



remembrance ni



## Poelcapelle British Cemetery

Poelcapelle British Cemetery is located 10 Kms north-east of Ypres and contains 7,747 WW1 burials of which 6,225 are unidentified. The cemetery also contains Private John Condon of the Royal Irish Regiment, who at 14 is thought to be the youngest battle casualty of the First World War

commemorated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. His home was in Waterford.

Poelcapelle (now Poelkapelle) was taken by the Germans from the French on 20 October 1914, entered by the 11th Division on 4 October 1917, evacuated by Commonwealth forces in April 1918, and retaken by the Belgians on 28 September 1918.

Poelcapelle British Cemetery was made after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the surrounding battlefields and eight smaller cemeteries.

There are now 7,479 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in Peolcappelle British Cemetery. 6,230 of the burials are unidentified but special memorials commemorate 8 casualties known or believed to be buried among them. Other special memorials commemorate 24 servicemen buried by the Germans in other burial grounds in the area whose graves could not be located. There is also 1 burial of the Second World War within the cemetery. The cemetery was designed by Charles Holden.

## On this Day – October 13

### 1915

Most severe airship raid on East Coast of England and London; A reported 59 killed and 114 injured.

(Zeppelin raids took place on January 19th and May 31st, 1915, October 19th, 1917 and August 5th, 1918).

Great Britain severs diplomatic relations with Bulgaria

Hostilities commence between French and Bulgarian forces in Macedonia.

**1916**

**Ballymena Observer 13th October 1916:**

**MISSING**

**RIFLEMAN J McCART**

Information has been received by Mrs McCart, Bridge Street Place that her son Rifleman J McCart, Royal Irish Rifles (Ulster Division) has been officially reported missing since the day the Ulster Division went into action. The intimation was received through a letter from the Rev. A. Gibson, Chaplain to the Forces.

"Rifleman John McCart's body was not recovered and he is commemorated with honour on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, Somme, France."

Norwegian Government issue orders prohibiting belligerent submarines from using Norwegian territorial waters

**1918**

Laon and La Fère retaken by French forces.

Tripoli (Syria) occupied by Allied forces.

**13th October 1918 Northern Whig**

**Ulster Division Captain Killed**

**Captain W.S.B. Hay, R.A.M.C.**, killed in action on the 5th inst., was a son of the late Mr. J.C. Hay and Mrs. Hay, 9 Cameron Street, Belfast. Mrs. Hay has received a letter with reference to her son's death which contains the following :-

"Your son was quite one of my best officers, and I feel personally that in his death I have lost a very dear young friend as well as a most promising, loyal, courageous, and

capable officer. To know poor Steve Hay was to love him, and he leaves many friends in this division. It is some comfort to know that his death was instantaneous and quite painless. A shell actually struck the shelter he was in. If he had to die, poor boy, it is the death he would have wanted . . . He will be buried in the military cemetery among other heroes who have given their all for our county and the cause of justice.

Yours sincerely,  
H. G. Rock, A.D.M.S.”

**Captain William Stevenson Brown Hay**, 153rd Brigade Royal Field Artillery (Ulster Division), killed in action 5th October 1918. Son of George C. and Mary F. Hay, of 9 Cameron Street, Belfast. M.B., Queen's University, Belfast, 1914. Gazetted 1915 and attached to the 110th Field Ambulance 36th (Ulster) Division, later he was attached to 153rd Brigade R.F.A. Deceased was 27 years of age and is buried in Potijze Burial Ground Cemetery, Belgium.

### **13th October 1918 Northern Whig Ulster Division Rank & File Fatality**

**Rifleman William Martin**, 1684, 12th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles, previously reported missing 22nd November, 1917, now reported has having been killed in action on the date. Son of Samuel and Catherine Girvan, of 20 Carew Street, Belfast. Deceased was only 18 years of age and is commemorated on the Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, France.

Rifleman William Martin is commemorated on the memorial tablet in St Patrick's Church of Ireland on the Newtownards Road.

## **1939**

In skirmishes along Maginot Line, French destroy 3 bridges over Rhine.

## **1940**

14-year old Princess Elizabeth made her first public speech, a radio address to the children of the Commonwealth. Her ten-year-old sister Princess Margaret joined in at the end.

## **1941**

German forces of Army Group Centre capture Kalinin, just 100 miles to the West of Moscow.

## **1942**

In the first of four attacks, two Japanese battleships sail down the slot and shell Henderson field on Guadalcanal, in an unsuccessful effort to destroy the American Cactus Air Force.

First US Army troops land on Guadalcanal, the 164<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, joining the US Marines.

Japanese submarine I-30 struck a mine near Singapore and sank.

The Russians regain some ground in Stalingrad, but at heavy cost.

First flight of the North American Mustang X with a Rolls-Royce Merlin engine, in Hucknall, England; the engine transforms the Mustang into a high-altitude, long-distance fighter.

## **1943**

The new Italian government of Marshal Badoglio declares war on Germany, with little effect. Nearly half a million Italian troops have been takenÂ prisoner by the Germans, who predict the Italians will switch sides after their surrender.

The U.S. Fifth Army crosses the Volturno River.

The Russians reach Melitopol in southern Ukraine.

The whole of the New Georgia group of islands in the Solomon's are reported in allied hands.

The American destroyer Bristol was torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean Sea off Algiers by German submarine U-371.

The German submarine U-402 was torpedoed and sunk in the Atlantic Ocean by an American Grumman TBF Avenger from the escort carrier USS Card.

## **1944**

Russian troops capture Riga, the capital of Latvia as Army Group North withdraws in to the Kurland pocket.

The US secures Palau Islands in the Pacific.

The Australian Liberal Party is formed.

Allied forces liberated Athens from German occupation.

The Germans launched V-1 and V-2 flying bombs at Antwerp in an attempt to deny use of its crucial port to the Allies.

The Battle of Rovaniemi in Finland ended in German retreat.



# Roll of Honour – October 13

*Representing their comrades who died on this day*

**1914**

**+GENTLE, Andrew**

King's Own Scottish Borderers, 2nd Btn. Lance Corporal. 10349. Died 13/10/1914. Age 23 years old. Son of the late Neil and Christina Gentle. Le Touret Memorial, France

**+SHAW, Andrew**

Gordon Highlanders, 1st Btn. Private. 7231. Died 13/10/1914. Age 36. Son of Alexander and Sarah Jane Shaw; husband of Mary Shaw, of 49, Coolfin St., Belfast. Le Touret Memorial, France

**1915**

**+HANNA, John**

Royal Irish Rifles, 9<sup>th</sup> (Service) Btn. C Coy. Rifleman. 17/993. Died 13/10/1915. Age 24. Rifleman John Hanna was wounded and brought in by the enemy, sadly Rfm. Hanna died from his wounds and was buried by his captors. Rifleman Hanna is recognised as being the first Ulster Division soldier to die as a result of infantry actions on the enemy. Rifleman Hanna's brother Thomas Hanna (926), also enlisted although with the 12th Btn. He was discharged 23/04/1915, unfit for service. Son of Sarah Hanna McGowan and the late John Hanna, of 27 Bells Ford, Whitehouse, County Antrim. Queens Cemetery Bucquoy, France.

## 1916

### **+CAMPBELL, Thomas**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 9th Btn. Serjeant. 25717. Died 13/10/1916. Age 24. Son of Thomas and Ellen Campbell, of 4, Maple St., Waterside, Londonderry. Pond Farm Cemetery, Belgium

### **+MacMASTER, William Graham**

Royal Irish Rifles. 10th Btn. Lance Corporal. 17/214. Died 13/10/1916. Age 27. Son of James Henry and Isabella Macmaster, of 81, Claremont Avenue, Montclair, New Jersey, U.S.A. Returned from U.S.A. at outbreak of war and enlisted in the Ulster Division early in 1915. Born at Belfast. St Quentin Cabaret Military Cemetery, Belgium

### **+McGILTON, J**

Royal Irish Rifles, 15th Btn. Rifleman. 15/15409. Mentioned in Despatches. Died 13/10/1916. Age 27. Son of Hugh and Jane McGilton, of 62, Henry St., Belfast. St Quentin Canbaret Military Cemetery, Belgium

### **+NELSON, Andrew**

Irish Guards 2nd Btn. Guardsman. 8877. Died 13/09/1916. Born Larne. Guards' Cemetery, Lesboeufs. Larne WM

### **+TAYLOR, William Edward**

Royal Engineers, 63rd Field Coy. Sapper. 143626. Died 13/10/1916. Age 31. On leaving school William became an agricultural labourer working with his father but by the time of the 1911 census he had become a carpenter. William



enlisted on 06/12/1915 and transferred from the reserve battalion for active service on 12/02/1916. He was transferred to the BEF in July 1916 and joined the 63rd Field Company on 02/08/1916. Sadly, his service did not last long. William Taylor was born on 14/06/1885 at Glencraig, Craigavad. He was the son of Samuel Taylor, an agricultural labourer who gave his occupation as Land Steward at that time, and his wife Margaret Taylor nee Childs, and the the youngest of their eight children. Thiepval Memorial, France. Ballygilbert Presbyterian Church RH, Ballyrobert Orange Hall where he was a member of LOL No. 1920, family memorial in Bangor Cemetery

### **+WHITE, William**

Royal Irish Rifles, 15th Btn. Rifleman. 15/568. Died 13/10/1916. Age 22. Son of William and Ellen Jane White, of 31, Great George's St., Belfast. St Quentin Canbaret Military Cemetery, Belgium

**1917**

### **+BARR, Hugh**

Australian Infantry, A.I.F. 14th Btn. Sergeant. 337. Died 13/10/1917. Age 30. Born at Larne. Son of Samuel and Margaret Barr, of 1, Balfaur Terrace, Larne Harbour. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

### **+CAMPBELL, Nesbitt**

Royal Irish Rifles, 9th Btn. Rifleman. 759. Died 13/10/1917. Age 18. Son of James and Mary Campbell, of 108, Duncairn Gardens, Belfast. Neuville-Bourjonval British Cemetery, France

**+McCLELLAND, Alfred**

Royal Irish Rifles. 1st Btn. Second Lieutenant. Formerly North Irish Horse. Died 13/10/1917 of wounds at No 2 Australian Casualty Clearing Station. Age 24. Son of James and Charlotte Marion McClelland, of 105, Cavehill Rd., Belfast. Trois Arbres Cemetery, Steenwerck, France

**+McCONNELL, David George**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. B Coy. Private. 25998. Died 13/10/1917. Husband of Sarah Smyth (formerly McConnell), of "Merville," Croc-na-Mac Rd., Portrush. Londonderry City Cemetery

**+MOFFETT, Archibald.**

Royal Irish Rifles. formerly 7th Btn. Depot. Rifleman. 16377. Died 13/10/1917. Age 38. Son of R. J. Moffett and Ellen Moffett. Ballyrone Presbyterian Churchyard, Co. Down

**1918**

**+BLACK, William**

Royal Irish Rifles, 1st Btn. B Coy. Rifleman. 5946. Died 13/10/1918 as a prisoner of war. Age 23. Son of Thomas and Mary Black, of 12, Mill Row, Dunmurry, Co. Antrim. Native of Belfast. Buried at the time of death in Deerlyck German Cemetery. Belgium. His grave was lost. Remembered at Deerlyck German Cemetery and Dadizeele New British Cemetery, Belgium

**+CARTON, E**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 6th Btn. Private. 26544. Died 13/10/1918. Age 21. Son of Mrs. M. J. Carton, of 7, Ferguson St., Londonderry. St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, France

**+DONNELLY, James**

US Army, 42nd Division, 165th Infantry Regiment. Sergeant. Died 13/10/1918. Age 24. Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, Meuse. Cookstown War Dead

**+HOWIE, Alexander**

London Regiment (London Irish Rifles), Rifleman. 22296. Died 13/10/1918. Age 19. Son of William and Sophia Howie, of 3, Mourne St., Belfast. Ration Farm Military Cemetery, La Chapelle-d'Armentieres, France

**+LAVERTY, Arthur**

Royal Irish Rifles, 12th Btn. Lance Corporal. 12/6840. Died 13/10/1918. Age 33. Born at Craigs. Lived at Cullybackey. Enlisted Ballymena Son of Arthur and Elizabeth Lavery; husband of Sarah Frame (formerly Lavery), of 8, Roxburgh St., Belfast. Dadizeele New British Cemetery, Belgium

**+REID, William**

Seaforth Highlanders, 1st/5th Btn. Private. S/43613. Died 13/10/1918. Age 23. Son of Mary Jane Reid, of 201, Grosvenor Rd., Belfast, and the late George Reid. Avesnes-le-Sec Communal Cemetery, France

### **+SKILLEN, Robert C**

Royal Irish Rifles. 12th Btn. Rifleman. 17/214. Died 13/10/1918. Age 28. Husband of Margaret Skillen, of 16, Gertrude St., Belfast. Terlincthun British Cemetery, Wimille, France

### **+TRAINOR, James Joseph**

King's Own Scottish Borderers. 6th Btn. Private. 31693. Died 13/10/1918. Age 18. He was born in Barrack St., Armagh where his father. Was a spirit merchant. Son of John and Ann Trainor, of Tullylish, Gilford, Co. Down. Perreuse Chateau Franco British National Cemetery, France

### **+WOODS, Thomas**

Irish Guards 3rd. Btn. Guardsman. 12178. Died 13/10/1918. Age 25. Born about 1893 in Brantry, Dungannon. He enlisted in Rutherglen, Lanark, Scotland. He died of wounds at home. Husband of Georgina McCarty Woods, of 132 Farmeloan Road, Rutherglen. Scotland. Rutherglen Cemetery. Dungannon WM

## **1940**

### **+CRAWFORD, Robert**

Royal Artillery. Gunner. 1473864. Died 13/10/1940. Aged 26 years 21st Battery, 8th (Belfast) HAA Regiment. On dates between 08 - 16/10/1940, Luftwaffe bombs fell on the regiment's barracks in London. Three men died and twelve more sustained injuries in these attacks. Born in 1914 in the Shankill area of Belfast, he was the son of Jane Skillen.

In the 8th (Belfast) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, he saw action with the British Expeditionary Force across Europe and survived Dunkirk. In December 1939, the regiment occupied themselves with the defence of the port of Le Havre. 21st Battery moved to Arras, deployed there in May 1940. By then, fighting was intense and German tanks and machine guns surrounded Crawford's battery near St. Valery.

Their heavy anti-aircraft guns destroyed and breech blocks removed, the men retreated. Aiding the infantry with small-arms fire, they made their escape at Dunkirk.

On arriving home, the gunners took the task of defending against the blitz. After training in Blackpool, they departed for Coventry, Plymouth, and Wolverhampton. By September 1940, the regiment had concentrated on London as enemy attacks intensified. On 2nd October 1940, they helped extinguish around 2,000 incendiary bombs burning the Harrow School. On dates between 8th and 16th October 1940, Luftwaffe bombs fell on the regiment's barracks. Three men died and twelve more sustained injuries in these attacks. Belfast City Cemetery, Glenalina. Regimental WM and RH, St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast

### **+PATTISON, Kenneth Clifton**

RAFVR. Sergeant (Pilot). 742457. Died 13/10/1940. Aged 27. 611 Sqdn. Nottingham Southern Cemetery, Nottinghamshire. 502 (Ulster) Squadron WM, St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast

### **+ROBINSON, Robert**

Royal Artillery. 8th (Belfast) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment. 21st Battery. Gunner. 1465720. Died on active service in



### **Poelcapelle British Cemetery**

London, on the night of 13th-14th October 1940 aged 33. Gunner Robinson was more often known as "Charlie". Born in Belfast in 1907, he served with 8th (Belfast) at Dunkirk. At the time, 8th (Belfast) had a base at Clapham Common. Records show Luftwaffe bombs falling in the area during the first two weeks of October 1940. Born in 1907, he was the son of John Robinson and Maria Robinson of Shankill Road, Belfast. He was the husband of Sophia Robinson also from Belfast. Belfast City Cemetery. Glenalina Extension

### **+THOMPSON, Stanley J**

RAFVR. Pilot Officer. 86402. Died 13/10/1940. Age 19. Son of John Davis Thompson and Sarah Scott Thompson of Bessbrook, Co Armagh. Sutton Bridge (St Matthew) Churchyard, Lincolnshire. Bessbrook WM. 502 (Ulster) Squadron WM, St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast



## 1942

### **+ORR, Albert Cyril**

RAFVR. Sergeant (Air Bomber). 1145143. Died 13/10/1942. Aged 21. 75 Sqdn. Son of Stanley and Annie Orr, Kilkeel. Kiel War Cemetery, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany

## 1943

### **+DON, Andrew Nicol Durran**

Royal Tank Regiment, 40th (7th Bn The Kings Regt [Liverpool]). R.A.C. Lieutenant. 219950. Died 13/10/1943. Aged 30. Son of the Revd. Andrew Chalmers Don, and Charlotte Hamilton Don, of Warkworth, Northumberland; husband of Mary Kathleen Don. M.A.(Oxon.). Suez War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt. Warkworth WM, Knockbreda Parish WM

## 1944

### **+COCHRANE, Thomas John**

RN. Able Seaman. C/JX 375555. HM LCT 2454. Died 13/10/1944. Age 21. RN Commando. Son of Joseph and Elisabeth H. Cochrane, Scrabo Rd., Newtownards. Chatham Naval Memorial, Panel 75. Newtownards WM

### **+GUY, Melvern Roy**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 2nd. Btn. Rifleman. 14691055. Died 13/10/1944. Aged 21. Son of Melvern and Rachel May Guy, of Risca, Monmouthshire. Overloon War Cemetery, Noord-Brabant, Netherlands

**+DUNCAN, Oliver**

Royal Engineers. Lieutenant. 273807. Died 13/10/1944. Aged 20. WOPE 1942 QUB. Son of Robert Moore Duncan and May Winifred Duncan, of Sandycove, Co. Dublin. Meirlo War Cemetery, Noord-Brabant, Netherlands. QUB RH

**We have not been able to find info on two men.** Can you help with info about the following ?

**14688543 Rfn Irvine J      13-Oct-44**

**7021372 Rfn Scott R      13-Oct-44**

Information about members of the armed services from N Ireland who served in either of the world wars would be gratefully received at [houstonmckelvey@mac.com](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com) for consideration for inclusion in the Roll of Honour on the anniversary of their death either in service or as a veteran. Please put 'Remni-entry' in the subject space

**VETERAN**

**SPENCER, Herbert**

Royal Artillery. Captured in Greece in 1941 he became Prisoner Of War 22013 at Stalag VIIIB which was near Lamsdorf in Silesia. Having returned home he died of his wounds on 13/10/1951. Herbert was born during the First World War.

# Every day is a Remembrance Day

***We will remember them***

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

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

**Copyright** - all material in this **remembrance ni** publication is copyright, and must not be reproduced in print or electronically.

---