a month after disembarking in France. Age 22 . Born 05/01/1894. Son of Frances Watson, of Avon Lodge, Armagh, and the late James A. Watson. Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium

**1917**

**+BOGLE, Robert Albert**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 12th Btn. Second Lieutenant. Military Medal. Died 10/08/1917 at Passchendaele. Age 30. Son of William Bogle, of 7, Princes St., Londonderry. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.  
Londonderry Diamond WM

**+CLINTON, John**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Btn. Private. 11909. Died 10/08/1917. Age 31. Husband to Jane Clinton, of 2, Oswald St., Belfast. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

**+COLHOUN, James**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 10th Btn. Private. 15417. Died 10/08/1917. Age 26. Son of John and Eliza Colhoun, of Londonderry. Brandhoek New Military Cemetery, Belgium.  
Londonderry Diamond WM

**+CULL, Daniel**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 8923. Died 10/08/1917. Born in Kirkinriola and enlisted in Ballymena. Ypres Memorial (Menin Gate), Belgium.

**+DONALDSON, James**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Lance Corporal. 6920. Died 10/08/1917. Age 22. Son of James and Jane Donaldson, of 32, Ton St., Belfast. Longuenesse (St Omer) Souvenir Cemetery, France

### **+DONNELLY, John**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 7th/8th Btn. A Coy. Private. 21989. Died 10/08/1917. Age 19. Son of James and Annie Donnelly, of Ballymaclinaghan, Claudy, Co. Derry. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

### **+DUNCAN, Joseph**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 9th Btn. Corporal. 27388. Died 10/08/1917. Age 29. Son of Annie Duncan, of Colebrooke, Brookeborough, Co. Fermanagh, and the late Edward Duncan. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

### **+FARLEY, George Herbert**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 3rd Btn. Second Lieutenant. Died 16/08/1917. Age 22. Born on 21/05/1895 at 44 South Parade, Belfast, son of Inland Revenue officer Thomas Farley and his wife Ellen (nee Lowry). He was educated at the Perth Academy, Perth, Scotland, where he studied farming, later living in Ayr.

Farley enlisted in the North Irish Horse at Antrim on 27/09/1915 (No.1731). On 18/05/1916 he embarked for France and was posted to D Squadron, which was then joining with A and E Squadrons to form the 1st North Irish Horse Regiment. On 8 September that year he sought a commission in the Royal Irish Rifles, his application supported by his commanding officer Lord Cole, who wrote that "He is well educated, keen & trustworthy."

Farley left the regiment for home on 24/11/1916, reporting for duty at the No.2 Officer Cadet Battalion, Pembroke College, Cambridge, the following month. He was

commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant on 30/05/ 1917 and posted to the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Soon after he was sent to France, where he was attached to the 8th Battalion in the field on the Ypres front.

On 16/08/1917 the 8th Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers took part in the Battle of Langemarck, part of the Third Ypres offensive. The battalion war diary for the day recorded that of its 29 officers, five were killed, six wounded, two wounded and missing, and two missing. Farley was one of the dead. Two days before the attack he had written the briefest of wills, which was later found with his kit: Should I not see the end of this push I leave everything to my mother Mrs Ellie Farley, Benoni, Roy Road, Northwood, Middlesex. Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

### **+GREER, John**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 10663. Died 10/08/1917. Age 33. He was with the 6th (Service) Battalion of the Royal Irish Rifles when it landed at Salonika on 05/10/1915. From his number it seems likely that John enlisted between 8 and 21/08/1914 and joined 6th Battalion at the outset but did not, for some reason, sail with the battalion to Gallipoli. At some point he transferred to 2nd Battalion. Son of James and Annie Greer, of 8, Valentia Place, Newcastle, Co. Down. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Newcastle WM

### **+GREER, William**

Royal Irish Rifles, 12th Btn. Rifleman. 17770. Died 10/08/1917. From Corbally, Gracehill. Ypres Memorial (Menin Gate), Belgium.

## **+HALE, Neason Henry**

Royal Irish Rifles. 1st Btn. Rifleman. 40841. Formerly of the North Irish Horse. Died on or since 16/08/1917. Hale was born on 31/10/1894 at Ballytun, Dirraw, near Ballymoney, County Antrim, son of groom William John Hale and his wife Annie Rose (nee Speers). The family later lived at nearby Finvoy Lodge. From 1912 to 1916 Hale was employed by the Ulster Bank. In late January or early February 1916 he enlisted in the North Irish Horse (No.2096). In November that year Hale, together with around 100 other North Irish Horsemen, volunteered to transfer to the Royal Irish Rifles (No.40841). They embarked for France on 7 December, where they joined the 1st Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles, on the Somme front. In May 1917 Hale was hospitalised due to illness contracted on active service. On 16/08/1917 the 1st Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles took part in the Battle of Langemarck, part of the Third Ypres offensive. The battalion war diary for the day listed 27 other ranks killed, 7 wounded and missing, 170 wounded, and 63 missing. Hale was one of the missing. He was later officially presumed dead 'on or since' 16 August. (*Belfast News-Letter*, 19 September 1917). According to family recollections, "until her dying day his mother always believed that one day he would come home. ... When the family headstone was erected in the grounds of Finvoy Parish Church, Neason's mother would not allow his name to be inscribed on it and it was only put there after her death, so strong was her conviction that he would turn up. For over thirty years every knock at her door was answered with a glow of hope that it would be her long lost son." Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

### **+HAMILTON, James**

Royal Irish Rifles, 11th Btn. Corporal. 1293. Died 10/08/1917. Age 20. Born at Duneane, Randalstown and enlisted in Lisburn. Son of John Hamilton of Ballymatoskerty, Toomebridge. Ballymena Observer, August 24, 1917 - The relatives of Lance Corporal James Hamilton, Royal Irish Rifles, of Ballymatoskerty, Toomebridge, have been informed that he was killed in action on August 12 (sic) 1917. Ypres Memorial (Menin Gate), Belgium.

### **+HAMILTON, John**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 10827. (formerly 6919 Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders) Died 10/08/1917. Born at Glenravel and enlisted in Glasgow. Ypres Memorial (Menin Gate), Belgium.

### **+HUNTER, J**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 1st Btn. Private. 21065. Died 10/08/1916. Age 28. Son of Joseph and Margaret J. Hunter, of Dromore, Coleraine. Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium

### **+HUTCHINSON, John**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 10th Btn. Private. 15624. Died 10/08/1917. Age 33. Son of Mrs. S. Hutchinson, of Bellhouse Lane, Coleraine, Co. Londonderry, and the late Mr. John Hutchinson. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

## **+JORDAN, W**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 9th Btn. Private. 27374. Died 10/08/1917. Age 23. Son of Margaret Jordan, of Corlacky, Fivemiletown. New Irish Farm Cemetery, Belgium

## **+LAVERY, Charles**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 9789. Died 10/08/1917. Age 22. Son of Felix and Ellen Jane Lavery, of 1, Clara St., Lurgan. Hooze Crater Cemetery, Ypres/Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

## **+LENNOX, Edward**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 40953. Died 10/08/1917. during the attack on Westhoek, part of the Third Battle of Ypres. Around April 1916 at Kilrea he enlisted in the cavalry (Hussars No.24918) and after spending some time at the cavalry reserve at the Curragh, was posted to the North Irish Horse at Antrim. In December 1916 Lennox volunteered to transfer to the Royal Irish Rifles (No.40953). Initially posted to the 1st Battalion, in January 1917 he was posted to the 2nd Battalion and embarked for France. Born on 11/12/896 at Moydock, Kilrea, County Londonderry, son of farmer Robert Lennox and his wife Jane Lennox (nee Lennox). Menim Gate Memorial, Ypres, West - Vlaanderen, Belgium

## **+McCLATCHEY, Samuel**

Royal Field Artillery, 17th Bde., 92nd Bty. Bombardier. Died 10/08/1917. Age 24. Native of Lurgan. Son of the late Samuel and Sarah McClatchey, of Lurgan; husband to I. McClatchey, of Court Devenish, Athlone, Co. Westmeath. Bleuet Farm Cemetery, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium



**+McCLATCHIE, Edward Alexander**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 10th Btn. C Coy. Second Lieutenant. Died 10/08/1917. Age 19. Son of John and Mary Jane McClatchie, of Portrush. Mendinghem Mendinghem Military Cemetery, Belgium

**+McCORMACK, William**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. D Coy. Rifleman. 4971. Died 10/08/1917. Age 23. Son of Jane McCormack, of 26, James St., Lurgan. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

**+McINTYRE, William**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 10th Btn. Private. 19065. Died 10/08/1917. Age 23. Son of William John and Margaret McIntyre, of Cloyfin, Coleraine. Ypres (Menin Gate), Belgium

**+McKEE, Patrick Joseph**

Royal Irish Rifles, 3rd Btn attached 2nd Btn. Second Lieutenant. Died 10/08/1917. Member of the QUB Training Corps 1915-1916. Trevor Street, Holywood. Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres, West - Vlaanderen, Belgium

**+MILLAR, Hugh**

Royal Irish Rifles, 11th Btn. Rifleman. 40261. Died 10/08/1917. Age 28. Son of George and Rachel Millar, of Coleraine. Brandhoek New Military Cemetery, Belgium

**+MONTGOMERY, Alexander**

Royal Irish Rifles, 11th Btn. Rifleman. 850. Died 10/08/1917. Age 39. Son of Robert and Margaret Montgomery, of Patrick

Place, Ballymena; husband to Jane Montgomery, of 4, Princes St., Ballymena. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

**+MORGAN, Samuel Valentine**

Royal Irish Rifles. 2nd Btn. Captain. Died 10/08/1917. Aged 37. Son of Serjt. Instructor of Musketry John Morgan, of Newtownards; husband to Rose Gertrude Morgan, of 53, Southwell Rd., Bangor, Co. Down. His brother John, Lieutenant, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, also fell 16/05/1915. Menim Gate Memorial, Ypres, West - Vlaanderen, Belgium. Family memorial, Movilla Cemetery, Newtownards

**+MORGAN, W**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 9th Btn. Private. Died 10/08/917. Age 20. Son of James and Eliza Ann Morgan, of 34, Longstone St., Lisburn. New Irish Farm Cemetery, Belgium

**+NIXON, Thomas Henry**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 10th Btn. Private. 26918. Died 10/08/1917. Age 21. Son of Edward Nixon, of Ferney, Ballinamallard, Co. Fermanagh. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

**+PLATT, Samuel**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 10th Btn. Private. 11099. Died 10/08/1917. Age 34. Served as Orr. Born Articlave. Son of Esther Platt, Articlave. Enlisted Castlerock. Bedford House Cemetery. Castlerock Presbyterian Church RH

**+SHERIDAN, M**

Royal Irish Rifles. 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 5829. Died 10/08/1917. Son of Margaret McInernay, of Town View, Scarra Rd., Banbridge. Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium

### **+TAYLOR, William Henry John**

Royal Dublin Fusiliers, 8th Btn. Private. 41054. Died 10/08/1917. Aged 39. Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Husband to Beatrice Irene Taylor, of 12, Albert Place, Lisnally, Armagh. Served in the South African War. Twelve years service with the Queen's Bays. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West Vlaanderen, Belgium

### **+WEIR, William James**

Royal Irish Rifles, 12th Btn. Rifleman. 12/19311. Died 10/08/1917. Age 28. He deployed to France in October 1915. William was born on 30/06/1890 at Drummaul near Randalstown to William Weir and Charlotte Morgan. In 1911, the family was living at Meetinghouse Street in Larne and William was employed as a Cloth Passer. William and Nora Barr married on 30/04/1915 at Larne Methodist Church and they lived at 20 Mill Brae in Larne. His brother, Rifleman Matthew Weir of the same battalion and regiment, is also commemorated on Larne War memorial. He had been discharged due to wounds in 1917 and died of Septic Pneumonia on 12/01/1919, aged 27, and is buried in the Greenland Cemetery in Larne. Brandhoek New Military Cemetery, Belgium. Larne WM

### **+WHITE, Robert**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 7896. Died 10/08/1917. Son of Samuel White, Knockboy, Broughshane. Ballymena Observer, September 29, 1917 - "Mr Samuel White. Knockboy, Broughshane, has been notified by the war office that his son, Private Robert White, Royal Irish Rifles, has been killed in action on 10th August last. This is Mr. White's second son to meet the same fate. The other, Private William White, Irish Guards being killed on 15th September 1916. Mr. White has another son and a son-in-law serving at the front." Ypres Memorial (Menin Gate), Belgium.

### **+WILKINSON, Kennedy**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 9389. Died 10/08/1917. Son of the late William John and Elizabeth Wilkinson, of 1, Bristol St., Belfast. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

## **1918**

### **+McGOVERAN, Patrick Joseph**

Rifle Brigade, 1st Btn. Rifleman. O/711. Died 10/08/1918. Age 22 years old. Son of Patrick Edward and Louisa McGoveran, of 89, Killowen St., Belfast. Loos Memorial, France

### **+MIDWINTER, William**

Army Service Corps. Corporal T4/128738. Died 10/08/1918. He joined up on 14/08/1915 aged 21 years and 184 days, occupation Groom. He was posted to the Army Camp at Clandeboye Estate, Bangor, County Down. He and

Margaret Roslyn nee McKendry married on 07/09/1915 at the Abbey Church, Bangor, County Down. On the 09/06/1916 he embarked Southampton on S.S. Tudus for France, disembarking the next day at Rouen. He was posted to the 8th Auxiliary Horse Transport Company, 255 Company (Ulster) Army Service Corps (255 company was formed in May 1915) 32nd Divisional Train, Army Service Corps. On the 19/05/1916 he was promoted to Lance Corporal and to Corporal 10/06/1916. On the 10/08/1918 he was with the 1st Company, 32nd Divisional Train on a train which was strafed by enemy aircraft. Born in Holywood, County Down. Son of Edward of Crawfordsburn. and husband to Margaret of Ballycastle County Antrim. Fouquescourt British Cemetery, Somme, France. Glencraig, Holy Trinity War Memorial

## 1942

### **+POLLOCK, Herbert Mercer**

RNVR. Lieutenant (A). Served WW1. Died 10/08/1942. Age 42. HMS Condor. Entered Royal School Dungannon 1900. Son of James and Annie Olivia Pollock. Husband to Iris Isobel Pollock, Malone, Belfast. Arbroath Western Cemetery. RNIYC WM

## 1943

### **+CALDER, Leonard**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 7<sup>th</sup> Btn. Rifleman. 7019561. Died 10/08/1943. A train carrying men of the Royal Ulster Rifles collided with another train at the station at Scarborough. This caused the death of 3 Ulster men including William

Hall, and William Jamieson (Date of death 12/08/1943). A fourth soldier, John Harman also died in the collision. The incident came about when a signalman pulled the wrong signal. An inquest found no evidence of criminal negligence, returning verdicts of accidental death. He was the son of John Calder, a Royal Irish Rifles veteran, of Belfast, and husband of Susan Calder of 31 Andrew Street, Belfast. Carnmoney Cemetery, Newtownabbey. His remains lie next to colleague, neighbour, and brother-in-law, Rifleman William Henry Jamieson (Date of death 12/08/1943), who died as a result of the same incident.

### **+EWING, Albert Robert**

Royal Ulster Rifles. 1st Btn. The London Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 7022115. Died 10/08/1943. Age 21. Son of Albert and Mary Florence Ewing, of Belfast. Catania War Cemetery, Sicily, Italy

### **+HALL, William**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 7th Btn. Rifleman. 7019578. Died 10/08/1943. Aged 21. A train carrying men of the Royal Ulster Rifles collided with another train at the station at Scarborough. This caused the death of 3 Ulster men including William Henry Jamieson (Date of death 12/08/1943) and Leonard Calder. A fourth soldier, John Harman also died in the collision. The incident came about when a signalman pulled the wrong signal. An inquest found no evidence of criminal negligence, returning verdicts of accidental death. William was the son of William Hall and Mary Hall of Glynn, Co. Antrim. Before the war, William Junior worked as a fitter in Larne Foundry and his father was a driver on the LMS Railway. St John's C of I, Glynn

**+MAY, Harold Anthony Kidd**

RAFVR. Flight Lieutenant. 81372. Died 10/08/1943. Aged 21. 511 Sqdn. After Bangor Grammar School, Tony joined the RAF on outbreak of hostilities and was promoted to Flight Officer in September 1940 at the age of 19. In August 1943, he was "reported missing, presumed lost at sea on air operations." Born in 1922, the son of Harold Kidd May, M.C., and his wife Cicely Alice May (nee Ray). Runnymede Memorial. Family memorial Bangor cemetery.

**+McCLATCHEY, David**

London Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Royal Ulster Rifles, Rifleman. Died of his wounds 10/08/1943 in Italy. Aged 30. David was wounded in the head during the invasion of Sicily, was captured by the Germans and died undergoing surgery in an enemy hospital. David was the son of Edward and Isobel McClatchey of 22, Queen Street Portadown. Husband to Carol McClatchey at 2, Mons Villas, Armagh Road, Portadown. Had been member of 1<sup>st</sup> Portadown BB. Cassino Memorial, Italy, Portadown WM, St. Mark's Parish Church WM

**1944**

**+HALL, George**

2nd Btn. Royal Ulster Rifles. Rifleman. 14334018. Died 10/08/1944. Aged 20. St Charles de Percy War Cemetery, Calvados, France

**+MOLYNEAUX, Herbert**

Royal Artillery. Gunner. 1573247. Died 10/08/1944. Aged 34. 4 Anti Aircraft Tractor Battery. Son of William R. Molyneaux



and Rachel Molyneaux of Belfast; Husband to Agnes Molyneaux of Belfast. Carnmoney C of I Churchyard

## **+NUGENT, Patrick**

Royal Artillery, 9 Coast Regt. Gunner. 833408.

Died 10/08/1944. Aged 31. Son of Patrick and Susan Nugent, of Omagh. Kanchanaburi War Cemetery, Thailand

# Every Day is a Remembrance Day

## *We will remember them*

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## remembrance ni

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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 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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