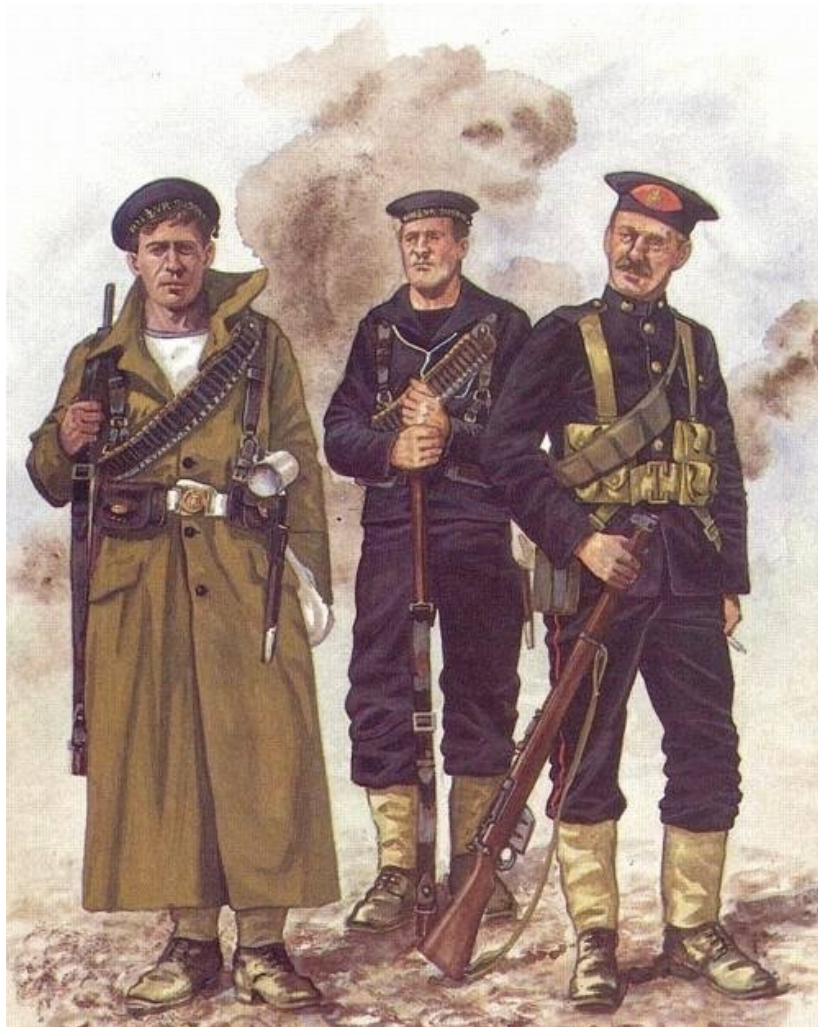




remembrance ni



Sailors in the trenches 1

The formation of the Royal Naval Division

At the outbreak of World War 1 the newly-mobilised Royal Navy had too many men, and too few crew places or other

duties for them. This was a situation which Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, soon took advantage of at a time when the army's recruitment had not yet delivered the numbers needed for the land war in Europe.

These unused sailors were formed into battalions, joined with the Royal Marine Light Infantry (RMLI) and Royal Marine Artillery and thus formed the Royal Naval Division (RND). The RND was dubbed "Winston's Little Army".

The Division was disbanded in 1919 after an inspection and address by the Prince of Wales. Its deeds would be described with some self-justification and self-promotion by its sponsor Winston Churchill, then briefly out of Parliament, in a foreword to the 1923 official account of the RND's actions -

"By their conduct in the forefront of the battle, by their character; and by the feats of arms which they performed, they raised themselves into that glorious company of the seven or eight most famous divisions of the British Army in the Great War." - Churchill

The RND served in three distinct areas - in the defence of Antwerp, and later on the Western Front and in the Dardanelles campaign. The RND fought in every one of the very worst battles the British Army contested between 1914 and 1918 - Gallipoli, The Somme, Arras, Passchendale, the March offensive, and the 100 days to victory. Men from Northern Ireland served in each of these areas. The RND's activities would cost it nearly 48,000 casualties throughout the war.

Over sixty men from Northern Ireland died serving with the RND in Gallipoli and on the Western Front. They



included career men like Methodist College Belfast former pupil, William Leigh Maxwell, Lieutenant Colonel, Royal Marines, who was Brigade Major at Antwerp, and Jack Caton of Muckamore. He was a textile worker who enlisted and became a sergeant in the army and was commissioned as an RNVR Officer to serve with the Brigade. Maxwell was killed in action serving with the Division in the Dardanelles on 12/05/1915. Caton was killed on 27/03/1918 on the Western Front.

Baptism of fire - The defence of Antwerp

Their baptism of fire at Antwerp was in support of the Belgian army whose tenacity had been under-estimated by the Germans. The Belgians had fought with great courage for eight weeks, dislocating the German battle plan. The

RND's role was to help the Belgian army retain a string of forts around Antwerp.

The trains and railway system which was meant to deliver them to Antwerp from Calais and Ostend during the 4th/5th October, were seriously dysfunctional to the extent that London buses with their civilian staff had been taken across the channel and were used to move some of the RND to the threatened city.

The RM Brigade arrived in the requisitioned London buses on 04/10/1914. Two naval brigades arrived to reenforce them on 06/10/1914 but were diverted to another section of the line of forts which was being threatened by German forces.

They were introduced into a scenario where the Germans had indeed underestimated the tenacity of the small Belgian army whose continuous fighting over eight weeks had dislocated the German battle plan which was to by-pass forts like Namur and Leige and sweep through neutral Belgium, passing to the west of Paris and thereby cutting off the French capital and the Channel ports, thus making a direct threat on the UK.

The RND, under-strength and under-trained, enabled the Belgians to hold a superior, professional, trained, German force which was surprised at the fighting spirit of the Naval Division. The Germans however had artillery - 17 inch howitzers - which took a terrible toll of the defenders of Antwerp, its citizens and the city itself. Parts of the city were ablaze, and many refugees, helpless men, women and children were killed. The shelling wrecked Antwerp's water

mains and more importantly, the resolve of the Belgian troops holding the forts and they began to abandon their positions.

During the siege Winston Churchill made several visits to the frontline. The British forces under the command of Major-General Archibald Paris, were ordered by Winston Churchill to continue the defence for as long as possible and to be ready to cross to the west bank of the Scheldt rather than participate in a surrender.

Paris' Brigade Major was a former pupil of Methodist College, Belfast, Lt. Col. William Maxwell of the Royal Marines, who had served in the South Africa war 1900 - 01, China 1901 - 1903, India 1902 - 1909. He was Mentioned in Despatches twice - for his service at Antwerp and in Gallipoli. He was killed in action the following year serving with the Division in the Dardanelles on 12/05/1915.

The allied commanders decided to continue the defence of Antwerp with the garrison troops and to move the Belgian 2nd Division and the British troops across the Scheldt. It was decided that if forts 1 and 2 were lost, the RND would withdraw at dusk.

News arrived that the forts had fallen at 5:00 p.m. and orders were sent to the Belgian 2nd Division and the British to retire. It was a disorderly withdrawal. The British began to withdraw at 7:00 p.m. but the orders failed to reach all of the 1st Naval Brigade, only one battalion of which withdrew.

At 9:30 p.m. the mistake was realised as the rest of the division began to cross the river from 10:00–11:30 p.m. and moved west, parallel to the Dutch frontier. The 1st Naval Brigade reached the Scheldt at midnight, only to find that the bridges were being demolished and under a German shrapnel bombardment. The troops crossed using barges and boats and set out for a rendezvous at Zwijndrecht, which was reached at 4:00 a.m. on 09/10/1914.

The British moved on to Sint-Gillis-Waas, where information arrived that the Germans had cut the railway at Moerbeke and any possibility of retreat to Ostend was cut off. The British commander Commodore Henderson, decided to head for the Dutch border to the north and at 10:00 p.m. about 1,500 men, half the original complement, were interned in the neutral Netherlands. About forty stragglers managed to sneak along the border and escape.

In the event, the sailors' land battle for Antwerp only lasted several days during which 196 of their number were killed or wounded, 936 were captured and made prisoners of war as well as the 1,500 who had crossed the border into neutral Holland to be interned for the rest of the war in a camp near Groningen which was nicknamed 'HMS Timbertown' by its reluctant inmates.

The Admiralty did not think much of this “tuppenny untrained rabble” despatched by Winston Churchill. First Sea Lord Jacky Fisher was all for disbanding it, whilst staff officer Herbert Richmond bemoaned not the loss of sailors but “2,000 invaluable marines” sent on a useless mission.

Churchill never doubted his decision to dispatch the division was correct. His only regret was that the sailors never had a chance to grapple properly with the Hun. The British press were rather less forgiving regarding the loss of a good portion of one of the brigades and chastised the First Lord of the Admiralty for wasting good men on a senseless adventure.

Without a doubt the RND did not stand a chance at Antwerp. Whilst the battle lasted only a few days, it did influence the early stages of the war. It allowed the French and British allies time to reorganise and eventually hold the Germans along the Western Front where for the next four years the war stagnated.

One of the RND men at Antwerp from Northern Ireland was Samuel Mooney Gourley from Portglenone who had been called up at the outbreak of war.

The Ballymena Observer reported on his experience stating, "Samuel M Gourley, Portglenone, son of Mr. James Gourley, senior Postmaster in Portglenone, was with the Royal Naval Volunteers in the trenches at Antwerp. He returned to Portglenone on a few days furlough on Thursday October 15 and he left Ballymena on Sunday last to report himself at Dublin on Monday morning.

"Before going he received a presentation of a beautiful Bible from Miss Young, Portglenone House, and a presentation of cigarettes and money from several of his companions in Portglenone.

“The Naval Marine was one of a party of the defenders (of Antwerp) who, mud-stained, dirty and unshaven, returned to Dover from Ostend. Only a week previously he had left Dover and with his comrades embarked for a port unknown. They landed and were sent direct to the trenches where they were under fire at once.

“Several chaps around him were struck but he escaped. On the retreat he experienced many thrilling adventures. At one time they were almost led into the German lines but through the intervention of a Belgian officer they were put on the right track and the treacherous guide was shot. Most of them got back to England safely after about eight days but some strayed into Holland and were interned there and a few, alas, were left lifeless in the trenches.”

Sadly, Samuel Mooney did not survive the war. He was lost in HMS Viknor which sank off Trory island on 13/01/1915.

The RND after its return to UK was based at what is now the RHQ of the Royal Corps of Signals at Blandfold where road names still reflect the Division's naval origin and where trenches dug in training can be observed. It went on to fight in every one of the very worst battles contested by the British Army between 1914 and 1918 : Gallipoli, the Somme, Arras, Passchendaele, the March offensives and finally the 100 days to victory.

To be continued in post of November 2

ROLL OF HONOUR ROYAL NAVAL DIVISION

+BARR, Joseph Jubilee

RND. Stoker 1st Cl. SS/108937. Hood Btn. 2nd Naval Brigade. Died 27/05/1915. Former service on HMS King Edward VII. Enlisted in the RN 23rd July 1909 for 5 years plus 7 years Special Service. Enrolled in the RFR 19th July 1914 ; Hood Battalion A/87 17/9/14-27/5/15 Discharged Dead. Buried in No.1 Cemetery, RND, by Chaplain B. Close. ; Born June 17th 1887, in Belfast, Co. Antrim, the husband of Josephine Barr, of 46 Sandcroft Street, Belfast (later of: 18 Walbeck Street, Belfast). In civil life he was employed as an assistant reeling master. ; 1914 Star issued to widow



5/4/19. Obituary notice in Belfast Telegraph 19/6/1915.
Photo in Belfast Telegraph 25/6/1917. Special Memorial,
Skew Bridge Cemetery. Dardanelles. (Photo above)

+BEATTY, David

RNVR. RND. Second Lieutenant. (Temporary Sub
Lieutenant) 27/06/17. Drake Battalion. Died 25/03/1918.
Aged 23. Draft for BEF (Qualified Revolver Instructor)
13/2/18, joined Drake Battalion 6/3/18-25/3/18. Son of David
Beatty, of Ballyearl, Carnmoney. Arras Memorial.
Carnmoney - PCI RH

+BEGGS, William J

RMLI. RND. 16347 (Ply). 2nd RM. Battalion. Died
30/10/1916. France. Aged 21. Born 10/07/1895. Enlisted
15/08/1913. Plymouth Battalion at Ostend, Dunkirk &
Defence of Antwerp 1914 ; MEF 6/2/15-4/3/15 slightly
wounded at Kum-Kale, No.3 Company Plymouth Battalion,
to hospital Malta, rejoined Battalion 29/3/15-1/10/15. Pyrexia
unknown origin, rejoined 2nd Royal Marine Battalion
26/10/15-30/10/16. Father, William J. Beggs, 10 Swift St.,
Belfast, Ireland ; 1914 Star issued to mother, Mrs. E.M.
Beggs, 12/12/19. Hamel Military Cemetery, Beaumont
Hamel, France.

+BENSON, William Francis

RNVR. RND. Sub - Lieutenant. Drake Battalion. Died
08/10/1918. Aged 23. Commissioned Temporary Sub
Lieutenant RNVR 27/2/18 ; Draft for BEF 25/7/18, joined
Drake Battalion 6/8/18-8/10/18 France. Born 03/07/1895
Son of Mrs Mary J Gray, Sherries Hill, Caledon.

+BEW, John Vincent

RN. RND. Chief Petty Officer. Dev/167694. Anson Battalion. Died 06/05/1915. Aged 39. Born Carrickfergus 19/05/1876. Son of late Charles and Elizabeth Ann Bew. Helles Memorial, Turkey

+BUNTING, William James

RN. RND. Stoker 1st Class. SS1077140. Hood Battalion. Died 6/05/1915. Enlisted 27/5/1908. Enrolled in RFR 25/5/1913 ; Hood Battalion A/211 & A/193 17/9/14-16/05/15. Born 21/02/1887, in Lurgan, the son of Mr. T. Bunting. Brother of Thomas Bunting, of 30 Sloan Street, Lisburn. He was unmarried and in civil life was employed as a cabinetmaker. ; 1914 Star issued to father 12/3/25. ; Listed in the Hood Muster Roll for Antwerp, in Len Sellers book "The Hood Battalion" as "'A' Company 1st Platoon." Gallipoli. Lurgan WM

+BUNTING, William James

RN. RND. B/9708. Sloan Street, Lisburn. ADM339

+BURT, Alfred John

RNVR. R/2786. Anson Battalion RND. Died 19/06/1918. Aged 22. Died of wounds in 2nd Canadian General Hospital Le Treport. Ex-70948 Private 2/1st Berks. Yeomanry, enlisted 30/05/1916, transferred to RND 16/6/17 ; Draft for BEF 09/07/1917, joined Anson Battalion 30/8/17-09/11/17 sick, rejoined Anson Battalion 18/12/1917-05/01/1918 ICT Feet, Invalided to UK 15/1/18 ; Draft for BEF 1/4/18, joined Anson Battalion 08/04/1918-01/06/1918 wounded. Anson Battalion War Diary states 1/6/18:- "Slight enemy barrage on our front line - one man wounded." Born 06/12/1897. Father, Alfred, Broadley Oak Villas, Rochdale, Lancs., later of: Oak

Villas, Wrenbury, Nr. Nantwich, later of: 'Ostend,' Nr. Burnham on Crouch. Born Bessbrook 1897. Son of Alfred B and Eleanor M Burt, Wrensbury, Nantwich. Mont Huon Military Cemetery, France. Bessbrook WM

+CATON, Jack

RNVR. Sub-Lieutenant. Anson Btn, RND. Died 27/03/1918. Enlisted 1 Royal Irish Rifles. Promoted Sergeant. ex-11/19430 Company Sergeant Major (Warrant Officer). Commissioned Temporary Sub Lieutenant RNVR 27/06/1917; Draft for Anson Battalion BEF 08/12/1917, joined Anson Battalion 15/12/1917-27/03/1918. Killed in German offensive of March 1918. Born 15/02/1893 Bury. Family moved to Muckamore. Worked York Street Flax Spinning Co. Born 15/02/1893. Only Son of John and Elizabeth Caton, Abbeyview, Muckamore. His only child was born after his death. His wife and son moved from Railway St, Antrim to Northampton after the war. His son Jack Sydney Caton served in the RAF in World War II, and was a PoW in Germany after being shot down. A teacher, he died in Northampton in 2006. 1914/15 Star issued by Army ; b.15/2/1893 ; Wife, Robena W. Caton, Rossville, Muckamore, Belfast, later of: Fountain St., Antrim. Mesmil Communal Cemetery Extension. ADM339

+COLLINS, George

RMLI. Private. PLY/16508. Plymouth Battalion RND. Died 02/07/1915 of wounds in 2nd (RN) Field Ambulance (SW Head). Aged 19. Enlisted Belfast 29/12/1913 ; Deal Battalion at Dunkirk and Defence of Antwerp 1914 ; MEF 28/02/1915-02/07/1915. 1914 Star issued to mother 03/09/1919. Son of John and Elizabeth Collins, 26 Fortuna

St., Belfast. Funeral conducted by Rev. B. Close. Skew Bridge Cemetery.

+DOHERTY, William

RN. Stoker 1st Class. 300914. Nelson Btn. RND. Died 13/07/1915. Husband of Nellie Doherty, St Patrick's Street, Londonderry and later 1090 Dumbarton Rd., Whiteinch, Glasgow, Lanarkshire. 1914 Star issued to widow 27/04/1920. Helles Memorial, Turkey. Londonderry, The Diamond WM

+EDMONDS, William Barnewall

RMLI. Private. CH/483(S). 1st RM Battalion RND. Died 13/11/1916. Age 28. Son of William Edmonds, Roden St., Belfast. Varennes Military Cemetery. Family Memorial Dundonald Cemetery

+FERGUSON, William James

RN. Stoker 1st Class. 308717, RFR/B/3665. Nelson Battalion RND. Died 17/05/1915. Age 29. Born Keady 06/05/1886. Son of Leah Ferguson and late James Ferguson, Bryson St., Belfast. Died of wounds received in Gallipoli in hospital in Alexandria. Alexandria (Chatby) Military and War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt. ADM339

+FISHER, John

RMLI. Private. PLY/12264. 1st RM Bn RND. Died 13/11/1916. Age 30. Enlisted 16/9/1903 ; Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 16/02/1916 (per HMT "Olympic" and arrived Mudros 24/02/1916). Son of Mrs. Isabella Fisher, 20 Baltic Avenue, Belfast. Thiepval Memorial. ADM/171

+FORBES, Neill

RNVR. AB. Z/1595. Nelson Btn RND. Died 15/6/1915 of wounds in East Gully Dressing Station. Age 30. Enlisted 29/10/14 ; Benbow Battalion B/127 22/02/1915, transferred to Nelson Battalion 12/06/1915-15/06/1915. Born John Street, Ballymoney 06/06/1885. A Coppersmith. Resided with parents, John & Mary Forbes, at 27 Ingleston St., Greenock, Renfrewshire. Son of John Forbes, Greenock. Skew Bridge Cemetery. Dardanelles. Ballymoney WM

+GALLACHER, Charles

RNVR. RND. Clyde Z 1876. Collingwood Battalion. Died 04/06/1915. Enlisted in the RNVR 31st October 1914 ; Collingwood Battalion 'D' Company 4th Platoon 04/03/1915-04/06/1915. Son of Mary McAlpine. Born 13/05/1896 Gallipoli. Londonderry, The Diamond WM

GAMBLE, Thomas

RNVR. AB. Clyde Z/4951. Anson Btn. RND. Died 13/11/1916. Enlisted 03/06/1915 ; Draft for MEF (Bomber) 25/10/1915, joined Anson Battalion 22/11/15-19/12/15 GSW right arm, rejoined Anson Battalion 26/1/16-13/11/16 Discharged Dead. No record of contemporaneous burial (body recovered post-war) ; An apprentice Plater. Born Coleraine 18/06/1896. Son of Thomas Gamble, 22 Second Ave., Clydebank, Glasgow. Cayeux Cemetery, France. Coleraine WM. ADM/171

+GORDON, Mick

RND. Private. Hawke Battalion. Died 03/02/1917. Annette St., Belfast. IMR

+GRAHAM, William

RMLI. Private. Died 13/11/1916. Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 05/12/1915 (per HMT "Northlands" arrived Alexandria 17/12/1915).

Mother, M. Graham, 137 Snugvile St., Belfast. ADM/171

+GRAY, John

RMLI. Private. CH/298(S), Chatham Battalion. Enlisted Belfast 22/09/1914. He served on the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey, and died on 03/06/1915 in 17th General Hospital Alexandria, Egypt, of wounds received at the Dardanelles. Age 29. Born in Coleraine 15/08/1886. Son of James and Sarah Gray, Burnside, Portstewart, and brother of Mrs. McKee, Donegall Road, Belfast. Alexandria (Chatby) Military and War Memorial Cemetery (Egypt). Portstewart WM, Agherton Parish Church RH, Portstewart Presbyterian Church WM, PCI RH. Donegall Road - PCI RH

+GUINEY, Robert

RMLI. Private. CH/1505(S). 1st RM Battalion. RND. Died of illness in 1st (RN) Field Ambulance 09/02/1917. Enlisted 25/02/1916 age 23 years 1 month. Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 19/07/1916 ; Draft for BEF 25/09/1916, joined 4th Entrenching Battalion 10/11/1916, joined 1st Royal Marine Battalion 25/11/1916-09/02/1917. Son of Robert Guiney, Templepatrick. Aveluy Wood Cemetery, Mesnil - Maartinsart.

+HANNON, Malachy

RNVR. RND. Able Seaman. Hawk Battalion. Died 13/11/1916. Age 23. Born 14/06/1893. Enlisted 12/04/1915. Served with Hawk Battalion (RND) from 21/09/1915 to 18/11/1915 in Gallipoli, where he was injured. Rejoined Hawk Battalion on the 09/12/1916. Listed as missing, killed

in action on 13/12/1916. Drafted to the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force on 9/9/1915, he served with Hawk Battalion RND from 21/09/1915 to 18/11/1915 in Gallipoli, when he was injured. He received shrapnel wounds to the right side of his face and shoulder and was subsequently hospitalised in Malta. He rejoined Hawk Battalion at Mudros on the island of Limnos, in the Aegean Sea on 09/02/1916. Son of James Hannon, Railway Cottage, Stewartstown and later of Grove Street, New City Road, Glasgow. Thiepval Memorial MR 21. Stewartstown WM

+HAYES, Joseph Lewis

RMLI. PO/18251. 1st RM Battalion RND. Died 09/10/1918 of wounds in 29th Casualty Clearing Station (wounded 08/10/1918). Age 21. Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 30/7/15-13/3/16 (joined 2nd Royal Marine Battalion at Cape Helles 20/08/1915); Nov. 1915 Trench Foot, both feet, due to prolonged exposure in bad weather at Cape Helles ; Embarked Royal Marine Brigade (2nd Occasion) 19/04/1918 ; 1st Royal Marine Battalion Draft for BEF 24/06/1918. Son of Charles and Lilian Hayes, Roberts Rd., Leicester. Born Belfast 09/01/1897. Delsaux Farm Cemetery, Beguny.

HEANEY, James

RNR. RND. Leading Stoker 299814. RFR/ B/ 5603. Howe Btn. Died. 04/06/1915. Reported by Mersey Z/195 AB James Tyrer Caldwell RNVR, 'A' Company, Howe Battalion: "Was seen lying dead, after returning from trenches." Enlisted in RN 08/12/1902 ; Enrolled in RFR 08/12/1914; Howe Battalion A/168 15/09/1914-04/06/1915. "Leading Stoker Heaney - a member of Waterside Presbyterian Church and Churchhill Loyal Orange Lodge 871 - had

twelve years' service on the navy, and served with the naval division at Antwerp. His name was read aloud during a special memorial service held in First Derry Presbyterian Church, on Friday, August 4, 1916, to pay tribute to the Presbyterian soldiers of the city of Londonderry, who had died during the first two years of the Great War." Son of William and Annie Heaney, 25 Benvarden Avenue Waterside, Londonderry. Helles Memorial, Turkey. Londonderry, The Diamond WM. Waterside - PCI RH. ADM339

+HILL, George

RMLI. Private. CH/430S. Chatham Battalion RND. Died 12/12/1915. Age 21. Chatham Battalion MEF 06/02/1915 -about 28/4/15 BW & Sprained Ankle, rejoined Chatham Battalion (undated)-15/07/1915 Exhaustion, rejoined 1st Royal Marine Battalion (undated)-28/11/1915 Syncope, rejoined 1st Royal Marine Battalion 01/12/1915-12/12/1915. Born Belfast 25/04/1894. Son of George and Sarah Hill, Dundee St., Belfast. Redoubt Cemetery, Helles.

+HILL, Leonard

RMLI. Private. Signaller. PLY/1335(S). 2nd RM Battalion. RND. Died 26/10/1917. Age 22. Enlisted 03/01/1916; Draft for BEF (Signaller) 16/04/1917, joined 2nd Royal Marine Battalion 03/06/1917-26/10/1917 Son of Charles Edward and Annie Hill, 126 Donaghadee Rd., Bangor. Tynecot Memorial. Bangor Purple Star LOL No. 677 RH. First Bangor - PCI RH

+HOLLOWAY, George Alexander

RMLI. CH/416/S. Chatham Btn RND. Died 19/8/1915 of wounds in 11th Casualty Clearing Station. Age 20. Chatham

Battalion MEF 06/02/1915-29/04/1915 GSW left shoulder, rejoined Chatham Battalion (undated)-18/08/1915 wounded. Born Dublin 30/09/1894. Son of George and Ada R. Holloway, Jameson St., Belfast. Lancashire Landing Cemetery, Turkey (including Gallipoli).

+JOHNSTON, Frederick

RMLI. Private. PLY/15664. 1st RM Battalion RND. Died 27/09/1918. Age 23. Enlisted 22/04/1912 ; HMS "Ajax" 31/10/1913-31/03/1917 ; Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 18/05/1917 - 26/10/1917. Son of Frederick Johnston, 69 Hornby St., Belfast. Moeuvres Communal Cemetery extension. ADM/159, 242

JOHNSTON, James Barlow

RNVR. RND. Sub - Lieutenant. Hawke Btn, 63rd Naval Division. Died 08/10/1918. Age 21. Ex-WR/341881 Sapper Royal Engineers, Inland W Commissioned Temporary Sub Lieutenant RNVR 27/03/1918 ; Draft for BEF 10/08/1918, joined Hawke Battalion 19/09/1918-8/10/1918. Born 29/01/1897. Son of Philip and Edith Elizabeth Arden Johnston, of Ardagh, Earlswood Road, , Strandtown, Belfast. Cambrai East Military Cemetery, France. Strandtown WM. QUB WM. ADM339.

+LONG, Samuel

RMLI. Private. PLY/471/S. Plymouth Battalion. RND. Died 03/05/1915.
(Killed in action 'Y' Beach 25-26/04/1915). Son of Alexander Long, Tower St., Belfast. Gallipoli. Helles Memorial.

+MAXWELL, William Leigh,

RM. Lieutenant Colonel. Headquarters Staff , 2 Brigade RND. Served in the Antwerp Expedition as Brigade Major and was mentioned in despatches. He was killed in action at the Dardanelles 12/05/1915. Son of Mr David A Maxwell formerly of Belfast. Methodist College, Belfast. Skew Bridge Cemetery

+McALINDEN, John

RNVR. AB. Clyde Z/5173. Anson Battalion RND. Died 18/4/1917. Age 19. Enlisted 07/06/1915 ; Draft for MEF 25/10/1915, joined Anson Battalion 22/11/1915-28/04/1917 Son of Joseph McAlinden, of 5, Majorca St., Belfast. Arras Memorial, Bay 1

+McCORMICK, Ian Campbell

RNVR. Sub-Lieutenant. Hood Battalion, 189th Brigade, 2nd Royal Naval Division. Died 24/01/1917. Aged 21. Commissioned Temporary Sub Lieutenant RNVR 21/09/1915; Draft for BEF 30/11/1916, joined Hood Battalion 14/12/1916-24/01/1917 Born 26/04/1895. Son of John and Margaret McCormick (nee Campbell), Craigroyston, Knock, Belfast. John McCormick was the Belfast Town Solicitor. Hamel Military Cemetery, Beaumont Hamel, Somme, France. Strandtown WM. St Columba's Parish Church, Knock WM. ADM339.

McGOWAN, David

RNVR. RND. AB. KX/432. Howe Btn. Died 06/05/1915. Age 24. Son of John McGowan, Ringclare, Donaghmore, Newry, Helles Memorial, Gallipoli. Glascar - PCI RH.

Enlisted in the Durham Light Infantry 1st Sept. 1914 & transferred to the RNVR 9th Sept. 1914 ; Hood Battalion B/ 212 9/9/14-6/5/15 Discharged Dead.

Born Coatbridge 17th Sept. 1891. An Iron Worker. Son of John McGowan, of Ringclare, Donaghmore, Newry, Co.Down, & resided at 75 North Square, Gert Skerric, Coatbridge, Scotland, on enlistment. ; 1914 Star issued to father 19/4/21, V.B. issued to Father

McGOWAN, Henry +++ changes inserted already

RMLI. Private. PLY/17670. Plymouth Contingent, RND. Volunteered for active service, enlisting in Belfast in November 1914, giving a false date of birth. He served on the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey, in 1915. Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 09/05/1915 (joined Battalion at Cape Helles 30/05/1915). And later in France. He was killed in action, aged 17 years, in France on 21/06/1916. Son of Daniel (fisherman) and Hannah McGowan, Mullaghacall, Portstewart. Bois-de-Noulette British Cemetery, Aix-Noulette, France. Portstewart WM. Agherton Parish Church WM. Agherton Parish Church RH

+McILWRATH, James

RMLI. Private. PLY/18372. 1st RM Bn RND. Died 06/04/1918. Age 19. Enlisted 31/08/1915 ; Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 08/11/1917. Son of Alexander and Sarah McIlwrath, Queen Victoria St., Connswater, Belfast. Pozieres Memorial, Panel 1. Megain Memorial - PCI RH

McINTEE, Charles +++

RMLI. Private. PLY/647(S). 2nd RM Battalion RND. Died 26/10/1917. Age 25. (Served as McCarty), Son of Edward

and Mary McIntee, Park St., Belfast. Tyne Cot Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Deal Battalion MEF 28/2/15-23/8/15 Diarrhoea, Invalided to UK 9/10/15 ; Draft for BEF at Base Depot 25/9/16-6/1/17 to RFC as Aerial Gunner on probation, rejoined 2nd Royal Marine Battalion 26/2/17-27/4/17 Self Inflicted GSW left hand (28 days Field Punishment No.1), rejoined 2nd Royal Marine Battalion 14/8/17-26/10/17 Discharged Dead.

Served as Patrick Joseph McCarty, True name Charles McIntee ; Son of Edward & Mary McIntee, of 17 Park St., Belfast.

McLAUGHLIN, Thomas

RNB/RND. Chief Petty Officer. Clyde Z/245. Nelson Btn. Died 28/12/1915. Age 27. Mediterranean Expeditionary Force. He was killed in action, at Achi Baba, Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey. Had completed six years service in RNVR and re-enlisted 17/9/1914. His father James McLaughlin from Coleraine lived in Glasgow; and his uncle and aunt, Thomas and Kathleen Millar, lived in the Orange Hall, Portstewart. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Panel 8. Coleraine WM.

?

Formerly served 6 years RNVR, re-enlisted 17/9/14 ; Collingwood Battalion 'A' Company 1st Platoon 4/2/15-4/6/15 GSW right elbow, joined/transferred to Nelson Battalion 15/8/15-28/12/15 Discharged Dead. Rated Leading Seaman 12/10/14, Petty Officer 28/11/14, Chief Petty Officer 18/9/15 ; Born 28/11/1888. A Cargo

Checker. Brother of Mrs. Martha McQuarrie, of 12 Apsley Street, Partick, Glasgow, Lanarkshire. Resided with sister.

+McMASTER, James Andrew

RMLI. Private. PLY/17781. 2nd RM Battalion RND. Died 17/09/1916. Age 20. Son of Thomas and Mary Jane McMaster, Wayland St., Belfast

?

Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 5/12/15 (per HMT "Northlands" arrived Alexandria 17/12/15), joined 2nd Royal Marine Battalion at Mudros 26/1/16-17/9/16 Discharged Dead.

+McQUILLAN, William

RN.Stoker 1st Class. Ch/SS/100594. Hood Btn. RND. Died 04/06/1915. Age 36. Enlisted in RN 29/01/1904 ; Enrolled in RFR 30/01/1909 ; Hood Battalion A/90 17/09/1914 - 04/06/1915. Reported KIA by Stoker A. Blackmore. Born Belfast 08/04/1880. In civil life he was employed as a labourer. Husband to Sarah Ann McQuillan, Tenth St., Belfast. 1914 Star issued to widow 29/05/1920. Shankill Rd Mission - PCI RH.

MILLS, Frederick James Greer

RMLI. Private. PLY/16454. Plymouth Btn. RND. Died 15/09/1915. Age 22. Son of John and Annie Mills, of Marino, Holywood. Pink Farm Cemetery, Helles. Holy Trinity, Glenraig Parish, WM

Enlisted Belfast 27/10/13 ; Plymouth Battalion at Dunkirk & Defence of Antwerp 19/9/14-12/10/14 ; MEF 6/2/15-15/9/15 Discharged Dead.

CWGC = Plymouth Battalion ; 15/7/15 Awarded Cert. by GOC RND for Courageous & Gallant Conduct in the Field ; A Railway Signaller ; b.Belfast 8/4/1894 ; Son of John and Annie Mills, of Culloden Cottages, Marino, Holywood, Co.Down ; 1914 Star & clasp issued to father 14/7/21.

MILLS, Thomas Alexander

RM. Private. PLY/16717. Plymouth Btn. RND. Died 03/05/1915. Aged 17. A member of Ebrington Presbyterian Church, and Murray Parent Club of Apprentice Boys of Derry, he joined the colours a few weeks before the declaration of war, being then engaged as an apprentice cutter in the factory of Messrs. Lowry & Porter. He formed part of the 29th Division engaged in the landing operations at the Dardanelles. Private Mills was initially reported missing at the Dardanelles, and his father, having written to the Admiralty inquiring about his son, received the following communication from the officer in charge of records, Royal Naval Division: 'The very great number of the enquiries received in this office in respect of members of the Royal Naval Division on active service renders it impossible to reply personally in each case. Correspondents, therefore, receiving this form are asked to be so good as to understand it to signify that the Record Office has no news (or, in cases where a previous report has been made, no further news) of the subject of their inquiry. In all cases where information is received a personal communication will be made at once to the next of kin. With reference to men reported wounded, it is to be observed that a telegram from the base office at Alexandria states "all wounded can be assumed progressing satisfactorily unless reported seriously ill." These reports as to serious condition are telegraphic,

and are communicated immediately to the relatives by this department.'

The name of Thomas Alexander Mills was read aloud during a special memorial service held in First Derry Presbyterian Church, on Friday, August 4, 1916, to pay tribute to the Presbyterian soldiers of the city of Londonderry, who had died during the first two years of the Great War. Son of Alexander and Margaret Mills, Orchard St., Londonderry. Alexander served with the 1st Inniskillings through the South African War, and held the King's Medal, with two clasps, the Queen's Medal, with five clasps, and the Distinguished Service Medal. Helles Memorial. Ebrington - PCI RH. Londonderry, The Diamond WM

Enlisted Belfast 9/6/14 ; Plymouth Battalion at Dunkirk 19/9/14-12/10/14 ; MEF 6/2/15-26/4/15 Discharged Dead. CWGC = 3/5/15 age 20 ; A Collar Cutter ; b. Templemore, Londonderry 1/3/1897 ; Son of Alexander and Margaret Mills, of 6 Orchard Row, Londonderry, Co. Londonderry ; 1914 Star issued to father 30/7/19.

MORGAN, D

RND. Londonderry, Foyle College RH

MORRISON, Alexander Thompson + + +

RMLI. Corporal. PO/16397. 1st RM Battalion, RND. Died 06/10/1918. Age 24. Son of James and Emily Morrison, My Lady's Rd., Belfast. Hermies Hill British Cemetery, Pas de Calais

Enlisted Belfast 13/8/1912 ; Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 5/12/15 (per HMT "Northlands" arrived Alexandria 17/12/15).

Appointed Paid Lance Corporal 3/2/17, promoted Acting Corporal 20/1/18 ; Papers misfiled in ADM/157/2705 ('M's 1917) ; A Labourer (Town) ; b.Stirling, Stirlingshire 12/7/1895 ; Father, James, 7 My Lady's Rd., off Ravenhall Rd., Belfast. ; **Awarded the MM** (Logeast Wood 21/8/18, Lance Corporal 1st Royal Marine Battalion) London Gazette 11/2/19.

MORRISON, Thomas

RMLI. Private. PLY/17545. 2nd RM. Battalion. RND.Died France 22/02/1917. Served previous in Dardanells. Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 18/08/1915 (joined Battalion at Cape Helles 02/09/1915). Son of Robert Morrison, Tobergill St., Belfast. Dernancourt Communal Cemetery, Somme, France

ORR, David Edward

RMLI. Private. CH/340 (S). Chatham Btn RND. Died 08/05/1915. Cadet QUB OTC 1913 - 15. MEF 06/02/1915-08/05/1915. Son of the late William John and Margaret Orr, 89 Channing Street, Belfast. Helles Memorial. McQuiston Memorial - PCI RH. QUB WM

PAUL, Joseph

RMLI. Private. PLY/17320. Plymouth Btn RND. Died 14/7/1915. Age 18. Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 09/05/1915 (joined Battalion at Cape Helles 30/05/1915). Son of Agnes Paul, Bann St., Old Park Rd., Belfast, and the late Robert Paul. Lancashire Landing Cemetery, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

PITMAN, George

RMLI. Private. PLY/17041.1st RM. Battalion. RND. Died 28/04/1917. Embarked Royal Marine Brigade (Deal Battalion) 20/11/1914 ; MEF 28/02/1915. Son of Maggie Pitman, Craigmore St., Belfast. Arras Memorial.

QUINN, John

RMLI. Sergeant. 2nd Marine Battalion, B Company. RND. Died 28/04/1917. Age 28. Plymouth Battalion at Dunkirk & Defence of Antwerp 1914 ; Landed at Ostend 27th to 31/08/1914 ; Defence of Antwerp 19/09/1914-12/10/1914 ; Promoted Paid Lance Sergeant at Malta 14/02/1915 ; Promoted Acting Sergeant at Mudros 09/03/1915 ; MEF 06/02/1915-27/04/1915. Sprained ankle (slight) to Hospital Malta ; From Malta to Alexandria 06/09/1915 ; Rejoined Battalion Cape Helles 17/09/1915 ; To 11th Casualty Clearing Station 16/10/1915. Enteritis ; To Stationary Hospital Mudros Dysentery 17/10/1915 ; To Convalescent Depot Mudros 26/10/1915 Dysentery ; To ANZAC Base W.Mudros 11/11/1915 ; Rejoined Battalion Cape Helles 02/12/1915 ; Embarked Mudros 07/05/1916, disembarked Marseille 12/05/1916 ; 10 days Leave to UK 21/09/1916 ; Rejoined Battalion France 01/10/1916 ; To 1st (RN) Field Ambulance 08/10/1916 Abscess right thigh ; Rejoined Battalion 14/10/1916 ; Attached to Town Major, Bernaville 20/11/1916 for Clerical Duties ; Rejoined Battalion 16/12/1916 ; To 2nd (RN) Field Ambulance Abscess right thumb & Reverted to Corporal 30/01/1917 & on to 3rd (RN) Field Ambulance Divisional Rest Station same date ; Rejoined Battalion & promoted Acting Sergeant 19/02/1917 vice Matthews wounded. Son of David and Jane Quinn, The Cottages, Comber. Arras Memorial. First Comber - PCI RH. Comber WM

QUINN, Henry

RMLI. Private. PLY/17909. 1st RM Btn. RND. Died 13/11/1916. Age 19.

Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 16/02/1916 (per HMT "Olympic" & arrived Mudros 24/02/1916). Sister, Mrs. A. Foy, 21 Thomas St., Newry, Ireland. Theipval Memorial

ROCKS, Joseph

RNVR. Petty Officer. Clyde Z4397. Drake Battalion, RND. Died 19/05/1917. Enlisted 12/05/1915 ; Draft for BEF (Bomber) 10/07/1916, joined Howe Battalion

13/11/1916-14/11/1916. GSW left leg, Invalided to UK

19/11/1916 ; Draft for BEF 19/03/1917, joined Drake

Battalion 11/04/1917-19/05/1917. A Labourer. Born

01/02/1895. Son of Michael Rocks, 55 Edward St.,

Lurgan. Husband to Bridget, Calders Buildings, Corbie Hall,

Bo'ness. Arras Memorial, Bay 1, Pas de Calais, France.

Lurgan WM

SCOTT, James

RMLI. Private. PLY/16410. Plymouth Btn. RND. Died

4/3/1915 at Kum-Kale. Age 19. A Joiner. Born Belfast

30/06/1896. 1914 Star issued to father 19/02/1919, Clasp,

BWM & Victory medal not issued/claimed. Son of William

and Margaret Scott, 42 Cheviot Ave., Belfast. Helles

Memorial. McQuiston Memorial - PCI RH

SCOTT, Thomas

RMLI. Private. CH/225/S. Died 13/11/1916. Chatham

Battalion, 1st Royal Marine Battalion MEF

06/02/1915-18/09/1915. Illness. Rejoined 1st Royal Marine

Battalion 11/11/1915-13/11/1916. Son of James Scott,

Hydepark, Mallusk. Church of the Holy Evangelists
CarnmoneyWM.

+SEYMOUR, Andrew

RMLI. Private. PLY/17738. 2nd RM. Battalion, RND. Died 14/06/1916. Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 03/10/1915 (joined Battalion at Cape Helles 21/10/1915). Sister, Miss Jennie Seymour, 6 Coolbeg St., Donegal Rd., Belfast. Bois-de-Noulette British Cemetery, Aix - Noulette, Pas de Calais

SLOAN, John

RMLI. PLY/177737. 2nd RM Battalion, RND. Died 13/11/1916.

Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 18/08/1915 (joined Battalion at Cape Helles 02/09/1915). Son of Mrs. Jane Sloan, of 4 Ballycarry St., Belfast. St.V.B. issued to Widow. France.

SMYTH, William

RMLI. Private. CH/960(S). 1st RM Btn RND. Died 28/04/1917.

Enlisted 25/08/1915 ; Embarked Royal Marine Brigade 16/02/1916 (per HMT "Olympic" & arrived Mudros 24/02/1916), joined 1st Royal Marine Battalion at Stavros 28/02/1916-03/10/1916 sick, rejoined 1st Royal Marine Battalion 25/11/1916-16/12/1916 sick, rejoined 1st Royal Marine Battalion 23/02/17-28/04/1917. Son of John Smyth; husband to Annie Smyth, Mackey St., Belfast. Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France

SPRATT, Thomas

RND. Stoker 1st Class. Dev/298606. Nelson Battalion. Died 15/07/1915 of wounds in 11th Casualty Clearing Station

(GSW Abdomen, admitted 14/07/1915). Enlisted in RN 27/09/1901. Enrolled in RFR 27/09/1913 ; Nelson Battalion D/751 15/09/1914-15/07/1915

Born Banbridge. Brother of Mrs. Anne Patterson, of 15 (later 30) Witham St., Belfast. 1914 Star issued to eldest brother, Mr. A. Spratt, 19/06/1920. Lancashire Landing Cemetery, Turkey

STANFIELD, William Hughes

RMLI. Private. CH/282(S). Chatham Battalion, RND. Died 14/05/1915. Age 30. Died of wounds aboard Hospital Ship "Letitia" & taken ashore at Gibraltar. Enlisted 19/09/1914 ; Chatham Battalion MEF 06/02/1915 -about 01/05/1915 BW Cheek & left shoulder, Invalided to UK from Alexandria 13/05/1915. Born Belfast 11/01/1885. Son of William and Mary Josephine Stanfield. Next-of-Kin: Aunt, Miss Maggie Stanfield, 29 Pine St., Belfast. Gibraltar (North Front) Cemetery

STERLING, James

RMLI, Private. PLY/13644. 2nd RM Battalion, RND. Died 03/08/1916. Age 30. Killed by accidental explosion of a Stokes Ammo Dugout
Enlisted 01/03/1906 age 17 ; Draft for BEF 28/06/1915, joined Plymouth Battalion 18/07/1915-18/08/1915 BW Forehead, rejoined 2nd Royal Marine Battalion 26/10/1915-17/06/1916 Struck off Strength 2nd Royal Marine Battalion on joining 1st Brigade Light Trench Mortar Battery. CWGC has no record of attachment to 188th Brigade Light Trench Mortar Battery ; 1st Royal Marine Battalion War Diary 3/8/16 reads:- "Front Line Trenches Angres II Sector. An explosion occurred in a Dugout in which was stowed about 100 rounds of Stokes Gun Ammo.

The Dugout was completely wrecked & 1 Corporal & 4 Privates of the 188th Trench Mortar Battery were killed. No knowledge as to how explosion occurred." ; Son of Elizabeth J. Sterling, of 2 Well St., Woodstock Rd., Belfast, and the late Robert Sterling. Tranchee de Mecknes Cemetery, Aix - Noullette, Pas de Calais, France

SWAIN, William Steadman

RNVR. RND.AB. Mersey Z/57. Howe Btn. Died 5/7/1915. Age 23. Killed in action (Camp shelled). Enlisted 08/09/1914. Howe Battalion 'C' Company 09/02/1915-05/07/1915. A Ropemaker. Born Belfast, 14/04/1892. Son of Henry and Annie Swain, of 70, Monfa Road, Orrell, Bootle, Liverpool, Lancashire. Resided with father. Skew Bridge Cemetery, Turkey.

WAUCHOPE, George William Alfred

RNVR. Sub-Lieutenant. Anson Btn. RND. Died 13/11/1916. Missing, assumed killed in action. Age 32. Formerly ex-London Z/455 Chief Petty Officer RNVR. Enlisted 21/09/1914 ; Benbow Battalion D/4 05/03/1915-12/06/1915 transferred to Anson Battalion, 08/11/1915 promoted Temporary Sub Lieutenant RNVR Anson Battalion. A Fitter G.N. Railway Ireland. Born 18/03/1884. Son of the late F Joseph and Mrs. J. Wauchope, Daisy Hill, Newry and 41 The Mount, Belfast.. Theipval Memorial, Pier 1A. Belfast Central Station WM. McQuiston Memorial - PCI RH. First Newry - PCI RH

WARNOCK, Robert

RMLI. Private. PLY/16727. Plymouth Battalion, RND. Died 04/03/1915 Missing, later reported killed in action at Kum Kale . Age 18. Enlisted Belfast 19/06/1914 ; Plymouth

Battalion at Dunkirk 1914 ; Plymouth Battalion No.3
Company MEF 06/02/1915-04/03/1915. A Joiner. Born.
Belfast 05/12/1895. Son of the late Hugh and Margaret
Warnock, 12 Westcott St., Connswater, Belfast ; 1914 Star
issued to father 25/7/19, BWM & Victory medal not issued/
claimed. Helles Memorial

WILSON, George

RN Brigade. Private. Died in hospital in Mesopotamia
12/09/1917

Ex-Clyde 2/2404 AB RNVR, enlisted 16/05/1913 ; Anson
Battalion A/113 22/08/1914-27/02/1915 discharged from
Anson Battalion Medically Unfit ; Re-enlisted in Royal Field
Artillery at Glasgow. A Twine Dresser. Born Dublin
08/04/1894 ; Home address: c/o Mrs. Patten, 69 Bouverie
St., Port Glasgow ; Next-of-Kin: John Wilson, Taylor's Row,
Coleraine.

Woodbine Terrace, Coleraine. Terrace Row - PCI RH

YOUNG, Henry

RMLI. Private. PO/1339 (S). 2nd RM Btn. RND. Died
06/04/1918.

2nd Royal Marine Battalion Draft for BEF 25/09/1916. Born
Ravarra, Ballygowan 14/08/1896 ; Next-of-Kin: Sister, Agnes
McKee, Ravarra, Ballygowan, Co.Down. Pozieres Memorial,
Panel 1, Somme, France. Ballygowan - PCI RH

ROYAL NAVAL DIVISION THEY SERVED AND RETURNED

BRADBURY, William

RN. Surgeon. Press report: Lisburn Surgeon wins DSO.

“Surgeon (acting Staff Surgeon) William Bradbury, MB., RN.,

in recognition of his services with the Royal Naval Division in Gallipoli and France. As medical officer of the Hawke Battalion, Royal Naval Division, in Gallipoli, he did exceptionally good work, often under the most taxing circumstances.

“Surgeon Bradbury is the younger son of Mr. Samuel Bradbury, Pear Tree Hill, Lisburn. He is an old Queen’s man, and after taking his degree in 1908 entered the Naval Medical Service. He went to China in 1912, and for his services during the rebellion of 1913 was decorated by the Chinese government. Early in the present war he served on a mine-sweeper, and subsequently with the Royal Naval Division at the Dardanelles (where he was wounded in June, 1915) and in France.” - Lisburn Standard 28/06/1918

KEERY, James

RMLI. Serjeant. Prior to the war he worked in the netting department of Hilden Mill. He enlisted shortly after the outbreak of war and landed in the Dardanelles unhurt. He was reported missing on 24/03/1918. Later his mother was notified that he was well and was a prisoner of war in Germany. Wesley St., Lisburn. - Lisburn Standard 05/07/1918

LOGAN, William

RMLI. Private. Volunteered for active service in 1914 and served on the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey. He was seriously wounded in the chest in 1915 and subsequently discharged from military service on medical grounds in January 1917 (aged about 20 years). After the War he was employed as the postman for Portstewart town. His parents, Mr. James (fisherman) and Mrs. Violet Logan, lived at The Cottages,

Coleraine Road, Portstewart. Portstewart Presbyterian Church RH and PCI RH

On this Day – October 31

1914



HMS Hermes was a British seaplane carrier of 5600 tons and was sunk by the German submarine U-27 (Bernd Wegener), 8 miles WNW of Calais. A reported 22 persons were lost.

At Ypres a great crisis as the Germans take Gheluvelt and break the British line. The Worcesters save the situation and recover Gheluvelt.

1916

The Battle of the Ancre, a phase of the Battles of the Somme 1916 (13-18 November 1916)

1917

Troops from Britain, Australia and New Zealand drive the Ottomans from Beersheba. During the assault, Australia's



4th Light Horse Brigade famously ride into battle swinging their bayonets like sabres.

The Operations on the Ancre (January-March 1917)

The Second Battle of the Scarpe (23-24 April 1917), a phase of the Arras Offensive, in which the Division captured Gavrelle

The Battle of Arleux (28-29 April 1917), a phase of the Arras Offensive

The Second Battle of Passchendaele (26 October - 10 November 1917), a phase of the Third Battles of Ypres 1917

The action of Welsh Ridge (30 December 1917), subsequent to the Cambrai operations

1918

The Battle of St Quentin~ (21-23 March 1918)

The Battle of Bapaume~ (24-25 March 1918)

~ the battles marked ~ are phases of the First Battles of the Somme 1918

The Battle of Albert (21-23 August 1918), a phase of the Second Battles of the Somme 1918

The Battle of Drocourt-Queant (2-3 September 1918), a phase of the Second Battles of Arras 1918

The Battle of the Canal du Nord^ (27 September - 1 October 1918)

The Battle of Cambrai 1918^ (8-9 October 1918)

^ the battles marked ^ are phases of the Battles of the Hindenburg Line

The passage of the Grand Honelle (5-7 November 1918), a phase of the Final Advance in Picardy

This unique Division was demobilised in France by April 1919.

1926



Benito Mussolini orders the Italian newspaper 'Il Mondo' shut down after it prints a series of articles warning citizens of the dangers of fascism.

1939

Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov boasts: "One swift blow to Poland, first by the German Army and then by the Red Army, and nothing was left of this ugly offspring of the Versailles Treaty!". He also accuses the British of aggression.

1940

The Battle of Britain is now considered as over by the British Air Ministry.

British civilian casualty figures announced for October: 6,334 killed and 8,695 seriously injured.

British troops occupy Canea in Crete. Italians claim advance towards Salonika in Greece.

RAF bomb Naples for the first time.

1941

The US destroyer Reuben James escorting Convoy HX-156 is sunk by U-552 (Kapitainleutnant Erich Topp) with the loss of 100 of her crew. The destroyer is the first US naval casualty in the hitherto undeclared war between Germany and the United States that existed after President Roosevelt authorized the use of American naval vessels to escort Lend-Lease convoys bound for Britain.

British air raid casualties in October remain low at 262 killed. RAF raid occupied Europe on all but six days with Hamburg

and Cologne bombed three times. Dover the only serious British casualty.

The RAF's Mediterranean raids continue, with Benghazi being bombed 14 times and Tripoli 10 times.

1943

The U.S. Fifth Army resumes its offensive to the North of the Volturno.



The IS-2 heavy tank entered the service of the Soviet Red Army.

1944

The British reach the river Mass, south of Rotterdam and establish a bridgehead. The Canadians reach Walcheren.

25 Mosquitoes make a highly successful low-level attack on the Gestapo HQ in Aarhus, Denmark, killing 200 Gestapo officials and destroying all records on the Dutch resistance movement.

On the orders of Prime Minister Churchill, British troops occupy Saloniki in Greece to assist the new government in its efforts to prevent a take-over by Communist insurgents in the wake of the recent withdrawal of German troops from Greece.



Roll of Honour – October 31

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1914

+ANDERSON, Robert

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 2nd Btn. Private. 10382. Died 31/10/1914. Age 19. Son of Mrs. Mary Anderson, of 15, Chatsworth St., Belfast. Ploegsteert Memorial, Hainaut, Belgium.

+CAIRNS, John

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Serjeant. 3515. Died 31/10/1914 at the Battle of Messines. Aged 23. Son of Thomas and Phoebe Cairns, of Ballygawley, Co. Tyrone. John worked as a labourer. He enlisted in Ballygawley in 1909 and was called up on mobilisation in August 1914. Ploegsteert Memorial, Hainaut, Belgium. Dungannon WM

+JENNINGS, ALBERT V

Royal Scots Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Corporal. 9481. Died 31/10/1914. Father of Mary Maud Jennings, of 7, Distillery Lane, Waterside, Londonderry. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

+O'NEILL, James

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. A Coy. Private. 2868. Died 31/10/1914. Aged 57. Husband to Elizabeth O'Neill, of 11, Linfield St., Dungannon. Ploegsteert Memorial, Hainaut, Belgium. Dungannon WM

+PATTENDEN, William

Royal Sussex Regiment. 2nd Btn. Sergeant .8527. Later Private 7717. Died 31/10/1914. Born in October 1886 in Flimwell, Tunbridge, Kent, England to Horace Pattenden and his wife (unknown name). William had 2 older brothers, George and Frank. In September 1906, following his education, Pattenden volunteered and enlisted in the Royal Sussex Regiment at Chichester, England. On his enlistment form, his next of kin is recorded as his father and the 2 elder brothers. Their address is recorded as East Street, Hambleden, Kent, England. His military career started off at the Depot, Royal Sussex Regiment. In 1907 he was posted to the 2nd Battalion. Later that year he was posted to the 1st Battalion. Between October 1907 and December 1913 Pattenden was serving in India (Ambular, Rawalpindi, Gharial and Peshawar). The 1911 English Census records a 24 year old L/Cpl William Archibald Pattenden of the 1st Royal Sussex Regiment. He transferred to the Army Reserve in December 1913. According to the Army 'Statement of Services, Pattenden was formally discharged from the Army Reserve on 30th September 1914. Over the

years in service, his army medical form record him as suffering from tonsillitis, having an abrasion on his left arm, having an abscess. In 1913 at Rawalpindi, India he was vaccinated as a result of having 'vesicles'. On his transfer to the Army Reserve, he was found to have a hernia.

Sometime after 1913 he moved to Belfast and joined the Northern Banking Company as a Head Office Porter and Caretaker. A newspaper notice records him as being married and living in 13 Third Avenue, Belfast. The 1911 Irish Census records a 28 year old Gertrude Pattenden residing in house 9, Norwood Street, Sandy Row, Belfast. No other Pattenden's are recorded in that census. War was declared at 11:00 pm on 4th August 1914 and as a Reservist, Pattenden was immediately recalled to the 2nd Bn. Royal Sussex Regiment. The battalion immediately went to France as part of the British Expeditionary Force arriving on 12/09/1914. He was the first Northern Bank official to take part in the Great War. The Northern Bank Centenary volume records Pattenden as having been reported missing presumed killed in August 1914. The War Office Medal Index Card states Private Pattenden (Service Number 7711) as being as being Killed in Action at Ypres on 31st October 1914. This is confirmed in the 'Ireland's Memorial Records' book (recorded as a Sergeant). There is no evidence of a Third Avenue in Belfast. This may be Third Street, Woodvale (Shankill), Belfast. His family were members of the Shankill Road Mission Congregation. Gertrude Barsmith Pattenden of 92 Cambrai Street, Belfast died aged 30 on 13/08/1916. She is buried in Dundonald Cemetery. Pattenden is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial and the Shankill Road Mission Church War Memorial.

+MAGUIRE, William John

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Private. 3155. Died 31/10/1914. Age 27. Son of Patrick and Mary Maguire, of Strabane; husband of the late Cassie Maguire. Bailleul Communal Cemetery, Nord, France

1916

+CAMPBELL, S

Royal Irish Rifles 6th Btn. Sergeant. 9376. Died 31/10/1916. Age 46. Son of George and Barbara Campbell, of Lurgan. Husband to Mary Campbell, of 314, Springburn Rd., Glasgow. Dorian Memorial, Greece

+HADDEN, John Hazlett Millar

Royal Irish Rifles. 20th Btn. Second Lieutenant. Died 31/10/1916. Age 19. Only son of James and Eleanor Hadden, of Muff Lodge, Londonderry. Struma Military Cemetery, Greece

+HAYES, John

Royal Irish Rifles, 1st Btn., Rifleman. 7869. Died 31/10/1916. Son of Samuel and Annie Hayes, of Rann Cottages, Downpatrick. Theipval Memorial, Somme, France

+McREAVIE, William John

Royal Irish Rifles. 15th Btn. Rifleman. 7528. Died 31/10/1916. Age 25. Son of Hugh and Elizabeth McReavie, of 10, Weir St., Belfast. Pont-du-Hem Military Cemetery, La Gorgue, France

+MONTAGUE, William

Royal Field Artillery. 82nd Bty. Gunner. 54924. Died 31/10/1916. Age 27. Son of John and Matilda Montague. Brother of Hugh Montague, 104 Lecky Rd., Londonderry. Born at Londonderry. Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery, Iraq. Londonderry Diamond WM

+PARRY, William

Royal Irish Rifles. 15th Btn. Rifleman. 127. Died 31/10/1916. Age 27. Brother of John Parry, of 105, Upper Canning St., Belfast. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

+PINKERTON, Matthew

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 6th Btn. Private. 2634. Died 31/10/1916. Age 30. In 1911 the family were living in Belfast. At one time they were resident in County Armagh. Matthew's brother William lived in Scotch St., Armagh where he had a successful business. Son of the late William and Catherine Pinkerton. Dorian Memorial, Greece

+SKELLY, William

Royal Irish Rifles. 6th Btn. Rifleman. 5/5255. Died 31/10/1916. Age 21. The 6th (Service) Btn. was formed at Dublin in Aug 1914 as part of the First New Army (K1) and then moved to Fermoy, County Cork to join the 29th Brigade of the 10th Division and then moved back to Dublin. In Feb 1915 it moved to The Curragh, County Kildare and in May 1915 moved to England at Hackwood Park, Basingstoke. On 07/07/1915 the battalion embarked for Mudros from Liverpool via Alexandria and on 05/08/1915 landed at Anzac Cove and engaged in various actions against the Turkish Army including; The landing at Suvla, Battle of Sari Bair, Capture of Chocolate Hill, Hill 60. On 29 September it

deployed to Mudros. On 05/10/1915 it deployed to Salonika and engaged in various actions against the Bulgarian Army including; The Battle of Kosturino, Retreat from Serbia, Capture of the Karajokois, Capture of Yenikoi. William Skelly was born on 24/11/1895 in Magheralave Derriaghy, Co. Antrim. Son of William and Mary Jane Skelly, who in 1911 lived at 122 Grand St, Low Rd, Lisburn and later at Lambeg, Lisburn. Five of their six children were working in linen mills. By coincidence, Rifleman Skelly's father died on the same day and at about the same time as his son. His mother had died on 30/07/1912. Two of his brothers also served. Strauma Military Cemetery, Greece

1917

+GROUND, John

Royal Field Artillery. 22nd Bde. 105th Bty. Corporal. 13468. Died 31/10/1917 at Netley Hospital. Age 36. Proceeded to France from South Africa Oct., 1914. Son of Tom and the late Eliza Ground, of Armagh; husband to A. J. Ground, of High St., Wickford. St Catherine Churchyard, Wickford

+UNSWORTH, J

Royal Sussex Regiment. 11th Btn. Private. G/23131. Died 31/10/1917. Age 19. Son of Joseph and Ellen Unsworth, of 945, Tennent St., Belfast. Bedford House Cemetery, Belgium. Crumlin Road Methodist Church WM, Belfast

+WEIR, Robert

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 11th Btn. Private. 17235. Died 31/10/1917. Age 23. Son of William and Isabella Weir, of

Drummee, Inishmore, Lisbellaw, Co. Fermanagh.
Dernancourt Communal Cemetery Extension, France

1918

+ALEXANDER, Robert

RAF. 307680. Died 31/10/1918 of pneumonia following influenza at the Military Camp Hosp., Blandford, Dorset .
Age 21. Enrolled 15/10/1918. Son of Mrs. Martha Alexander and the late Robert Alexander, Culnahan, Garvagh.
Moneydig Presbyterian Church, Kilrea WM.

+BINGHAM, James E

Army Service Corps. 25th Div. Mechanical Transport Coy.
Private. M2/081315. Died 31/10/1918. Son of Robert and Elizabeth Bingham, of Donaghcloney, Lurgan. St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, France

+CORRIGAN, Edward

South Lancashire Regiment, 7th Bn. Private. 40955. Died 31/10/1918. Prisoner of War. Son of Michael and Margaret Corrigan. Edward was born in Clogher about 1893. Michael Corrigan was a farmer. The family lived in Carryclogher.
Hamburg Cemetery, Hamburg, Germany. Clogher WM

+DONNELLY, James

Machine Gun Corps (Infantry). formerly (4/36650) King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment). Private. 153338. Died 31/10/1918. Age 20. His brother Henry was killed four days later on November 04. Another brother Joseph served with the US Army. When his mother died he went to live with his aunt at Banbrook Hill, Armagh. Son of the late Joseph, a

local butcher, and Mary Donnelly, of Armagh. Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham

+KINGSBERRY, Samuel

Royal Irish Rifles. 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 3/8460. Died 31/10/1918. Age 27. Son of William and Isabella Kingsberry, of Belfast; husband of Letitia Kingsberry, of Belfast. Dundonald Cemetery, Belfast

+MOFFATT, Robert

Royal Field Artillery. 79th Bde. C Bty. Driver. 92720. Died 31/10/1918. Born in Antrim. Enlisted in Lanark. Son of Sarah Moffatt. St Sever Cemetery Extension, France

+MONTAGU, Walter Philip

Army Chaplains' Department attd. 22nd Bde. Royal Garrison Artillery. Chaplain 4th Class. Died 31/10/1918. Age 32. Walter was born on 07/05/1886 at Portstewart. He was the fifth son of seven boys. Walter entered the Society of Jesus in 1903



and went to St Bueno's College, Tremeirchion in 1915 to study theology. He was ordained early so he could join the forces as an army chaplain. He enlisted on 17/03/1918 and served in France. He was wounded in his thighs and taken to the 45th Casualty Clearing Station near Avoingt on 28th October. He died of his severe wounds on the 31st October 1918, just before the end of the war. His parents were Lt Com Robert Acheson Crombie Montagu and Annie Margaret Montagu (nee McMicking), of Crowmore, Portstewart, Co Londonderry. Three of Walter's brothers served in the armed forces during the war. His younger brother, Alexander Cyril Montagu, a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, was killed in an accidental explosion on the battleship HMS Bulwark off Skegness harbour on 26/11/1914 when over 750 crew members were killed. Captain Cuthbert Montagu, Royal Engineers, was Mentioned in Despatches twice for meritorious action in the face of the enemy. Avoingt British Cemetery; Tremeirchion WM; Portstewart WM

+MONTGOMERY, James

Royal Irish Rifles. 9th Btn. Rifleman. 3778. transf. to Labour Corps. 421st Agricultural Coy. Labour Corps (333801). Died 31/10/1918. Age 49. Son of Alexander and Jane Montgomery, of Belfast. Carnmoney Cemetery.

+SMART, William

Royal Irish Rifles. 1st Garrison Btn. Rifleman. 276. Died 31/10/1918. Cawnpore Cantonment New Cemetery, India

1940

+CLARKE, Robert Hugh

RAF. Flying Officer. 40513. Died 31/10/1940. Aged 24.112
Sqn. Son of Robert Hugh Clarke, and Mary Elizabeth
Clarke, Belfast. Alamein Memorial, Column 239. Egypt.
Ballymena WM

+ERSKINE, Basil Pollock

RAF. Pilot Officer (Pilot). 44190. Died 31/10/1940. Age 19.
233 Sqn. 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 WM

1941

+CONNELL, Robert Desmond

RAFVR. Leading Aircraftman (U/T Observer). 1074966. Died 31/10/1941. Aged 25. LLB 1936, QUB. Son of Robert G. Connell and Margaret G. Connell, Limavady. Drumachose Presbyterian Churchyard, Limavady. QUB RH

1942

+SPENCE, John

R.A.C. Royal Tank Regiment, 40th (7th Bn The Kings Regt [Liverpool]). Trooper. 7887413. Died 31/10/1942. Aged 23. Son of Charles and Jane Spence, of Carrickfergus. El Alamein War Cemetery, Egypt

1943

+ORR, James

Hampshire Regiment, 2nd Bn. Private. 6985389. Died 31/10/1943. Aged 20. Son of William and Annie Orr, of Waterside, Londonderry. Minturno War Cemetery, Italy

1944

+BROWNE, Robert

Royal Scots, 8th Bn. Private. 14434549. Died 31/10/1944. Aged 19. Son of Thomas and Mary Browne, of Coleraine. Nederweert War Cemetery, Limburg (Netherlands), Netherlands

+CAMPBELL, Sydney

RAFVR. Pilot Officer (Air Bomber).179864. Died 31/10/1944. Aged 23. 90 Sqdn. Aboard Avro Lancaster PD269 WP-Q which had taken off from RAF Teddham on a mission to bomb the Bottrop Oil Plant. The aircraft was reported missing having failed to return. Son of Albert James Campbell and Rebecca Campbell, of Belfast. The Crew were subsequently found and their remains were buried in Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany.

VETERAN

GRIBBON, Henry Derwent

RN. Petty Officer. MiD. Com QUB 1938. Author of "The history of water power in Ulster" published in 1969 by the Institute of Irish Studies, Queen's University of Belfast. Born 31/10/1917 in Belfast. Son of Henry Charles and Ada Gribbon. Husband to Dorothy Kitson Gribbon. Died 26/04/2000, aged 82 in Castlerock, Coleraine

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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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