



## remembrance ni



## Remembrance at Osterbeek

**Today marks the last day of the battle for Arnhem. At the 2019 75th Anniversary, some of the 'original' flower children who laid flowers on allied graves in 1944 joined today's youngsters. Two entries in today's Roll are members of the Glider Pilot Regiment - James Boyd of**

**Portstewart and John Smellie of Hollywood. In WW1 Wilhelmina Charley from Dunmurry, a VAD, in the UVF hospital in Belfast, served later in Salonica and died in service in Genoa, Italy.**

## On this Day – September 23

**1917**

Merchant shipping - 200 ships of 350,000 tons gross: British, Allied and Neutral ships lost to enemy submarines, mines and cruisers etc in the month -. (Lloyd's War Losses)



**1940**

Buckingham Palace damaged by German bombs



## **Belfast banker awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross**

The London Gazette dated 23/09/1941 announced the awarding of the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC) to Northern Bank official Acting Flight Lieutenant Arthur Leonard Spence RAFVR.

Squadron Leader Arthur Leonard Spence DFC was born in Donegal at 19:05 hrs on 25/02/1908, a twin to his elder brother Herbert Campbell Spence by 6 minutes. They were the sons of Andrew Spence, Secretary of a Railway Company [*Londonderry & Lough Swilly Railway*] and Lily Spence nee Wheeler.



On 01/09/1925 Arthur joined the Northern Bank at Head Office. Transfers followed to Londonderry (1925), Head Office (1931), Carrickfergus (1933) and Head Office – Relief Staff (1937). On 02/05/1939 Arthur volunteered and enlisted into the RAF Volunteer Reserve. He was 'Called up on Active Service' on 02/09/1939 with Service Number 81694.

He returned to work from 05/10/1939 to 26/10/1939, reason unknown.

His rank and promotions were Leading Aircraftman, Pilot Officer, Flying Officer, Flight Lieutenant (1941) and Squadron Leader followed in 1943.

On 14/03/1942 the Belfast Newsletter reported that the marriage of A L Spence to Alice Madeleine Irwin will take place in April at St Peters Church, Belfast. The wedding took place on 29/04/1942 and was reported in the Belfast Telegraph of the same date.

On 19/11/1945 Arthur resumed duty with the Northern Bank at Head Office. A 'Welcome Home' dinner was held on 29/04/1947 by members of the CIYMS at Clarence Place Hall, Belfast.

Transfers followed to Royal Avenue (1948), Knock (1951), Head Office (1951), Lurgan (1958), Head Office (1954), Queen's Square (1967) and Dublin Regional Director (1971).

Squadron Leader Arthur Spence DFC RAF(VR) died on 18/01/1981. Acknowledgment Northern Bank War Memorials.



## Gurka Memorial at National Arboretum

**HRH Princess Anne unveiled a memorial this day in 2014 at The National Arboretum to mark the bravery of Gurka soldiers.**

HRH The Princess Royal was present at the dedication of the Gurkha Memorial, in honour of all who had served since 1815. It is styled like a traditional Nepalese chautara - a resting place for travellers on hillside trails. The name Gurkha comes from the hill town of Gorkha in Nepal. A total of 26 Gurkha soldiers have been awarded the Victoria Cross.

The ceremonial stone monument, known as a Chautara, bears the regimental badges of every Gurkha unit since 1815.

About 400 former and serving soldiers from the current Brigade of Gurkhas heard glowing tributes to the fallen, who were described as “the most wonderfully brave and kind people”.

The Gurkhas have seen action everywhere from Gallipoli in WW1 to more recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“It is a great honour for all the Gurkha, myself and all my comrades,” said retired officer Hombahadur Gurung, who served in the Gulf War with 2 Gurkha Rifles.

“The years of service are a matter of great pride for me. I hope it continues into the future.”

## Roll of Honour – September 23

*Representing their comrades who died on this day*

**1914**

**+DOOLEY, Robert**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. Corporal. 10248. Died 23/09/1914. Age 22. Son of Robert and Annie Dooley, of 2, Wells St. Terrace, Londonderry. Londonderry City Cemetery Londonderry Diamond WM

**+MURPHY, Patrick Joseph Leo**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Private. 10693. Died 23/09/1914 in hospital at Le Mans. mortally wounded within days of arriving in France. Age 20. Born in Stewartstown about 1894. Little is known of his early life. Patrick was living in Dublin when he enlisted in Belfast. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, of Dublin. Le Mans Cemetery, France.  
Stewartstown WM

**1915**

**+FERRIS, J F**

Seaforth Highlanders, 4th Btn. Private. 3557. Died 23/09/1915. Age 18. Son of William and Mary A. Ferris, of 28, Silvergrove St., Belfast. Merville Communal Cemetery, France

**+GARTSIDE - TIPPING, Henry Thomas**

Lieutenant Commander. HM Yacht Sanda. Died Isle of Wight 25/09/1915. Age 67. HMS Sanda was in the Dover Patrol, a Trawlers and Minesweeping patrol. Sanda was sunk by German shore batteries off the coast of Zeebrugge, Belgium. "The death of Lieutenant Commander Gartside Tipping, R.N. reported from the front is another of those grave incidents that bring home more intimately to us here in Fermanagh the tragedy of the war. The deceased gentleman was a son of the late Captain Gartside Tipping of Rossferry, near Derrylin, one of Lough Erne's most picturesque residences, afterwards occupied by the Hon. Cyril Ward on his marriage with a daughter of the Earl of Erne. He was a brother of Mrs. Richardson, of Rossfad, with whom profound sympathy will be felt in her bereavement. The family are relatives of the Earl of Erne.



The Lieutenant-Commander, although one of the oldest officers actively engaged in the British navy, being 67 years of age, gallantly offered his services on the outbreak of the war. When the present King, then Prince George, was undergoing an early course of naval instruction he was lieutenant on of the Royal yacht. For many years he was inspector of lifeboats in the Irish and West Lancashire districts, and he was well known at the various lifeboat stations on the Antrim and Down coasts.” - Fermanagh Times 07/10/1915. From Rossferry, Belturbet, Co. Fermanagh. Nieupoort Memorial, Nieuwoorts West-Vanderen, Belgium. Southport, Lancashire WM

**1916**

**+KERR, J**

Leinster Regiment, 7th Btn. Private. 1596. Died 23/09/1916. Age 32. Husband of Margaret Kerr, of 67, Vere St., Belfast. Milltown Roman Catholic Cemetery, Belfast

**1917**

**+McAULEY, Edward**

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 2nd (Garr.) Btn. Private. G/20791. Died 23/09/1917. Age 45. Served in the South African War. Son of Charles and Catherine McAuley, of Belfast. Mikra British Cemetery, Kalamaria, Greece

**+RIDDELL, David Moore**

The King's (Liverpool Regiment). Second Lieutenant. Died 23/09/1917. Aged 27. BSc (Engineering), QUB 1912. Son of Henry and Mary Jane Riddell, of 51, Myrtlefield Rd., Belfast. Belfast City Cemetery.



## 1918

### **+ BAILEY, Wilhelmina nee Charley**

The youngest daughter of the late William Charley D.L. and sister of Mr. E.J. Charley both of Seymour Hill, Dunmurry, she was married in Los Angeles to Mr. S. Bailey, "an English Gentleman". During the war she joined the Dunmurry VAD, serving in the UVF hospital in Belfast in 1915 and in York Military Hospital in 1916. She volunteered for foreign service in 1917 and was posted to Salonica and later Italy, serving at 38th Stationary Hospital, Voluntary Aid Detachment, Genoa. She died in Italy on 23/09/1918 and is buried in Staglieno Cemetery, Genoa, Italy. The Italians entered the war on the Allied side, declaring war on Austria, in May 1915 and Commonwealth forces were at the Italian front between November 1917 and November 1918. Rest camps and medical units were established at various locations in northern Italy behind the front, some of them remaining until 1919. From November 1917 to the end of the war, Genoa was a base for Commonwealth forces and the 11th General, and 38th and 51st Stationary Hospitals, were posted in the city.

### **+BURKE, John**

Royal Irish Rifles. Rifleman. 23444. Died 23/09/1918. Age 16. Son of James and Annie Burke, of Drumnabury, Strabane. Strabane Cemetery.

### **+CLOSE, John**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Btn. 4258. Died 23/09/1918. Age 23. Native of Galgorm, Ballymena. Son of John and Matilda Close, of 115, Cambrai St., Belfast. Native of

Galgorm, Ballymena. Niederzwehrrren Cemetery, Kassel, Germany

**+McCREADY, W**

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 11th Btn. Private. 18093. Died 23/09/1918. Age 20. Son of Alexander and Margaret Jane McCready, of Dromantine Gate Lodge, Jerrettspass, Newry. Houchin British Cemetery, France



**Traditions in Remembrance at Osterbeek Cemetery, Arnhem**

**+McCULLOUGH, Robert**

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Serjeant. 15244. Died

23/09/1918. Age 23. Son of the late Charles and Mary McCullough; husband to Sarah McCullough, of 63, Lanark St., Belfast. Longuenesse (St Omer) Souvenir Cemetery, France

**1920**

**+WEST, John**

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 5th Btn. Private. 19904. Died 23/09/1920 of heart problems in Armagh County Infirmary. Native of Annaghmore. By 1901 he was living in Cathedral Close, Armagh. By 1911 he was married and living at Barrack Hill. Funeral with full Military Honours to St Mark's C of I Churchyard, Armagh

**1943**

**+BAILIE, HUGH THOMAS**

RAFVR. Aircraftman 2nd Class.1832447. Died 23/09/1943 in a road accident. Age 37. He had worked for a few years in an aircraft factory before enlistment. His brother Michael served with the Royal Artillery and another brother with a Scottish regiment. Son of Hugh Alexander and Annie Josephine Bailie, Navan St., Armagh. El-Alia Cemetery, Algeria

**+BOYD, James Jackson**

RN. Leading Signaller. D/JX 158635. HMS. Itchen. Died 23/09/1943. Age 21. Joined aged 15. Trained in HMS Caledonia. In Rodney at Narvik and at sinking of the Bismarck. He was also in a ship which was torpedoed. In Hood for North African invasion. Father served with RAF in World War I. An uncle was in US navy. Son of Thomas Henry Boyd and Agnes Boyd, Fort St., Low Rd., Lisburn.



(Lisburn Standard late 1943, Belfast Weekly Telegraph 08/10/1943). Plymouth Naval Memorial. Panel 80. Lisburn WM

**+DUFFY, Thomas**

RAFVR. Sergeant (Air Gunner). 1037801. Died 23/09/1943. Aged 23. 106 Sqdn. Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Duffy, of Londonderry. Rheinberg War Cemetery, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany

**+McNALLY, Robert William Stephen**

RAFVR. Sergeant (Wireless Op./Air Gunner). 1028538. Died 23/09/1943. Aged 26. 419 (R.C.A.F.) Sqdn. Son of Robert and Agnes McNally, of Lisburn. Rheinberg War Cemetery, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany

**+QUINN, Joseph Edward Gough**

Royal Army Chaplains' Department. Chaplain 4th Class. 91404. Military Cross. Died 23/09/1943. Age 29. Born on 28/03/1914 he was the elder son of the Revd. James Quinn, Chancellor of Down Cathedral and his wife, Muriel Alice Maguire. At the time of his birth, his father was Rector of St. Michael's Church, Belfast and later Rector of St Jude's, Belfast.

He was educated at Shrewsbury where he was an Exhibitioner and Matriculated in 1933 having won a History Scholarship to Christ Church. He was President of Athletics and a member of Oxford University Centipedes. He graduated with a 2nd in history in 1935 and in theology in 1937. After graduating, he was a Lecturer in Theology and

of Modern History at Wycliffe Hall and after he was ordained in 1938, he was Chaplain of St. Peter's Hall

From 27/04/1939, he was a Chaplain to the Forces 4th Class and was attached to the 5th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment. He served with them in France, Syria and Italy. He was awarded the Military Cross which was announced in the London Gazette on 20/12/1940 - "Rev. Quinn acted as chaplain to the Battalion throughout the operations in Belgium and France and was outstanding for the cool manner in which he tended to the wounded without a thought for his own safety. On every occasion when the Battalion occupied a defensive position he refused to go back to the transport lines but stayed in the forward area, encouraging the men and by his personal example of fearlessness inspiring all who came in contact with him. On several occasions, owing to the M.O. becoming a casualty, he took charge of the R.A.P. He was badly wounded on 28 May, while tending the injured. He showed a fine example of coolness and courage." The Diaries of Rev. J. E. G. Quinn covering his service as an Army padre in France, Syria and Italy, 1940-1943 are held in the Imperial war museum. He was killed at Salerno. Salerno War Cemetery

#### **+ROBINSON, William**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 1st (Airborne) Btn. Rifleman. 7013802, 1st (Airborne) Btn., Royal Ulster Rifles. Died 23/09/1943. Aged 27. Son of William and Margaret Robinson, of Lurgan; husband of Elizabeth Robinson, of Lurgan. Shankill Cemetery, Lurgan

**1944**

**+BOYD, James Frederick**

Glider Pilot Regiment, AAC. 1st Wing. Staff Serjeant. 7013328. Died 23/09/1944. Age 22. Son of Jeanie Boyd, of Portstewart. Oosterbeek War Cemetery, Arnhem, Netherlands.

**+FLANAGAN, John**

Leicestershire Regiment, 2/5th Btn. Private. 6983736. Died 23/09/1944. Age 22. Son of Patrick and Margaret Flanagan, of Maghera. Coriano Ridge War Cemetery, Italy

**+SMELLIE, John Frederick**

Glider Pilot Regiment, 1st Wing. AAC. Captain. 158421. Died 23/09/1944. Age 30. Flew glider on D-Day (Wave 3) and at Arnhem with B Squadron 1 Wing GPR. On the 17/09/1942 he was commissioned into the Royal Regiment of Artillery and later transferred to the Glider Pilot Regiment-Army Air Corps in 09/1944 where he became Officer Commanding 4 Flight (B Squadron, No 1 Wing.) A graduate of QUB in law, he became a solicitor. Son of N.S.H Smellie and Ileen Smellie, Brookeside Manor, Holywood. Oosterbeek War Cemetery, Arnhem. Gelderland, Netherlands. Royal Courts of Justice Belfast WM, Holywood Parish Church WM. QUB RH

**1945**

**+COLEMAN, John William**

RN. Petty Officer Stoker. P/K57950. Died 23/11/1945. Aged 49. HMS Danae. HMS Danae had served in the First World War, entering the fray on 26/01/1918. It underwent repairs and modernisation and was once again used in World War Two. Attached to 9th Flotilla of cruisers, Danae patrolled the



waters of south-east Asia before spending 11 months in the docks. Returning in July 1943, Danae returned to the English Channel as part of 1st Cruiser Fleet offering support to Operation Neptune. On D-Day, 06/06/1944, HMS Danae bombarded German batteries near Ouistreham, Normandy. It continued to support the Allies around Caen after D-Day. In August 1944, the ship returned to Plymouth before handover to the Polish Navy. Renamed ORP Conrad, it joined 10th Flotilla of cruisers on 02/04/1945 before returning to Royal Navy usage on 28/09/1945. John Coleman was born in Liverpool, on 14/02/1896, he was the son of George Henry Coleman and Frances Florence Coleman. John married Sarah Maze in September 1922 in West Derby, Lancashire. The couple had a daughter named Edna, born on 12/08/1929 in Belfast. Dundonald Cemetery.

## **VETERANS**

### **ADAMSON, Campbell Miller Taggart**

RNVR. Surg. Lieut - Commander, appointed 23/09/1940, Navy List. St John's Parish Church RH, Newcastle.

### **MOORE, William John**

RN. Stoker. KX 90664. Survivor of aircraft carrier HMS Courageous which was attacked by U-29. Davy's St., Carrickfergus. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 23/09/1939.)

### **McNEILL, Herbert**

Leading Stoker. Survivor of HMS Courageous. Thorndale Ave., Belfast. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 23/09/1939.)

### **NESBITT, William Alexander Nesbitt**

According to Belfast Banking Company records, William Alexander Nesbitt served as a Signaller (Private) with the Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Born on 26/08/1899 at Toberdowney, Ballynure. Son of the Rev. Samuel T Nesbitt and Agnes Bailie Nesbitt nee Hill. He joined the Belfast Bank on 16/04/1917 working in Derry, East End and Accountants. Following demobilisation after the Great War, he returned to work, residing at Ingleside, Browns Bay, Islandmagee. He retired 16/04/1962. Died on 23/09/1978.

**TATE, James**

Indian Army Reserve. Captain. M.C. (Mesopotamia), 1917. Campbell College. B.Sc. (Engineering), 1913. P.W.D., India (Madras), 1914-23. Capt., 1919. Attached 2nd Q.V.O. Sappers and Miners, 1923-28. Govt. of N.I. Asst. Tech. Inspector Factories and Asst., Works Dept., Min. of Finance. Born 23/09/1892, son of A. C. Tate, Slieve-ma-Failthe, Whiteabbey. Died 1948.

**WHITE, John Frederick**

Leading Stoker. Survivor of HMS Courageous. Son of JC White, University Ave., Belfast. Father served with 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion RUR in WW1. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 23/09/1939.)

**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](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com)

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