



remembrance ni



HRH King Charles at the 75th anniversary remembrance of Operation Market Garden in 2019

In 1944 among the NI men who died at Arnhem were William Gibson and John McClune from Belfast. See today's Roll of Honour, pages 11 and 12.



Parachute Regiment colours at Osterbeek 75th anniversary remembrance service.

On this Day – September 24

1914

The Irish Volunteers split over John Redmond's support for their serving in the First World War. A majority (158,360) followed Redmond to form the National Volunteers; the rest (12,306) remained in Eoin MacNeill's Irish Volunteers.

1916

A policeman took into custody crew of German Zeppelin LZ-76 that had been forced down at Little Wigborough, near Colchester. It had sustained serious damage from anti-aircraft shell and British fighter aircraft fire while returning from raid over London.

1917

WW1 Air Raid September 24, London and south-east coast targeted with 21 killed, 70 injured.

Extract from "The Morning Post" The first of the raiders appeared over the South-Eastern district of London about five minutes past eight.

1918.

The Allies are within two miles of St. Quentin, French and British co-operate in attacks in that sector. Good progress made, in spite of stiff German resistance.

1940



The Training Ship, TS Cornwall (formerly HMS Wellesley) moored on the Thames, became the last wooden ship of the line to be sunk by enemy attack, and the first to be sunk by air attack during a Luftwaffe raid on London.



1943 - The marching troops of the Irish Brigade embarked from Sicily on route for the mainland of Italy: 1400 Convoy left Milazzo for Taranto via Messina Straits.

1944

Following the liberation of Araxos airfield on 23 September, the first Royal Air Force unit returns to Greece, when Supermarine Spitfires Mk Vs of No. 32 Squadron fly into the airfield. They would soon fight against Greek anti-government forces.



Roll of Honour – September 24

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1914

+BELSHAW, James

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 4th Btn. Corporal. 2575. Died 24/09/1914. Age 21. Son of William and Elizabeth Belshaw, of 35, Jenny Mount St., York Rd., Belfast. Londonderry City Cemetery.

1916

+NEILL, R

Irish Guards, 2nd Btn. Private. 8123. Died 24/09/1916. Age 18. Son of Robert Neill, of 8. College Place, Belfast. Etaples Military Cemetery, France

+LONG, Patrick

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 7th Btn. Private. 21398. Died 24/09/1916. Age 19. Son of Hugh and Hannah Long, of 7, Donegal Place, Londonderry; husband of Mary Ellen Berry (formerly Long), of 7, Joseph St., Londonderry. Londonderry City Cemetery

+SAMUELS, Arthur Purefoy Irwin

11th Royal Irish Rifles. 11Btn, C Coy. Captain. Died 24/09/1916. Aged 28. Having held a commission in the Territorial Force, on the outbreak of World War One in 1914, Samuels was commissioned to the 11th Royal Irish Rifles, 36th (Ulster) Division, being gazetted Lieutenant in November 1914, and temporary Captain in February 1915. He was in France and Flanders by October 1915. He was slightly wounded by shrapnel just before the Somme Offensive began on the 1st July 1916 and invalided out of the line, but Captain Samuels did recover sufficiently to rejoin his battalion that autumn. He was once again injured, this time fatally, at Messines.

Born in Dublin on 14/02/1887. His father, Arthur Warren Samuels, KC, was a barrister, later MP for Dublin University, Ireland's Solicitor-General and Attorney General, and a judge. API Samuels was educated at St. Stephen's Green school and Trinity College Dublin, and he followed in his father's footsteps and was called to the bar in 1910. Thereafter he joined the North-West Circuit. He married Dorothy Gage Young, of Millmount, Randalstown, in 1913. Son of the Right. Hon. Mr. Justice Samuels, of Cloghereen, Howth, Dublin; husband to Dorothy Gage Samuels (nee Young), of Millmount, Randalstown. Ration Farm (La Plus Douvre) Annexe, Hainaut, Belgium. Barristers Memorial, Four Courts, Dublin. North West Barristers tablet, Londonderry Courthouse

1917

+MURRAY, Patrick Joseph

Royal Sussex Regiment, 11th Btn. Private. G/18524. Died 24/09/1917. Age 16. Son of Mrs. Mary Murray, of 12, Colin St., Falls Rd., Belfast. Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium

+QUINN, Richard

Royal Irish Rifles. 17th Btn. Lance Corporal. 2325. Died 24/09/1917. Aged 40. Son of the late John and Mary Quinn. Born at Belfast. Dundonald Cemetery

+WARDEN, John

New Zealand Reinforcements. Private. 56883. Died 24/09/1917. Age 33. He was one of several soldiers who left their train at Bere Ferres railway station who left their carriage and were hit by an express train while crossing the railway line. Nine died immediately. Born Duneane 27/09/1883. He had been living in Wanganui, New Zealand, 10 years when he enlisted on 12/02/1917. Son of Samuel and Sara (nee McAuley) Warden), of Artlone, Randalstown, Efford Cemetery, Plymouth. Bere Ferres WM, Devon. St Andrews Church, Bere Ferres

1918

+McLAUGHLIN, Edmond Charles

RAF. Air Mechanic 2nd Class. 238234. Died 24/09/1918. Age 22. Enlisted RNAS 19/09/1917. AC II. F38234. President II, Crystal Palace and Roehampton. Transferred to RAF 31/03/1918. Born Coleraine 13/09/1896. Son of Patrick and Kate McLaughlin, Waterside, Coleraine. Southend-on-Sea Cemetery. Coleraine Academical Institution RH. ADM 188/630/38234

+ROBINSON, John Singleton Henry

Welsh Regiment, 13th Battalion attached 12th Battalion. Captain. Died 24/09/1918. Age 26. Prior to the outbreak of the Great War, Jack Robinson worked as a teacher in the Model School Newtownards and then in St Barnabas's and St Enoch's in Belfast. Several members of Jack's family, including his mother, moved to the USA. Jack joined the Officers' Training Corps in 1915 and he obtained his commission as Second Lieutenant in October 1915. He went to France on 26/06/1916 as a Lieutenant in the Welsh Regiment. His brother, Corporal William James Robinson, served at the Front with the Engineers, US Army. In July 1916 Jack Robinson was wounded at the Somme when he was buried by a bursting shell. After treatment Lieutenant Robinson had a period of home leave and when he returned to duty he was posted to the 3rd Battalion at Cardiff. He returned to the front line and in March 1917 was admitted to hospital in Boulogne suffering from shell shock. In May 1917, he came home to Newtownards on convalescent leave for three weeks. Then he was posted for light duty with a battalion of his regiment stationed at Rhyl in Wales. He was promoted to the rank of Captain in February 1918. Two weeks after period of home leave in September 1918 John Robinson (Robbie as he was known to his comrades throughout the battalion) was killed by a sniper's bullet which passed straight through his head. Lieutenant Ivor Ajax wrote a letter of sympathy to Jack Robinson's mother who was then living at 7308 Race Street, Homewood, Pittsburgh, USA and with it he enclosed a letter which Jack had asked him to send in the event of him being killed. Jack wrote the letter on 24/09/1918, the day he died: "Mother Darling, Brothers and Sisters... I am going into action again with my

company and feel very proud indeed as I know it will do well. We all know that it is for a good cause, and as it is all in good hands we leave it at that. For myself, I trust in God as I have always done, and am prepared for anything that might happen. If we don't meet again in this world we will meet in His glorious Kingdom, where struggles all cease. All I possess belongs to you, mother darling, and may God bless you all, and all my good friends. Au Revoir, your big loving son, Jack." Marteville Communal Cemetery, Attilly. Newtownards and District WM; Newtownards C of I Parish Church (St Mark); family grave headstone in Movilla Cemetery Newtownards.

1920

+DERBY, Michael

Royal Engineers. Sapper. 414172. Died 24/09/1920. Age 28. Son of Annie Derby, of 45, Raglan St., Belfast, and the late Bernard Derby. Milltown Roman Catholic Cemetery, Belfast

1942

+DOAK, Robert Victor

RAF. Corporal. 639860. Died 24/09/1942. Age 32. 51 Sqdn. This Squadron transferred to R.A.F. Coastal Command in May 1942 flying Armstrong Whitworth Whitleys from R.A.F. Chivenor, Devon, England. Their role was to patrol against U-Boat activity in the Bay of Biscay. Soon after Corporal Doak's death, they returned to Bomber Command equipped with the Handley Page Halifax at R.A.F. Snaith, Yorkshire, England. Armstrong Whitworth Whitley Z9425 Mark V suffered an engine failure due to an internal cooling leak on

an Air Sea Rescue sortie. The plane crashed while force landing 1 mile east of the Chelpham Viaduct, Devon, England. Sergeant Hugh Alan Roberts and Sergeant E.F. Goodwin survived the crash. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Doak of Lurgan. Husband to Cloda Phyllis Doak, of Streatham. London. Seagoe Cemetery. Lurgan WM

+SPENCE, Robert

Royal Army Ordnance Corps. Private 7018821. Died 24/09/1942. Age 44. His registered place of death was Massereene Hospital, Antrim. Son of Joseph and Jane Spence, Belfast; husband to Hester K Spence, of 1 Clonallen Street, Belfast. Dundonald Cemetery.

+WEIR, John Dennison

RN. Stoker 1st Class. P/KX 119218. Date of Death: 24/09/1942. Age: 21. H.M.S. Somali. Son of Joseph and Mary E. Weir, Banbridge. Seapatrik Parish WM. Portsmouth Naval Memorial, Panel 68.

1943

+CURRAN Joseph

RAFVR. Sergeant (Flight Engineer). 1045746. 428 RCAF SQDN Died 24/09/1943. Aged 20. 428 (R.C.A.F.) Sqdn. Sergeant Curran from Lurgan was shot down over Germany while serving with 428 Ghost Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Force, then based at RAF Middleton St George, Durham. The squadron was first equipped with Vickers Wellingtons (Mk III and Mk X), and its first operational mission was on January 26–27, 1943, when five Wellingtons bombed the Keroman U-Boat pens at Lorient in Brittany, on the Bay of Biscay. In the early part of June 1943, the squadron moved

to RAF Middleton St George, Durham where it remained for the remainder of the war. Around this time the squadron was converted to Handley Page Halifax (Mk Vs).

At 22.39 on 23/09/1943 he was aboard Handley Page Halifax EB207, NA-B for a night operation to Mannheim, Germany. The aircraft was on its way to the target when it was attacked and shot down by Oblt. Heinz-Martin Hadeball of 3./NJG 6 of the Luftwaffe, with the loss of all seven Crew Members who were:- P/O William Anderson Hadden, Sgt. Joseph Curran, Sgt. Alexander F. Morris, Sgt. Sydney A. Whitby, Sgt. Peter J. Flower, Sgt. Clifford W. Renwick and Sgt. Archibald Yuill. The Halifax crashed into woodland at Hahnenberg near Kottreichen.

Son of John and Mary Curran, of Ballynamoney, Lurgan. Rheinberg War Cemetery, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany.

+MOORE, William Craig

Royal Artillery. 126 Heavy Anti Aircraft Regiment. Second Lieutenant. 267047. Died on 24/09/1943. Aged 27. Son of William and Jean Houston Moore of Dunmurry. Belfast City Cemetery

1944

+AUBREY, Trevor

Monmouthshire Regiment, 2nd.Btn. Lance Corporal. 3910777. Died 24/09/1944 in Operation Market Garden. Age 26. Son of Trevor Aubrey and Katie Aubrey (née Jenkins) of Swansea, Glamorgan, Wales. Husband to Gladys Carson Aubrey of Belfast. Valkenswaard War Cemetery, Noord-Brabant, Netherlands.

+CLARKE, Anthony Leslie

Parachute Regiment, 1st Btn. Army Air Corps. Corporal. 1806655. Died 24/09/1944. Age 22. From Northern Ireland. Son of Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Clarke, of Penn. Wolverhampton. Arnhem Oosterbeek Cemetery, Netherlands

+GIBSON, William Christopher

Monmouthshire Regiment, 2nd Btn. Private. 4921930. Died 24/09/1944 during Operation Market Garden. Age 26. He was the son of the late Joseph Gibson and Catherine Gibson of Belfast. Valkenswaard War Cemetery, Noord-Brabant, Netherlands.

+LILLY, William James

RAFVR. Warrant Officer. 1126218. Died 24/09/1944. 50 Sqdn. Son of William and Ellen Lilly, of Larne. Runnymede Memorial, Surrey

+McCLUNE, John

Parachute Regiment, 11th. Btn. Lance Corporal. 6979069. Died 24/09/1944 at Arnhem in Operation Market Garden. Age 25. Son of John McClune and Isabella McClune (née Malcolm) of Belfast. Arnhem Oosterbeek War Cemetery, Gelderland, Netherlands.

1945

+LAIRD, William John

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. 2nd Bn. Lance Corporal. 2766842. Died 24/08/1945. Aged 29. Son of William Laird,

and of Margaret Laird, of Galliagh, Co. Londonderry.
Hamburg Cemetery, Hamburg, Germany

VETERAN

McAVOY, James

Sergeant James McAvoy (9/15333, 9th Btn., Royal Irish Rifles), of 153 Mayo Street enlisted on 10/09/1914 and was discharged due to wounds on 24/09/1919 with Silver War Badge Number B315080. He was awarded a 30% Disability Pension (14 shillings per week) in respect of gunshot wounds to the left ankle.

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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