



remembrance ni



The Queen is the only living head of state in the world to have served during the Second World War.

#LongestReign

In remembrance HM Queen Elizabeth II

Today's Roll has two entries from the RND - the Royal Naval Division which was comprised of naval personnel serving in an army role in WW1. There were men from throughout NI in the RND and they fought in most of the major engagements of the war. In WW2 the Italian

campaign is reflected in the records of two men of the Royal Irish Fusiliers.

On this Day – October 8

1914

As General Foch takes supreme command of the Allied armies defending the Coast, at Antwerp the city is bombarded by the Germans. Belgians and Naval Brigades leave (being cut off and losing 2,000 interned in Holland).

1915

Severe German casualties as their attack near Loos is repulsed.

1917

Terrible loss on the Aisne front, as attacks at Craonne from both German and French fail.

1944

Battle of Crucifix Hill. Soldiers of the US 1st Infantry Division attacked some 40 pillboxes and bunkers and captured the hill near Aachen.

Bulgarian troops engaged German troops at Bela Palanka, Yugoslavia.

1999

Belfast City Council unveiled a permanent memorial to Leading Seaman James Magennis V.C. in the grounds of Belfast City Hall.

Tyne Cot cemetery

Tyne Cot cemetery first came into being in October 1917 when the ridge where the cemetery is now located was captured by the British Army. One of several German blockhouses was large enough to be used as an Advanced Dressing Station. As a result of casualties not surviving their

Tyne Cot cemetery



wounds in this medical Dressing Station there were 354 burials near the Dressing Station. Most of the graves in the vicinity of the Cross of Sacrifice will, therefore, be identified as they died of wounds in this place and were subsequently buried here. The graves of these burials are for soldiers, including some Germans, who died between 06/10/1917 and the end of March 1918 when the German Army

attacked and retook this ridge of high ground south of Passchendaele village.

The cemetery was then again in German occupied ground from 13/04/1918 until 28/09/1918, when the Belgian Army captured the ridge in the final push during the last weeks of the war.

The word “Cott” is also sometimes alternatively marked as “Cot” on British Army trench maps. The origins of why the British started naming some buildings on their maps as “Cott” is interesting as it may stem from the shortened form of “cottage” or it may have originated from Flemish dialect incorporated in the word “duivekot” meaning “dovecote”. Pigeon racing has long been an interest in Belgium and it is possible that there is a link between this local Flemish word for a pigeon house or dovecote and the origins of the use of “cot” on British Army maps.

When the British and Commonwealth military cemetery was formally established after the war, the closest British-named building to the cemetery was the farm building called Tyne Cott or Tyne Cot on the maps. And so it was named Tyne Cot Cemetery.

After the Armistice of 11/11/1918 the cemetery was enlarged. Over 11,500 graves of British soldiers from the nearby battlefields of Passchendaele and Langemarck were located and brought into this cemetery. The graves from nine small burial grounds in the area were also brought to this site. The cemetery was designed by Sir Herbert Baker. The sculpture was by F V Blundstone.



Roll of Honour – October 8

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1914

+CLARKE, James Herbert

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Private. 6792. Died 08/10/1914. Age 32 years old. Son of Henry and Mary Clarke, of Coleraine; husband to Elizabeth Helen Clarke, of 24005, St. Dominique, Montreal, Canada. Bailleul Communal Cemetery, Nord, France

1915

+CAMPBELL, Thomas Callender

Royal Engineers. Lieutenant. Died 08/10/1915. Thomas who had emigrated to Canada returned home at the outbreak of hostilities and enlisted in the Royal Engineers. An engineer by profession he was granted a commission shortly after joining up. Initially he served with the B.E.F. His unit was then transferred to Gallipoli where he was severely wounded on 05/10/1915. He died three days later.

Thomas Campbell was born in India on 29/01/1891, the third of four sons born to Rev. William Howard Campbell and his wife Elizabeth. Rev. Campbell was a Presbyterian

missionary working in India under the auspices of the London Missionary Society. The youngest son, William, was to die of malaria during a voyage back to the United Kingdom in 1894.

His three brothers received their secondary education at Foyle College before attending Edinburgh University. During the Great War his brother David was to be interned in Hungary where he had gone as a tutor. The other two brothers served during the War. Samuel Burnside Boyd Campbell, (known as Boyd), joined the R.A.M.C on the outbreak of war and was to be awarded the MC. He played rugby for Ireland on twelve occasions, (1911-13). Son of the late Rev William Howard Campbell and Mrs. Campbell, of Wellington Park, Belfast; husband to Georgia S. Campbell, of 6, The Mount, Mountpottinger, Belfast. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey; Foyle College RH; First Ballymoney Presbyterian Church RH

+McCLEAN, Edward

Royal Irish Rifles. 1st. Btn. Sergeant. 8347. Died 08/10/1915. Age 25. Son of James and Ellen McClean. Brother of Robert Henry McClean who also died 30/12/1916. Their father had served with the 56th Foot, the Royal Tigers, and saw extensive action in New Zealand. His grandfather and great grandfather had also served in the British army. Y Farm Military Cemetery, Bois Grenier. Seapatrick Parish Church RH, Banbridge

+OSBORNE, William John

Canadian Infantry, 29th Btn. Private. 75393. Died 08/10/1915. Age 21. His Battalion was in a section of Tyne Cot cemetery trenches at Tea Farm (later known as Pond

Farm) near Wulverghem. The war diary reported that Friday 08/10/1915 had been a 'quiet day' until about 6.00 pm when an enemy mine exploded in front of the 28th Battalion which was situated to their left and 'considerable bombing and shelling took place'. William was killed in the explosion along with many men from the 28th Battalion. Son of Thomas Edens Osborne and Margaret Osborne, of 11, Marine Parade, Holywood. Kemmel Chateau Military Cemetery, Belgium. Holywood and District WM. and in Holywood Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church. First World War Roll of Honour of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland. RBAI WM

1916

+DAVISON, Robert

The King's (Liverpool Regiment), 12th Bn. Lieutenant. MC. Died 08/10/1916. Aged 20. Son of John Robert Davison, M.D. and Lizzie Davison, of "Romanov." Ormeau Rd., Belfast. Grove Town Cemetery, Meaulte, Somme, France

+LAVERTY, Charles Stuart

Canadian Infantry, 4th.Btn. Private. 201844. age 27, 4th.Batt. Canadian Infantry, (Central Ontario Regiment). Died 08/10/1916 near Regina Trench, Courcellette in the Somme region. Age 23. Son of William and Sarah Laverty, of Ballydown, Banbridge. Vimy Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Seapatricks Parish Church RH, Banbridge

+LOWRY, William Wray

Canadian Expeditionary Force. 13th Btn (Royal Highlanders of Canada) Private. 151031. Died on 08/10/1916 in the final stages of the Somme Offensive. His battalion suffered heavy casualties as they attempted to take a strongpoint

known as Regina Trench just in front of the German-held village of Pys. He emigrated to Canada just before the Great War. On 10/12/1915 he was attested and enrolled in the 79th Overseas Btn at Deloraine, Manitoba. Following training he sailed for Europe to join 13rd Btn (Royal Highlanders of Canada). William Wray Lowry was the son of David and Anne Lowry, of Windyhill, Donemana.

William was born at Windyhill on 20/03/1885 and may for a time been working as a "servant" on the nearby Fulton farm (described as No Nine in the 1911 census). Commemorated with The Missing, on the Vimy Memorial.

+MYERS, Walter Gardner

Royal Engineers. Sapper. 4825. Died 08/10/1916. Age 34. Husband to Annie Myers, of 171, York Rd., Belfast. Belfast City Cemetery

1918

+BENSON, William Francis

RNVR. RND. Sub - Lieutenant. Drake Battalion. Died 08/10/1918. Aged 23. France. Commissioned Temporary Sub Lieutenant RNVR 27/02/1918 ; Draft for BEF 25/07/1918, joined Drake Battalion 06/08/1918 - 08/10/1918 Born 03/07/1895. Son of Mrs. Mary J. Benson, nee Gray, Sherries Hill, Caledon, later of Reuben Ave., South Circular Rd., Dublin. Phoenix Masonic Lodge 210, Caledon. ADM339

+CLUGSTON, Andrew

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 5th Btn. Corporal. 26305. Died 08/10/1918. Age 22. Born in Whiteabbey. Son of the late



Tyne Cot

Andrew and Mary Clugston, of Belfast. Beaurevoir British Cemetery, France

+CURRIE, David

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 9th B. Private. 42413, formerly 22571, 2nd Battalion Royal Irish Rifles. Died 08/10/1918. Age 19. Son of Richard and Agnes Currie nee O'Brien, of 6 Dickson Street, Belfast. Brother of Richard who served with RNAS and renumbered on joining the RAF, serving with 57 Sqdn. Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium. (Northern Whig, 17/10/1918)

+HAGAN, Patrick

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 6th Btn. Private. 29279. Died 08/10/1918. Age 22. By the 1911 census, Patrick Hagan was 15 years old. His father had died. He was still at school and living with the family at Derrytresk, Mountjoy, Tyrone. Son of James and Mary Hagan, of The Folly, Derrytresk, Coalisland. Prospect Hill Cemetery, Gouy, France. Dungannon WM

+HIGGINSON, W

Royal Irish Rifles. 12th Btn. Rifleman. 8/12901. Died 08/10/1918. Age 30. Son of Thomas and Susan Higginson, of 11, Ribble St., Newtownards Rd., Belfast. Dadizeele New British Cemetery, Belgium

+HUGHES, Francis Andrew

New Zealand Expeditionary Force. Canterbury Regiment, 2nd Btn. Private. 70814. Died 08/10/1918. Age 36. Born in Armagh. He lived with his widowed mother and two brothers. He emigrated to New Zealand and was employed on a farm. He enlisted in November 1917. Son of Charles

and Mary Hughes, of Drumacavan, Keady, Co. Armagh, Ireland. Honnechy British Cemetery, Fra

+HUTCHINSON, William

King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, 15th Btn. Serjeant. 64216. Died 08/10/1918. Son of William and Sarah Jane Hutchinson, of Ireland; father of James Hutchinson, of 49, Mill Street, Larne. La Kreule Military Cemetery, Hazebrouck, France

+ JOHNSTON, James Barlow

RNVR. RND. Sub - Lieutenant. Hawke Battalion, 63rd Naval Division. Died 08/10/1918. Age 21. Ex-WR 341881 Sapper, Royal Engineers. Commissioned Temporary Sub Lieutenant RNVR 27/03/1918. Draft for BEF 10/08/1918, joined Hawke Battalion 19/09/1918 - 08/10/1918. Born 29/01/1897. Son of Philip and Edith Elizabeth Arden Johnston, Denarden, Strandtown, Belfast and Ardagh, Earlswood Road, Strandtown, Belfast. Cambrai East Military Cemetery, France. Campbell College. QUB OTC 1915 - 1916. Strandtown WM. QUB WM. IMR. ADM339.

+LONG, William

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 5th Btn. Died 08/10/1918. Born in the parish of Derryloran and lived at Milburn Street, Cookstown. He worked at Gunning's Factory (Milburn) prior to enlisting with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers in Omagh. His wife died in 1916 and his young daughter was cared for by relatives. William was seriously wounded and removed to the Casualty Clearing Station at Tincourt. He died there later that evening. Tincourt New British Cemetery, Tincourt, Somme, 4 Gunnings Factory WM at Cookstown RBL

Tyne Cot cemetery

Memorial stone panels bearing the names of those with no known grave



+MARTIN, Henry

Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 17th Btn. Private. 46201. Died 08/10/1918. Age 28. Born in Armagh. He enlisted in Birkenhead. Son of James and Elizabeth Martin, of Poplar St., Banbrook, Armagh. Vis-en-Artois Memorial, France

+McDONALD, Andrew

Highland Light Infantry, 12th Btn. Private. 25244. Died 08/10/1918. Age 23 years old. Son of Margaret McDonald,

of J, Saul St., Belfast and the late James McDonald. Born at Greenock. Dadizeele New British Cemetery, Belgium

+NICOLL, Henry

Machine Gun Corps, (Infantry). 22nd Coy. Private. 56399. Died 08/10/1918. Aged 19. Son of Mrs. Helen Nicoll, of Cairnside, Kirkcolm, Stranraer. Vis-En-Artois Memorial, France. Duncairn Presbyterian Church, Belfast WM

+O'HALLORAN, P

Royal Dublin Fusiliers, 6th Btn. Private. 22082. Died 08/10/1918. Age 23. Son of Patrick O'Halloran, of 87, Hardinge St., North Queen St., Belfast. Beaurevoir British Cemetery, France

+WEST, J

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 5th Btn. Private. 22224. Died 08/10/1918. Son of Mrs. M. West, of 140, Fortingale St., Belfast. Prospect Hill Cemetery, Gouy, France

+WHITE, James

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 5th Btn. C Coy. Private. 31543. Died 08/10/1918. Age 20. Son of Mrs. Margaret White, of 45, Seventh St., Belfast. Prospect Hill Cemetery, Gouy, France

+SCOTT, John

Household Cavalry. 19th (Queen Alexandra's Own) Royal Hussars. Private. 71780. Died 08/10/1918. Aged 21. Enlisted at Ballymena. Son of John and Mary Ann Scott, Parkmore Row, Parkmore, Co. Antrim. Busigny Communal Cemetery Ext. Nord, France. Layde Parish Church,

Cushendall, RH. Newtowncrommelin Presbyterian Church
RH

+TONER, W

Connaught Rangers, 5th Btn. Private. 4698. Died
08/10/1918. Age 24. Husband of Emile Toner, of 48,
Hardinge St., Belfast. Serain Communal Cemetery
Extension, France

+WEIR, Joseph

Australian Pioneers, 3rd Btn. Private. 6107A. Died
08/10/1918 of wounds received a week before. Age 20.
Date of death from Armagh sources. CWGC dates it day
previous. Enlisted 1916. Son of Joseph and Elizabeth Weir,
Cornamucklagh, Portadown. Members of the C of I. His
father died around 1910 and the family moved to Australia.
St Sever Cemetery Exyension, Rouen, France

+WEST, J

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 5th Btn. Private. 22224. Died
08/10/1918. Son of Mrs. M. West, of 140, Fortingale St.,
Belfast. Prospect Hill Cemetery, Gouy, France

+WHITE, James

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 5th Btn. Private. 31543. Died
08/10/1918. Age 20. Son of Mrs. Margaret White, of 45,
Seventh St., Belfast. Prospect Hill Cemetery, Gouy, France

1940

+RUSK, Walter Frederick

RAF. Leading Aircraftman. 966122 . Died 08/10/1940. His need for speed saw him break motorcycling records across Europe. 1939 saw the outbreak of the Second World War, and like many road racers with a love for speed, Rusk enlisted in the Royal Air Force. While undergoing pilot training with the RAF No7 Flight Training School. Walter died in a crash. As a pilot under training, he crashed Hawker Hart K4368 into high ground at Tilton-on-the-Hill, Leicestershire, England. Co-pilot Flight Sergeant Johnson was also on board the Hart.

He was best known as a phenomenal motorcycle road racing talent in the pre-war years. His need for speed saw him break motorcycling records across Europe. Rusk was born in Belfast in 1910. He became one of Northern Ireland's most prominent motorcycle racers of the 1930s.

In 1929, at the age of 18, he started his first North West 200 race on a Sunbeam bike. The following year, he would break the lap record on a Velocette and a promising career began.

Rusk's first win came in 1931 at the Temple 100 Road Races on a Norton. Noticed by the A.J.S. works team, he joined them for the 1931 Ulster Grand Prix. Due to mechanical problems, he did not finish the race. 1932 saw Rusk join the Rudge team in the 250cc class. The following year, he started his first Isle of Man T.T. on a 500cc Sunbeam.

He drew the attention of Joe Craig, team boss at Norton, and joined their team alongside Stanley Woods and Tim Hunt.

On the road racing circuit, he finished 2nd in the 1934 European 350cc Championship. He also won the North West 200 on a 350cc Norton Model 40. He raced across Europe in the years before WW2 with performances in the German and Swiss Grand Prix's of 1935.

At the famous Isle of Man T.T., Rusk finished 2nd once and 3rd twice in the mid-1930s. In 1934, he took 3rd in the 500cc class behind Jimmie Guthrie and Jimmy Simpson. The following year, he chalked up a 2nd in the 350cc class behind Guthrie. That year saw another 3rd place behind Stanley Woods and Guthrie again.

In the 1934 Ulster Grand Prix, he finished ahead of the pack on a 500cc Velocette. The following year on the Clady Circuit would not end so well. Racing hard with teammate Jimmie Guthrie, both men spun out of control on the melting tarmac. Guthrie escaped serious injury but Rusk suffered a broken arm.

On his water-cooled A.J.S. V4, he finished 11th at the Isle of Man T.T. in 1939. Teammate Bob Foster came in 13th with the bikes not handling well.

Rusk at the Ulster Grand Prix

Later in 1939, at the Ulster Grand Prix, the two men led from the start outshining the Nortons and Gileras. Foster retired on the first lap with plug trouble. That first lap ended with

Walter Rusk in a 34-second lead, breaking circuit records with 100.03 miles per hour average speed.

On the track, Rusk gained the nickname “The Blonde Bombshell”. Always wanting to go faster, he insisted on changes to the sprockets to drive the engine harder. He manhandled the bike around that record-breaking lap before the power of the bike tore apart its own frame. The bumps of the Seven Mile Straight and the power of the Norton engine would break the front forks and cause him to retire on the 3rd lap. The performance earned him the Motorcycle Union of Ireland Gold Medal.

Walter Rusk’s achievements on the track were phenomenal. History remembers Dubliner Stanley Woods as the most successful victor at the Ulster Grand Prix’s Clady circuit. But while Woods clocked up wins, Walter Rusk recorded the first 90mph and 100mph laps in 1934 and 1939.

Walter Frederick Rusk’s grave is in Eastfield Cemetery, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, England.

1944

+CAIRNS, John James

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 1st Bn. Lance Corporal. 14416962.

Died 08/10/1944. Aged 18. Son of William and Mary Cairns, of Ballymena. Santerno Valley War Cemetery, Italy.

+HALL, Alfred

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 1st Btn. Private. 7046077. Died

08/10/1944. Aged 21. He was the fourth son of William Hall and Maria Hall of 4 David Street, Portadown, Co. Armagh.

Santerno Valley War Cemetery, Italy. Portadown WM

VETERANS

KING, James Osborne

RNVR. Lt.-Commander. DSC, Nov. 1944 for “outstanding courage, resolution and skill while serving in light coast crafting many successful engagements with the enemy”. Feb 1945, marriage to Hon Patricia White, daughter of Lord and Lady Anally, in the Chapel Royal, St James’ Palace, London. The bride was a Lady in Waiting to HRH Princess Elizabeth who as Godparent attended the baptism of the Kings’ daughter Elizabeth Lavinia Sara in St. Mary’s Parish Church, Comber, on 19/03/1946. B 08/10/1914. Son of J King, Castle Chester, Whitehead. Carnesure House, Comber. Campbell College 2263

TRIMBLE, Charles Joseph

RAMC. Lt Colonel. CMG. CB. TD. QCB 1873. CB 01/01/1918. Born 1856, Castlebellingham. Son of Dr Joseph Trimble, Castebellingham, Co. Louth. Husband to Bessie. Died 08/10/1944

**Every day is a Remembrance
Day**

We will remember them

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remembrance ni

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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