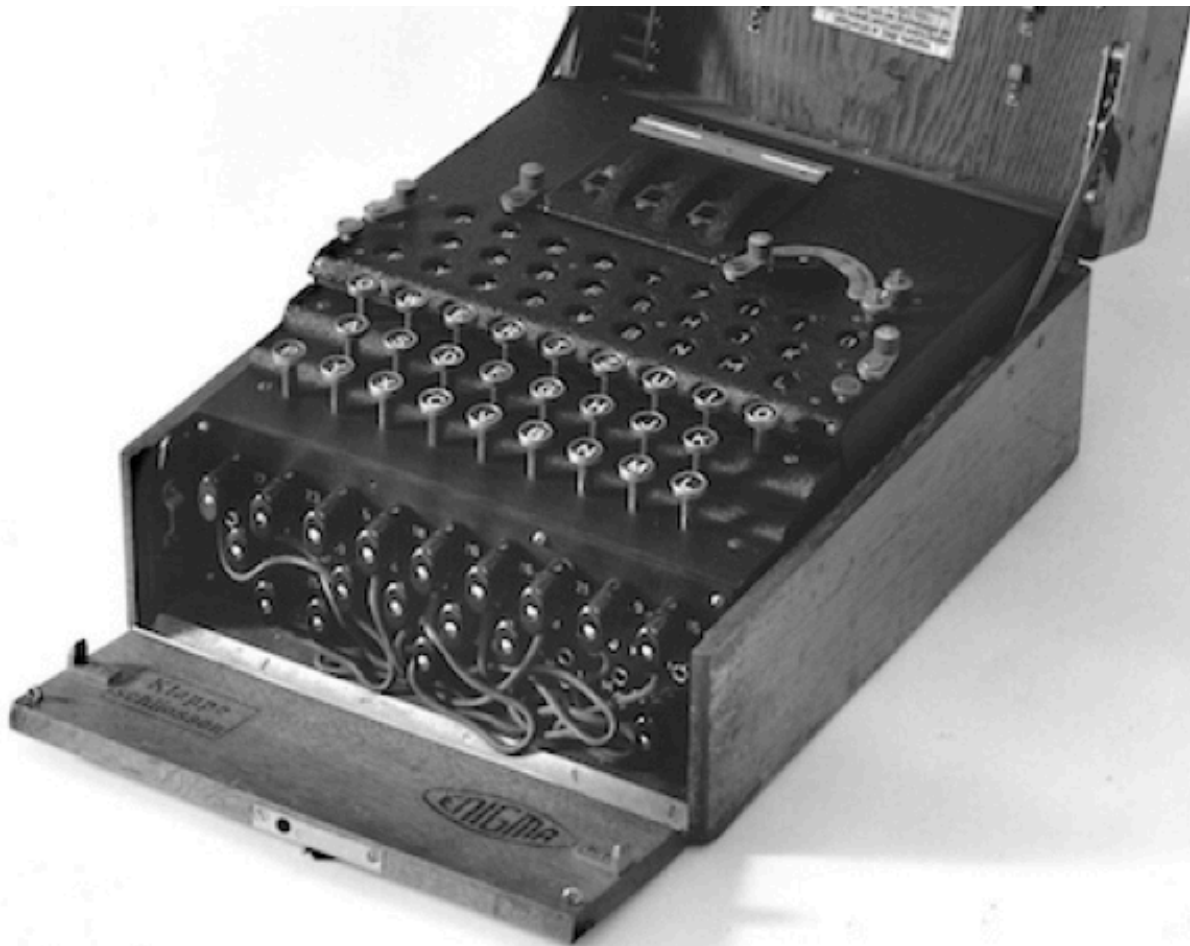




remembrance ni



**Navy officer played key role in Bletchley Park success**



**Alan Bradshaw, Paymaster Captain. CBE. RN. Served 1916 - 38.**

He was recalled to serve 1939 - 45 when he played a key role in the success of Bletchley Hall where the German naval Enigma Code was deciphered.

Harry Hinsley, a key figure in the breaking of the Enigma Code described Alan Bradshaw as, "One of the most able men I have ever met."

Alan Bradshaw was born in County Antrim on 12/12/1898, the son of James and Jean Bradshaw. He spent some of his early life in Brussels of which his mother was a native. He attended Royal School Dungannon from 1913 - 1916 when

he joined the Royal Navy. He served until 31/12/1938 following which he became a director of the Pye radio company.



He was recalled on the outbreak of war in 1939 by the Admiralty Intelligence Department to take charge of the Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park. Appointed as General Administrative Officer, later he became Assistant Director (Administration) and finally Deputy Director (Administration).

A description of him by a colleague states, “As a member of the paymaster branch he was the epitome of the type that gave the Navy its ‘silent service’ image. He fused ascetic

Northern Ireland Protestant pragmatism and probity with a naval officer's abhorrence of garrulousness... He was a formidable presence - tenacious, relentless, almost menacing in his authority. Once in a while a flash of charm..." ('Decoding Organisation - Bletchley Park' by Colin Grey).

Interestingly, Bradshaw is the only leading figure from Bletchley who has no entry in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography. This is possibly a misreading of the contribution administration had made to the operation's success.

During World War 1 following training at HMS Victory, he served in HMS battleships Revenge and Marlborough and in HMS Galatea in the Baltic.

He was promoted to Paymaster Lieutenant in 1920. In 1926 he became Chief Staff Officer to the Mediterranean Fleet. Lieutenant Commander in 1928, he then served as Secretary to the Captain of the Atlantic Fleet in HMS Nelson. From 1932 - 34 he was Assistant Secretary to Admiral Sir Roger Blackhouse, later First Sea Lord, when he was in command of the 1st Battle Squadron. During this period Bradshaw's book, "English- French naval terms" was published.

In 1930 he took up a special appointment in the Admiralty Intelligence Department and reached the rank of Commander in 1936. He remained with the Department until he decided to retire from 31/12/1938.



He was appointed CBE in the New Year's Honours List 1945. Following his retirement from the navy, he took up an appointment with the Foreign Office. He died 24/12/1987, aged 88.

## On this Day – October 30

### 1914

At Ypres the Germans are pressing at all opportunities.  
On the Yser the Germans are forced by floods to retreat.

*Ballymena Observer*, 30 October 1914

### **INNISKILLING (U.V.F.) DRAGOONS**

The recruiting for the Extra Service Squadron (U.U.F.) [sic] for the Inniskilling Dragoons, at Enniskillen has proceeded so far that Mr. Trimble, J.P., states he now has the squadron at peace strength. He looks to the other counties in Ulster to raise it to war strength (160). It had been expected that the corps would have been transferred on the arrival of the 4th Inniskillings at Enniskillen, but that order at the last moment has been countermanded. The Dragoons are to remain in Enniskillen, with probably the 11th (U.V.F.) Inniskillings, under Colonel Hessey.

### 1915

*Belfast News-Letter*, 30 October 1915

### **SERVICE SQUADRON INNISKILLING DRAGOONS.**

Lieutenant-Colonel Ewing Paterson has carried out his intention of bringing over the 6th Inniskilling Dragoons to visit the Service Squadron on the Western front. They had a field day together, and it was a day to be remembered. The squadron is in good health and spirits.

## 1917

British attacks in bad weather at Ypres from Poelcapelle to Passchendaele, which is entered, but the Germans drive them back to the outskirts.

## 1918

The Ottoman Empire makes a separate peace with the Allies. The Armistice of Mudros ends the war in the Middle East.

Serious influenza epidemic in London. A reported 2,200 deaths last week.

## 1939



A Hawker Hurricane, piloted by Pilot Officer PW Mould of No. 1 Squadron, based at Vassincourt in France, shoots

down a Dornier Do 17 reconnaissance aircraft. This is Royal Air Force's first air combat victory over the Continent during the Second World War.

German U boat U-56 fails in attack on battleship HMS Nelson with Winston Churchill, Dudley Pound, and Charles Forbes aboard.

## 1940

RAF Bomber Command is given its first directive sanctioning area-bombing.

Lt. Gen. Henry H. "Hap" Arnold named as US Acting Deputy Chief of Staff for air (combat).

## 1941



German siege of Sevastopol begins. The German 11th Army encircled the vast fortress of Sevastopol in the Crimea, launching massive combined air, artillery and land attacks against the heavily defended positions until it finally fell in July 1942

The worsening weather and seas of mud bring the German offensive against Moscow almost to a standstill. This gives the Red Army precious time to reinforce their defenses in front of Moscow.

USO Camp Shows established to entertain troops overseas

**1942**

## **Died recovering vital Enigma codes**

OnThisDay in 1942 Able Seaman Colin Grazier and Lieutenant Francis Anthony Blair Fasson gave their lives recovering vital Enigma codes from a sinking German U-boat U-559 in the Eastern Mediterranean during the Second World War.

On the night of 30 October, an enemy submarine was reported 70 nautical miles (130 km) north of Port Said, Egypt. HMS Petard, assisted by Wellesley aircraft of No. 47 Squadron, located and attacked the U-boat, forcing the stricken boat to the surface. The German crew were taken aboard HMS Petard, but not before they had opened sea valves and petcocks to scuttle the submarine before abandoning it.

Lieutenant Francis Fasson volunteered to swim over and search the damaged submarine before it sunk. He stripped off his clothes and jumped into the cold sea, followed by Able Seaman Colin Grazier. The two men were then joined by 16-year-old NAAFI canteen assistant Tommy Brown as they searched the rapidly sinking U-boat for any vital documents, code books or machinery.



A four-wheel Enigma cypher machine and the books to go with it were rescued, and were crucial to the code-cracking centre at Bletchley Park who were able to use it to decipher German Navy signals protected by the Enigma machines.

Of the three, only Tommy Brown survived the incident. He was awarded the George Medal for his actions, and both Fasson and Grazier were posthumously awarded the George Cross for 'outstanding bravery and steadfast devotion to duty in the face of danger'. Due to the Official Secrets Act, their daring mission remained a secret for over 30 years.

HMS Petard is commemorated at the Arboretum with a bench in the Y Listening Service Garden, located on Giffard Avenue.

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The completion of the Alcan Highway is announced—1,671 miles of road connecting Dawson Creek, British Columbia, and Fairbanks, Alaska. The road will be used to transport supplies and troops to U.S. military bases in Alaska.

In Allied convoy SL-125 off West Africa, U-boat wolf-pack sinks six ships; this convoy distracts the U-boats from the approaching convoys for Operation Torch.

At El Alamein, Australians push north to the sea, trapping enemy force, most of which escapes west.

Germans remove 100 Jewish children from a children's home in Brussels, Belgium for deportation, but public outcry leads to their return.

## 1944

**38 (Irish) Brigade** - A reminder of Italy from Lt-Colonel Horsfall, 1 RIrF, "After Spaduro, we reconstituted the Faughs with 3 rifle companies only. The ammunition situation was equally bad and, by the end of the year, the field artillery was rationed at 5 rounds a gun – daily. The Faughs would shrug off Spaduro."

In the Vosges mountains in France, US 442<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment (Nisei—Japanese-Americans) rescues the Lost Battalion with heavy losses.

The Debrecen counter attacks end with the Germans claiming that they have inflicted 25,000 casualties and destroyed 600 tanks. However, this doesn't hinder the Red Army begins a major offensive in to Hungary.

The gas chambers at Auschwitz are used for the last time.

## 1945

Final Liberty Ship is delivered, the Albert M Boe; 2711 produced during the war.

# Roll of Honour – October 30

*Representing their comrades who died on this day*

## 1914

**+RICHARDSON, Walter Allen**

Royal Scots Fusiliers, 2nd Bn. Corporal. 8799. Died 30/10/1914. He had ten years' service, and was stationed with the Royal Scots while they were in Londonderry. He

went to the Front in August 1914. Husband to Mrs L. Richardson, 3, Olive Terrace, Waterside, Londonderry. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Diamond WM, Londonderry

## 1916

### **+BEGGS, William John**

RMLI. RND. 16347 (Ply). Private. 2nd RM. Battalion. Died 30/10/1916. France. Age 21. Enlisted 15/08/1913. Killed in action (with working party from Englebelmer). Plymouth Battalion at Ostend, Dunkirk, and Defence of Antwerp 1914 ; MEF 06/02/1915-04/03/1915 slightly wounded at Kum-Kale, No.3 Company Plymouth Battalion, to hospital Malta, rejoined Battalion 29/03/1915-01/10/1915. Pyrexia unknown origin, rejoined 2nd Royal Marine Battalion 26/10/15-30/10/16. Born 10/07/1895. Son of William J and Mrs EM Beggs, Swift St., Belfast. 1914 Star issued to mother, Mrs. EM Beggs, 12/12/1919. Hamel Military Cemetery, Beaumont Hamel, France. IMR. ADM 159/158/16347

### **+FISHER, Hugh**

Royal Scots. 1st Btn. Private. 13907. Died of wounds 30/10/1916. Age 22. Enlisted Glasgow. Native of Connor, County Antrim. Son of Sam and Margaret, Old Green, Kells. Strauma Military Cemetery, Greece

## 1917

### **+BELL, Richard**

Canadian Infantry, 38th Bn. Sergeant. 410683. Died 30/10/1917. Age 24. Richard was born on 04/03/1893 in Dromiskin, County Louth. He was the son of William Bell.

He had an older brother, James Bell. By 1911, it seems the two brothers had moved to Castlecaulfield to work for their grandfather. The two brothers then emigrated to Canada. Richard enlisted on 21/05/1915 in Lindsay, Ontario. He joined the 59th Battalion of the Canadian Infantry. He was killed in action near the town of Ypres in West Flanders, at the Battle of Passchendaele. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

### **+COOKE, John**

Canadian Expeditionary Force. 28<sup>th</sup> Btn (City of Winnipeg), D Coy. L/Sgt. 410709. Military Medal posthumous. Died 30/10/1917 in action in the mud and blood of the struggle on the Passchendaele Ridge. Age 33. John had served with the Canadian Militia until enlisting on 08/05/1915 at Lindsay, Ontario into the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force. On 20/05/1918 John was posthumously awarded the Military Medal "for Bravery in the Field." Born at Desertone on 07/10/1884, to Joseph and Bella (nee Burke) Cooke. His widowed mother was still living at Gorton, Newbuildings when he died. Husband to Mrs Sarah J. Cooke, originally of Tagharena near Newbuildings, but later at 119 Cowan Avenue, Toronto. Tyne Cot Cemetery. 2nd Donaghedy Presbyterian Church RH

### **+CURRIE, James**

Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. 1/6th Btn. Sergeant. Died of wounds in a casualty clearing station on 30/10/1917. Brother of Sergeant Samuel Currie who was recorded in the local press as being the first local Boy Scout killed and was also a member of the Ulster Volunteer Force. Samuel died 24/11/1917 of wounds sustained during the Battle of

Cambrai. Another brother Private John Currie, 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, was killed in action on 16/05/1915. Son of William John and Jane (nee Henry) Currie of Springwell Street, Ballymena. Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium. Ballymena 1914 -1918 WM. West Church, Ballymena RH

### **+SHAW, John Henry**

Canadian Infantry, 49th Btn. Acting CQMS. 904005. Died 30/10/1917. 3rd Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele) He enlisted in the 194th Btn. on the 16/02/1916, stating that he had previously spent four years in the North Irish Horse, and was probably why he was soon Acting Company Quartermaster Sergeant, a role he voluntarily relinquished before going on active service. He passed through the 9th Reserve Btn before being posted to the 49th Btn. He went to France in October 1917, joining his unit in the field on the 13/10/1917. John had emigrated to Canada after 1911 and he was a clerk living at 11927-93rd Street, Edmonton, Alberta. He was single at enlistment but was married at the time of his death, his wife being Mary Teresa Shaw, then of 12006-65th Street, Edmonton; her last given address was PO Box 612, Portland, Oregon USA. Son of John and Mary (nee Campbell) Shaw, Mounthill, Raloo, Larne. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium. St Patrick Parish Church, Kilwaughter, Cairncastle.

## **1918**

### **+KENNEDY, Robert**

Royal Irish Rifles Service, 10th Btn. Rifleman. 15068. Died 30/10/1918. Aged 29. Robert Kennedy enlisted in Belfast, although he was still living in Derrycaw. He was moved back to England where he died of his wounds. Eldest son of



James and Jane Kennedy of Mill St., Caledon. Robert was born about 1889 in Derrycaw, Moy. Durrington Cemetery, Andover, Wiltshire. Near Larkhill Camp

**+MARLOWE, Robert**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, Depot. Private. 25650. Died 30/10/1918. Aged 25. Born in Aughnacloy, Co. Tyrone, about 1894. Robert Marlow enlisted in Belfast. He was serving in the Depot when he died at home. Son of Mrs. Mary Marlowe, of 36, Whiterock Crescent, Belfast. Belfast (Milltown) Roman Catholic Cemetery.

**+MAXWELL, William**

Royal Irish Rifles, Depot Btn. Rifleman. 11160. Died 30/10/1918. Shankill Cemetery, Lurgan

**+STEVELEY, Ernest**

Machine Gun Corps (Infantry), 15th Btn. Private. 43963. Died in action on the 30/10/1918. Son of Hugh and Jane Steveley, Station House, Cullybackey. Guignies Communal Cemetery, Brunehaut, Belgium.

**1919**

**+HEFFERON, Robert**

Labour Corps. Private. 444670. Formerly Rifleman 5984, Royal Irish Rifles. Died 30/10/1919 at Monkstown of pulmonary tuberculosis. Born Ballyduff 10/06/1874. Lived in Monkstown, Whiteabbey and worked as a weaver. Enlisted Newtownards 29/04/1915. Discharged 21/05/1918 as he "was no longer fit for war duty". Son of Robert and Levina (nee McMeekin) Hefferon. Husband to Mary (nee Cooke).

They married in York Street Presbyterian Church.  
Whiteabbey Presbyterian Church RH

**1920**

**+CRAWFORD, Samuel**

Royal Irish Regiment. Private. 41273. Died 30/10/1920. Age 21. Husband of Margaret Crawford of 14 Downing Street, Belfast. Belfast City Cemetery

**1940**

**+ERSKINE, Basil Pollock**

RAF. Pilot Officer (Pilot). 44190. Died 31/10/1940. Age 19. 233 Sqdn. Coastal Command. Basil Pollock Erskine attended Campbell College from 1935 until 1939 and a short biography was published in the December 1940 edition of The Campbellian:

“Basil Erskine’s most striking characteristic was the concentrated drive which he applied to anything he undertook. As a small boy he constructed single-handed and in term time, an excellent canoe, a work requiring unremitting labour and infinite patience; as a Cadet at Cultra Yacht Club he was ready for his tests before the examiner had quite learnt them himself; as a Scout he obtained his First Class Badge within four months of joining the Troop, a record at Campbell – and possibly anywhere. When he joined the Air Section of the Officers’ Training Corps, he rapidly became its senior NCO.

“But it was as a Scout in camp that you saw Basil at his best. The woods seemed to be his native place. His remarkable native ingenuity found full scope in devising the shifts and gadgets that make camp a home-from-home; the lashings and knots were the joy of his skilful hands. His cooking done over a wood fire made the mouth water. We shall always remember with pride his excellent running of his Patrol in camp at Mourne Park, and with affection his cheery, vivid presence, his shrewd jokes, and his good company around the campfire. His life was short, but he lived every minute of it”.

He was flying Lockheed Hudson Mark II aircraft (T9377) that took off at 10.20 am from RAF Leuchars in Fife, Scotland. They reached the Norwegian coast in formation with two other aircraft and attacked a cargo vessel near the Norwegian coastline. The aircraft was shot down by anti-aircraft fire from a German minesweeper and crashed at 12.55 pm near Lister, Norway. Son of Robert Magill and Eleanor Pollock Erskine, of Holywood, Co. Down. Brother of Lt. Commander (E) John Gordon Morrison Erskine. Sola Churchyard, Norway. Holywood WM, Campbell College RH

**1942**

**+TEES, David John**

HMS Caroline. RNVR. Lieutenant Commander. Joined 21/07/1930. Served on Barham 1930; Skate 1932; Exeter 1933; Nelson 1934; Ramilles 1936; Dryad 1938; Durban 1939. He had served for three years in the Far East returning to home waters in June 1941. He was killed on 30/10/1942 on way to new appointment St Angelo, Malta, when the aircraft he was a passenger in crashed. He had

been home on leave prior to being recalled. Educated at St. Jude's PES and MCB, he was an official of the Belfast Harbour Commissioners, a member of RUYC and PM of Civic Masonic Lodge. Two brothers served in WW1. One was killed serving with the Royal Irish Regiment. His family had a long connection with Ormeau Road Methodist Church. Son of Mr and Mrs David Tees. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 06/11/1942). Knockbreda Cemetery, Belfast.

## 1943

### **+HENDERSON, James Joseph**

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 1<sup>st</sup> Btn. Fusilier. 14414076. Died 30/10/1943. Aged 19. Son of Hugh and Mary Henderson, of Belfast. Sangro River War Cemetery, Italy

### **+McPARKLAND, Terence**

Northamptonshire Regiment, 2nd Btn. Warrant Officer Class II (C.S.M.). 5882353. Died 30/10/1943. Aged 31. Husband to Margaret McParkland, of Enniskillen. Cassino War Cemetery, Italy

### **+WARREN, William James**

London Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Royal Ulster Rifles. Rifleman. 14217509. Died 30/10/1943. Aged 21. Son of Alfred and HESSIE Warren, of Ballymena. Minturno War Cemetery, Italy

### **+WHITE, John**

London Irish Rifles, 1st Btn. Royal Ulster Rifles. Rifleman. 7014159. Died 30/10/1943 in Italy. Aged 22. Brother of Samuel McBrinn White RN (See Veterans RH 07/12/2005), and Hugh, PoW. Son of Hugh and Hanna White, Spencer St., Belfast. Minturno War Cemetery, Italy

**1944**

**+ALLEN, William J**

Royal Corps of Signals. Singapore Fortress Sigs. Signalman. 2324132. Died 30/10/1944. Aged 28. Son of William J. and Sarah J. Allen, of Magilligan, Co. Londonderry. Singapore Memorial, Singapore

**VETERAN**

**KNOX, James**

Royal Artillery. Gunner. 147640. Wounded while serving with 8th (Belfast) HAA Regiment in Somme, France on 05/06/1940. Evacuated from Le Havre, France, he returned to the United Kingdom. Treatment began at The Scottish Emergency Medical Hospital, the former Bangour Village Hospital, West Lothian, Scotland. Born 03/09/1909, he was the son of John James Knox and Harriet (née Chambers) Knox of Earl Street, Belfast, before they moved to Upper Mervue Street. James died on 30/10/1985. Victoria Cemetery, Carrickfergus.

**Every day is a Remembrance  
Day**

***We will remember them***



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## remembrance ni

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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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