



remembrance ni



**August 25. This day in 1944, Allied forces liberate Paris after 4 years of German occupation.**

**Today's record includes a lecturer at Queen's killed in 1914, 4 RAF fatalities in WW2 who reflect the war over Germany, and Samuel Patterson, a Shankill Road**

**submariner decorated for “undaunted courage, skill, and devotion to duty in successful patrols”.**

## On this day – August 25

**1914**



The Retreat from Mons, August -September 1914. French infantry on the march. Photograph taken from an automobile. IWM Q 109679

Rearguard action at Landrecies. The Line of Le Cateau-Esnes occupied.

The Germans take Sedan, Maubeuge invested as Mulhausen is again evacuated by the French.

The Last Namur fort is silenced.

## **1916**

14th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles - The War Diary reports all quiet but Rifleman John O'Hara dies from wounds. John aged 32 and from originally County Sligo was a Roman Catholic. All denominations served in the Ulster Division, John is buried in Bailluel Communal. Second Lieutenant John Denys Shine, Aged 19, 1st Btn. attd. 2nd Btn. Royal Irish Regiment, from Dungarvan, Co. Waterford, died in action.

## **1939**

A mutual assistance treaty is signed by Poland and Britain. Mussolini complains to Hitler that he is not yet ready for war.

## **1940**

Luftwaffe attacks continue against the RAF's airfields in southeast England.

The first night-attack by RAF on Berlin's industrial targets is made by 43 aircraft from RAF Bomber Command in retaliation for the accidental attack on London the night before.

German U-boats sink 5 more British ships from the convoys HX-65 and HX-65A near Hebrides, Scotland.

## **1941**

Panzer Group 2, along with the 2nd Army, attack southeast from their positions around Gomel and Bryansk, in an





### **HMS Hood seen from HMS Repulse**

attempt to link up with units of Army Group South and encircle Kiev. Panzer Group 1 begins a breakout towards the north from its bridgeheads across the Dnieper, with the aim of linking up with units of Army Group Centre east of Kiev. The German 6th Army engages the bulk of the Soviet forces gathered around Kiev to stop them from retreating.

British and Soviet forces enter Iran, opening up a route to supply the Soviet Union.

### **1942**

RAF officer Prince George, Duke of Kent, brother of King George VI, is killed in a plane crash in Scotland, age 39, the first death of a member of the Royal family in military service in 450 years.

The 4th Panzer Army breaks off attacks south of Stalingrad. Communist Party Committee of Stalingrad proclaims a state of siege.



**Avro Lancaster PA474 of the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight displaying in the skies above RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire. Photo by Lisa Harding**

According to some sources Japanese succeed in landing troops on Guadalcanal in the night from destroyers. Nauru, Gilbert Is. and Goodenough, off the SE coast of New Guinea are occupied by Japanese. Battle of Milne Bay, Papua, begins. Japanese Special Naval Landing Force of 1,200 men come ashore.

Battle of Eastern Solomon's continues with a Japanese destroyer being sunk off Santa Isabel.

**The Malta War Diary records the following:-**

**RAF ATTACK TANKER**

21 Spitfires today carried out a second Rodeo raid over Sicily and six Beaufighters escorted by six Spitfires attacked

an Axis fuel tanker off Tripoli. The raids were not without casualties: two Spitfires ditched into the sea with the loss of their pilots. A Martin Baltimore was sent on search patrol failed to return.

## **MALTA AIR RAIDS 25 AUGUST TO DAWN 26 AUGUST 1942**

AM His Excellency the Governor and Commander in Chief returns from the Middle East.

1139 hrs 30 plus enemy fighter aircraft approach the Island but only half cross the coast. Spitfires engage.

1520 hrs Six enemy aircraft approach the Island, believed to be on reconnaissance. Malta Spitfires scrambled: no engagement.

Military casualties Pilot Officer Basil Butler; Royal Canadian Air Force; Flying Officer Reginald Round, Royal New Zealand Air Force; both 249 Squadron. Sergeant Eric Cragg, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve (RAF VR); Flying Officer John Foster, RAF VR; Flight Sergeant Raymond Harvey, RAF VR; Sergeant Mervyn McCrea, RAF VR; all 69 Squadron.

Unfortunately there are no specific details regarding Sergeant McCrea however 69 Squadron flew Baltimore aircraft at this time.

## **1943**

140 Allied fighters and 136 bombers strafe and bomb the airfield at Foggia, as part of the preparations for the invasion

of the Italian mainland. Many axis aircraft are destroyed in these raids.

The Russians continue their advance to the West of Kharkov.

Lord Mountbatten becomes the supreme allied commander in South East Asia Command. US forces complete the capture of New Georgia in the Pacific. Japanese fall back to Francisco River where it runs into Bayern Bay on New Guinea while being pursued by Australian and American troops.

## 1944



The Battleship and Royal Navy stalwart HMS Warspite supported the Allied invasion of Europe by bombarding North West France.

The liberation of Paris. Allied troops led by General Phillippe LeClerc enter the city and were met by jubilant crowds “mad

with joy” in the words of BBC Correspondent Robert Reid. The 5,000 strong German garrison surrenders.

## 1945

7 U-boat men are executed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas for the murder of a fellow U-Boat man, Werner Drechsler who they had judged as a traitor.

Chinese troops are reported to have entered the Republican capital of Nanking.

Tokyo radio reports large numbers of people committing Hari-kiri in front of the Imperial Palace.

# Roll of Honour – August 25

*Representing their comrades who died on this day*

## 1914

### **+FROST, Kingdom Tregosse**

Cheshire Regiment, 3rd Battalion attached 1st Battalion. Lieutenant. Died 25/08/1914. QUB Lecturer in Archaeology and Ancient History. He was a member of the Training Corps of which he was a keen and much valued member. In September 1912 he joined the 3rd (Special) Reserve Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment, and was commissioned a Lieutenant in the same unit on the 29/06/1913. He qualified at a school of Musketry and as an Instructor in army signalling. When the Great War broke out, he was delighted to serve as a reserve officer with the 1st Battalion



at the front. Lt Frost's death came as some troops to the right rear of his platoon, were seen retiring, Lt Frost went to identify them, but did not return. They were in fact Germans who buried him with military honours after 'Fighting like a demon, having refused to surrender. Although wounded several times, he refused to give in and death alone overcame his indomitable spirit'. When the Cheshire Regiment went into battle on the second day of the battle of Mons, they took with them 25 officers of which 6 were special reserve officers. By 6.00pm that night, 3 were killed, 8 were wounded and captured, 7 were captured and unwounded and 7 remained at duty. Of the three who were killed, Capt E R Jones and Lt C A Campbell have laid in marked graves for the last 80 years, but Lt K T Frost of the 3rd (Special) Reserve Bn of the Cheshire's was buried by the Germans with full military honours, the black wooded cross and the CWGC headstone have just carried the words 'Unknown Officer 1914'. He was born on the 12th March 1877 at Tamar Terrace, Launceston in the County of Cornwall, son of Denis Tregosse, a solicitor, and Sophia Margaret Frost, nee Messenger. He was educated at Bath and Brasenose College, Oxford, BA in 1900, MA in 1905 and Lit B. in 1907. From 1900 to 1901 he was a student of the British school at Athens, 1902 to 1904 a Tutor and Lecturer at Isleworth Training College. He worked in Egypt from 1904 to 1905 with Prof Sir F Petrie. The Royal Geographical Society made him a Fellow in 1905. 1905 to 1908 he worked in the Ministry of Education in Egypt and from 1908 to 1909 in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. From 1909 up to his death, he was a Lecturer on Archaeology and Ancient History at QUB. After the war or during it, the family erected a memorial in the parish church on which the following words appear, "Isolated he refused quarter and fell

fighting". His two brothers also held commissions in the Great War, Major Oswald Milles T Frost, Dorset Regiment, and Captain Russell Tregosse Frost, Cheshire Regiment. Wiheries Communal Cemetery. Memorial at Bovey Tracey

**1915**

**+BOGGS, William John**

Australian Infantry, 16th Btn. Private. Died 25/08/1915. Age 24. James and Catherine Boggs, of Evish, Strabane. Embarkation Pier cemetery, Turkey (including Galipolli)

**+GALLAGHER, George**

Highland Light Infantry, 7th Btn. Private. 2225. Died 25/08/1915. Age 20. In the trenches of Gallipoli even the most mundane tasks were dangerous. Gallagher volunteered to get water and was shot by a sniper. Son of William and Margaret Gallagher, of Hillhead, Castledawson. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

**+McCRACKEN, Alexander**

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 6th Btn. C Coy. Private. 12468. Died 25/08/1915. Age 27. Son of William McCracken, of Belfast. Alexandria (Chatby) Military and War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt

**+MOORE, Lindsay**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 5th Btn. B Coy. Private. 10900. Died 25/08/1915. Age 25. Son of Andrew and Margaret Moore, of 19, Albert Place, Londonderry. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey. Londonderry Diamond WM

### **+SIMPSON, Robert**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 11th Btn. Private. 17259. Died 25/08/1915. Age 19. Son of Thomas and Sarah A. Simpson, of Farnamullan, Tamlaght, Enniskillen. Seaford Cemetery, Sussex

### **+SMEETH, Roland**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 5th Btn. Private. 11445. Died 25/08/1915. Age 50. Served in the Sudan Campaign. Son of the late Rowland and Catherine Smeeth; husband to Jane Smeeth, of 69, Paris St., Belfast. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey

### **+THOMPSON, Charles**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Private. 10302. Died 25/08/1915. Age 18. Before he joined the Army in 1913, Charlie Thompson worked as a smoother in a calico print-works. He enlisted in Newtownards. He served with the 2nd Btn. RIR and was attached to the Machine Gun Section. After Rifleman Charlie Thompson was killed, one of his comrades in the Machine Gun Section, Rifleman Adam Tate (10345), wrote to Charlie's father. Adam Tate was also from Newtownards and he and Charlie had worked together in the same print-works before joining up. In his letter Adam Tate related how he had been talking to Charlie just before they both 'got hit at the same time'. Charlie Thompson was killed and Adam Tate was wounded. Charles Thompson was born on 19/05/1897 in Mill Street, Newtownards. He was the third son of Charles and Agnes Thompson (nee Kelly) who were married on 11/07/1889 in First Newtownards Presbyterian Church. The Thompson family lived in

Newtownards, in Circular Street, Mill Street, Frederick Street and at 15 Back Shuttlefield (behind Robert Street). Charles Thompson Senior worked as a labourer and he and Agnes had at least seven children. The children were baptised in First Newtownards Presbyterian Church. Ramparts Cemetery, Lille Gate, Belgium; Newtownards and District WM

## **1916 HMS DUKE OF ALBANY**

The Duke of Albany, an armed boarding steamer, was torpedoed. Duke of Albany was built for the joint Lancashire Yorkshire Railway/London North Western Railway, Fleetwood-Belfast service in 1907, the last of the classic Fleetwood Dukes. Her career as a front line steamer was short, since she was superseded by the two turbine Dukes in 1909. She then ran mainly relief and extra services. In 1916 she was torpedoed and sunk off the Orkneys, whilst acting as an Armed Boarding Vessel (HMS Duke of Albany - pennant number M.11). Armed Boarding Vessels were used to stop and inspect neutral ships to ensure they were not assisting Germany's war effort. Since this entailed remaining stationary, it placed them at great risk of U-boat attack).

### **+BIRNIE, John**

RN. Greaser. HMS Duke of Albany. Died 25/08/1916. Ship torpedoed. George's St., Belfast. IMR. ADM104/147

### **+RAMAGE, George Norris**

RNR. Commander. RD. HMS Duke of Albany. Died 24 - 25/08/1916. Age 45 years. George Norris Ramage is Gazetted as Sub-Lieutenant, Royal Naval Reserve, to be promoted to Lieutenant, dated 22/08/1903. Royal Naval Reserve Officers Decoration (RD) 06/04/1916. Son of



William and Jane Ramage, Westruther, Berwickshire.  
Husband to Annie Amelia Ramage, "Bromsgrove,"  
Bloomfield, Belfast. Plymouth Naval Memorial. Panel 18.  
Strandtown WM. IMR

## 1916

### **+DUFFY, Thomas**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 7th Btn. Private. 24087. Died  
25/08/1916. Age 20. Enlisted in Omagh. Living in  
Draperstown. Son of Mary A. Duffy, of Market Square,  
Maghera. Philosophe British Cemetery, Mazingarbe, France

### **+WHITE, Robert**

Royal Irish Rifles, 12th Btn. Rifleman. 19320. Died  
25/08/1916. Age 23. Born Cogry 05/05/1893. By 1911 he  
was working as a hackling machine boy. Enlisted Ballyclare.  
His brother Thomas, also of the Royal Irish Rifles  
(12/19318), died from wounds received in action  
07/06/1917. Son of Jane (nee Millen) White, of 25, Cogry  
Square, Doagh, Co. Antrim, and the late Alexander White.  
Ration Farm (La Plus Douve) Annexe, Hainaut, Belgium.  
Ballyclare WM. Kilbride C of I RH

## 1917

### **+BARTON, Henry**

Black Watch (Royal Highlanders), 9th Btn. Lance Corporal.  
S/43406. Died 25/08/1917. Age 22. Tyne Cot Memorial,  
Belgium

### **+BLACK, John**

Highland Light Infantry. 18th Btn. Private. 32108. Died

25/08/1917. Age 29. Thiepval Memorial, France. Ballycastle WM

**+HENDERSON, William**

Royal Irish Rifles, 13th Btn. Serjeant. 19881. Died 25/08/1917. Age 54. Son of James and Jane Henderson, of Belfast; husband to Annie Henderson, of 44, Warkworth St., Belfast. Rocquigny - Equancourt Road British Cemetery, Manancourt, France

**+McBRIDE, John**

Highland Light Infantry. 18th Btn. Private. 20548. formerly (19844) King's Own Scottish Borderers. Died 25/08/1917. Age 30. Son of Patrick McBride, of Upper Gleshy, Plumbridge, Co. Tyrone. Thiepval Memorial, France

**+WALKER, William John**

Canadian Infantry. 270th. Seige Btry. Private. Died 25/08/1917. Age 31. Born in Fivemiletown on 30/06/1886. Son of Joseph and Mary Walker. William emigrated to Canada. By the time of his enlistment on 22/10/1914, William John Walker was living in Kenora, Ontario, employed as a locomotive engineer with the Canadian Pacific Railway. In May 1915, the 27th Battalion left Quebec aboard the SS Carpathia. By 18/09/1915, a cable had been received that the battalion had left England for France. William died at the St John's Ambulance Brigade Hospital in Etaples, France as a result of gunshot wounds to his shoulder and spine. Étaples Military Cemetery, Etaples, Pas de Calais, France. Fivemiletown WM. Fivemiletown Methodist Church RH

**1918**

**+BOYD, Henry**

RAF. Lieutenant. Died 25/08/1918. Age 19. Bangor Grammar School 1912 - 14. Born Belfast. Son of William and Margaret (nee Beattie) Boyd, who lived in Hoburn Ave, and later Fareham Pk, in Bangor, before moving to Santa Cruz, California. Bangor GS WM

**+DOEY, Henry**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Private. 27279. Died 25/08/1918. Mont Noir Military Cemetery France, St Jans Cappel, France. Lurgan WM

**+DUFF, John**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 3rd Btn. attd. 1st Btn. Second Lieutenant Died 25/08/1918. Born Belfast 14/04/1880. Fought and injured in Boer War. Husband to Christina Scott, 15 Deacon Street, Belfast. Married 04/05/1908 in Belfast. Bertenacre Military Cemetery, Fletre, France

**+KANE, J**

Royal Irish Rifles. 12th Btn. Corporal. 17997. Died 25/08/1918. Age 26. Born in Belfast where he lived for a time, he also lived at Lisburn Street, Hillsborough, and was a member of the local UVF battalion in Hillsborough. He enlisted at Lisburn and served in 12 RIR. He and Charlotte Ellen Wilson married 02/06/1917 at St Patrick's Church Jordanstown, Co Antrim. He was aged 25 and Sergeant Royal Irish Rifles, stationed at the army camp (under canvas) at Clandeboye Estate, nr Bangor Co.Down. Charlotte Kane of 262 Conway Street and later 65 Hudson

Street, Belfast. Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord, France, (close to the Franco-Belgian border). The headstone inscription reads, "Peace perfect peace".

### **+MULLARCHY, John Edmund**

Royal Army Medical Corps. Private. 49802. Died 25/08/1918. Age 44. John died at home in Middletown "from shell shock sustained in France while serving with the RAMC" (Monaghan Standard 31/08/1918). He was from County Wicklow and his wife Mary Jane (nee Bothwell) was from Co. Monaghan. In 1901 they were resident in Belfast where John worked as a herbalist. By 1911 they were living in Co. Fermanagh. In his will of 1915, his wife and three children were living at Middletown, Tynan. Middletown Presbyterian Churchyard.

### **+SMYTH, W**

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 9th (North Irish Horse) Btn. Corporal. 42167. Died 25/08/1918. Age 25. Husband of Elizabeth Smyth, of 6, Brenda St., Belfast. Native of Belfast. Mont Noir Military Cemetery, St Jans-Cappel, France

## **1920**

### **+EWING, William George**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 7006832. Died 25/08/1920. Age 20. Son of Thomas Ewing, of 28, Beverley St., Belfast. North Gate War Cemetery, Baghdad, Iraq

## **1923**



## **+McCREA, Harold Alexander**

Australian Infantry, 57th Btn. Private 916. Died 25/08/1923 at his residence, 8 Allen-grove, East Kew. Enlisted 22/03/1915, Nagambie, Victoria. Occupation prior to Enlistment: Orchardist. Departed Australia 08/05/1915. Discharged 08/10/1918, medically unfit due to injuries. Born Bellaghy. Son of Rev. Thos. McCrea, The Manse, Bellaghy; husband to Marjorie McCrea. Williamstown Cemetery, Hobsons Bay City, Victoria. The Age, (Melbourne , Victoria) 27/08/1923

## **1941**

### **+WRIGHT, John David**

RAF. 7 Sqdn. Pilot Officer. 65591. Died 25/08/1941. Age 24. Formerly Leading Aircraftman 1006100. London Gazette of 30/05/1941 - He was granted a commission for the duration of hostilities as Pilot Officer on probation. On 25/08/1941 he was part of a crew of eleven in a Short Stirling Bomber MG-B N6020 which was shot down over Aach, Germany. All except one, Dennis Lloyd who parachuted out and was taken prisoner of war, died either in the plane or at the crash site. Born 1917. Son of Robert and Jane Allan McKinnon Wright. Rheinberg War Cemetery, Germany. Hillsborough WM

## **1942**

### **+CRAIG, David Leslie Thomas**

RAF. Flight Sergeant (Wireless Op./Air Gunner). 540596. Died 25/08/1942. Aged 26. 150 Sqdn. Wellington X3414. On 24/08/1942 at 20:40 departed from the airbase RAF Snaith, the Wellington X3414 with the mission a raid over the city of

Frankfurt in Germany. For unknown reasons it crashed into Rienne. In the crash, three crew members were killed - Sgt J.H.Scorer, Sgt A.B.Fraser and F/S D.L.T.Craig. these are buried in this cemetery. A fourth crew member F/S J.M.Gibson died from his injuries in Brussels, he is buried at the Municipal Cemetery in Brussels. A fifth crew member survived the crash and was taken prisoner of war by the Germans. F/S D.L.T.Craig was the son of Samuel and Amy S. Craig, of Strabane, Co. Tyrone. Rienne Communal Cemetery, Namur, Belgium

**+McCLEARY, John**

RAFVR. Sergeant (Air Gunner). 1126145. Died 25/08/1942. 61 Sqdn. Reichswald War Cemetery, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany. Dungannon WM

**+McCREA, Mervyn Frederick**

RAFVR. Sergeant. 979398. Died 25/08/1942. Aged 21. 69 Sqdn. Portora RS. Son of John F. and Caroline E. McCrea, of Clogher, Co. Tyrone. Malta Memorial, Malta. Clogher WM, Dungannon WM

**+MILLAR, Stewart**

Royal Regiment of Canada, R.C.I.C. Private. B/66761. Died 25/08/1942. Age 36. Resident of Toronto. Son of Hugh and Mary Agnes Millar; husband to Elizabeth Mary Millar, of Muckamore, Co. Antrim. Dieppe Canadian War Cemetery, Haunt-sur-Mer, France. In digital collection of Canadian Virtual War Memorial and on page 99 of Second World War Book

**1944**

**+SMYTH, John T**

1st (Airborne) Batt. Royal Ulster Rifles. Rifleman. 14411392. Died 25/08/1944. Age 19. Son of William and Mary Smyth. Husband to Gladys Rosie Smyth, of Salisbury. Bayeux War Cemetery, Normandy

**+THORNBERRY, Edward Windsor**

RNVR. FAA.1842 Squadron. Sub-Lieutenant (A). Died 24/08/1944. Age 21. HMS Formidable. Flying a Vought F4U-1A Corsair from HMS Formidable during the attack on the battleship Tirpitz when he was shot down and killed over Alten Fjord. Son of Joseph G. and Agnes E. Thornberry, Mullaghglass, and Kilkeel. Med, QUB 1941. Lee-on-Solent Memorial, Bay 5. Bessbrook WM. QUB WM

**+WILSON, Hugh**

RAF. Pilot Officer Wireless Operator/Air Gunner. Died 25/26/08/1944. 90 Sqdn. Bomber Command. On that particular night the Lancaster aircraft of 90 Squadron were on a Bombing raid to the Opel Factory at Russelsheim, Germany. Newtownards WM. Named on family memorial in Newtownards cemetery.

**+WRIGHT, John David**

RAFVR. Pilot Officer. 65591. Died 25/08/1941. Age 24. 7 Sqdn. Formerly Leading Aircraftman 1006100. London Gazette of 30/05/1941 - He was granted a commission for the duration of hostilities as Pilot Officer on probation. On 25/08/1941 he was part of a crew of eleven in a Short Stirling Bomber MG-B N6020 which was shot down over Aach, Germany. All except one, Dennis Lloyd who parachuted out and was taken prisoner of war, died either in the plane or at the crash site. Born 1917. Son of Robert and Jane Allan McKinnon Wright. Rheinberg War Cemetery, Germany. Hillsborough WM

## VETERANS

### **ANDREWS, William**

RNVR. Lieutenant. Served in WW1 with Royal Army Ordnance Corps (Captain) and in RNVR in WW2. Director of John Andrews & Co. from 1916; member of committee of Northern Bank from 1940; a well-known Ulster cricketer; born 25/08/1886, died unmarried, 26/04/1966. Comber. RBAI, Arts QUB 1930

### **HERBISON, William**

RN. Seaman. J92733. Enrolled 14/09/1918 for hostilities. Pembroke I. Demobbed 21/02/1919. Born Ballymena 25/08/1900. Ballymoney St., Ballymena. Ballymena Observer, 20/09/1918. ADM 188/832/92733

### **PATTERSON, Samuel**

RN. Petty Officer, Torpedo Gunner's Mate. DSM, awarded for undaunted courage, skill, and devotion to duty in successful patrols in HM Submarines. He joined the RN 12 years previously. A brother was serving in RNAS and two brothers in law in the navy. Wife and little daughter resident at Emerson St., Shankill Rd., Belfast. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 25/08/1944).

### **TELFORD, William Watson**

RNVR. Lt. Cdr. Law, QUB 1932. Served in Ulster Division. T/Lieutenant 09/11/1942 - 18/01/1943. In command HMS Vascana (FY 185), an ASW trawler. 447 tons. One 4 inch gun. On 25/08/1941 German U-boat 452 was sunk in the North Atlantic south of Iceland, in position 61°30'N, 15°30'W, by depth charges from A/S trawler HMS Vascama and from a Catalina aircraft (209 Sqn RAF/J).



## **Charles Williamson, Brigadier General Royal Artillery**

Charles Williamson was born in Meerut, India, in 1864, the son of Colonel James Williamson (formerly Oswald) of the 29th Punjab Infantry.

Educated at St. Peter's School, York, and Woolwich, Charles enlisted with the Royal Artillery in 1883 with the rank of Lieutenant and promoted Captain on 1 January 1892.

He served in the Burmese expedition of 1887-89 where he was slightly wounded and awarded Medal with two clasps.

He had a further award for service in the Waziristan Expedition of 1894-95; served with the Chitral Relief force under Sir Robert Low in 1895 (Medal with clasp); saw action in the campaign on the North West Frontier of India under Sir William Lockhart in 1897-98 with the Tochi Field Force in command of No 6 (Bombay) Mountain Battery (clasp); fought in the South African War, receiving the Queen's Medal; and later saw action in Persia.



**Brigadier-General Williamson's grave in Bangor Cemetery. Photo and text sources by the indefatigable Eddie Connolly**



He was promoted to Major in 1901, Lieut.-Colonel in 1911 and Colonel in 1914.

He served throughout the Great War in Belgium, France, Macedonia, and Palestine. He was twice wounded and mentioned in despatches and received his appointment as Brigadier-General in 1917.

In 1919 he was G.O.C. Kantara (Suez area) and acted as Brigadier-General Royal Engineers in Egypt and Palestine, retiring with the rank of Hon. Brigadier-General in 1920.

He was made a Companion of the Bath in the Kings Birthday Honours in 1917 and awarded the Order of the Crown of Italy later that year. He also received the Order of St. Michael and St. George and the Order of the Nile (3rd Class) in 1918.

In 1908 he married Margaret (Meta) Carson, a daughter of Mr. William Carson, J.P., of Carnalea House, Bangor.

Brigadier-General Williamson wrote several publications including "61, or How Some Wheels Went Round,"† and contributed to several newspapers. "61, or How Some Wheels Went Round" was a unit history of the 61st Heavy Artillery Group in the Great War. The unit, which was mainly composed of men enlisting under the 'Derby Scheme' midway through the war, served at Ploegsteert Wood in Belgium, on the Macedonian front and in Palestine. Williamson was the 61st's commander.

**Every Day is a Remembrance Day**

***We will remember them***

**To return to Home Page - click on Remembrance NI masthead**

## 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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