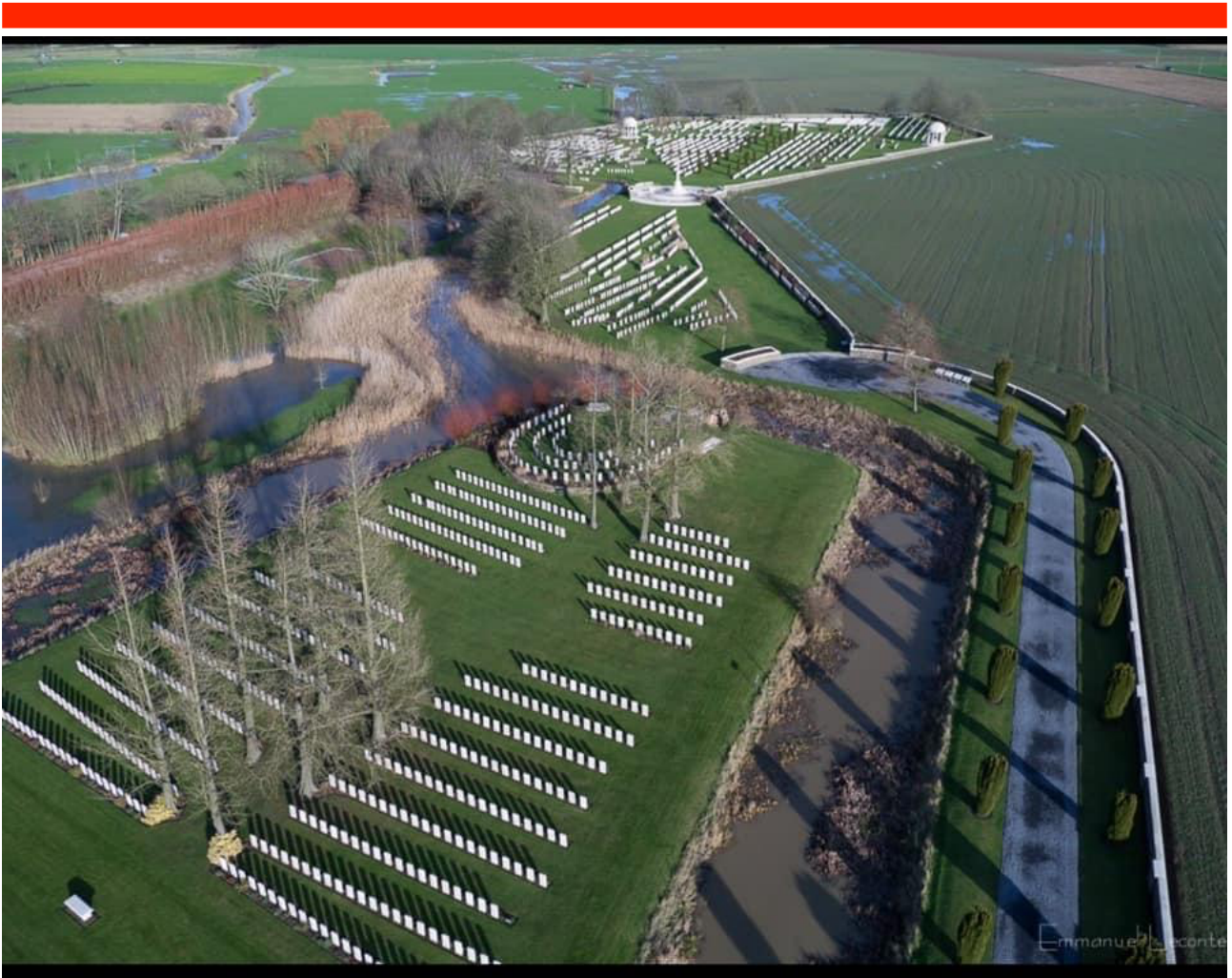




remembrance ni



War cemetery in grounds of former chateau with moats

Bedford House Cemetery is sited at a country house in a small wooded park with moats

Bedford House Cemetery is located 2.5 Km south of Ypres (leper) town centre.

There are 5,139 Commonwealth casualties from the First World War buried in the site of Bedford House Cemetery. Of these casualties 2,194 are identified burials. Special memorials commemorate



those Servicemen who are believed to be buried here but their marked graves were destroyed and could not be found. There are two German servicemen buried here.

69 British servicemen of the British Expeditionary Force who fell in the vicinity here in May 1940 during the Second World War are also buried in this cemetery site.

Bedford House, sometimes known as Woodcote House, were the names given by the Army to the Chateau Rosendal, a country house in a small wooded park with moats. Although it never fell into German hands, the house and the trees were gradually destroyed by shell fire. It was



used by field ambulances and as the headquarters of brigades and other fighting units, and charcoal pits were dug there from October 1917.

In time, the property became largely covered by small cemeteries; five enclosures existed at the date of the Armistice, but the graves from No.1 were then removed to White House Cemetery, St. Jean, and those from No.5 to Aeroplane Cemetery, Ypres.

The pre-war Château Rosendal was located south of Ypres in grounds made up of areas of woodland, moats and a lake. The Kemmelbeek stream ran along the northern boundary of the château grounds.

The château was in Allied-held territory behind the Allied Front Line for the duration of the war. From the time when

the British took over this southern sector of the Ypres Salient from the French Army in the early weeks of 1915 through to the autumn of 1918. The main house, its various outbuildings and grounds were used for headquarters, field ambulances and burial sites. The château was renamed by the British as Bedford House.

Over the period of the four years the house and its grounds were shelled by German artillery. The Château Rosendal and its surrounding parkland were destroyed.

The site of the British and Commonwealth military cemetery named Bedford House was used by the British Army from 1915 through to the end of the war. By the time the war was over there were “enclosures” containing graves in various numbers on this site. With the development of the cemetery after the war, and graves being brought into the site from burial sites and battlefield burials around the area, the Bedford House Cemetery now consists of four Enclosures, these being numbered Enclosure Numbers 2, 3, 4 and 6.

Enclosure No. 1 - After the Armistice the group of graves in Enclosure 1 was moved to St. Jean, north-east of Ypres into White House Cemetery.

Enclosure No. 2 - The site at Enclosure No. 2 was started as a burial ground in December 1915. It was in use during the war until October 1918. After the Armistice a further 400 graves were moved into this Enclosure from two British military cemeteries close to the Ypres town centre, the École de Bienfaissance Cemetery and the Asylum Cemetery.

Enclosure No. 3 - The site at Enclosure No. 3 was in use from February 1915 to December 1916.



Enclosure No. 4 - The site at Enclosure No. 4 was in use from June 1916 to February 1918. Many of the casualties buried during that time were serving in this area with the 47th (London) Division. After the Armistice a further 3,324 casualties were brought to this Enclosure. They had originally been buried or had been missing in action on the battlefields around this site. Many of these re-burials remain unidentified.

Enclosure No. 6 - Some twenty years after the Armistice of November 1918 a sixth enclosure was established for casualties who were discovered and brought in from the fields in the area as the great task of battlefield clearance was underway.

Casualties from the battles in the vicinity during the British Army's fighting withdrawal to Dunkirk in May 1940 are also buried in this enclosure. They died in the area of the Ypres-Comines railway line and canal bank.

Design

Wilfred Clement Von Berg was responsible for the design of this cemetery. He was 19 years old in the summer of 1914 when war was declared. He enlisted and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 5th Battalion (City of London) London Regiment (also known as the London Rifle Brigade). He arrived in the theatre of war in France & Flanders in September 1915. During his military service in the Great War Wilfred served as an acting Captain and Adjutant, being awarded the Military Cross for gallantry.

Before the war broke out Wilfred had started to study to be an architect and his training was interrupted when he joined the British Army. After the war he took up a post as an assistant architect with the Imperial War Graves Commission (now named the Commonwealth War Graves Commission). He designed more than 30 of the British and Commonwealth military cemeteries.

Von Berg's design of the cemetery incorporates the moats which were in the Château Rosendal parkland before it was so badly damaged. A set of stone steps can be found in the cemetery, being almost all that remains of the old château and its pre-war buildings.

On this Day – November 19

1917

The French have success at Chaume Wood.

1918

French troops enter Metz, and the Americans enter Luxembourg.

1921





The Ulster Memorial Tower

On this day in 1921 the Ulster Memorial Tower, Thiépval, France was dedicated and opened by Field Marshal Sir Henry Hughes Wilson, 1st Baronet, GCB DSO. The Tower stands as a lasting legacy and a reminder of the sacrifices of all the sons of Ulster who fought and died in the First World War and is Northern Ireland's National War Memorial.



“This Tower is Dedicated to the Glory of God in Grateful Memory of the Officers , Non Commissioned Officers and men of the 36th(Ulster) Division and the Sons of Ulster in others Forces who laid down their lives in the Great War, and of all their Comrades in Arms who by Divine Grace were spared to testify to their glorious Deeds”

On the 19th November 1921 a total of 46 trees were planted as part of the dedication ceremony at the Ulster Tower. Each tree had a metal plaque at the base that recorded the details of who planted the tree and on whose behalf.

Unfortunately, the original trees died and replanting took place on a number of occasions and each time less trees lined the avenue. The plaques started to deteriorate and were removed over the years. They lay in the basement of



The Tower is modelled on one in the Clandeboye estate near Bangor, Co. Down, where many of those who fought in the war received their initial training.

the memorial for a number of years and were thrown away overtime.

Years later a number of them were rediscovered, one is on display in the Somme Museum and others in the museum in Albert, France.

**PLANTED ON BEHALF OF ULSTERMEN IN
THE ROYAL NAVY
BY
MR T S WILSON JP**

Mr Thomas Salters Wilson later Sir Thomas, was born in 1863 and died in November 1930. He was the first Mayor of Bangor and the first Freeman of the Borough following it being created as a Borough in 1927.

He started work as a message boy around Belfast docks for Messrs Tedfords, ship-owners and chandlers. This brought him into contact with the maritime life of the booming city of Belfast. He established his career in the shipping industry.

Thomas was actively involved in politics and a member of the Ulster Unionist Council, honorary secretary of the North Down Unionist Association and Chairman of the Bangor Branch. In 1921 such was the esteem in which he was held that he was approached to stand when the North Down Parliamentary division was rendered vacant. Mr Wilson, was proposed as the new member at a meeting of the Unionist

delegates but he declined and suggested they should select Field-Marshal Sir Henry Wilson, who was afterwards returned unopposed and held the seat until his assassination by the IRA in 1922.

Wilson was a subscriber to the Memorial Fund and it is recorded that he said of the Ulster Tower, 'it would be worthy of the brave lads who had gone forth to do battle for their country.' He had agreed to the choice of a replica of Helen's Tower.

Mr Thomas Salters Wilson was present at the Dedication and Opening of the Ulster Memorial Tower on the 19th November 1921.

1940



The first major Luftwaffe air raid was launched against Birmingham, around 440 bombers attacked the city, killing

450 people and injuring 540. Around 400 tonnes of high explosives were dropped during the raid.

Greek successes continue in northern Greece and Albania. The Italians are driven back across the Kalamas River.

The Canadian government approves initiation of mass production of war bacteria.

1941

The Times newspaper's report on Occupied Europe estimates that 82,000 Poles have been shot or hanged since Poland's occupation by the Germans.

The cruiser HMAS Sydney and German raider Kormoran sink each other off Western Australia. There are no survivors from HMAS Sydney.

1942



Admiral Sir Max Horton was made CinC at Western Approaches during which he had under his command more ships than any Royal Navy Commander in history and was

instrumental in the Allied victory of the Battle of Atlantic, the longest and largest Naval Campaign of WW2

The Soviets unleash an offensive against the German army in Stalingrad. Operation Uranus, which involves 1.1 million troops, 800 tanks and 13,000 guns, results in the total encirclement of all Axis forces inside the city. The initial



attacks by the Soviet 5th Tank Army from the north and the 51st Army from the south are directed against the exposed rear flanks of 6th Army and 4th Panzer Army held by the Romanian 3rd and 4th Army's which are overrun and scattered. Russian gains in Caucasus are also announced.

Two RAF Horsa gliders carrying 34 British Royal Engineer Commandos, crashes in Norway en route to their mission of destroying the German 'heavy water' plant at Telemark. The survivors are captured by the Germans, questioned, tortured and shot, although they were all in uniform.

British troops engage a German tank column only 30 miles from Tunis.

1944

The US 95th Division fights its way into the suburbs of Metz.

The French 1st Armoured Division reaches the Rhine.

The RAF's destruction of Drina bridge at Visegrad causes an 85-mile German traffic jam in Yugoslavia.

Roll of Honour – November 19

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1914

+BROWN, J

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Private. 2718. Died 19/11/1914. Age 22. Son of the late John and Mary Brown; husband of Margaret McCleave (formerly Brown), of 36, Pernau St., Belfast. Strand Military Cemetery, Belgium

+DEMPSTER, Robert

Royal Irish Rifles. 1st Btn. B Coy. Rifleman. 9623. Died 19/11/1914. Age 23. Son of Hugh and Mary Dempster, of 17, Arundel St., Belfast. Le Touret Memorial, France

1915

+MAGEE, Alexander

Royal Irish Rifles, 8th Bn. C Coy. Rifleman. 13246. Died 19/11/1915. Age 21. Son of Malcom McGacken Magee and Margaret Magee, of Gortmerron, Bloomfield, Belfast. Maily-Maillet Communal Cemetery Extension, France

1916

+ALLEN, J

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Btn. Private. 28493. Died 19/11/1916. Age 18. Son of John Allen, of Shanmullagh, Trillick, Co. Tyrone. Pond Farm Cemetery, Belgium

+FRY, John

Manchester Regiment, 11th Btn. Private. 2112. Died 19/11/1916 at Toxteth Military Hospital, Liverpool of wounds received in action. Age 20. Born 04/08/1896 in Belfast, Ireland. His father Robert was a linen lapper. The family moved to Upperlands, where they worked in Clark's Linen Mill. John was an apprentice Linen Lapper. The family then emigrated to Canada. They were living in Kenaston, Saskatchewan. John travelled to England to enlist early in the war. Son of Sarah Fry, of Kenaston, Saskatchewan, Canada, and the late Robert Fry. Toxteth Park Cemetery, Liverpool. Wm Clark & Sons WM

+LOVE, J

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 10th Btn. Private. 15708. Died 19/11/1916. Husband to Mrs. M. Love, of 27, Wapping Lane, Londonderry. Pond Farm Cemetery, Belgium

+McKIRGAN, John

Northumberland Fusiliers, 24th (Tyneside Irish) Btn. Private. 30/119. Died 19/11/1916. Age 25. Born 1891 Ballymena. Son of James and Jane McKirgan, 46 Upper Branch Street, South Bank, Yorkshire. Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord, France

+THOMPSON, Thomas

Seaforth Highlanders, 4th Btn. Private. 3512. Died 19/11/1916. Age 31. Son of Mrs. Ellen Thompson, of 35, Lilliput St., Belfast. Thiepval Memorial, France



**Annual service of remembrance on Rathlin Island (2019)
honouring those who died in Rathlin Sound and**

adjacent waters. Senior representatives of the services joined HM Deputy Lord Lieutenant and local councillors.

1917

+BLACK, Harold Edward

Canadian Infantry, 78 Btn. Manitoba Regiment. Previously 90th Btn. Winnipeg Rifles. Private. 186298. Died 19/11/1917. Born in Ballycastle on the 11/06/1894, he was an old scholar of Friends' School Lisburn which he entered on 05/05/1908 and left on 07/04/1910. A custom clerk by profession, he enlisted at Winnipeg on the 07/09/1915 aged 21 years. A single man, he gave his brother Robert of 11 Bartella Court, Home Street, Winnipeg as his next of kin. He had one years military experience with the 90th. Rifles H.D. and on enlistment was posted to the 90th. Canadian Infantry, "Winnipeg Rifles". Subsequently transferred to the 78 battalion Canadian Infantry, Manitoba Regiment (186298). Son of William Boyes and Sarah Jane Black whose family home was in Ballycastle. Etaples Military Cemetery, France

+SLOAN, James

Royal Scots Fusiliers. Private. 37503. transf. to (5202) 9th Coy. Labour Corps. Died 19/11/1917. Born at Drummaul, Co. Antrim. Enlisted in Glasgow. Living at 7 Haldane St., Whiteinch, Glasgow. Husband to Charlotte Harley. Achiet-le-Grand Communal Cemetery Extension, France

+WHITESIDE, Joseph

Royal Engineers. Inland Waterways and Docks. Sapper. WR/355331. Died 19/11/1917. Age 22. Son of Mary

Whiteside, of 5, Reid's Place, Belfast, and the late Joseph Whiteside. Minster Cemetery, Thanet

1918

+DONNON, S

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 11th Btn. Private. 27299. Died 19/11/1918. Age 23. Samuel Blakely Dunn Donnan was born on 09/02/1896 in Millisle and he was a son of Robert and Elizabeth (Eliza, sometimes Lizzie) Donnan (nee Robinson) who were married on 02/11/1894 in Carrowdore Parish Church of Ireland Church. Robert Donnan from Millisle was a son of William Donnan, a flax worker. Eliza Robinson from Millisle was a daughter of Edward Robinson, a labourer. The Donnan family lived in the townland of Ballyrolly, Carrowdore. Robert Donnan worked as an agricultural labourer and he and Elizabeth had two children. Berlin South-Western Cemetery, Germany. Donaghadee and District WM. Carrowdore Parish Church of Ireland Church (Christ Church).

+McGREGGHAN, Hugh

Royal Field Artillery, 321st. Brigade. Driver. 261264. Died 19/11/1918 from pneumonia. Age 18. The role of a driver (private) during WW1 was to drive a team of horses, usually six and he shared the job with 2 other drivers. The horses were used to pull the heavy guns and was particularly difficult during the winter months when the ground became a sticky cloying mess with craters filled with water and mud. Son of Hugh and the late Jane McGreeghan of Maxwell Court, Comber. Born at Unicarville, Ballymaglaff, County Down. Comber Cemetery

+POWER, Thomas

Machine Gun Corps (Infantry), 21st Btn. Lance Corporal. 71840. Had previously served with the Northumberland Fusiliers (541). Died 19/11/1918 of influenza and pneumonia in a military hospital. Taken prisoner of war at Cormicy on 27/05/1918. Enlisted in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Born Whitehouse 26/07/1888. Family moved to Hebburn, England. Thomas worked as a coal miner. Son of Thomas and Rose Anna (nee Goodall) Powers. Husband to Sarah Flannigan. They had two daughters. Cologne Southern Cemetery, Germany

1941

+CHARLES, Francis Richard

Royal Armoured Corps. 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars. Lieutenant. 95219. Died 19/11/1941. Age 22. Operation Crusader. The Regimental diary records that three officers were lost on this day. Sandhurst. Commissioned July 1939. Born 12/04/1919 in Liverpool. Son of Richard Charles, O.B.E., F.R.C.S., and Mary Charles nee Horner, of Ipswich, Suffolk. Richard Charles was born in Cookstown on Christmas Eve 1885. During WW1 he served as a Major in the RAMC. He was a surgeon at the East Sussex and Ipswich Hospital. Alamein Memorial, Egypt. Ipswich WM, Orwell Park School WM.

1942

+GRAY, George Campbell

RN. Petty Officer Supply. C/MX 56347. Date of Death: 19/11/1942. Age 23. HMS Nile. Son of Alexander Baird Gray and Mary Gray, Newry. Alexandria (Hadra) War Memorial Cemetery. Bessbrook WM

1943

+WRIGHT, John

RAFVR. 178 Sqdn. Flight Lieutenant (Navigator). 88664. Died 19/11/1943 over Crete. Aged 24. 178 Sqdn. Educated at MCB. Born 25/10/1919. Son of S. J. Wright and Agnes McFerran Wright, of Dunmurry. Suda Bay War Cemetery, Greece

1944

+FINLAY, John

Royal Engineers, 278 Field Coy. Sapper. 2161226. Died 19/11/1944. Age 32. Enlisted in 1942 and took part in the D Day landings. Died during the invasion of Netherlands. Son of Lewis Finlay who worked for Sir Thomas McAlpine. His mother died shortly after he was born. Educated at St Patrick's school, Keady. He went to England where he met and married his wife who was from County Cavan. Husband of Rose Finlay, of Forest Gate, Essex. Nederweert War Cemetery, Netherlands

VETERAN

BUCHANAN, Thomas George

RAMC. Lieutenant Colonel. A report in the Lisburn Standard 22/11/1918 stated that he had "died in Egypt on 19/11/1918 of wounds received in action. He mobilised with the North Midland Mounted Brigade Field Ambulance on the opening of the war, his captaincy dating from 19/08/1914. He was promoted to the rank of major 24/09/1915, and later was appointed temporary lieutenant-colonel...This gallant officer,

who had seen a good deal of active service, is survived by his wife (a niece of Lady Paget) and a daughter.”

The following week’s edition of the Lisburn Standard (29/11/1918) reported, “Following the intimation that Lieutenant-Colonel T. J. Buchanan, RAMC, had died of wounds in Egypt, further inquiries were made by the relatives, who had not been officially notified, and it was found that he was still alive. Letters have been received stating that he was recovering from an attack of influenza. On two occasions he was mentioned in despatches from Palestine. His father resides at Lissue, Lisburn, also his wife and child. “

“Inst in the Great War” records - “The school magazine School News lists a Lt Col T G Buchanan of the Royal Army Medical Corps in the Roll of Honour published after the end of the war; however no officer of this name appears in the records of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission or in the listing of "Officers Died in the Great War”.

Nevertheless, an officer of this name attended Queen's University Belfast and served with the North Midland Mounted Brigade Field Ambulance, but he is known to have survived until 1945. Therefore it is suspected that the school mistakenly believed he had died and was so added to the Memorial and Roll of Honour”.

POLLEY, James Gordon Trepess

WOPE 1944 QUB. RE Lt. Hereford Times 19/11/2015

POLLEY James Gordon Trepess Died November 11th, 2015. Dearly loved husband of Rosemary and father of Margaret, Neil and Robert.

Every day is a Remembrance Day

We will remember them

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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

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