



remembrance ni



Montay War Cemetery

Montay was reached by Commonwealth forces on 10 October 1918. The cemetery was made by the 38th (Welsh) Division and the 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and contains the graves of 41 killed between 22 October-1 November 1918. This cemetery was made by the 23rd

Brigade, Royal Garrison Artillery, on 26 and 27 October 1918.

It contained originally 111 graves, mainly of officers and men of the 38th (Welsh) and 33rd Divisions, and the 6th Dorsets, but after the Armistice it was increased when graves were brought in from the battlefields west, north and east of Montay, and from certain small cemeteries.

Gerald Ralph Auchinleck Darling -

Chief Test Pilot with the Mediterranean Fleet and legal expert

Today is the anniversary of the death in 1996 of Lieutenant-Commander Gerald Ralph Auchinleck Darling, RNVR. FAA. Lieutenant-Commander.

At the age of 18 he began an outstanding career in the RNVR, from 1940 to 1946, as a Fleet Air Arm pilot, later becoming Chief Test Pilot with the Mediterranean Fleet.

A dangerous job and few of his colleagues survived the war. He himself crash-landed, suffering severe injuries including a smashed pelvis. The prognosis was that he would never walk again but following the Greek motto on his aircraft, meaning "Know Thyself", he characteristically defied all the odds, learning to ride again both horse and bicycle. He maintained his connection with the Navy through the RNVR, rising to the rank of Lieutenant-Commander.

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On the death of his father in 1958 he had inherited Crevenagh House, near Omagh, where, from his schooldays, he had spent many happy holidays with his extended family. He was proud of his descent from the Auchinleck family who had always lived there, and resolved to maintain it as a family home despite his ties to life in London. In his London office you would find a Donegal landscape and a map showing the wartime achievements of Ulster.

In 1990 he became Deputy Lieutenant of Co Tyrone and in 1993 High Sheriff. In his obsequies address Bishop Hannon of Clogher paid tribute to Gerald Darling's contribution to the

work of Edenderry parish, where he had served as parish secretary. In the townlands of Omagh his roots went deep.

Bishop Hannon related how, before a major court appearance, Darling would ease the tension by thinking of his favourite spots on the river, the snipe bogs and mountains of Tyrone. Strangely, after a lifetime of trout-fishing, he caught his first salmon only a year before his death. One of his family remembers the fishing picnics in childhood - "as unfortunately a mizzly day is good for fishing the picnics were often rather damp affairs".

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Hong Kong 1968; Judge, Admiralty Court of the Cinque Ports 1979-96; trustee, Royal Naval Museum 1985-90; Lloyd's Silver Medal 1991; married 1954 Susan Hobbs (one son, one daughter); died Londonderry 13 September 1996.

See also -

<https://landedfamilies.blogspot.com/2017/02/251-auchinleck-later-darling-of.html>

On this Day – September 13

1914

The Germans begin to drive the Belgians back into Antwerp.

1916

The French carry by assault South East of Combles, L'Abbe Wood farm, and the trench system south of the Le Priez farm.

1917

The Germans attack near Langemarck is repulsed, but they manage to penetrate the French advanced line North of Caurieres Wood (Meuse).

1918

The Battle of St. Mihiel ends with the outstanding American success in the salient. Its reported they capture over 13,000 Germans and make them prisoners.

1939



Montay War Cemetery

HMAS Hobart and five RAN destroyers leave Australia, bound for Britain.

60,000 Polish troops who are trapped in the Radom pocket surrender.

Germans resume offensive on Warsaw, Poland.

Stained glass in Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris is removed for safekeeping.

1940

Buckingham Palace again bombed; Royal Chapel wrecked.

5 Italian divisions and 200 tanks in Cyrenaica under Marshal Graziani, cross the Libyan/Egyptian border and advance toward Sidi Barrani in Egypt. The 7th Armoured and 4th Indian Divisions have orders to withdraw as far as Mersa Matruh and then stand and fight.

1941

German High Command announces that Russian POWs will get less rations than other nationalities.

Japanese war games planning the Pearl Harbor raid conclude.

1942

Sixth Army begins its final effort to take Stalingrad.

British desert raids reach Benghazi and Barer. A combined forces attack on Tobruk is also made.

On Guadalcanal, Japanese try to seize Henderson Field, but fail.

In Arctic convoy PQ-18, German aircraft and U-boats sink nine Allied cargo ships.

Nazi-occupied France establishes National Work Service: men 18-50 & single women 21-35 may be conscripted for labor in Germany.

1943

Heavy German counter-attacks by six divisions round Salerno, forces the Fifth Army back to within five miles of beaches. The allies consider an evacuation. The battle for supremacy in the Aegean begins with an Allied raid on Rhodes.

The Chinese Parliament at Kuomintang, elects General Chiang Kai-shek as President of Chinese Republic.

1944

The U.S. Ninth Army is engaged in heavy fighting as the German garrison keeps up its resistance at Brest.

The Canadians take Coriano Ridge in the Gothic Line.

In Belgium, Canadians cross Leopold Canal and Canal de Derivation, while British cross Meuse-Escaut Canal.

The Russians reach the Polish-Czechoslovak border. The Romanians sign an Armistice with the Russians.

1945

Iran demands the withdrawal of Allied forces.

Roll of Honour – September 13

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1914

+POLLOCK, Walter Ernes

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. A Coy. Private. 10575. Died 13/09/1914. Age 18. Walter joined the Inniskillings before the First World War, and went out to France with the regiment at the commencement of that conflict. He died at the beginning of the Battle of the Aisne, which was an effort by the Allies to cross the river Aisne and complete the defeat of the Germans recently driven back at the Battle of the Marne. It was fought on a vast front of 100 miles from Compiègne to Tahure, east of Reims. Private Walter Pollock's father, William Pollock, was engaged in the shoemaking business all his life, having been employed with Messrs. Gill, formerly of the Diamond, Londonderry, and later with Messrs. McCutcheon. He belonged to the Faughan Valley district, but spent most of his life in the city of Londonderry. William Pollock died on Sunday, 16/02/1936, and was interred two days later in Londonderry City Cemetery. Private Walter Pollock's name is inscribed on

St Columb's Cathedral (Church of Ireland) Memorial to the men connected with that cathedral who died during the 1914-18 War, on the La Ferte Sous Jouarre Memorial, Seine et Marne, France, and on the Diamond War Memorial, Londonderry

+MACWHINNIE, Norman Henry

King's Own Scottish Borderers, 2nd Btn. Regimental Serjeant Major. 5177. Medaille Militaire (France). Died 13/09/1914. Age 37. Born at Dumfries. Son of James Tait Macwhinnie and Elizabeth Carruthers Macwhinnie; husband to Caroline Christine Macwhinnie, of 38, Harcourt St., Cliftonville, Belfast. Vailly British Cemetery, France

+MAGILL, William Henry Spencer

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Private. 7516. Died 13/09/1914. Age 26. Native of Larne. Husband of Elizabeth Ann Magill (nee Coulter), of 7, Blythswood Drive, Paisley. La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial, France

+MILLER, Inglis Francis Rowley

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Lieutenant. Died 13/09/1914. Age 21. First Old Portoran to die in WW1. Son of Major Rowley Alexander Miller and the late Ella Francis Miller, of Millbank, Omagh. Porte-de-Paris Cemetery, France

+POLLOCK, Walter Ernest, 10575

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+QUINN, Henry

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Private. 6598. Died 13/09/1914. Age 35. Served in the South African War. Husband to Sarah Elizabeth Quinn, of 45, Hanna St., Belfast. La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial, France

1916

+AGNEW, Charles

Irish Guards, 2nd Btn. Private. 7890. Died 13/09/1916. Theipval Memorial, France

+BOTHWELL, Arthur William

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, C Coy. 6th Btn. Private. Died 13/09/1916. Age 35. Served in the South African Campaign. Re - enlisted at Belfast for WW1. Son of the late Jonathan and Agnes A. Bothwell, of Derry, Dromara, Co. Down; husband to Mary Bothwell, of 10, Ashfield St., Belfast. Salonika (Lembet Road) Military Cemetery, Greece

+McGOOKIN, Thomas James

Irish Guards, 2nd Btn. Private. 9117. Died 13/09/1916. Born Rashee, Ballyclare 08/06/1878. Enlisted Belfast. Son of Arthur and Mary Jane (nee McAlister) of Rashee. Brother of Thomas who served in the North Irish Horse. Their grandfather Arthur McGookin, joined the Army Service Corps on 23/04/1915 as a Farrier. Both survived the war.

Thiepval Memorial, France. Ballyclare WM. Second
Ballyeaston Presbyterian Church RH.

1917

+McGUFFIN, James

Lancashire Fusiliers, 15th Btn. Sergeant. 11163. Died
13/09/1917. Age 29. In the autumn of 1917, while XV Corps
was holding the Nieuport section, the 34th and 36th
Casualty Clearing Stations were posted at Zuydcoote.
James McGuffin enlisted in Salford, Lancashire. He was the
son of Robert McGuffin and Margaret Cooke. Robert was
born in Belfast at 76 Canmore St. on 18/04/1888. The family
hailed from Dungannon. Zuydcoote Military Cemetery, near
Dunkirk, Nord, France. Dungannon WM

+WALLACE, A

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 9th Btn. Private. 10848. Died
13/09/1917. Age 23. Son of Mrs. J. Wallace, of 12, Alfred
St., Londonderry. Hermies British Cemetery, France

1918

+McCLEAN, Joseph Henry

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 9th Btn. Private. 29536. Died
13/09/1918. Age 19. Son of William and Catherine McClean,
of 78, Frome St., Belfast. Native of Brookhill, Lisburn.
Arneke British Cemetery, France

+McGIBBON, J

Machine Gun Corps (Infantry). 57th Btn. Private. 22781.
Died 13/09/1918. Age 25. Son of Felix McGibbon; husband

to Jane McGibbon, of 152, Falls Rd., Belfast. St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, France

+PARTRIDGE, Wiliam

King's Royal Rifle Corps. 13th Btn. Rifleman. 53960. Died 13/09/1918. Lieut S T Hanley writes - "The Company was attacking a strong German position when your son was killed instantaneously while fighting in the front ranks, which had penetrated well in to the German lines. I am sure it will be of small consolation to you to know that your son did his duty nobly to the last. He was always regarded by the officers and men as one of the best". Son of William Partridge, of Sarah Street, Portadown. Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Pas de Calais, France

1940

+HOBSON, Frank

RN. OS. D/JX204717. Died 13/09/1940. Aged 30. HMS President III. Fatally injured when ship was machined gunned off Northern Ireland. Son of Robert and Margaret Hobson, Howard St., South, Belfast; husband to Lilian Norah Hobson, Belfast. Dundonald Cemetery.

1941

+CALDWELL, William Arthur

Royal Artillery. 31 Field Regt. Gunner. 843775. Died 13/09/1941, Aged 26. Son of John and Mary Caldwell, of Ballymoney. El Alamein War Cemetery. Egypt

1942

+THOMPSON, Fairfield

RAFVR. Sergeant. 1354657. Died 13/09/1942. Aged 23. Son of William James Thompson and Elizabeth Thompson of Belfast. Dundonald cemetery

1944

+PINKERTON, William James Neely

General Service Corps, South Africa Forces. Seconded to 1st Bn. King's Royal Rifle Corps. Second Lieutenant. SR/598490V. Died 13/09/1944. Armagh Royal School. Arts and Law at Trinity College, Dublin. Played rugby for Royal School and TCD. Went to work in S Africa in 1939 and enlisted there in 1940. In 1938 he and Miss Renee McCrea from Bangor married. She served with the WAAF in South Africa. Son of William Pinkerton JP and Mrs Pinkerton, Thomas St., Armagh. Gradara War Cemetery, Italy

1945

+ALEXANDER, William John Sergeant

RAFVR. Sergeant. 1133121. Died 13/09/1945. Age 23. Son of William John and Emily Alexander, Belfast. Kirkee War Cemetery, India

VETERANS

AINLEY, John Francis

RN. Surgeon Captain. CBE, London Gazette 11/12/1945. Temporary Surgeon Lieutenant, Navy List 28/08/1919. MB QUB 1917. He and his wife were living in Ballyclare when their son, also John Francis Ainley married in St Patrick's Parish Church, Jordanstown (Northern Whig 09/10/1947). Died 13/09/1965. Roselawn Cemetery.

BUCHANAN, Edgar Bernard

Brigadier. DSO. Born on 06/05/1892. Eldest son of Robert Eccles Buchanan and his wife Ethel Maud, (nee Williams). At that stage the family lived at Harding Street, Londonderry. They subsequently moved to Templemore Park. The young Buchanan entered Foyle's preparatory school in 1899 where he was joined by his younger brother Richard Brendan Buchanan.

He completed his education at Portora Royal School before joining the Royal Engineers. As a career soldier he served in India, Mesopotamia, Singapore, Malta, North Africa and Italy. He was wounded on two occasions during the Great War and was awarded the DSO. After the Second World War he was Director of Fortifications at the War Office. His promotion to the rank of Brigadier appears in the Gazette of 14/11/1947. Brigadier Buchanan died at Halesmere Surrey on 13/09/1979. His brother, a Second Lieutenant with the Royal Scots Fusiliers, also served during the Great War but fell at Gallipoli on 20/06/1915.

DARLING, Gerald Ralph Auchinleck

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Every day is a Remembrance Day

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 the RBL NI area and the Burma Star Association NI. Dr McKelvey is a Past President of Queen's University Services Club. He may be contacted at houstonmckelvey@mac.com

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