

2nd Edition: revised

Lest we forget...

18064 RIFLEMAN
R. J. LAIRD
ROYAL IRISH RIFLES
3TH JUNE 1917 AGE 39

The World War One
Rolls of Honour

GONE BUT ⁱⁿ NOT FORGOTTEN

Ballynure Presbyterian Church

and Ballynure Methodist Church

Richard T Wallace



Ballynure and District Friendship Club is very grateful for the financial contribution provided by Newtownabbey Borough Council towards the publishing of the first edition of this book.

Dedicated to my grandfather

Sgt Richard Henry Thompson (17022)

10th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles

who was wounded at the Battle of the Somme
and returned home to lead a full and active life.

If you wish to purchase this book
or make any corrections/additions,
please contact Richard Wallace directly
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Foreword

The 1914-1918 War has always held a fascination for me. I suppose this was derived partly from the number of uncles and other relations who had fought in some of the most notorious battles, and had lived to tell the tale.

I am honoured to be asked to write the foreword for this book by Richard Wallace, a much respected friend of mine. Richard's inspiration, he tells me, was conceived from the two plaques on the walls of Ballynure Presbyterian Church, and also from his visits to the battlefields of France and Belgium, especially the Tyne Cot Cemetery just outside Ypres. This is the largest British and Commonwealth graveyard in the world, with some 54,389 officers and men buried there, no known grave having been found. Each evening, a section of the fire brigade from Ypres, march to the Menin Gate, a huge and imposing edifice, sound the 'Last Post' and return to their station. They have been doing this every evening since 1927 as a mark of respect.

Richard, who was an exceptional Clerk of Session in the above church, and is still an elder, is also a retired Vice-Principal of Ballyclare High School. His many skills in the field of information technology have given him the ability to access the wealth of sources used in his findings. One can appreciate the volume of his work from the appendix at the end of this book.

Richard offers us a ground breaking investigation into the life and times of the local men who had joined up. He writes about the eight of them from Ballynure who had made the supreme sacrifice. On interviewing many of the descendants of those who served, he was able to obtain from them, letters, postcards, photographs and other information pertaining to their service in the army. A few of those who served had already chosen to emigrate before the war began while others left these shores after the war was over.

During the years 1915-1918, the war had deteriorated into squalid trench warfare, when for little gain in territory, huge losses were incurred. The Battle of Messines was one of these when troops from the 16th Irish

Division and the 36th Ulster Division fought together for the first time and won a well-planned battle, which, although could never make up for the appalling losses of the Somme, showed how the co-ordinated use of mines, tanks, cavalry and well-directed artillery could be so devastating.

As the months went by, signs of a war weariness set in and eventually an armistice was agreed. So on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, the guns fell silent and the war to end all wars, as so many people thought, was over.

A 'Grand Concert' for all the men who had returned from the war in the Ballynure, Straid and Lame districts, was held in the Lecture Hall of Ballynure Presbyterian Church on the 21st November, 1919. Souvenirs and Bibles were distributed and a splendid programme was rendered by distinguished artistes.

With the 100th anniversary of the commencement of 'The Great War' now upon us in 2014, what better tribute to the local men of this area, whose lives became entangled with it, than the publication of this book by Richard Wallace, to whom we owe a sincere debt of gratitude and our congratulations.

Sam Sloss

March 2014

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Preface

The World War One Memorial in Ballynure Presbyterian Church

For a number of years now I have looked in amazement, awe and wonder at the War Memorial in Ballynure Presbyterian Church, which contains the names of the men from the district who fought in World War One. As I have done so, many questions flooded my mind: who were these fifty five men; were they all baptised in the church and regular attenders at worship or did they just live in the locality? Are any of their relatives still with us? Did all of the eight men who lost their lives, die at the Battle of the Somme?



From the War Memorial, it was evident that many of them had the same surnames so I thought that they must have been related. Then it struck me that we would be hard pressed to get fifty five men now to do anything together let alone go to a foreign country with a real expectation of dying there.

So my quest to get behind the names began and to find out something about the people that were involved. Yes, there were the fifty five men who went out to fight for their country but there was a far greater number of friends and families who had stayed at home, hoping and praying that they would see their loved ones again. There were large families, small

families, single mothers, fathers and mothers, widows, widowers, brothers, sisters, cousins, aunts, uncles, well-to-do people, unemployed people, educated people and a lot of plain, simple, ordinary good folk.

Interestingly, there were about a dozen of these men who had fought for Australia, Canada, India, US and New Zealand and I was keen to find out if they had emigrated before the war or did they choose to enlist for these foreign forces because the pay was perhaps better.

In the spring of 2012, I went on a Battlefields' Trip that was centred around Passchendaele, Messines, the Tyne Cot Cemetery and The Menin Gate at Ypres. It was a day of very different emotions. I saw the scene of the war for myself; I touched some of the 200 tonnes of war metal that surfaces each year; I walked through the 11,953 graves and headstones in Tyne Cot Cemetery and found myself imagining an army of that size standing to attention where the gravestones had been erected. Perhaps the most poignant moment was standing in a small Australian Cemetery with no more than 50 randomly placed headstones that signified how the men had merely been buried where they fell. Looking back, I had not done enough homework and now regret not having the names and burial places of the Ballynure men with me because I was in the very spots where some of them are buried or remembered. I hope that this book will help those who go in the future, to pay their proper respect.



The Menin Gate, Ypres, Belgium

On a slightly separate note, when I had been writing the short history of the church, the period from 1909 to 1918 under Rev John Edmund Mitchell seemed to be a turbulent time in the congregation's history. There was the petition from the church members to appoint more elders, there was great dissention at Kirk Session meetings and then there was a lack of any meetings or minutes from 5th October 1916 until the new Minister, Rev Andrew Scott, was installed on 3rd October 1918. Rev John Edmund Mitchell suffered great personal tragedy on 11th November 1917 when his wife, Edith Sarah Dickson, died during the birth of their first child. They had only been married for just over a year. He resigned and moved to Scotland very soon after her untimely death. It seemed to me that, just when the congregation needed the most pastoral support because of all these deaths and injuries at war, it may not have been there.

Many people have helped with this compilation and it has been a pleasure to invite Sam Sloss, a member of the congregation, and a personal friend, to write the foreword. For many years Sam was the Principal of Ballynure Primary School. He has always taken a great interest in World War One and often recounts his very first visit to the battlefields in France and Belgium and, in particular, the lasting impression that his visit to the silently eerie Tyne Cot Cemetery made on him and his colleague at the start of their teaching career.

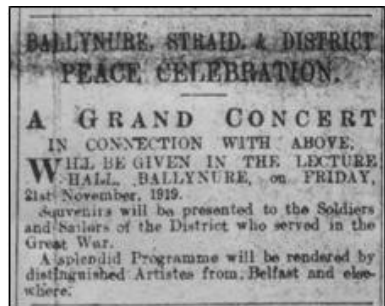


The Tyne Cot Cemetery

I am also indebted to Nigel Henderson for his help, encouragement and support at the beginning of my research and at other stages of the project. David Truesdale who edited James McRoberts' Memoirs has provided me with information about Allan John McClellan and his friend Robert Moore, both of whom are mentioned on the memorial. Eddie Beck and Graham Baird's long detailed study and 'Roll of Honour' of all the men who went to war from the Ballyclare area has been an invaluable source of information. I am indebted to them for supplying me with some of the pictures you will see in their book. 'The History of the Ulster Division', an early account (1922) just after the war by Cyril Falls, and a book I inherited from my grandfather, has provided me with a great insight into the various divisions that fought in Europe and beyond. I have also made extensive use of the Presbyterian Roll of Honour as it was presented, congregation by congregation, by Eddie Connolly and was fortunate to have unlimited access to the baptismal register in Ballynure Presbyterian Church.

Websites that have been of enormous help include the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the National Archives in Ireland (who have recently published the soldiers' wills) and other Commonwealth sources for the soldiers who fought for New Zealand, Australia and Canada. These websites are listed in the references' section.

Despite my best efforts, I cannot find any record of the actual church service in 1920 or 1921 when Major Robert McCreary and Mr James McQuillan, the Headmaster of Larne Grammar School, unveiled the two memorial plaques in the church. I have found an advert for A Grand Concert and Peace Celebration on Friday 21st November 1919 when Bibles were presented to all the men from Ballynure, Straid and District who returned safely from war.



Just before I went to print, it was drawn to my attention that there is another WW1 Memorial in Ballynure Methodist but none in Christ Church.

For completeness, I have included the names and some information about the eight men from the Methodist Church who served in the war.

Finally, I want to thank the members of the Friendship Club along with the relatives of many of these brave men for the help, encouragement, data, artefacts (including one of the afore-mentioned Bibles) and pictures that they have supplied. These people are mentioned in the acknowledgements' section.

While there are nine sets of brothers, there are many men who still remain little more than a name and, if you know anything about them or have a picture or a story to share, please let me know. In addition, there may be inaccuracies in this book but I would encourage you to read it with a forgiving spirit and report these errors to me so that the copy on the church website can be kept up to date.

'We will remember them'

Richard T Wallace

Chairman: Ballynure and District Friendship Club

March 2014



Sam Sloss (left) and Richard Wallace at the launch in Armagh of David Truesdale's book, 'Young Citizen, Old Soldier'. Also included in the picture is Mrs Sylvia McRoberts MBE, a relative of Rifleman James McRoberts on whose memoirs the book is based.

Additional Information, July 2014

On a recent visit to the WW1 battlefield sites around Ypres, Belgium and the Somme in France, I managed to visit all three graves where the men from Ballynure Presbyterian are buried.

I left an inscribed cross and poppy at each grave in memory of

James Davidson in Ancre Cemetery, France

William Elliott in Oxford Road Cemetery, Belgium

Robert John Laird in Lone Tree Cemetery, Belgium.

I also photographed the names of

James McClintock on Panel 32 of the Menin Gate

John Hill on Panel 15A of the Thiepval Memorial

Allan John McClellan on Panel 15b of the Thiepval Memorial.

These pictures, along with other information and amendments which I received after the initial publication, have been included in this edition.

Further information: January 2015

During our research in Ballynure Old Cemetery, Stephen Bell, of Ballynure and District Historical Society, and I discovered the names of two other men whose relatives have included them on the family gravestones.

*They are **2nd Lieutenant William Kearns Adrain** and **Sergeant Robert J Millar**. Information about these two men is now included at the end of the book on pages 104 - 107.*

Richard Wallace and the Mayor of Newtownabbey, Alderman Fraser Agnew at the book launch in Ballynure Presbyterian Church on Tuesday 20th May 2014



Introduction

Irishmen in the World War One

World War One (WWI) was a global war centred in Europe that began on 28th July 1914 and lasted until 11th November 1918. Ultimately, more than 70 million military personnel, including sixty million Europeans, were mobilised in one of the largest wars in history. More than nine million combatants were killed, largely because of technological advancements that led to enormous increases in the lethality of weapons without corresponding improvements in protection or mobility, causing both sides to resort to large-scale human wave attacks, which proved extremely costly in terms of casualties.

During the war, about 210,000 Irishmen, from both the unionist and nationalist communities, served in the British forces. Since there was no conscription about 140,000 of these joined during the war as volunteers and, by the end of the war, some 35,000 Irish men and women had died.

Irishmen enlisted for the war effort for a variety of reasons. Some, just like their fellows in other warring states, joined up for the perceived justice of the cause. Unionists, who were particularly concentrated in the northern province of Ulster, naturally needed less justification to join up. Having, from 1912, organised a sizeable, armed, paramilitary 'Ulster Volunteer Force' (UVF) to oppose Home Rule and secure the union with Great Britain, they could scarcely stand idly by when Great Britain itself went to war. On 3rd September 1914, at an Ulster Unionist Council meeting in Belfast, in a long and emotive speech, Sir Edward Carson appealed to the men of the UVF: 'Go and help to save your country and save your Empire; go and win honour for Ulster and for Ireland'. Later in the speech he made it clear that 'If we get enough men to go from the Ulster Volunteer Force they will go under the War Office as a Division of their own: the 36th Ulster Division.'

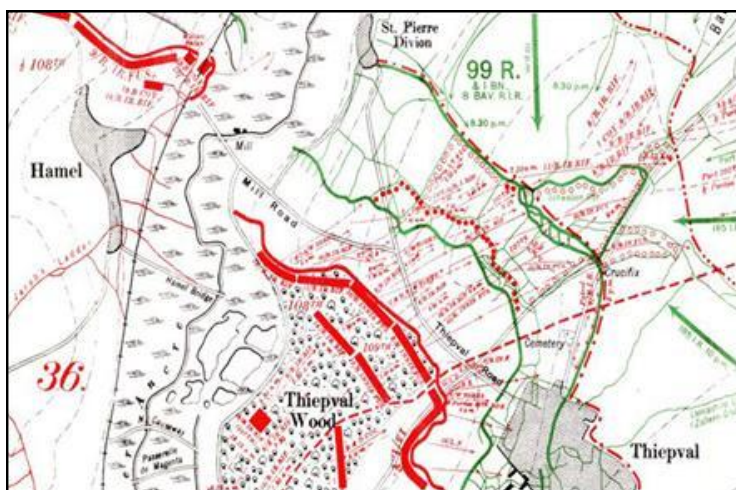
In September 1914, the Ulster Division was formed mainly from the Ulster Volunteer Force which raised thirteen battalions for the three Irish regiments based in Ulster: the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, the Royal Irish Fusiliers and the Royal Irish Rifles.

Eighteen of the men from Ballynure who went to war, joined the 12th Battalion, the Royal Irish Rifles (Central Antrim) and fought for the 108th Brigade. They trained in Ballykinlar and at the Clandeboye Estate near Bangor before moving to Seaford on the Sussex coast in July 1915. After several months of preparation, men of the 36th (Ulster) Division sailed across the Channel in October although the artillery remained in England until November.

Nationalists, themselves mostly Catholic, and, feeling that Ireland in many ways reflected the position of Serbia, joined the other two of Lord Kitchener's 'New Army' divisions raised in Ireland: the 10th (Irish) and 16th (Irish) Divisions. But Irishmen joined up for more than political reasons. Some were simply after adventure, others joined up for economic reasons. Pay in the army could more than double or treble the income of a labourer.

Many other Irishmen also fought for countries in the British Empire, including those from Australia, New Zealand, India and Canada.

The first of the Irish new army divisions to see action was the 10th Division, which landed at Suvla Bay in Gallipoli in August 1915. There was also an offensive in Mesopotamia. One of the Ballynure men was killed at the Battle of the Tigris in Turkey in 1917. The other two divisions served in France, both taking part in the Battle of the Somme (see diagram below).



The Ulster Division had the worst of it, going over the top on the first day, 1st July, and suffering terrible casualties. On 1st and 2nd July, 5,500 men were killed, wounded or missing out of a total of about 15,000. Three of our Ballynure men died there.

Eight months later, up the line in Belgium, the 16th and 36th Divisions fought alongside each other at the very successful Battle of Messines, causing some observers to hope that the common experience of unionists and nationalists serving together on the battlefield might help political reconciliation back home - a hope, in the end, which was not fulfilled. One of our Ballynure men died in the Battle of Messines. Before they were substantially reorganised in February 1918, the 36th Ulster Division also took part in The Battle of Langemarck, the third of the Battles of Ypres and the Cambrai Operations, including the capture of Broulton Wood. The Battle of Cambrai, fought in November/December 1917, proved to be a significant event in World War One. Cambrai was the first battle in which tanks were used en masse. In fact, Cambrai saw a mixture of tanks being used, heavy artillery and air power.

Cambrai was an important town as it contained a strategic railhead. The attack started on November 20th 1917. However, not everything had gone to plan. The 2nd Cavalry Division had a problem crossing the vital St. Quentin Canal when a tank went over its main bridge and broke its back .

By November 30th, the Germans were ready to counter-attack and defend Cambrai. Many British army units had got themselves isolated and their command structure broke down in places. The German counter-attack was so effective that on December 3rd, Haig gave the order for the British units still near to Cambrai to withdraw. While losses did not equate to the Somme or Verdun, the British lost over 44,000 men during the battle while the Germans lost about 45,000 men. One of our men was wounded and gassed at the battle of Cambrai.

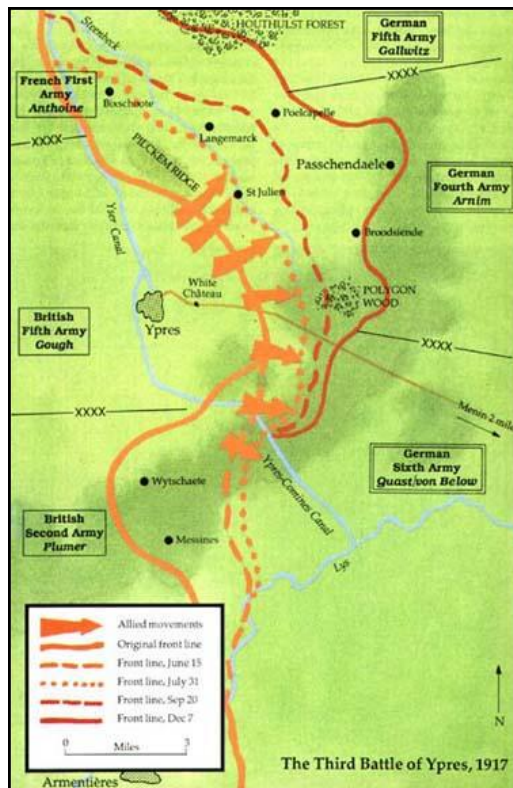
The third major battle of Ypres, also known as the Battle of Passchendaele, took place between July and November, 1917.

General Sir Douglas Haig, the British Commander in Chief in France, was encouraged by the gains made at the offensive at Messines in June 1917. Haig was convinced that the German army was now close to collapse and

once again made plans for a major offensive to obtain the necessary breakthrough.

Attacks on 26th September and 4th October 1917 enabled the British forces to take possession of the ridge east of Ypres. Despite the return of heavy rain, Haig ordered further attacks towards the Passchendaele Ridge. Attacks on the 9th and 12th October were unsuccessful. As well as the heavy mud, the advancing British soldiers had to endure mustard gas attacks.

Three more attacks took place in October and on the 6th November the village of Passchendaele was finally taken by British and Canadian infantry. The offensive cost the British Expeditionary Force about 310,000 casualties. One of our Ballynure men who had emigrated to Canada and fought for the Canadians was killed at the Battle of Passchendaele.



On 21st March 1918, the 36th Ulster Division was holding a sector of the British front line and Forward Zone south west of St Quentin in the Somme area. The main defences consisted of a number of isolated redoubts, in which the Ulstermen held on for several hours while under bombardment and ultimately being surrounded and cut off. One of our Ballynure men died there just before the end of the war.

Eleven of the men named on the memorial fought for the Commonwealth forces from Canada, India, Australia and New Zealand and one fought for the US Army, when they joined the war in 1917.

A serious study of any war soon leads to the realisation that it is more than just hundreds or thousands of men fighting. Men are needed to build railways, work on engineering feats, bring equipment to the front line, bury the dead, collect the casualties and tend the wounded. Five Ballynure men belonged to the Royal Navy and three were in the Royal Army Medical Corps while others were in the Engineers and the North Irish Horse. There is no doubt that Ballynure Presbyterian was well represented in all aspects of the war.

Whether wounded or not, no one came home unscathed from the greatest of all conflicts. Many never shared their experiences with anyone and simply went to their graves with the memories of those four or five long years of a difficult war. Others paid the ultimate price and, of the 8 men from Ballynure Presbyterian who were killed, only three, James Davidson, William James Elliott and Robert John Laird, have an identified grave.



Did you know ...

Sir James Whiteside McCay (1864 -1930), the Australian soldier, politician and lawyer, was born in Ballynure on 21st December 1864. He was the eldest of ten children of the Ballynure Presbyterian Minister, Rev. Andrew Ross Boyd McCay (1837-1915), and his wife Lily Ann Esther Waring, née Brown. Incidentally, Rev Andrew Ross Boyd McCay, the seventh minister was the son of our fifth minister, Rev James Whiteside McCay and served for a short time in Ballynure Presbyterian from 1859 to 1865 before emigrating to Australia.



At the outbreak of World War One on 15th August 1914, Sir James McCay was appointed to command the 2nd Infantry Brigade, Australian Imperial Force and was sent to the offensive in Gallipoli. It is reported that his brigade had made 'the only worthwhile advance in the entire second battle of Krithia', but suffered more than 1000 casualties. In May 1915, McCay had his leg broken by a bullet and was the victim of unjust blame for the attack which was not his responsibility.

A politician and soldier of note, Sir James was later appointed to the 5th Division, Australian Imperial Force and took command on 22nd March 1916. He led them in the Battle of Fromelles, near Lille in France, as part of the British Expeditionary Force, on 19th and 20th July 1916. Such were the casualties, totalling some 5,533 Australian losses, that this subsidiary battle at the Somme was dubbed by many as 'the worst 24 hours in Australia's entire history.' His failures in difficult military operations made him a controversial figure who earned the disfavour of his superiors, while his efforts to succeed in the face of insurmountable difficulties earned him the hatred of the troops under his command, who blamed him for the high number of casualties.

After the war, McCay resumed his old job as Deputy Chairman of the State Bank of Victoria and also served on a panel that deliberated on the future structure of the Army. You can read about the life of Sir James Whiteside McCay on many Australian websites.

The World War One Roll of Honour in Ballynure

The photo below shows the actual War Memorial erected by Members of Ballynure Presbyterian Church.

The rest of the book includes information about all of these men gathered from a variety of sources.



The War Memorial Names in their original order

The eight men who made the supreme sacrifice were:

Lieutenant Allan John McClellan	Royal Irish Rifles
Rifleman James Davidson	Royal Irish Rifles
Private Robert Moore	Highland Light Infantry
Rifleman Andrew Adrain	Royal Irish Rifles
Rifleman John Hill	Royal Irish Rifles
Private William Elliott	Canadians
Rifleman Robert John Laird	Royal Irish Rifles
Private James Thompson McClintock	Canadians

The other forty seven men who also served were:

Major Robert McCreary MC	Royal Engineers
Captain William Boyle Hill Dundee	Royal Army Medical Corps
Captain Verus Calvin Montgomery	Royal Army Medical Corps
Captain Robert Woodside	Royal Army Medical Corps
Lieutenant Eldred Merwin Montgomery	Indian Army Guides
Lieutenant Peter McClellan	Royal Navy
Lieutenant Watson McClellan	Canadians
2nd Lieutenant Samuel Fulton McCreary	Cavalry Reserve
Sgt Major Thomas Alexander Robinson	Canadians
Sergeant Alexander McConkey	Canadians
Sergeant Samuel McConkey	Royal Irish Rifles
Sergeant James McFerran MM, MSM	Royal Irish Rifles
Lance-Corporal William Geary	Royal Irish Rifles
Lance-Corporal Matthew George McConkey	Royal Irish Rifles
Lance-Corporal William Andrew Patton	Royal Irish Fusiliers
Private William Adrain	Canadians

Gunner John Auld	Royal Field Artillery
Rifleman John Scott Adair	Scottish Rifles
Rifleman William Burnim	Royal Irish Rifles
Private Robert Cameron	Labour Corps
Rifleman Samuel Cameron	Royal Irish Rifles
Trooper Samuel Crooks	New Zealand Forces
Artificer Thomas Henderson Gamble	Royal Navy
Rifleman John Thomas Gettinby	Royal Irish Rifles
Rifleman Thomas Gyle	Royal Irish Rifles
Rifleman William Hawthorn	Royal Irish Rifles
Driver James Henderson	Royal Engineers
Stoker Robert Hetherington	Royal Navy
Private Matthew George Hill	Australian Forces
Rifleman Alexander Hutchinson	Royal Irish Rifles
Rifleman John Hutchinson	Royal Irish Rifles
Gunner Thomas Jackson	United States Army
Engineer John Jenkins	H M Transports
Private William Jenkins	Canadians
Trooper Andrew Millar	North Irish Horse
Seaman Hector Montgomery	Royal Navy
Rifleman James McIlroy	New Zealand Forces
Private David McWilliam	Gordon Highlanders
Trooper James Shaw Park	Australian Forces
Rifleman Robert John Robinson	Royal Irish Rifles
Rifleman Robert John Shannon	Royal Irish Rifles
Rifleman Thomas Shannon	Royal Irish Rifles
Rifleman John Sherrard	Royal Irish Rifles
Rifleman Joseph Higginson Stewart	Royal Irish Rifles
Rifleman Thomas John Stewart	Royal Irish Rifles
Rifleman James Turner	Royal Irish Rifles
Private Richard Park	Army Service Corps

The War Memorial Names in alphabetical order

All the names are included here with as much information about each as was available to me. In some cases, details such as battalions and dates of birth are missing because it was impossible to find them out.

Name: **John Scott Adair**
Rank: Rifleman
Place of Birth: Headwood, Larne
Regiment: Scottish Rifles (Cameronians)
Battalion: 1st Battalion
Outcome of War: Survived

Name: **Andrew Adrain**
Rank: Rifleman
Date of Birth: 5/9/1896
Place of Birth: Ballynure
Parents' names: Andrew Adrain and
Isabella Noble
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles



Battalion: C Company, 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
War number: 17128

Outcome of War: Andrew was killed at the battle of St Quentin, referred to by some as the 2nd battle of the Somme to counteract the German Spring Offensive.

He was reported missing in action on 23/3/1918 and presumed dead on 25/3/1918.

He is remembered with honour on the Poziere's Memorial (Panel 74), north east of the town of Albert in France. See photo on the next page.

Andrew's brother William also fought in the war.

In Memory of
Rifleman

Andrew Adrain

17128, 12th Bn., Royal Irish Rifles who died on 25 March 1918

Remembered with Honour
Pozieres Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Name: **William Adrain**
 Rank: Private
 Date of Birth: 12/2/1898 (14/4/1898 in Ballynure Pres. records)
 Place of Birth: Ballynure
 Parents' names: Andrew Adrain and Isabella Noble
 Occupation: Farmer
 Regiment: Canadians
 Battalion: 128th Moose Jaw Overseas Battalion
 War number: 482199
 Outcome of War: Survived

William, who was single, lived in the town of Ponteix in south-western Saskatchewan after he emigrated to Canada. Just over 18 years old, 5'8" tall, with blue eyes he joined up in Moose Jaw on 6th March 1916.

William's Attestation Paper is shown below. An 'Attestation Paper' was an agreement to be in the Army and to be loyal to it.

8.E.
23-3-16.

Suppliate

ATTESTATION PAPER.

No. *482199*

Folio.

CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.
(ANSWERS)

1. What is your surname?..... Adrain

1a. What are your Christian names?..... William

1b. What is your present address?..... Ponteix Sask

2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born?..... Ballynure Co Antrim Ireland

3. What is the name of your next-of-kin?..... Andrew Adrain

4. What is the address of your next-of-kin?..... Ballynure Co Antrim Ireland

4a. What is the relationship of your next-of-kin?..... Father

5. What is the date of your birth?..... Febry 12th 1898

6. What is your Trade or Calling?..... Farmer

7. Are you married?..... No

8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated and inoculated?..... Yes

9. Do you now belong to the Active Militia?..... No

10. Have you ever served in any Military Force?..... No
If so, state particulars of former Service.

11. Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement?..... Yes

12. Are you willing to be attested to serve in the } Yes
CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE? }

Name: **John Auld**
 Rank: Gunner
 Date of Birth: 6/12/1889
 Place of Birth: Ballybracken, Ballynure
 Parents' names: John Auld and
 Matilda Ternahan
 Occupation: Farmer
 Regiment: Royal Field Artillery
 Battalion: 30th Siege battery attached to the Guards Division
 Outcome of War: Survived



John served in the British Army on the Rhine after the war.
 He married and had four children.

Name: **William Burnim**
 Rank: Rifleman
 Date of Birth: 1895
 Place of Birth: Ballyboley, Ballynure
 Parents' names: Lived with his grandparents
 William and Jane Burnim
 Occupation: Labourer
 Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
 Battalion: 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
 War number: 17343



Outcome of War: William survived the war even though he was wounded in action twice.

William's brother Charles served with the 1st Battalion Royal Irish Rifles. His name is not recorded on the Ballynure Presbyterian War Memorial.

(Many War records were destroyed in a fire ... this is one of them which belonged to William.)



Name: **Robert Cameron**
Rank: Private
Place of Birth: Ballyboley, Ballynure
Regiment: Labour Corps
Battalion: Royal Irish Rifles, 12th Battalion, Central Antrim
Volunteers and then transferred to the Labour
Corps, presumably after he was wounded.
War number: 5141
Outcome of War: Survived
Robert was wounded at the Battle of the Somme.

His brother Samuel (next entry) also fought in the war.

Name: **Samuel Cameron**
Rank: Rifleman
Date of Birth: 1896
Place of Birth: Straid, Ballyclare
Occupation: Straid Mines
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: 18th Battalion
War number: 2251
Outcome of War: Survived
Samuel was wounded and gassed in 1917 at the battle of Cambrai.

Name: **Samuel Crooks**
Rank: Trooper
Date of Birth: 17/9/1871 (family records show
9/7/1871)
Place of Birth: Ballygowan, Ballynure
Parents' Names: Andrew Crooks and Hannah McDowell
Occupation: Factory Hand
Regiment: NZ Forces
Battalion: New Zealand Rifle Corps
War number: 17130
Outcome of War: Survived and returned from war on 28th Aug 1917.



According to the family, he may have originally emigrated to New Zealand after the death of his first wife, Jane McCammond (d.1914), and who is buried in Raloo.

In New Zealand, Samuel married Hilda Evelyn Richardson (b23/1/1889) on 28th June 1916. They lived in Vanguard Street, Nelson, New Zealand and had one step-son, Ivor Hugh Trevelleyan Harling Richardson.



Samuel and Hilda Evelyn had nine other children: Evelyn Hannah (b25/1/1917); Eric Victor (b14/2/1919); Melvyn Stanley (b1/9/1920); Harold Nelson (b12/4/1922); Annie Doreen (b24/10/1923); Vernon Samuel (b9/8/1926); Allan Edward (b9/6/1929); John Kelvin (b14/1/1933) and Margaret Aileen (b13/3/1938).

Samuel died on 23rd October 1944 and Hilda Evelyn died on 14th March 1973.

Reinforcement: 15 **HISTORY-SHEET.** [E.F. Form No. 3A.]

Regt.	Rank.	Surname.	Christian Name.	No.
<i>N.Z.C E. Coy</i>	<i>Pte</i>	<i>Brooks</i>	<i>Samuel</i>	<i>17130</i>
Occupation: <i>Factory Hand</i>		Religion: <i>C of Christ</i>	Last New Zealand address: <i>12 Vanguard St Nelson</i>	
Last employer: <i>Kirkpatrick & Co. Nelson</i>				

Regiment or Corps.	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Rank.	Date.	Authority for Ex't.
<i>E. Coy 15th</i>	<i>Posted for</i>	<i>Pte</i>	<i>3.4.16</i>	<i>R.O. 482</i>
<i>N.Z. WC</i>	<i>transfer to</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>21.5.16</i>	<i>" 232 (Head)</i>
<i>L.F.O.</i>	<i>granted</i>		<i>20.5.17</i>	<i>R.O.</i>

PARTICULARS OF MARRIAGE.

Wife's Maiden Name (in full).	Place of Marriage.	Date.	Officiating Clergyman or Registrar.
<i>Hilda Evelyn Richardson</i>	<i>Nelson</i>	<i>June 28th 1916</i>	<i>R. A. Dickson</i>

PARTICULARS OF CHILDREN.

Christian Names.	Date of Birth and Age.	Where born.	Where registered.
<i>Ivor Hugh Trevelleyan Harling Richardson (Step Son)</i>	<i>21st June 1911</i>	<i>Vanguard St Nelson</i>	<i>Nelson</i>

Name: **James Davidson**
Rank: Rifleman
Date of Birth: 1895 or 1896
Place of Birth: Headwood, Larne
Parents' names: John and Mary Davidson
Occupation: Labourer
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: C Company, 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
War number: 4856
Outcome of War: James (see below) was killed in action at the Battle of the Somme 1st July 1916. His grave is in Ancre British Cemetery, (Grave VI D 29) Beaumont Hamel, where he is remembered with honour.



Richard Wallace leaves a cross at the graveside, 1st July 2014

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT
GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

COMMUNE: BEAUMONT HAMEL. REPORT NO: 4. SCHEDULE NO: 110/c.
Rev.

PLACE OF BURIAL: ANCRE BRITISH CEMETERY BEAUMONT HAMEL.

Land belongs to Map Reference:- 57d.Q.18.c.0.2.

The following are buried here:-

Regiment.	No.	Name.	Rank and Initials.	Date of Death.	Cross Erected or des-patched.	Plot Row & Grave.
<u>PLOT VI, ROW "D"</u>						
12/R.I.Rfs.	4856	DAVISON, ✓	Pte. J.	1.7.16.		29.
		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER.				30.
		-do-			ALL	31.
		-do-				32.
		-do-				33.
13/Rifle Bde.	P/4096	FENNYMORE,	Pte. A.	14.11.16		34.
		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER.				35.
R.B.		-do-				36.
1/R/Berks.	8800	WHITE,	1/Sgt. W.	14-11-16	Ryhs 743. Crosses	37.
		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER.				38.
		-do-				39.
		-do-				40.
		-do-			E.	41.
4/Beds.	25196	JOAD, ✓	Pte. H. D.	28.1.17	E.	42.
-do-		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER.			E.	43.
-do-		-do-			E.	44.
-do-		-do-				45.

ENTERED
139524
16/27.0.24
CHECKED

In Memory of
Rifleman

J Davidson

4856, 12th Bn., Royal Irish Rifles
who died on 01 July 1916

Remembered with Honour
Ancre British Cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Name: **William Boyle Hill Dundee**
Rank: Captain
Date of Birth: 1/4/1888
Place of Birth: Kilcoan, Islandmagee
Parents' names: Dr Charles Dundee JP and Annie Jane Hill
Occupation: Doctor
Regiment: Royal Army Medical Corps
Outcome of War: Survived

Name: **William James Elliott**
Rank: Private
Date of Birth: 1/3/1878
Place of Birth: Kilwaughter, Larne
Parents' names: John and Maria Elliott
Occupation: Carpenter
Regiment: Canadian Infantry
Battalion: 46th Battalion, South Saskatchewan Regiment
War number: 136257

Outcome of War: William, the only son of John and Maria Elliott, died of wounds on 23/10/17 most likely at the Battle of Passchendaele. His regiment was named the suicide battalion because of its high incidence of casualties (91.5%).

He is remembered with honour in Oxford Road Cemetery (1F8), near Ypres in Belgium.



Richard Wallace leaves a cross at the graveside, 30th June 2014

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT.

Army Form W. 3372.

GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

D. A. D. & E. Central Sub-District. NO. 5. District.

REPORT No. 171

SCHEDULE No. 4/C.

COMMUNE: YPRES.

PLACE OF BURIAL OXFORD ROAD BRITISH CEMETERY.

Map Reference Sheet 28.C.28.b.1.2.

-7 SEP 1920
RECEIVED

The following are buried here:—

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or G. R. U'd.	Plot, Row and Grave
<u>PLOT 1. ROW "E" (Continued.)</u>						
147/M.G.C.	267654	SMITH	Sgt. A.	7.10.17	E	8 ✓
1/5 W. Ridings	242805	ACKROYD	Pte. C.	8.10.17	E	9 ✓
C.108/Edc. R.F.A.	82617	ALDERSON	Dvr. J. H.	7.10.17	E	10 ✓
<u>ROW "F".</u>						
49/Cdn. Bn.	+105032	DAVIDSON	Pte. G.	24.10.17	E	1 ✓
-do-	832217	RILEY	Pte. W.	" "	E	2 ✓
-do-	161142	LOWE	Pte. A.	" "	E	3 ✓
58/Cdn. Bn.		EWENS	LT. G. A.	22.10.17	G. R. U.	4 ✓
R. C. R.	401045	DUNCAN	Sgt. R. A.	24.10.17	E	5 ✓
7/Cdn. M. G. C.	905092	SIBBALD	Pte. J. L.	" "	G. R. U. <i>22/100</i>	6 ✓
R. G. A.	126064	ELDRIDGE	Gnr. E. W.	" "	G. R. U.	7 ✓
6/Cdn. Bn.	<i>136257</i> 156254	ELLIOTT	Pte. W.	23-10-17	E	8 ✓ <i>70/14986</i>
1/Cdn. Lab. Bn.	198126	MC. KAY	Pte. D.	24.10.17	G. R. U.	9 ✓
		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER			E	10 ✓
Essex Yeomanry	19343	NEWTON	Pte. A.	24.10.17	E	11 ✓

(6-31 5) W3160-12723-10,000-0719 HWV P1021/10/28/W3372.3

CLIPS CHECKE

15.9.20
Aug 20

Triplicate 136257

ATTESTATION PAPER. TRIPPLICATE
74th U.S. BATTALION C.E.F. Folio.
CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.

(ANSWERS.)

1. What is your name?..... **William Elliott**.....
2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born?..... **Larne, Antrim, Ireland,**.....
3. What is the name of your next-of-kin?..... **Father - John Elliott**.....
4. What is the address of your next-of-kin?..... **Larne, Antrim, Ireland,**.....
5. What is the date of your birth?..... **March 1st, 1876**.....
6. What is your Trade or Calling?..... **Carpenter**.....

In Memory of

Private

W Elliott

136257, 46th Bn., Canadian Infantry
who died on 23 October 1917 Age 49

Son of the late John and Maria Elliott, of Headwood, Kilwaughter, Larne, Co. Antrim.

Remembered with Honour

Oxford Road Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Name: **Thomas Henderson Gamble**
Rank: Artificer
Date of Birth: 12/8/1888
Place of Birth: Straid, Ballyclare
Parents' names: William Hilditch Gamble and Maggie Johnston
Occupation: Worked in Harland and Wolff possibly on the Titanic; joined Royal Navy in January 1912
Regiment: Royal Navy
War number: M3809
Outcome of War: Survived

Thomas (seated) served as an engineer in the Royal Navy and in 1917 was chief engineer in submarine E-31. Although he was not yet part of her crew in 1916, the E-31 had the distinction of being the only submarine to have shot down a German Zeppelin. Thomas participated in the raid on the German submarine base at Zeebrugge, Belgium in April, 1918. Following the war, he served on a variety of ships before retiring from the Navy in 1934 with the rank of CERA (Chief Engine Room Artificer).



Tom is seated in the picture above and is circled in the third row, third from right in the picture of the crew of the E-31 in 1917



In April 1915, Tom married Kathleen Dorothy Dyke. They had three children: Alec William Henderson Gamble (1920), Patricia M Gamble (1922), and Sheila Eileen Gamble (1926). Only Alec survived to adulthood. Patricia caught whooping cough and died at 3 years old. While Sheila was on her way to school she was struck by a hit-and-run driver. She died at Medway Hospital, Gillingham, Kent, only 7 years old. Tom Gamble died in 1977 at the home of his son, Alec, in Somerset, England.

Name: **William Geary**
 Rank: Lance Corporal
 Place of Birth: Ballyboley, Ballynure
 Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
 Battalion: 3rd Batallion
 War number: 29702
 Outcome of War: Survived, although he was taken as a Prisoner of War.

Name: **Thomas John Gettinby**
 Rank: Rifleman
 Place of Birth: Lismenary, Ballynure
 Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
 Battalion: 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
 War number: 2295
 Outcome of War: Survived

This is a copy of Thomas John Gettinby's service card.

Name	Corps.	Rank	Regt. No.
GETTINBY	R. Ir Rif	Pte	17/2295 7006082
Thomas J.			
Medical	Roll	Page	Remarks
Vaccines	B/101+BS	617	
Barrack	do		
Scab			
BS111a	BS11/RUR/13	H6	1 Cloak Tray

Name: **Thomas Gyle**
 Rank: Rifleman
 Place of Birth: Ballynure
 Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
 Battalion: 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
 War number: 24707
 Outcome of War: Survived

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
GYLE T. W.	R. IR. Rif - - - -	Plt	24707 7006977
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY			
BRITISH			
STAR			
B5 Med	B5M/R.I.R. Rif/4	93	Clasp Iraq 02/13/1561
Year of War first served in			
Year of entry therein			

Name: **William Hall Hawthorn**
 Rank: Rifleman
 Date of Birth: 2/5/1889
 Place of Birth: Ballycorr, Ballynure
 Parents' names: Samuel Hawthorn and Ellen Saunderson
 Occupation: Flax Scutcher
 Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
 Battalion: 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
 Outcome of War: Survived

Name: **James Henderson**
Rank: Driver/Sapper
Date of Birth: 1896
Place of Birth: Old Larne Road, (Little Ballymena), Ballynure
Parents' names: David Henderson and Isabella Stewart
Occupation: Farm Labourer
Regiment: Royal Engineers
Battalion: 121st Field Company
War number: 64691
Outcome of War: Survived

Name: **Robert Hetherington**
Rank: Marine/Stoker
Date of Birth: 1875 or 1876
Place of Birth: Dunturkey (Little Ballymena), Ballynure
Mother's name: Jane Hetherington
Occupation: Bauxite Miner
Regiment: Royal Navy
Battalion: Royal Marines Light Infantry (Plymouth Division)
War number: K54784
Outcome of War: Survived

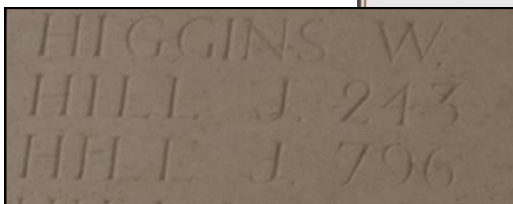
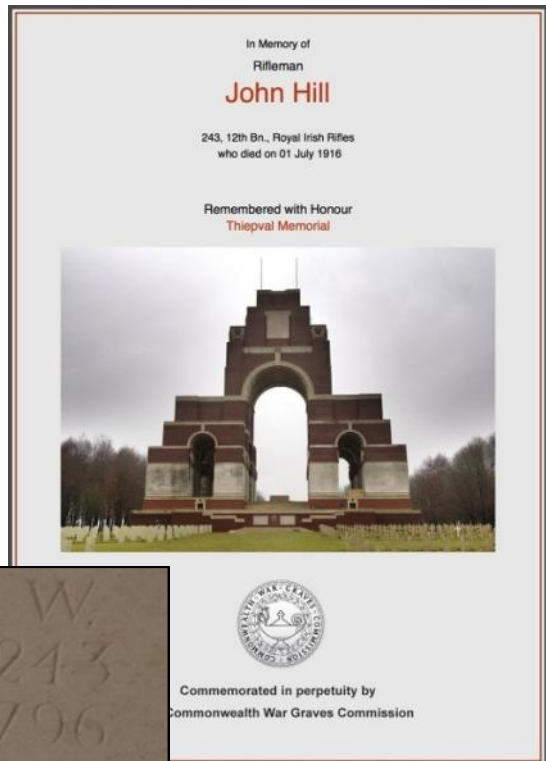
This photo shows typical medals awarded to those who served in and survived the war. These belonged to my grandfather, Sgt Richard Henry Thompson



Name: **John Hill**
Rank: Rifleman
Date of Birth: 12/12/1891
Place of Birth: Skilganaban, Ballynure
Parents' names: Henry Hill and Lizzie Barbour
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: C Company, 12th Battalion,
Central Antrim Volunteers
War number: 243



Outcome of War: John was killed in action at the Battle of the Somme on 1st July 1916 and is remembered on Panel 15A on the Thiepval Memorial as one of the 72,104 men who died in that area of France and for whom there is no known grave. John had been married before he left to serve in the war and left two small children, William and Agnes.



Name: **Matthew George Hill**

Rank: Gunner

Date of Birth: 10/9/1892

Place of Birth: Castletown, Ballynure

Parents' names: Thomas Hill and
Annie Eliza McNair

Occupation: Farm hand

Regiment: Australian Forces

Battalion: 5th company, 15th Battery,
Field Artillery Brigade

War number: 7589

Outcome of War: Survived

Matthew George left London on 17th February 1910 with his brother Thomas. They took a ship called the SS Otway (which, incidentally, was blown up by the Germans during WW1) and landed in Sydney, some 43 days later. Two of his other brothers had gone to Australia almost exactly 1 year previously. He joined up in Liverpool, New South Wales on 12th August 1915 and landed in Marseilles on 25th March 1916. He was wounded in battle on the left thigh on 16th April 1917 and was taken on the following day to Grayingwell War Hospital in England. He returned to battle in France in August 1917 and fought there until he returned to England on leave in October 1918.

Matthew George Hill was finally discharged from the Army on 4th August 1919 in Australia where he lived for the rest of his life as a bachelor. He died, aged 96, on 27th August 1989 at a home for old soldiers and was buried in Australia. The photo on the left below shows the medals to which he was entitled while George is pictured at his home in Australia.



Name: **Alexander Hutchinson**
Rank: Rifleman
Place of Birth: Dairyland, Straid, Ballyclare
Parents' names: Possibly John Hutchinson and Eliza Jane Wilson
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: 17th Battalion
War number: 1486
Outcome of War: Survived
Alexander and John (below) were brothers.

Name: **John Hutchinson**
Rank: Rifleman
Place of Birth: Dairyland, Straid, Ballyclare
Parents' names: Possibly John and Eliza Jane Hutchinson
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: C Company, 12th Battalion,
Central Antrim Volunteers
War number: 633
Outcome of War: Survived
John was wounded in action.

Name: **Thomas Percy Jackson**
Rank: Gunner
Date of Birth: 23/9/1887
Place of Birth: Skilganaban, Ballynure
Parents' names: James Jackson and Agnes Harvey
Regiment: U S Army: Artillery
War number: 253
Outcome of War: Survived

Name: **John Jenkins**
 Rank: Engineer
 Place of Birth: Dunturkey, Ballynure
 Regiment: Royal Navy
 Battalion: His Majesty's Transports
 Outcome of War: Survived

Name: **William Jenkins**
 Rank: Private
 Date of Birth: 21/8/1889
 Place of Birth: Ardboley, Ballyclare
 Mother's name: Margaret Jenkins
 Occupation: Foreman: Seed Store
 Regiment: Canadians
 Battalion: Quebec Regiment
 War number: 3057753
 Outcome of War: William survived but was wounded in action at Vimy Ridge on Easter Monday, 9th April 1917.

PARTICULARS OF RECRUIT	
DRAFTED UNDER MILITARY SERVICE ACT, 1917	
(Class <u>1</u>)	
1. Surname	Jenkins
2. Christian name	William
3. Present address	Lindsay, Ont. Box 583
4. Military Service Act letter and number	PC952763
5. Date of birth	21st. August 1889
6. Place of birth	Belfast Ireland.
7. Married, widower or single	Single
8. Religion	Presbyterian
9. Trade or calling	Foreman, seed store.
10. Name of next-of-kin	Mrs. Margaret Jenkins, c/o Mr. Thos. Wilson
11. Relationship of next-of-kin	Mother
12. Address of next-of-kin	Meadow Street, Belfast, Cty. Antrim, Ireland.
13. Whether at present a member of the Active Militia	No.
14. Particulars of previous military or naval service, if any	Nil
15. Medical Examination under Military Service Act	Lindsay, Ont. 9th. Nov.

Name: **Robert John Laird**
Rank: Rifleman
Date of Birth: 22/7/1878
Place of Birth: Ballyboley, Ballynure
Mother's name: Agnes Laird, a single mother
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
War number: 18064
Outcome of War: Robert was killed in action on 7/6/1917 at the Battle of Messines and is buried in Lone Tree Cemetery, 8.5km south of Ypres, Belgium. Grave 1B9



Richard Wallace leaves a cross at the graveside, 30th June 2014

A corner of some foreign field.....the beautiful Lone Tree Cemetery



'Across the road from the Spanbroekmolen crater, a concrete path by a farm leads past a duck pond to the small Lone Tree Cemetery. Eighty-eight white stones stand on the closely-mown grass. With a tall white cross standing several metres above the ground. There is a bronze sword on the cross.

The gravestones do not give much. The names, the unit, the day on which they were killed, and the age. They were nearly all from the Royal Ulster Rifles, a battalion of the 36th Ulster Division. The same date, 7 June 1917, is engraved on each stone. Some of the men were actually killed by the explosion of the Spanbroekmolen mine (which was blown around 15 seconds later than planned) as they advanced.

It's a green oasis in the middle of the West-Flemish scenery. The views to the south and east from this cemetery are stunning, and bring home the massive advantage of the Germans whilst they held this high ground. Again, Mount Kemmel can be seen, and also several churches including that of Wulvergehem to the south.'



Another report records 'It is said that the underground explosion tinkled the crystal chandeliers in Buckingham Palace in London. In Lille, some tens of kilometres behind the front, the series of explosions caused panic. The earth leapt to the skies, the morning of the Big Bang, 7 June 1917. What came out of the higher ground situated south of Ypres, was an inferno of stone, steel and above all, mud. The unsuspecting Germans, for years lords and masters of the strategically situated Messines Ridge, were pulverised in one mighty thunderclap.

Observers on the Allied side could scarcely believe their eyes. One of the British tunnelers said, "The earth seemed to open and rise into the air. Flames shot upwards, everywhere was dust and smoke. And everything that went up eventually fell back to earth."

Momentarily the forward troops stood rooted to the ground. "None of us" said one later on, "had ever seen anything like it. It was a mass of fire. The whole world seemed to explode."

The next moment, the whole front, static since November 1914, burst in movement. The men of the 36th Ulster Division stormed out of their trenches. This was a tableau they had so often performed in the previous three years during the First World War, since the first day, when the Germans invaded France and Belgium, until the summer of 1917, the eve of the Third Battle of Ypres. A throng of young fellows, many not yet 20 years old and many with a family, fired, like politicians and commanders, with the conviction that one decisive trick might bring the Great War to an end.

When the Irishmen conquered the Messines Ridge, they gained an outstanding advantage. The Ulstermen went forwards, in the direction of Spanbroekmolen, a short distance beyond. On the left flank the 16th Irish Division was also moving up. It was about 3 a.m. on 7th June and pitch dark. Machine-guns rattled. Although the mines, in total a half million kilograms of explosive, had made the area resemble a moonscape, there were certainly Germans still alive. They fired on the advancing Irish. Many fell wounded or fatally injured.

Some say it was half a minute, others maintain that it happened 15 seconds late, but anyhow fate struck on that moment. One of the underground mines, that near Spanbroekmolen, exploded a bit later than the others. The consequences were horrific. The foremost Irish troops, who at that point had made steady progress, disappeared there and then. Others would be buried under the earth and the debris that came down from the explosion.

One of these soldiers killed by the explosion was Robert John Laird.

GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

D.A.D.G.R. & E.
SOUTH SUB DISTRICT.

REPORT No. 63

NO: 5 DISTRICT.

Serial NO: 1329

COMMUNE SPANROEKMOLEN. *WITSCHAGEN*

PLACE OF BURIAL

LONE TREE CEMETERY. SPANROEKMOLEN.
CERTIFIED CORRECT & COMPLETE.

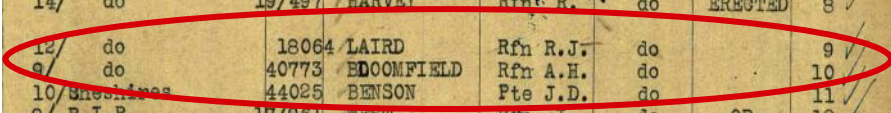
SOUTH SUB-DISTRICT
SCHEDULE No 2228
3/7/20
30 JUL 1920
RE

Map Reference Sheet 28.S.W.N.30.c.2.4.

MAJOR. D.A.D.G.R. & E. SOUTH.
NO: 5 DISTRICT.

The following are buried here —
This report cancels all previous reports.

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or G. R. U'd.	Plot, Row and Grave
<u>PLOT 1.</u>						<u>ROW "A".</u>
B/173 Bde RFA.	25184	UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER		1916		1 ✓
do	22283	PAGE	Sgt H.L.C.	3.7.17.		2 ✓
		MARSH	Gnr W.J.	do	ALL	3 ✓
<u>PLOT 1.</u>						<u>ROW "B".</u>
3/Worcesters		HUDSON	Lt J.E.	7.6.17.		1 ✓
8/R.I.Rifles	13202	McCONNELL	Rfn J.	do		2 ✓
14/R.I.R.	1/41044	BENNETT	Cpl R.	do		3 ✓
8/ do	41532	WHITTINGTON	Rfn R.J.	do	CROSSES	4 ✓
9/ do	17/1167	LYNAS	Rfn J.	do		5 ✓
8/ do	42133	PORTER	Rfn S.	do		6 ✓
9/ do	44370	FANNING	Rfn	do		7 ✓
14/ do	18/497	HARVEY	Rfn H.	do	ERECTED	8 ✓
12/ do	18064	LAIRD	Rfn R.J.	do		9 ✓
9/ do	40773	EDCOMFIELD	Rfn A.H.	do		10 ✓
10/Sussex	44025	BENSON	Pte J.D.	do		11 ✓
8/R.I.R.	17/961	WEST	Rfn I.	do	OR	12 ✓
9/ do Rifles	42011	BEAVER	Rfn E.	do (COAN/LS/8680)		13 ✓
8/ do "	19/140	WATSON	Sgt W.E.T.W.	do (COAN 27629)		14 ✓
8/R.I.R. or 17/L.R.	S/74522	McCULLAGH	W.	do		15 ✓
do do	574531	CORNWELL	H.		G.R.U'd.	16 ✓
9/ R.I.R. Rifles	43527	BIRD 2/10493	Rfn A.T.	4-6-17		17 ✓
81/Lab Co	48037	BROWN	L/Cpl J.E.	5.7.17.		18 ✓
do	48101	CAMPBELL	Pte P.	do		19 ✓
do	48579	SMITH	Pte E.	do		20 ✓



ENTERED. 16.9.20

SLIPS CHECKED. E.S. 2/10/20

Card made Watson # 244.23

In Memory of
Rifleman

R J Laird

18064, 12th Bn., Royal Irish Rifles who died on 07 June 1917 Age 39

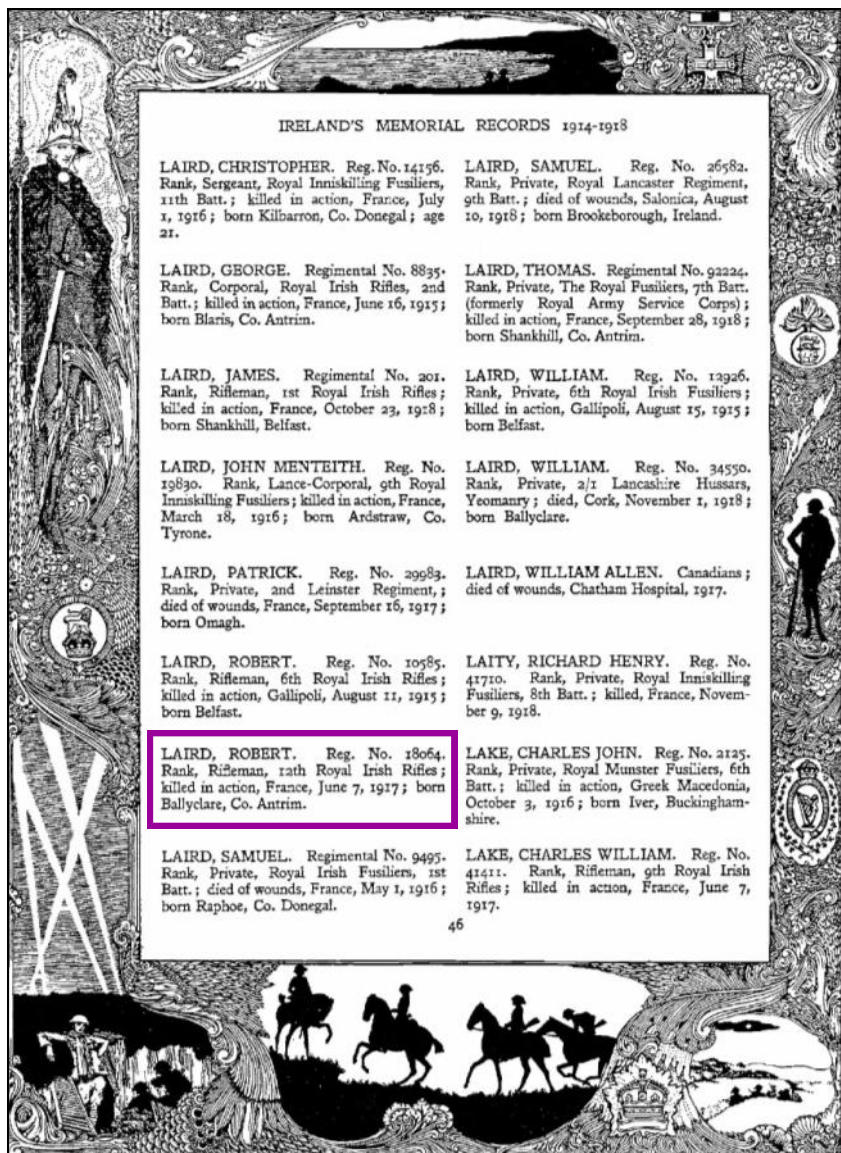
Son of Mrs. Agnes Laird, of Ballyboley, Ballynure, Co. Antrim.

Remembered with Honour
Lone Tree Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

In July 1919, a National War Memorial Trust was established in Dublin to commemorate Ireland's War Dead. In 1923, eight volumes were produced containing some 35,000 names of men and women who had died. This is a typical page from one of these volumes and shows Robert Laird's name. Many copies of these extensive volumes are available for inspection in libraries and churches all over Ireland.



Name: **Allan John McClellan**
Rank: Second Lieutenant
Date of Birth: June 1895
Place of Birth: Oughtboy, Plumbridge, Tyrone
Parents' names: William and Flora McClellan
Occupation: Teacher in Larne Grammar School
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: Initially Sgt 16th Battalion then 18th Battalion (which was attached to 15th Battalion)



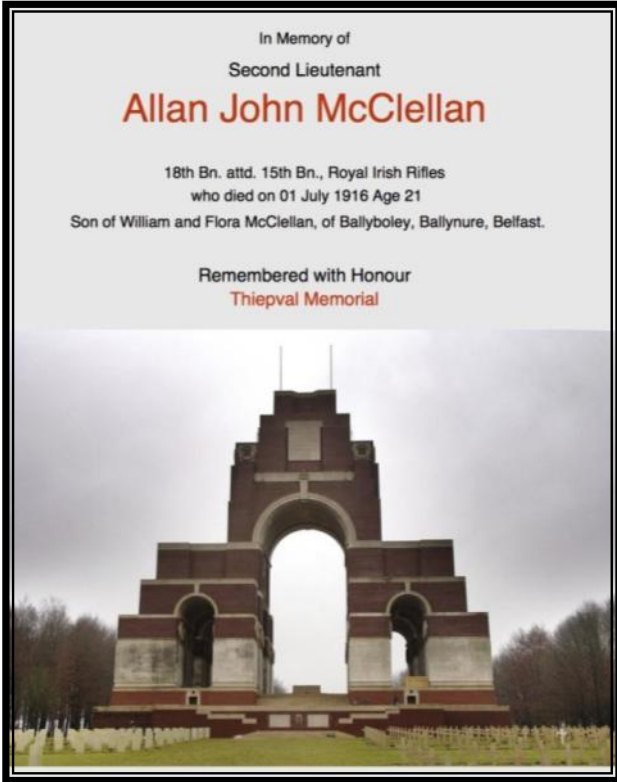
Outcome of War: Allan John McClellan was killed in action at the Battle of the Somme on 1st July 1916. He has no known grave and is remembered with honour on the Thiepval Memorial (Pier 15B), France and on a special tablet in Ballynure Presbyterian Church. This tablet was unveiled by Mr James McQuillan, Headmaster of Larne Grammar School. Allan John's name is also included on his mother's gravestone in Plumbridge.

Allan John is one of three McClellan brothers who went to war.

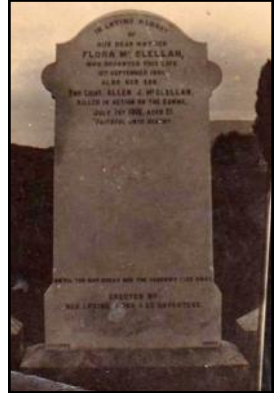
In his memoirs, 'Young Citizen, Old Soldier' (edited by David Truesdale), James McRoberts recalls "other letters came to me from Jean McClellan, Polly McClellan and Meg McRoberts. Jean and Polly were sisters of Allan John McClellan, who was in the same class as me at the Grammar School, Larne, and we often travelled part of the way home on our bicycles. When I went to Queen's University Belfast in 1913, he remained as a master in the Grammar



School. He visited me in Aveluy Wood in June 1916, and, knowing there was to be an advance soon, we undertook to see each other at the Fifth German line but he was killed on 1st July 1916."



Newspaper picture 1916
 and Flora McClellan's
 gravestone (d11/9/1901)



Allan John's name engraved on the
 Thiepval Memorial, panel 15B



Allan John McClellan's War Memorial in Ballynure Presbyterian Church

Another of the pages from Ireland's Memorial Records, this time showing Allan John McClellan.

IRELAND'S MEMORIAL RECORDS 1914-1918

McCLEERY, AUSTIN. Reg. No. 15364. Rank, Rifleman, 14th Royal Irish Rifles; killed in action, France, July 1, 1916; born Belfast.

McCLEERY, JAMES MOORE. Reg. No. 18221. Rank, Sergeant, 13th Royal Irish Rifles; killed in action, France, July 1, 1916; born Killyleagh, Co. Down.

McCLEERY, ROBERT. Reg. No. 8260. Rank, Corporal, 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers; killed in action, France, October 1, 1918; born Shankhill, Belfast.

McCLEERY, SAMUEL. Reg. No. 17692. Rank, Private, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry), 1st Batt., formerly Royal Irish Rifles; died, France, July 19, 1916; born Corcreeny, Co. Down.

McCLEERY, SAMUEL. Reg. No. 19561. Rank, Lance-Corporal, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry), 1st Batt., formerly Royal Irish Rifles; killed in action, France, July 1, 1916; born Shankhill, Co. Antrim.

McCLELLAN, ALLAN JOHN. Rank, 2nd Lieutenant, Royal Irish Rifles, 18th Batt. (attached 15th Batt.); killed in action, July 1, 1916.

McCLELLAN, ALBERT. Rank, 2nd Lieutenant, Highland Light Infantry; died of wounds received in action, April 2, 1917; age 21.

McCLELLAN, ALFRED. Rank, 2nd Lieutenant, Royal Irish Rifles, 5th Batt.; died of wounds, October 13, 1917.

McCLELLAND, ARTHUR. Reg. No. T4/038840. Rank, Driver, Army Service Corps; died from pneumonia, Casualty Clearing Station, France, November 10, 1918; born Shankhill, Co. Antrim.

McCLELLAND, ARTHUR GRIFFITH. Reg. No. 4386. Rank, Lance-Corporal, The London Regiment, 1st Batt.; killed in action, France, October 1, 1916; born Queen's County, Ireland.

McCLELLAND, DANIEL. Reg. No. 23765. Rank, Private, Royal Irish Fusiliers, 7/8th Batt.; killed in action, France, November 20, 1917; born Larne, Co. Antrim.

McCLELLAND, DAVID. Reg. No. 3418. Rank, Private, Royal Irish Regiment, 6th Batt.; died of wounds, France, April 15, 1917; born Limavady, Co. Londonderry.

McCLELLAND, DAVID. Reg. No. 7678. Rank, Rifleman, Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Batt.; died of wounds, France, October 17, 1914; born Belfast.

McCLELLAND, DAVID. Reg. No. 12280. Rank, Warrant Officer, Class II. (Company Sergeant-Major), Royal Irish Regiment, 7th Batt.; died, France, October 30, 1918; born Dublin; decoration, D.C.M.

McCLELLAND, DAVID. Reg. No. 18136. Rank, Rifleman, 12th Royal Irish Rifles; killed in action, France, July 1, 1916; born Ballymoney, Co. Antrim.

McCLELLAND, DAVID. Reg. No. 27925. Rank, Private, 2nd Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers; died of wounds, France, June 6, 1916; born Coleraine, Co. Derry.

Name: **Peter McClellan(d)**
Rank: Lieutenant
Date of Birth: 30/8/1882
Place of Birth: Templecarn, Co Donegal
Parents' names: William and Flora McClellan
Regiment: Royal Navy
Outcome of War: Survived



Peter was second in command of a torpedo boat destroyer in the North Sea at one stage during the war. On occasions the name McClellan appears with an extra 'd'. According to their relatives, there is no known cause for this.

51
Name: *Peter McClellan*
Born: *30 August 1882*
Rank and Seniority prior to Acting Rate: *Lieutenant 4.1.11*
Entered: _____
Acting Rate: *3 April 1914*
Qualifies in Gunnery: *3.4.14 2nd Class*
Command: _____
Qualifies in Torpedoes: *10.12.14 1st Class*
Working-up Certificate: *5 December 1915*
Licenses: _____
Lieutenant: *3 August 1916*
Lieut. Commander: *3 April 1917*

Appointed to	Date of Appointment	Date of Discharge
<i>Scott & Bowman</i>	<i>3.11.13</i>	<i>3.11.13</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>10.6.14</i>	<i>1.12.14</i>
<i>Green & Aldrich</i>	<i>8.14</i>	<i>10.12.14</i>
<i>Green & Aldrich</i>	<i>8.11.15</i>	<i>2.12.17</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>8.11.15</i>	<i>2.12.17</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>19.10.17</i>	<i>2.12.17</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>12.7</i>	<i>12.17</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>8.10</i>	<i>12.17</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>17.11.17</i>	<i>3.10.18.1</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>3.11.18</i>	<i>3.11.18</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>3.11.18</i>	<i>3.11.18</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>21.9.21</i>	<i>2.12.17</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>11.11.21</i>	<i>4.11.21</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>10.11.21</i>	<i>19.8.24</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>20.9.26</i>	<i>1.11.26</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>17.10.19</i>	<i>1.11.26</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>8.11.25</i>	<i>1.11.26</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>5.5.26</i>	<i>26.5.26</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>25.6.26</i>	<i>25.6.26</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>10.9.26</i>	<i>10.9.26</i>
<i>Booth</i>	<i>25.9.26</i>	<i>25.9.26</i>

Placed on Retired List
(A.F.O. 343/26)
of date 23.9.38
Ret. 5/9/38

This detailed account of Peter McClellan(d)'s naval career in his Attestation Paper, gives the names of the 15 ships on which he served from 3rd April 1914 until he was 'placed on the retired list at his own request with the rank of Commander on 23rd March 1927.' At Greenwich College he qualified in Gunnery and Torpedos in 1914.

The remarks make very interesting reading: phrases include 'capable and energetic officer', 'highly commended for promotion', 'specially keen and capable officer in torpedo duties (he gained a 1st Class qualification in this on 17/2/1914), 'thoroughly trustworthy, zealous ... possesses tact in large degrees', 'physically strong and healthy', 'good humoured', 'capable of sound judgement ... gets on well with men'. Even though he had one blip when he was officially 'reprimanded' for 'negligently or, by default, hazarding Wrestler', the final comment by Captain Bingham, of The Victory, sums Peter up, remarking that he was 'zealous and capable ... taken a keen interest in his group ... has tact with a cheerful and engaging personality'.

Name: **Watson McClellan**
 Rank: Lieutenant
 Date of Birth: 4/6/1897
 Place of Birth: Oughtboy, Plumbridge, Tyrone
 Parents' names: William and Flora McClellan
 Occupation: Bank Clerk
 Regiment: Canadians
 Battalion: 196th Western Universities Battalion
 War number: 911024
 Outcome of War: Survived

Watson McClellan, a teller in the Bank of Montreal, was drowned on 7th July 1920 in a tragic accident at Warren's Landing, Lake Winnipeg, Canada when he was on vacation. He got into difficulty while having a swim in the lake and, despite the best efforts of those who eventually pulled him out and worked with him for 3 hours, he died. His body was returned to his uncle, S Watson and he was laid to rest in Ituna, Saskatchewan.

The Oak River Post records "Watson McClellan ... had been in Canada since he was 17 and had entered the employ of the Bank of RNA (now the Bank of Montreal) in 1914. He served about three years overseas in the Canadian Expeditionary Force. During the year he had been in Oak River he gained the respect and friendship of the community through his uprightness and pleasing personality. He took an active interest in religious and community affairs and his genial countenance will be missed from our midst."

Original

ATTESTATION PAPER. No. *91024*
 Fellow.

CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.

1. What is your surname?	<i>McClellan</i>
2. What are your Christian names?	<i>Watson</i>
3. What is your present address?	<i>Seneca, Sask.</i>
4. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born?	<i>Plumbridge, Coy. Tyrone, Ireland</i>
5. What is the name of your next-of-kin?	<i>William McClellan</i>
6. What is the address of your next-of-kin?	<i>Ballyboley, Ballymure, Coy. Antrim, Ireland.</i>
7. What is the relationship of your next-of-kin?	<i>Father</i>
8. What is the date of your birth?	<i>June 4th, 1897</i>
9. What is your Trade or Calling?	<i>Bank Clerk.</i>
10. Are you married?	<i>No</i>
11. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated and inoculated?	<i>Yes</i>
12. Do you now belong to the Active Militia?	<i>No</i>
13. Have you ever served in any Military Force? (If so, state particulars of former Service.)	<i>No</i>
14. Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement?	<i>Yes</i>
15. Are you willing to be attested to serve in the CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE?	<i>Yes</i>

DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.

I, *Watson McClellan*, do solemnly declare that the above are answers made by me to the above questions and that they are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements



Interestingly, in his book, 'Young Citizen, Old Soldier, James McRoberts also records that

"Papa McClellan was very much a Scot and in charge of Ballyboley Hill; their mother was dead. I had some fine holidays there, tramping the moors all morning, where there were two thousand sheep to inspect and lots of hares to shoot.

Both girls were slightly older than I and, while Jean was always at home, Polly was working in Scotland most of the time."

The cottage in which they lived is still standing at the entrance to the car park in Ballyboley Forest.



William (Papa) McClellan

Name: **James Thompson McClintock**
 Rank: Private
 Date of Birth: 18/1/1878
 Place of Birth: Ballyboley, Ballynure
 Parents' names: John McClintock and
 Mary McCrea
 Occupation: Labourer
 Regiment: Canadians
 Battalion: No 2 Company,
 Machine Gun Corps
 War number: 174339



Outcome of War: James Thompson McClintock was killed in action 17/11/1917 at the Battle of Passchendaele. He was survived by his wife Isabella and is remembered with honour on The Menin Gate (panel 32) in Ypres, Belgium, along with some 54,338 soldiers for whom there is no known grave.

174339

TRIPPLICATE

ATTESTATION PAPER. No. 174339

8th MACHINE GUN BATTALION Folio.

CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.

ANSWERS.

1. What is your name? McClintock, James
2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born? Co. Antrim, Ireland,
3. What is the name of your next-of-kin? McClintock, Isabella
4. What is the address of your next-of-kin? 55 Britannia Ave. Hamilton,
5. What is the date of your birth? 18th January, 1878
6. What is your Trade or Calling? Laborer
7. Are you married? Yes
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? Yes
9. Do you now belong to the Active Militia? Yes
10. Have you ever served in any Military Force? No
11. Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement? Yes
12. Are you willing to be attested to serve in the CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE? Yes

James Thompson McClintock (Signature of Man).
 Isabella McClintock (Signature of Witness).

In Memory of

Private

James McClintock

174339, No. 2 Coy., Canadian Machine Gun Corps
who died on 17 November 1917 Age 40

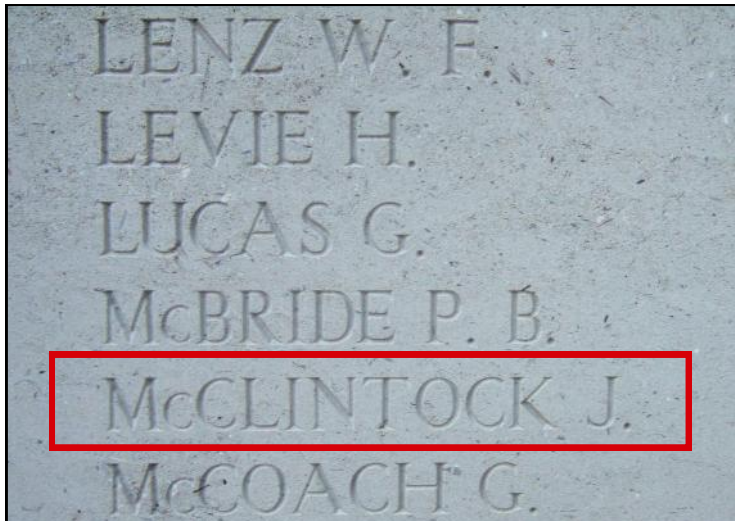
Son of John and Mary McClintock; husband of Isabella McClintock.

Remembered with Honour

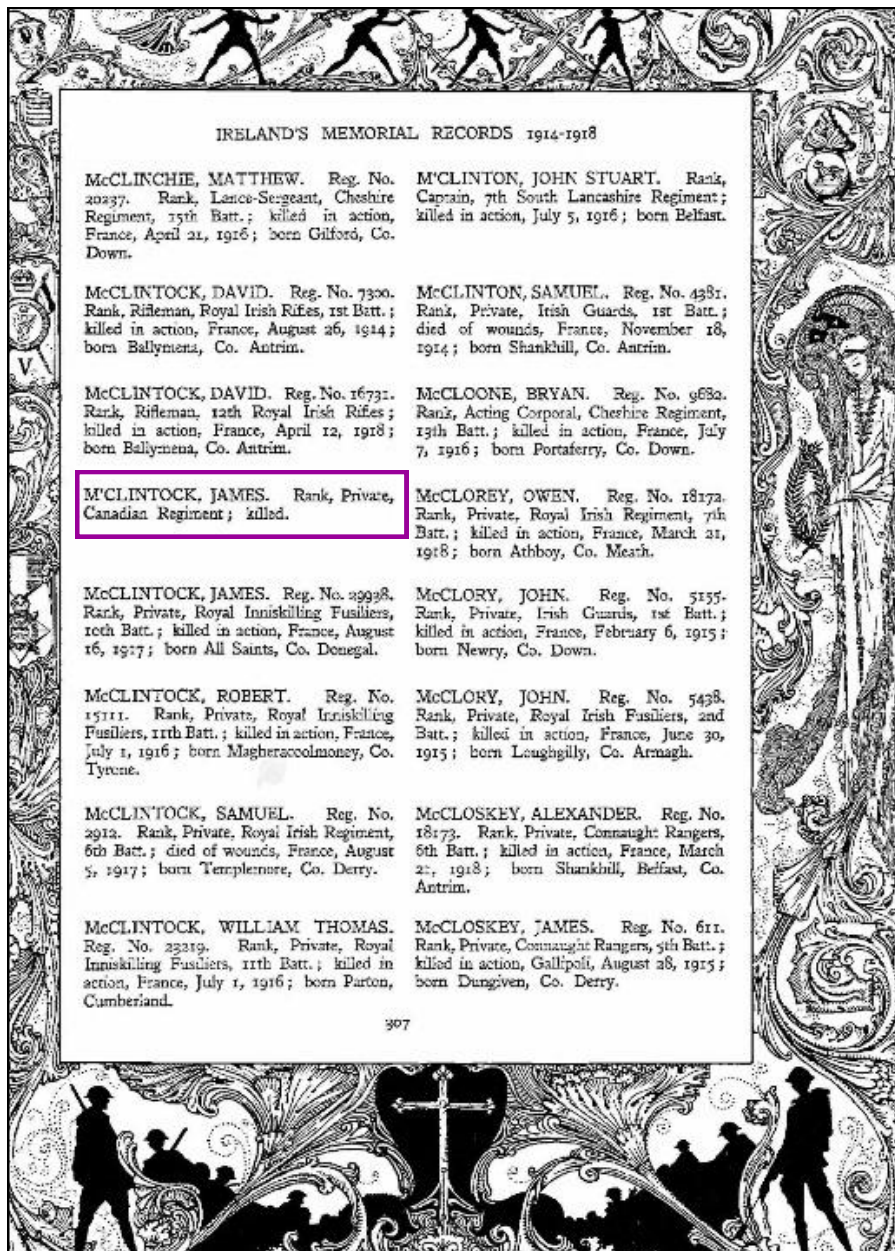
Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Another of the pages from Ireland's Memorial Records, this time showing James Thompson McClintock.



Name: **Alexander McConkey**
 Rank: Sergeant
 Date of Birth: 5/12/1885
 Place of Birth: Ballygowan, Ballynure
 Parents' names: Samuel McConkey and Jenny Mackey
 Occupation: Bricklayer
 Regiment: Canadians
 Battalion: 166th Overseas Battalion
 War number: 669864
 Outcome of War: Survived

Alexander had served with the 10th R G Militia before the war. His brother, Samuel, (over) also fought in the war.

Q. O. R., 166th O/S Batt., C. E. F.		Original
ATTESTATION PAPER.		No. 669864
166th Battalion.		Folio.
CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.		
QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.		
(ANSWERS)		
1. What is your surname?	McConkey	
1a. What are your Christian names?	Alexander	
1b. What is your present address?	714 Bloor Street West, Toronto.	
2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born?	Antrim, Ireland.	
3. What is the name of your next-of-kin?	Samuel McConkey	
4. What is the address of your next-of-kin?	Ballygowan, Ballynure, Co. Antrim, Ireland.	
4a. What is the relationship of your next-of-kin?	Father	
5. What is the date of your birth?	December 5th, 1885.	
6. What is your Trade or Calling?	Bricklayer	
7. Are you married?	Single	
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated and inoculated?	Yes	
9. Do you now belong to the Active Militia?	No	
10. Have you ever served in any Military Force? <small>(See, para particulars at former Service.)</small>	Yes. Canadian Militia, 3 yrs. (10th R.G.)	
11. Do you understand the nature and terms of your enlistment?	Yes	

Name: **Matthew George McConkey**
Rank: Lance-Corporal
Date of Birth: 12/3/1887
Place of Birth: Ballygowan, Ballynure
Parents' names: George McConkey and Maggie Hill
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
War number: 16704
Outcome of War: Survived

Name: **Samuel McConkey**
Rank: Sergeant
Date of Birth: 29/11/1895
Place of Birth: Ballygowan, Ballynure
Parents' names: Samuel McConkey and Jenny Mackey
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
War number: 12/6104
Outcome of War: Survived



In October 1916, a committee was established to oversee the design and production of a commemorative memorial plaque for the next of kin of men and women whose deaths were attributed to war. In addition to the plaque, or 'Dead Man's Penny' as it became known, the relatives received a brief letter from King George V. This particular one commemorates my great uncle, Sgt James Culbert(11525) who died at Gallipoli on 15/9/1916.

Name: **Robert McCreary MC OBE**
Rank: Major
Date of Birth: 3/8/1890
Place of Birth: Straidlands, Ballyclare
Parents' names: Robert McCreary and Maggie Fulton
Occupation: City Surveyor later to become General Manager of Belfast Municipal Transport
Regiment: Royal Engineers
Outcome of War: Survived

Educated at Royal Belfast Academical Institution, Major Robert McCreary received his 1st Class Honours B. Sc. Degree in Civil Engineering from Queen's University Belfast in 1913.



In an article contributed to the magazine of The Queen's University Civil Engineering Graduate Association 1967 he wrote "*Early in 1913 I decided to follow up the Military Training received in the O.T.C., applied for and was granted a Commission as 2nd Lieut. in the Royal Engineers (Special Reserve) in Chatam. The Course ... covered bridging, defences,*

construction of barracks and camps, water supply, Company administration and so on.

Passing out of the School in February 1914 'Top of the Batch' - I was, accordingly, posted to the Transportation Branch i.e. to a Railway Construction Company at Longmoor. This was one of the 'turning points' in my career in that this posting determined the work on which I would, in future, be engaged whilst in uniform.

Called up on the outbreak of war, I was retained at Longmoor to undertake the work of training the new Railway Construction Companies being formed and for special administrative duties in the Depot. In April 1915 I was appointed Adjutant and took over all the administrative duties in the Depot. I was offered a staff job at the War Office but preferred to go overseas.

I was posted to the 10th Railway Construction Company then engaged on new track jobs in the Hazebrouck - Poperinghe area.

After a brief period on construction work, I was detailed with a composite Construction and Operating detachment to take over from the French the rail operations on the Section from Poperinghe to Ypres, the greater part of which was under direct observation by the enemy.

Realising the vast potential value, especially under wintry conditions, of rail services on this section to the Infantry units by cutting out part (up to 6 miles) of the journey, otherwise to be covered on foot between the Rest Camps and the Front Line, I set myself to build up and do everything possible to maintain services scheduled to meet, each night, the relief requirements.

Very soon up to 10,000 were being carried in one night's operations and in the ten months up till July 1916, when the services were taken over by the newly formed Railway Operating Division, the traffic exceeded 1,250,000. On many occasions 'on the spot' changes had to be made in the schedules, consequent on delays in relief of Units caused by enemy activity in the forward area and also through shell damage to track - up to 17 inch shells (Jack Johnsons) were sent over in this area. Nevertheless, thanks to my engine crews and to the men in my repair squad, we carried out our job not only successfully but also without a casualty to a passenger.

From this job I went back to new track construction in the Salient and at Ghyvelde on the Belgian coast: then on promotion in October 1916 to command of a Railway Construction Company (6 Officers and 250 men)

to similar work in the Somme area, in the Douve Valley (on this job Portuguese Railway troops were attached, for 'training under war conditions') and at Hazebrouck.

When the Passchendaele 'push' commenced, I also set off at Zero Hour with the 1st shift (half of my Company with 500 men from Labour Units) from the forward rail head at the Canal Bank to follow-up closely behind the anticipated rapid advance and extend the track through Wieltze, over the Steenbeck and on and on.

For three months we struggled on laying track ... yard by yard over ground completely 'pock-marked' with shell holes - the edges of the craters overlapping with mud and water for hundreds of yards to the right and left of our pegged-out line and for yards below it!

A Station Yard was established on the site of the demolished village of Wieltze and the track extended slowly down to the Steenbeck. For the crossing of the stream, we built up and laid in succession 3 Armco culverts - the first two were 'lifted out' by the enemy as soon as they were placed in position.

By that time the push had come to a halt and my Company was moved back to Zeneghem to undertake new track work and maintenance in a large Ammunition depot. On these jobs we had Chinese Labour Units.

With the German attack in March 1918 came the threat to the continued use of Calais and Boulogne as our bases and I moved my Company down to Conchie to start work on the construction of a new rail supply line extending eastwards from the main Staples - Paris line to Conteville. I was also given the special task of preparing the scheme for the demolition of all rail bridges, station installations and other works of rail operational value in the area which would have to be evacuated in the event of our being forced to abandon the two bases.

With the turn of the tide at the end of the Summer in 1918, I took my Company up to Arras to follow up the advance and carry out the repair and reconstruction of the line Arras - Douai - Somain - Valenciennes - Mons. Here we had our first experience of concealed, delayed-action mines under the track, booby traps, wholesale upheaval of the track from its bed by specially designed track destroyers and of damage to rail joints by systematic demolition.

At the Canal du Nord, close to the village of Cambrai, we found lying in the canal the original bridge (app. 240 ft. span) which had been demolished by the French in 1914, alongside it the bridge erected by the

Germans and demolished by them in the retreat. A major bridge job.

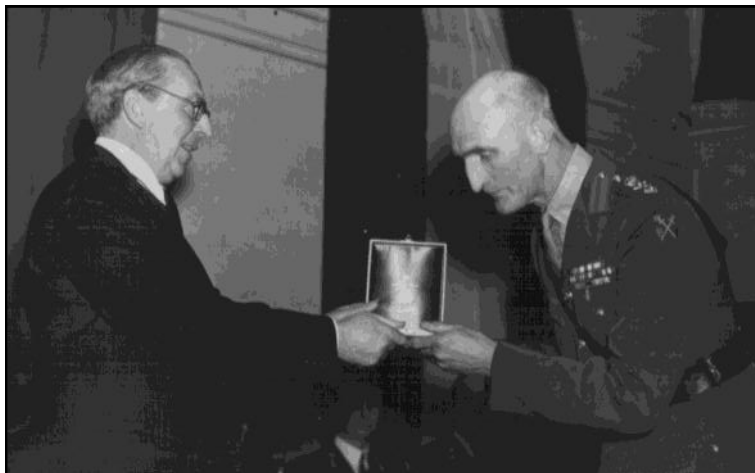
Fortunately the German officer responsible for the demolition had completely overlooked leaving to us, undamaged, the walls of the lock alongside the bridge. Ramping the track down on either side and carrying it over the canal on 18' x 9" timber beams resting on the lock walls was a job quickly completed.

In April 1919 I was demobilised and returned to Belfast to take up the appointment of Principal Engineer in the Tramways Department."

Robert was awarded the Military Cross in 1916. In 1918 he married Harriett, daughter of Dr. Stevenson of Ballyclare, and they had two daughters, Margaret and Avril. His brother Samuel also fought in the war.

He served again in a very similar capacity in the Second World War and was demobbed in 1945 as Col Robert McCreary MC OBE. He was also a Commander of the Order of Orange-Nassau. The rest of Robert's story up until 1967, including his experiences in World War II is available from the author.

Robert died in April 1975 and, in his funeral oration, The Very Rev Dr John W Orr, a former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church, noted that *"In many respects he never ceased to be a Ballynure man. He loved the countryside and its people. He was devoted to his boyhood home and family. He always held a nostalgic feeling for the village church there. And to the end he retained his plain, distinctive, Co. Antrim accent."*



Robert receiving his medal as 'Commander of the Order of Orange-Nassau'



Robert McCreary (centre) in the field during World War II



Robert McCreary, in his capacity as General Manager of Belfast Municipal Transport, at the opening of the Bellevue Park Railway, Belfast on 27th March 1934. Also in the picture is the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Alderman Sir Crawford McCullagh.

The locomotive used on the line was a German-built 0-4-0 tender engine named **Sir Crawford** which originally ran on the Romney Hythe and Dymchurch Railway.

Name: **Samuel Fulton McCreary**
Rank: Second Lieutenant
Date of Birth: 25/2/1885
Place of Birth: Straidlands, Ballyclare
Parents' names: Robert McCreary and
Maggie Fulton
Occupation: Farmer
Regiment: Cavalry Reserve
Battalion: North Irish Horse
War Number 1322
Outcome of War: Survived



Samuel Fulton McCreary was the second son of Robert and Maggie McCreary of Straidlands. He attended the National School in Ballyclare and grew up on the family farm until the Great War started when he joined the North Irish Horse because of his familiarity with horses.

Samuel enlisted in the North Irish Horse at Belfast on 19th October 1914. In January he was promoted to lance corporal and in June made the rank of corporal. On 17th November 1915 he embarked for France with F Squadron of the North Irish Horse, which was then serving as divisional cavalry to the 33rd Division. In June 1916 the squadron joined with C Squadron and the 6th (Inniskilling) Dragoons Service Squadron to form the 2nd North Irish Horse Regiment. In May 1917 he applied for a commission in the cavalry.

He left France that June and in September reported for duty at the No.2 Cavalry Cadet School at Kildare. After some months he passed the necessary assessments (being noted as a "good horse master"). He was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant on 6th April 1918 and posted to the 2nd Reserve Cavalry Regiment.

When he relinquished his commission on 11th March 1919, Samuel came home and farmed with his father before buying Lismenary Farm and marrying Meta Smith. Sam and Meta had three children, Robert, Beth and Peter. He never ever discussed the war with anyone. Samuel's brother, Robert (page 61) also fought in the war.



Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
MCCREARY	N.I.H.	Sgt.	1322
Samuel Fulton	(S. of M.) Milit.	1322	11334
	R.R. of Cav.	2nd Lieut.	
Medal	Roll	Page	
VICTORY	CY/1148	1625	<i>in R.F.R. C. 4/1178/1625</i> <i>Com. 5. 4. 18</i> <i>14 x 1248 of 27. P. 24 NW/3/2175.</i>
BRITISH			
15 STAR	C.Y. 281	607	
<i>Star & Medal Stamped 5th Oct.</i> <i>Bank awarded me: 7 NW/3/2175</i> Theatre of War first served in (1) France Date of entry therein 12. 11. 15			
			<i>NW/3/2175</i>

Correspondence.

V. F. McCr. 4. 5. 7. 24.

Address, *Lisimory,*
Ballymore,
Co. Antrim

W. L. W. 1047-1147 1000m. 1019 12. 10. 101 100/100

Part of Samuel Fulton McCreary's War Record

Name: **James Noble McFerran MM, MSM**
 Rank: Sergeant
 Date of Birth: 1877
 Place of Birth: Islandmagee and lived in Dunturkey, Ballynure
 Parents' names: William McFerran and Sarah Noble
 Occupation: Carter
 Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
 Battalion: C Company, 12th Battalion, Central Antrim
 Volunteers transferred to Machine Guns Corp
 3/2/1917
 War number: 12/18282

Outcome of War: Survived. Some sources record that James was wounded in action (see next page, bottom illustration) but the family has no knowledge of that. He was awarded the Military Medal on 5/10/1915 for gallantry in action and the Meritorious Service Medal on 17/6/1918 for gallant conduct in the performance of a military duty.

James married Mary Jane Semple in 1919 and they had one daughter, Margaret. They lived at 'The Old Mill' Ballynure and then at 'Poolside', Carrick Road, Ballynure. He died on 5/8/1959 aged 81 years. Mary Jane died, aged 68, on 12/3/1952 and Margaret died on 27/7/1991. They are all buried in the Old Cemetery in Ballynure. The family still has the Bible which was presented to him after the war at the 'Peace Concert' in the church on Friday 21st November 1919.

Campaign: 1914-15.		(A) Where decoration was earned.
		(B) Present situation.
Name	Corps	Rank
(A) McFERRAN R.I. Rif	R.I.F.	Sgt
(B) James (MM)		
Reg. No.	Medal which includes (if any)	
12/18282	MEDAL	
	VIC. B.104B162294	
	BRIT. do	
	5 STAR 8/4 8 324	
Action taken	Cl. 2	
THEATRE OF WAR.	(1) France	
QUALIFYING DATE.	5/10/15	
(6 34 45) W234-HP5990 000,000 4/19 HWV(240) 8.008		[Over]

Army Form B. 2066.

SHORT SERVICE.

(Three years with the Colours.)

ATTESTATION OF

No. _____ Name James McFerran Corps ROYAL INFANTRY

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT IN THE MARCHING ORDER REGISTER:

1. What is your No.	1. In the Marching Order Register, is your name covered by _____
2. In or near what part of the Army are you born?	2. In the Marching Order Register, is your name covered by _____
3. Are you a British subject?	3. In the Marching Order Register, is your name covered by _____
4. What is your age?	4. In the Marching Order Register, is your name covered by _____
5. What is your Trade or Profession?	5. In the Marching Order Register, is your name covered by _____
6. Have you completed your three years' service on land?	6. In the Marching Order Register, is your name covered by _____

STATEMENT OF THE SERVICES OF No. 18282 Name James McFerran

Corps in which served	Regt. or Dep't	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Army Rank	Dates	Service not allowed to reckon for during the time of absence years days	Service is allowed to reckon for during the time of absence years days	Signatures of Officers certifying correctness of Entries.
				15. 9. 14			
				18. 9. 14			
				16. 9. 15			
				9. 6. 15			
				30. 6. 15			
				7. 8. 15			
				3. 10. 15			
				28. 1. 16			

Service towards limited engagement reckons from 15. 9. 14

Joined at 18. 9. 14

ROYAL INFANTRY
1st Battalion
appointed Private
appointed Private
promoted Private
Private
Private
Private

F. J. Hill, Capt
Harrison, Capt
Harrison, Capt

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Army Form

Regiment of 1st Battalion No. 18282 Rank Private Name James McFerran

Enlisted (a) 14. 9. 14 Terms of Service (a) Duration of War Service reckons from (a) 14. 9. 14

Date of promotion to present rank _____ Date of appointment to lance rank _____ Numerical position on roll of N.C.O.s _____

Extended _____ Re-engaged _____ Qualification (b) See Appendix

Date	From whom received	Report of promotion, reduction, casualty, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 215, Army Form A. 26, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 215, Army Form A. 26, or other official documents.
15. 9. 14	O.C. 1st Bn	Issue 9. 10. 14 & 17. 9. 15	U.K.		
17. 9. 14	do	Transferred to 3rd Bn	U.K.		
17. 9. 14	do	Leave & return able	U.K.		
18. 9. 14	do	G.I.	U.K.		

PC 1077 107-11-15

(Granted Leave To U.K.)

Awarded the " Meritorious Service Medal."

Surname McFerran. **FRANCE**
Devotion

Christian Name _____

Rank Sjt


Corps 12th Bn. R. I. Rifles

Regimental Number 12/18282

Date of Gazette 17/6/18

Registered Paper 0137/5058

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of the *Meritorious Service Medal*

 191

Regtl. No. 18282

Rank Serjt

Signature James McFerran

Unit R. Irish Rifles

MILITARY HISTORY SHEET.

1. Service at Home and Abroad.

COUNTRY	FROM	TO	REMARKS	DAYS	N.B.—The Commencement of the service in the different stations of the same country, England, Scotland, and Ireland, to be shown under the general term "Home."
<u>Home</u>	<u>1609-15</u>			<u>17</u> <u>67</u>	
<u>Home</u>				<u>191</u>	

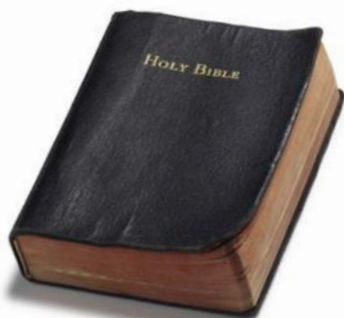
2. Army School and certificates of education.

3. Passed classes of instruction.

4. Campaigns (not above) Medals and decorations.

THE GREAT WAR
1914-15 STAR
British War Medal
Meritorious Service Medal
Military Medal

5. Wounded



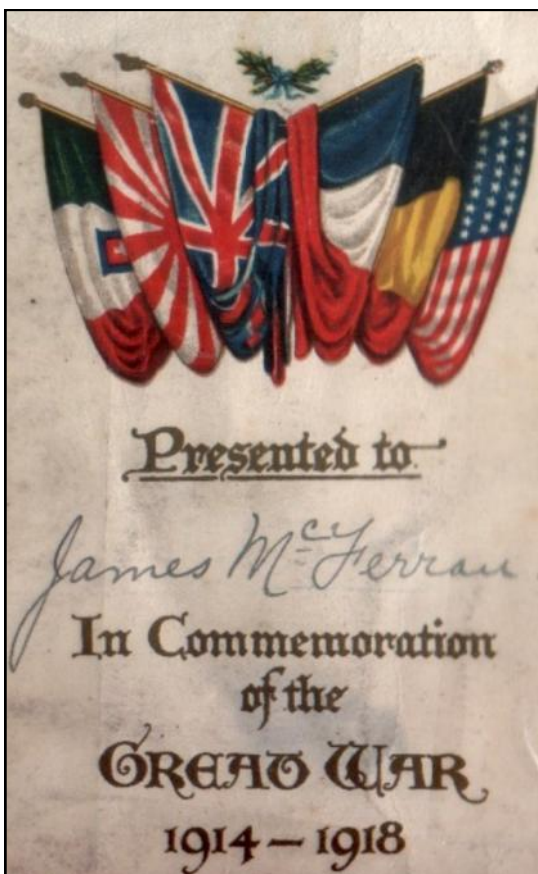
**BALLYNURE, STRAID, & DISTRICT
PEACE CELEBRATION.**

A GRAND CONCERT

IN CONNECTION WITH ABOVE,
WILL BE GIVEN IN THE LECTURE
HALL, BALLYNURE, on FRIDAY,
21st November, 1919.

Souvenirs will be presented to the Soldiers
and Sailors of the District who served in the
Great War.

A splendid Programme will be rendered by
distinguished Artistes from Belfast and else-
where.



Name: **James McMurtry McIlroy**
 Rank: Rifleman
 Date of Birth: 14/8/1881
 Place of Birth: Ballygallagh, Larne
 Parents' names: Robert McIlroy and Elizabeth McMurtry
 Occupation: Farm labourer
 Regiment: NZ Forces
 Battalion: A Company: New Zealand Rifle Brigade
 War number: 47031
 Outcome of War: Survived

James was wounded on the right elbow on 20/7/1918 in France and was transferred to hospital in England on 21/7/1918. He was finally declared unfit for further military service because of his war wound on 18/1/1919. James died in New Zealand on 18/5/1955.

Form of attestation of volun-
 call-up for service an-
 1914, who are willing to be admitted to the service.

[E.F. Form No. 2]

NEW ZEALAND EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.
ATTESTATION FOR GENERAL SERVICE.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO THE RECRUIT.

1440784031

1. What is your name?	1. James McMurtry McIlroy
2. Where were you born?	2. Ballygallagh, Ireland.
3. Are you a British subject?	3. British subject Yes.
4. What is the date of your birth?	4. 14 th August 1881.
5. What are the names of your parents?	5. Father: Robert McIlroy. Mother: Elizabeth McIlroy.
6. Where were your parents born?	6. Father: Ireland Mother: Ireland.
7. If your parents are of alien origin, when and where were they naturalised?	7. Father: (when) (where) Mother: (when) (where)
8. How long have you been resident in New Zealand?	8. 7 years.
9. How long have your parents been resident in New Zealand?	9. Father: _____ Mother: _____
10. What is your trade or calling?	10. Farm labourer.
11. Are you an indentured apprentice? If so, where, and to whom?	11. _____
12. What was the address at which you last resided?	12. Ballygallagh, Larne.
13. Have you passed the Fourth Educational Standard or its equivalent?	13. No.
14. What is the name and address of your present or last employer?	14. Ballygallagh, Larne.
15. Are you single, married, widower, divorced, or legally separated from your wife?	15. Single.
16. If married, a widower, divorced, or legally separated from your wife, how many children under sixteen years of age have you?	16. _____
17. If single, how many persons are absolutely dependent on you?	17. None.
18. Have you ever been sentenced to imprisonment by the Civil power? If so, when and where?	18. _____
19. Do you now belong to any Military or Naval Force? If so, to what corps?	19. No.
20. Have you ever served in any Military or Naval Force? If so, state which and cause of discharge.	20. No.

Apparent age: 36 years 5 months.

(To be determined according to the instructions given in the Regulations for Army Medical Service.)

Height: 5 feet 11 1/2 inches.

Weight: 164 lb.

Chest-measurement: { Minimum, 38 inches.
Maximum, 40 inches.

Complexion: Fresh

Colour of eyes: Grey Blue

Colour of hair: Brown

Religious profession: Presbyterian

Reinforcement: 25th **HISTORY-SHEET.** (H.F. Form No. 3A.)

Unit.	Rank.	Surname.	Christian Name.	No.
<u>H Coy.</u> <u>Bn 3 NZR B</u>	<u>Pte.</u> <u>Rplm</u>	<u>McIlroy.</u>	<u>James. McEurtary.</u>	<u>47051</u>

Authority to Headquarters: 1

Occupation: Farm Labourer Religion: Ireland Last New Zealand address: Occidental Hotel.

Last employer: Mr. Steele 16. 8. 81 Manse Street Dunedin.

Name, relationship, and address of next-of-kin (if not resident in New Zealand, insert also name and address of nearest relative in New Zealand):
Mr. D. W. McIlroy, Southampton Rd., Sydenham, Ch. Ch. (Brother)

DIED

Country or Troopship.	Date from	Date to	Total.		Initials of Officer making Entry.	Home Service.	
			Years.	Days.		Years.	Days.
<u>N.Z.</u>	<u>13. 2. 14</u>	<u>25. 6. 17</u>		<u>72</u>			
FOREIGN	<u>26. 6. 17</u>	<u>21. 12. 18</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>240</u>			<u>100</u>
<u>Pat "Tofua"</u>	<u>21. 12. 18</u>						
<u>N.Z.</u>	<u>22. 12. 18</u>	<u>18. 1. 19</u>		<u>28</u>			<u>240</u>
							Total Service:

SINCE DISCHARGE Service

Casualty Form - Active Service.

Rank *Private* Surname *McMurray* Christian Name *James M. Murray*
 Religion *30-1-17* Age on Enlistment *13 2 17* years *13 2 17* months
 Enlisted (a) *X* Terms of Service (b) *Sur of War* Service reckons from (a) *13 2 17*
 Date of promotion to present rank _____ Date of appointment to lance rank _____
 Extended _____ Re-engaged _____ Qualification (b) _____
 or Corps Trade and rate _____
 Occupation _____ Signature of Officer _____

Date	Report From whom received	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks
		Embarked	<i>Wellington</i>	<i>26 4 17 Emb Roll</i>
		Disembarked	<i>Newport</i>	<i>20 7 17 21</i>
<i>21 9 17</i>	<i>acc</i>	<i>Marched in</i>	<i>Stung</i>	<i>20 7 17 21/194</i>
<i>28 9 17</i>	<i>Com Dep</i>	<i>Advanced to 1st com Dep</i>	<i>Lodford</i>	<i>29 9 17 21/180</i>
<i>2 9 17</i>	<i>23 9 N</i>	<i>M.V.O. 2nd 23 9 N com Dep</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>19 17 21/10</i>
<i>7 9 17</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>Adv to Com 1st Dep</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>14 17 21/14</i>
<i>21 11 17</i>	<i>acc</i>	<i>With sta Com Dep</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>28 11 17 21/299</i>
<i>18 1 18</i>	<i>Com Dep</i>	<i>Adv to 2nd</i>	<i>Bradford</i>	<i>18 1 18 21/6</i>
<i>21 3 18</i>	<i>23 9 N</i>	<i>Left for France</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>26 3 18 21/6</i>
<i>25 3 18</i>	<i>Com Dep</i>	<i>Marched in</i>	<i>Aberdeen</i>	<i>25 3 18 21/197</i>
<i>7 4 18</i>	<i>23 9 N</i>	<i>James M</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>7 4 18 21/15</i>
<i>13 4 18</i>	<i>23 9 N</i>	<i>James M reported to War</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>13 4 18 21/123</i>
<i>4 5 18</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>2nd com Dep</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>4 5 18 21/15</i>

Date	Report	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks
<i>30 4 18</i>	<i>23 9 N</i>	<i>Field</i>	<i>30 4 18</i>	<i>23 9 N 21/15</i>
<i>11 5 18</i>	<i>23 9 N</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>4 5 18</i>	<i>21/193</i>
<i>28 7 18</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>16 7 18</i>	<i>21/23</i>
<i>16 7 18</i>	<i>23 9 N</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>16 7 18</i>	<i>23 9 N 21/15</i>
<i>16 7 18</i>	<i>23 9 N</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>16 7 18</i>	<i>23 9 N 21/15</i>
<i>17 7 18</i>	<i>23 9 N</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>17 7 18</i>	<i>23 9 N 21/15</i>
<i>20 7 18</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>20 7 18</i>	<i>23 9 N 21/15</i>
<i>24 7 18</i>	<i>23 9 N</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>24 7 18</i>	<i>23 9 N 21/15</i>
<i>9 10 18</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>9 10 18</i>	<i>23 9 N 21/15</i>
<i>11/11</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>11/11</i>	<i>23 9 N 21/15</i>
<i>12/11</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>12/11</i>	<i>23 9 N 21/15</i>
<i>21 11 18</i>	<i>23 9 N</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>21 11 18</i>	<i>23 9 N 21/15</i>

DISCHARGED.
 18 1 19 '18
 NO LONGER PHYSICALLY FIT FOR WAR SERVICE.
 ON ACCOUNT OF WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION.

Name: **David McWilliam**
Rank: Lance Corporal
Place of Birth: Ballynure
Regiment: Gordon Highlanders
Battalion: 1st Battalion
War number: 2345
Outcome of War: Survived
David was gassed and wounded in action.

Name: **Andrew Millar**
Rank: Trooper
Place of Birth: Ballyboley, Ballynure
Regiment: North Irish Horse
Outcome of War: Survived.
Andrew was gassed in 1917.

His sister also served during the war in the Queen Mary Army Auxiliary Corps.



The North Irish Horse badge and insignia

Name: **Eldred Merwin Montgomery**
Rank: Lieutenant
Date of Birth: 21/1/1888
Place of Birth: Kells, Ballymena
Parents' names: Hugh Johnston Montgomery and
Mary Jane Montgomery
Regiment: Indian Army Guides
Outcome of War: Survived

In his book 'Blacker's Boys', Nick Metcalfe writes:

"Born on 21 January 1888 at Kells, County Antrim. A bank clerk with Ulster Bank, he joined the Queen's University, Belfast, Officer Training Corps on 5 June 1916 and then 7th Officer Cadet Battalion on 5 October 1916. Commissioned into Princess Victoria's (Royal Irish Fusiliers) on 1 March 1917.

He joined the 9th Royal Irish Fusiliers on 26 June 1917 and was posted to 'D' Company. Attached to the 12th (Service) Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles (Central Antrim) in 108th Brigade on 3 July 1917.

Soon after, he applied to transfer to the Indian Army Reserve of Officers and was accepted. He left for England on 28 October 1917 and sailed for India on 28 January 1918. Second Lieutenant (on probation) Indian Army Reserve of Officers [on] 28 February 1918.

He resigned his commission in the Indian Army Reserve of Officers [on] 1st May 1922. (WO 339/73124)"

Eldred's brother, Verus Calvin Montgomery MB (see page 80), also fought in the war.

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
13 MONTGOMERY	9th L. Inf SARO	x Lt. x Lieut	
Eldred Merwin			

Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
1st Army	140	94D	* 90/105A/499
BRITISH	oo	oo	Issued by S.O. Minors NW 2/2002ct
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			
12th/22			NW 7/2002ct K. 138

S.O. paid appn for medals b.c. 22
Correspondence
 EF/9 ret'd - - - - - 5. 5. 22

Address Ulster Bank
 Lurgan, Ireland

(115) Wt. W2702/16142 1,000m 1271 J.F.W. E 8227

Name: **Hector Smyth Montgomery**
 Rank: Seaman
 Date of Birth: 29/8/1898
 Place of Birth: Scotch Hill, Straid
 Parents' names: William and Jane Montgomery
 Occupation: Miner in Straid Bauxite mines
 Regiment: Royal Navy
 War number: TS 8045
 Outcome of War: Survived

As you can see from Hector's naval papers, he was a short man (only 5' 4 1/2") who went to war when it was almost over on 8/5/1918.

He served on three ships, Vivid, Heela and Vairu. He was 'dispersed to shore' on 6/6/1919.

Hector married Margaret Esler on 4/8/1922 in Christ Church, Ballynure and they made their home in Ballyclare where they had six children, George, Eveline, Minnie, Noel, Gordon and Leslie.

Hector died on 18/8/1982 at the Mater Hospital.

Letter <i>TS</i> Number <i>8045</i>		Town and County where Born	Name of Father and Mother	Date of Birth	Height		Complexion
Name <i>Montgomery Hector</i>		<i>Larne, Antrim</i>	<i>William Jane</i>	<i>29.8.1898</i>	<i>5</i> Ft. <i>4 1/2</i> In.	<i>Fresh</i>	
			Certificate of Competency (if held) No. and Description Date of Issue		Chest Measurement <i>32 1/2</i>	Colour of Eyes <i>Grey</i>	
			DATE OF ENROLMENT, <i>8th</i>		DAY OF		
TRAINING UNDERGONE IN SCHEDULED YEARS OF SERVICE, viz. —		From <i>✓</i> To <i>✓</i>		RETAINER, Schedule 32		TRAVELLING EXPENSES TO TRAINING, Schedule 32	
H.M. Ship and Depot		Date of Discharge 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Character of Service Amphibious Coastal	Minor Offences (if any) with punishment	Particulars of Travelling Warrants, etc., from Training		Date of Payment
					To what place 9 10 11	Date of Payment	Port
					Cost of expenses of sea and allowances 12 13 14	Amount	Date of Payment
					15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	Port	Amount
REMARKS						<i>The first retainer payable on this Certificate will be for the</i>	

SERVICE IN ROYAL NAVY WHEN CALLED OUT BY PROCLAMATION.

COMMENCEMENT OF SERVICE				TERMINATION OF SERVICE				REMARKS	
R. V. 34				Report by Naval Officer					
DEPARTURE		ARRIVAL		Depart or Ship from which Discharged, and Place of Discharge		Rating at Discharge			Character of Discharge
Date	Destination	Date		Date of Discharge	Rating at Discharge	Ability	Conduct	Discharge	
	<i>Warrick</i>	<i>8.2.18</i>	<i>2801 Warrick</i>	<i>8.6.19</i>	<i>Trainer</i>	<i>Sea</i>	<i>V.G.</i>		
	<i>Warrick</i>	<i>9.2.19</i>	<i>1713 Accla II</i>	<i>24.5.19</i>		<i>Sea</i>	<i>V.G.</i>		
	<i>Warrick</i>	<i>24.5.19</i>	<i>1827 Warrick</i>	<i>4.7.19</i>		<i>Sea</i>	<i>V.G.</i>	<i>Dispersed to Shore.</i>	

VIOUS SERVICE IN RESERVE			EMPLOYMENT—R. V. 17 or Schedule 32 (continued).									
REGATE R. V. 17 or Letter	Year	Month	Name and Official Number of Ship	Description of Voyage	Capacity	Engagement			Discharge			Remarks
						Date	Place	Date of Expiry of Return	Date	Place	Character of Discharge (if other than V.G.)	

PERSONAL MARKS				FINALLY DISPOSED OF						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				S. 1806 Report H.W.S.						
Registration (for changes see back)				Dispersed to Shore on Demobilisation						
address <i>Scotch Hill</i>		District and Number <i>Belfast A1</i>		at <i>73483</i>		on <i>6 June 1919</i>				
<i>Shanty, Co. Antrim.</i>		<i>1918</i>		<i>R.V. 17</i>		<i>2nd Class</i>				
DISCHARGED				RESERVE						
EMPLOYMENT—R. V. 17 or Schedule 32				actual date of demobilisation from Naval Service						
Serial	Name and Official Number of Ship	Description of Voyage	Capacity	Engagement			Discharge			REMARKS
				Date	Place	Date of Expiry of Return	Date	Place	Character of Discharge (if other than V.G.)	
										Volunteered to No. Belfast (Antrim) 8.5.19
				W.G. Claim No. 10565A To A.G.N. 3.7.19						

Name: **Verus Calvin Montgomery MB**
Rank: Captain
Date of Birth: 1890
Place of Birth: Ballyboley, Ballynure
Parents' names: Hugh Johnston Montgomery and
Mary Jane Montgomery
Occupation: Medical Doctor (Queens University Belfast)
Regiment: Royal Army Medical Corps
Outcome of War: Calvin survived but was wounded on 20/11/1917 in
Palestine (see below).

Calvin Montgomery married Margaret Olive Rosalind Wedgwood (a descendant of Josiah Wedgwood) in 1920. They lived at Little Park Farm, Feltham, Middlesex where he practised medicine. He died on 15th October 1959.



Belfast Newsletter 26/11/17: From Nigel Henderson's collection



This piece of shrapnel ultimately saved my grandfather's life. He was wounded at the Battle of the Somme, lay in the field for some days and finally had the shrapnel removed from his head. He returned home soon after that

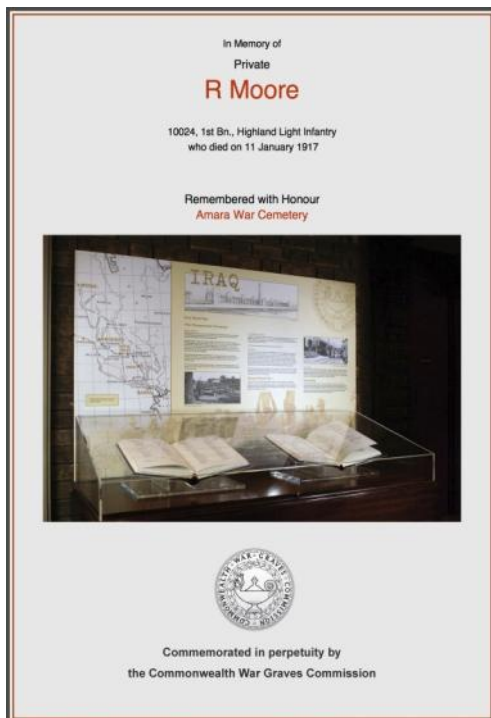
Name: **Robert Moore**
Rank: Private
Date of Birth: 1887 - 1888
Place of Birth: Ballygowan, Ballynure
Parents' names: John Moore and Margaret McConkey
Occupation: Was in the Reserves when war broke out and acted as a drill instructor for Raloo Company UVF



Regiment: Highland Light Infantry: enlisted Shotts, Lanarkshire
Battalion: 1st Battalion
War number: 10024

Outcome of War: Robert was killed at the battle of Tigris in Mesopotamia on 11/1/1917. He is remembered with honour in Amara War Cemetery, Iraq.

The National Archives Ireland has recently released soldiers' wills. Robert Moore's will is reproduced, with permission, on the next two pages.



15

INFORMAL WILL.

W.O. No.: E/33936 *yr*

DOMICILE, *Irish*

Record No. ²¹⁸ ~~399455~~ ¹⁶⁶ *79*

The enclosed document
dated *13.12.1916*

Name *Robert Moore* and signed *Robert Moore*.

Regtl. No. and Rank *No 10026 Private*

appears to have been written
or executed by the person
named in the margin while
he was "in actual military

1st Battalion
Regt. *Highland Light Infantry*

service" within the meaning
of the Wills Act, 1837, and
has been recognised by the

Killed in Action
Died at *Mesopotamia*

War Department as con-
stituting a valid will.

Date of Death *11th January 1917*

WAR OFFICE.

Chas J Lambie

for the Assistant Financial Secretary.

Date *16/1/17*

WILL.

In the event of my death
I give the whole of my property
and effects to

~~Mrs. Moore~~

Mrs. Margret Moore
Ballygowan

Signed .

Ballynusee

Co. Antrim.

10024

W. Robert Moore Ireland

1st H. L. I.

13-12-1916. ✓

Name: **James Shaw Park**
Rank: Trooper
Date of Birth: 1/6/1888
Place of Birth: Clement's Hill, Ballynure
Parents' names: Adam Park and Mary Shaw
Occupation: Farmer
Regiment: Australian Forces
Battalion: 4th Light Horse Australian Machine
Gun Squad
War number: 1968
Outcome of War: Survived



James Shaw Park enlisted in Queensland, Brisbane, Australia on 11/4/1916. He was trained at the Imperial School in Egypt in January 1917. He served with the 4th Light Horse Machine Gun squad and was discharged from the army as medically unfit with deafness and an infected lumen on 28/3/1920.

The Family History

Although James was baptised in Ballylinney Presbyterian Church, Ballynure was regarded as their family church and he came to communion for the first time in May 1907. He was the eldest of a family of five born to Adam Park and Mary Shaw. His sister Mary Elizabeth was born on April 23rd 1890, Andrew on July 15th 1891, William on April 6th 1893 and Joseph (also baptised in Ballylinney) on August 30th 1894.

Before he emigrated to Australia on Valentine's Day 1913 to settle in Innisfail, North Queensland, possibly with some home connection, James was given a letter of appreciation from Ballynure Presbyterian Sunday School, entitled 'Address and Presentation'. This letter was signed by Rev John E Mitchell and 6 Sunday School teachers. This letter is still in the possession of his elder son, Bill, (William James) in Australia. By that stage, James' mother had passed away on July 2nd 1910 aged 55. His father, who remarried, died on February 11th 1931 at the age of 69.

James was joined in Australia by his brothers Joseph and Andrew and, much later on, by his sister Mary.

James' war record indicates that his hearing had been an issue all though his military career and, in an effort to control the deafness which was becoming more and more evident, he was transferred to a hospital in England. Apparently nothing could be done to remedy the problem and total deafness eventually resulted. Before he was ready to return to Australia he took a month's leave with his father and stepmother at Clement's Hill, Ballynure.

On his return to Australia he spent more time in hospital and was eventually discharged medically unfit in 1920.

James Shaw Park married Ellen Hughes on 4th April, 1920 in Queensland and they had two children.

In 1922, in partnership with his brothers, Andrew and Joseph, James purchased a cane farm. Together they worked this farm until 1979 when his two sons took over.

In 1929 James and his wife returned to the UK to visit family and friends in Northern Ireland and Scotland. Ellen's diary records social visits with 'Rev Andrew Scott and his sisters' in Ballynure.



James eventually ceased regular worship due to his hearing problem but still kept an interest in the work of the Presbyterian Church. He passed away in 1965, aged 77 years and his wife, Ellen, died on 27th May 1973, aged 80.



His son Bill, too, was always active in the Australian Presbyterian Church, until, in 1977, it amalgamated with the Congregational and Methodist Churches into the Uniting Church in Australia, He has remained a member although age and health now curtail his activities somewhat.

AUSTRALIAN  MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Attention Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 1589 Name JAMES EDWARD SHAW
 Date 21st 11th 1914
 Joined on 10th 12th 1914 **21st REGT INFTRY 11th L.I.**

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attention.

1. What is your Trade? <u>None</u>	1. <u>JAMES EDWARD SHAW</u>
2. To what other Parts of the World have you been? <u>None</u>	2. In the Parish of <u>St. Andrew's</u>
3. Are you in possession of any British Subject or a Dominion? (If so, state which?) <u>None</u>	was the Son of <u>WILLIAM SHAW</u>
4. What is your Age? <u>37</u>	in the County of <u>SPRING</u>
5. What is your Trade or Calling? <u>None</u>	1. <u>ENG.</u> <u>ENGLAND</u>
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? (If so, where, to whom, and for what period?) <u>None</u>	2. <u>17 yrs. & other.</u>
7. Are you married? <u>None</u>	3. <u>Parent</u>
8. What is your name of War? (Add those to be added)	4. <u>None</u>
	5. <u>(Father) JAMES SHAW</u>
	<u>ELIZABETH SHAW</u>

Part of the war record for James Shaw Park, 1914.

Name: **Richard Park**
Rank: Private
Date of Birth: 28/8/1887
Place of Birth: Ballynure
Parents' names: William Park and Sarah McWilliams
Regiment: Army Service Corps (Motor Transports)
Outcome of War: Survived

Name: **William Andrew Patton**
Rank: Lance Corporal
Date of Birth: 22/7/1893
Place of Birth: Haystown, Larne.
Parents' names: William Patton and Jane Percy
Regiment: North Irish Horse
Battalion: C Squadron
War number: 1196 and 41259
Outcome of War: Survived

He enlisted in the North Irish Horse on 10th Sept 1914. On 18th Dec 1914 he embarked for France with a small group of reinforcements for A and C Squadrons, under Lieutenant Arthur Charles Nugent. He was probably posted to C Squadron, which served as divisional cavalry to the 3rd Division. In June 1916 C Squadron joined with F Squadron and the 6th (Inniskilling) Dragoons Service Squadron to form the 2nd North Irish Horse Regiment, which served as corps cavalry to X Corps.

In Sept 1917 the 2nd NIH Regiment was disbanded and the men retrained as infantry. The majority, including Patton, joined the 9th (Service) Battalion, Royal Irish Fusiliers on 20 September 1917, which was re-named 9th (North Irish Horse) Battalion, Royal Irish Fusiliers. Patton was issued number 41259 and posted to C Company.

Having survived the Battle of Cambrai in November and December 1917 and the retreat from St Quentin during the German Offensive of March 1918, Lance Corporal Patton was captured, unwounded, during the fighting on the Messines Ridge in 12th April 1918. He was held at Friedrichsfeld prisoner of war camp.

After being repatriated at the end of the war, he was transferred to Class Z, Army Reserve, on 10th April 1919.

Name: **Robert John Robinson**
 Rank: Rifleman
 Date of Birth: 08/01/1900
 Place of Birth: Lismenary, Ballynure
 Parents' names: Robert John Robinson and Sarah Hamilton
 Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
 Battalion: 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
 War number: 685
 Outcome of War: Survived

Robert John was wounded in action.

He had two other brothers who served in the war but they are not mentioned on the War Memorial in Ballynure.

No. 4. PARTICULARS OF RECRUIT DRAFTED UNDER MILITARY SERVICE ACT, 1917 (Class. Cno.)	
1. Surname	R O B I N S O N
2. Christian name	Thomas Alexander.
3. Present address	232 Montrose Ave., Toronto, Can.
4. Military Service Act letter and number	Serial # 827460. allowed till June 21st., 1895. Or is called
5. Date of birth	June 21st., 1895.
6. Place of birth <small>(town, township or county and country)</small>	Belfast, Ireland.
7. Married, widower or single	Single
8. Religion	P. R.
9. Trade or calling	Stenographer.
10. Name of next-of-kin	Mrs. Isabella Robinson
11. Relationship of next-of-kin	Mother
12. Address of next-of-kin	232 Montrose Ave., Toronto Can.
13. Whether at present a member of the Active Militia	Yes. R.O. Rifles. Sgt.
14. Particulars of previous military or naval service, if any	Yes. Q.O.R. 2 yrs. Sgt.

This shows the particulars for Thomas Alexander Robinson. More information is included on the next page

Name: **Thomas Alexander Robinson**

Rank: Sergeant Major

Date of Birth: 21/6/1895

Place of Birth: Irish Hill, Straid, Ballyclare

Parents' names: Isabella Robinson

Occupation: Stenographer

Regiment: Canadians

Battalion: 127th (York Rangers) Battalion

War number: 2626805

Outcome of War: Survived

Thomas Alexander served two years with the local militia, The Queen's Own Rifles, for two years before the war.

Name: **Robert (Rab) John Shannon**

Rank: Rifleman

Date of Birth: 28/8/1895

Place of Birth: Bruslee, Ballyclare

Parents' names: William J Shannon and Sarah Elizabeth Robinson

Occupation: Skilled Handyman

Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles

Battalion: C Company, 12th Battalion,
Central Antrim Volunteers

War number: 782

Outcome of War: Survived

'Rab' and 'Tam' Shannon were brothers who each went to war in different regiments. Because of his reputation for being a 'good shot', Rab was a sniper in the war and was often sent out on scouting missions. He felt that this was 'not fair' and that everyone should take a turn. In a fit of temper one night he broke the windows and ended up in solitary confinement for some time after facing a Field General Court Martial.

Rab was wounded at the battle of the Somme where he was hit in the leg by shell blast. He also had the middle finger of his left hand blown off whilst trying to pull himself out of a trench. Long after the war, he went off to Canada and the family lost touch.

Name: **Thomas (Tam) Shannon**
Rank: Rifleman
Date of Birth: 18/7/1893
Place of Birth: Legaloy, Ballyclare
Parents' names: William J Shannon and Sarah Elizabeth Robinson
Occupation: Skilled Handyman
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: C Company,
15th Battalion, North Belfast Volunteers
War number: 12/432
Outcome of War: Survived

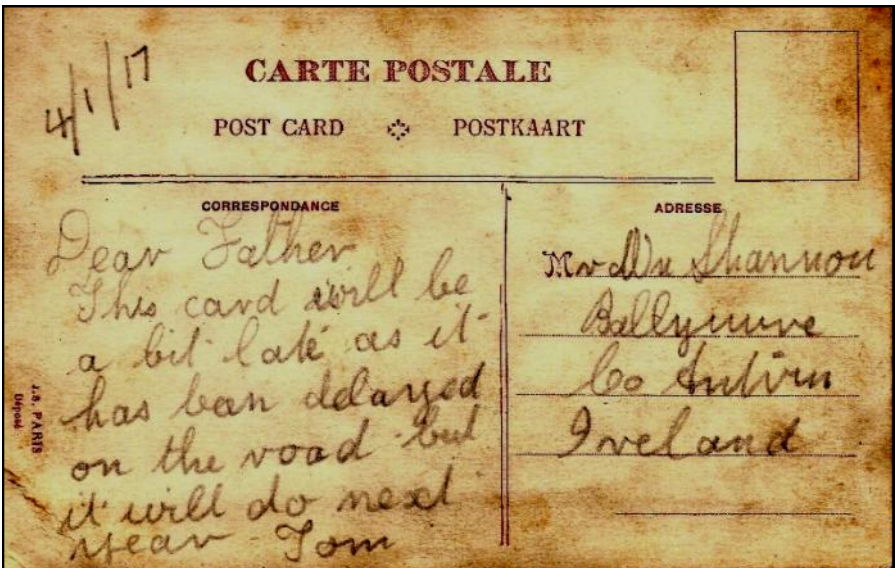


Tam was also wounded and gassed twice during the war. He was one of the first men to enlist in Ballyclare. A keen pigeon fancier, rumour has it that quality racing pigeons were offered to the first men who enlisted and Tam was keen to get his hands on one of these! The picture shows him (in the centre) and his brother Rab (on the right hand side) in front of the pigeon loft. The pigeons are on the roof.



Tam went off to Australia after the war and moved around Queensland wherever he could find work. He disappeared after a crocodile hunt and was never heard of again.

Tam and Rab sent many postcards home from the trenches and these are shown below and on the next few pages.



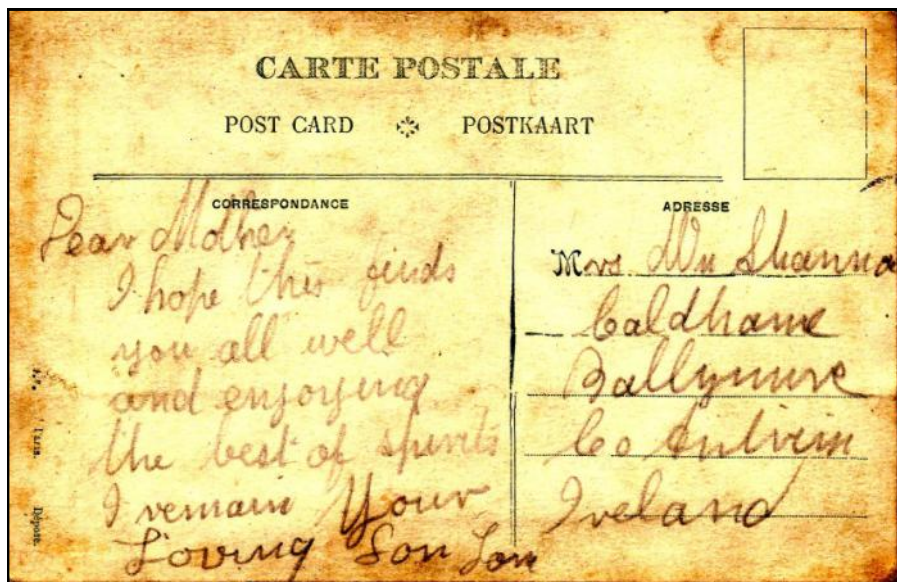


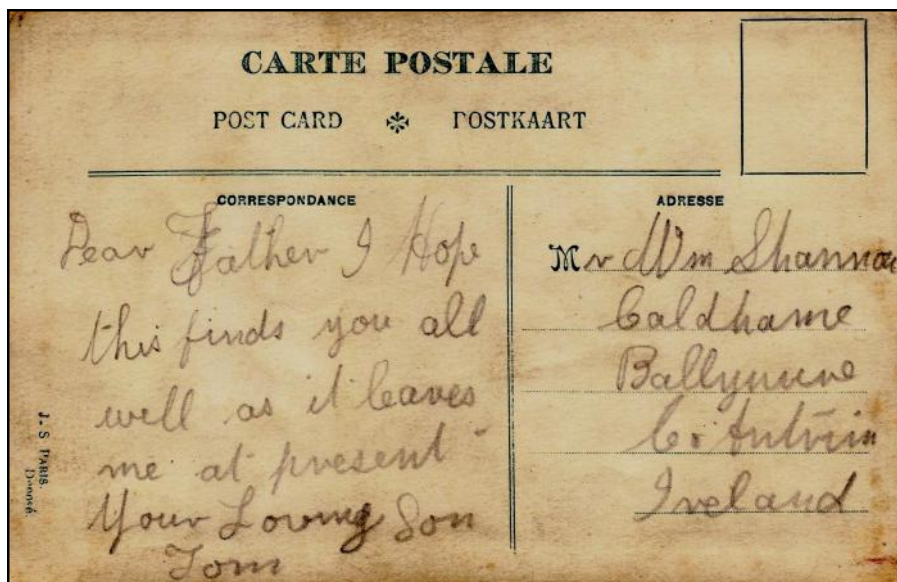
Dear Mother,

This is a Cxms card
from the trenches, written
on Cxms morning, the
colour on front is the
Batt. colours.

Wishing you all
a happy new year
your loving son
Robert

We will soon





Immediately after the war, Tam, Rab and other members of the family, including his father, worked on the Knockagh monument, a tribute to the people from the locality who fought in World War One.



Tam and Rab are on the right of this picture. Other members of the family are also included.



The Knockagh Monument in construction on the left and, on the right, how it looks today.

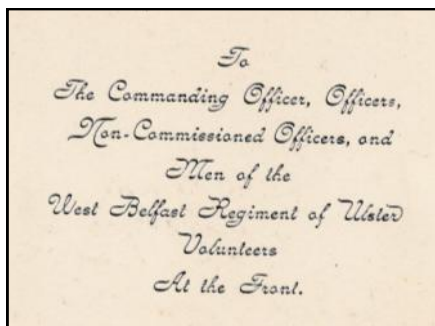
Name: **John Sherrard**
 Rank: Rifleman
 Date of Birth: Possibly 1892 - 1893
 Place of Birth: Headwood (or Mossley), Larne
 Parents' names: Possibly James
 and Eliza Jane Sherrard
 Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
 Battalion: 2nd Battalion
 War number: 9841
 Outcome of War: Survived



He was wounded in action three times, gassed twice and suffered frostbite. John served in Egypt where he was wounded and suffered frostbite. He was wounded for a third time in the head and suffered a broken arm.

Name: **Joseph Higginson Stewart**
 Rank: Rifleman
 Date of Birth: 6/5/1897
 Place of Birth: Dunturkey, Ballynure
 Parents' names: William Stewart and Jane Forsythe
 Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
 Battalion: 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
 Outcome of War: Survived

Joseph's brother, Thomas John (next), also served in the same regiment.



Another card from the Shannon collection

Name: **Thomas John Stewart**
Rank: Rifleman
Date of Birth: 5/8/1894
Place of Birth: Dunturkey, Ballynure
Parents' names: William Stewart and Jane Forsythe
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
War number: 28561
Outcome of War: Survived

Name: **James Turner**
Rank: Rifleman
Date of Birth: 1885 - 1886
Place of Birth: Ballycorr, Ballynure
Parents' names: David Turner and Agnes Wilson
Occupation: Beetling Engine Manager
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
War number: 24039
Outcome of War: Survived

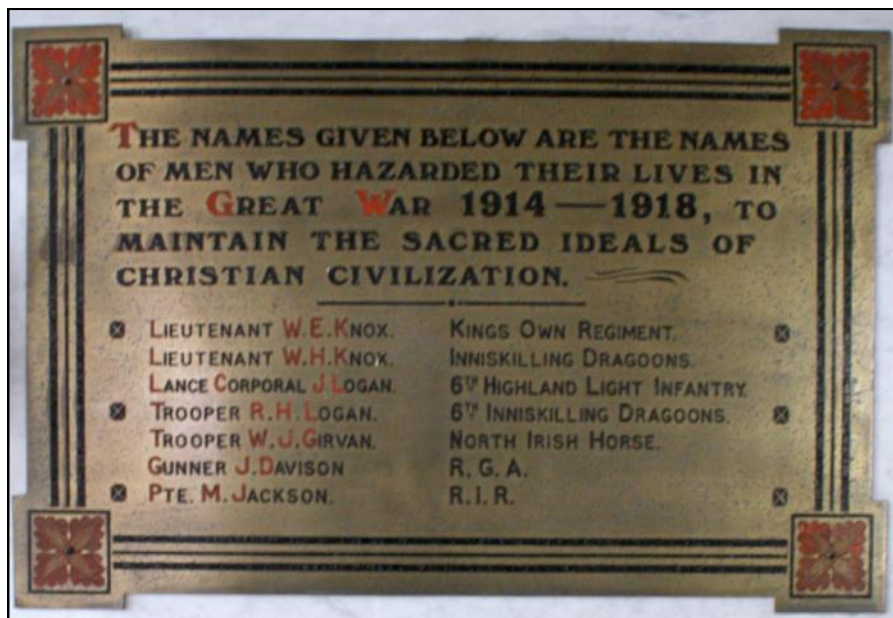
James was a widower when he went to war. His brother Robert (18/733) also served in the same regiment but his name is not displayed on the Ballynure Presbyterian War Memorial.

Name: **Robert Woodside**
Rank: Captain
Date of Birth: 28/1/1891
Place of Birth: Lismenary, Ballynure
Parents' names: Alexander Woodside and Elizabeth Wilson
Regiment: Royal Army Medical Corps
Outcome of War: Survived

Ballynure Methodist Church

The only other World War One Roll of Honour in the village is in Ballynure Methodist Church and is included here to complete the information about soldiers from this locality.

A service of unveiling and dedication of the war memorials was held in the church on Sunday 17th April 1921.



The following eight men went from the Methodist Church:

Captain Robert Henry Wilson	Royal Army Medical Corps
Lieutenant William Edward Knox	Kings Own Regiment
Lieutenant William H Knox	Inniskilling Dragoons
Lance Corporal John Logan	6th Highland Light Infantry
Trooper Robert Henry Logan	6th Inniskilling Dragoons
Trooper William John Girvan	North Irish Horse
Gunner James Davison	Royal Garrison Artillery
Private Matthew Gettinby Jackson	Royal Irish Rifles

Ballynure Methodist Soldiers in alphabetical order:

Name: **James Davison**
Rank: Gunner
Place of Birth: Ballynure
Regiment: Royal Garrison Artillery
Outcome of War: Was wounded twice but survived the war.

Name: **William John Girvan**
Rank: Trooper (Private)
Date of birth: 3/5/1900
Place of Birth: Ballynure
Parents' names: William Girvan and Elizabeth (Lizzie) Jackson
Hay Merchants
Regiment: Royal Irish Horse
Battalion: B Squadron
Outcome of War: Survived.

Name: **Matthew Gettinby Jackson**
Rank: Private
Date of Birth: 23/8/1892
Parents' name: Robert and Sarah Jackson
Place of Birth: Ballynure
Occupation: Labourer in Bleach and Dye Works
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: C Company, 12th Battalion, Central Antrim Volunteers
Service number: 253
Outcome of War: Was wounded in action twice but survived the war.

Name: **William Ernest Knox**
Rank: Lieutenant
Date of Birth: 13/7/1895
Place of Birth: Ballynure
Parents' names: William James and Susanna M Knox
Regiment: King's Own Regiment
Battalion: 1st Battalion
Outcome of War: Survived the war but had been wounded in action.
William died at home on 26th October 1920 from the wounds he received during the war. He is buried in Ballyclare New Cemetery.

Name: **William H Knox**
Rank: Lieutenant
Date of birth: 30/10/1885
Place of Birth: Clements Hill, Ballynure
Parents' names: John and Martha Jane Knox
Regiment: Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers
Battalion: 2nd Battalion
Outcome of War: Survived.

Name: **John Logan**
Rank: Lance Corporal
Date of Birth: 23/5/1892
Place of Birth: Ballyclare
Parents' names: Hugh and Jane Logan. Hugh was a farmer.
Occupation: Labourer
Regiment: Highland Light Infantry
Battalion: 6th Battalion
War number: 201967
Outcome of War: Wounded in action but survived.
John's brother, Robert Henry (Hugh), on the next page, also served in the war.

Name: **Robert Henry (Hugh) Logan**
Rank: Trooper
Date of birth: 18/3/1898
Place of Birth: Dunturkey, Ballynure
Parents' names: Hugh and Jane Logan Hugh was a farmer.
Occupation: Labourer
Regiment: Royal Inniskilling Dragoons
Battalion: 6th Battalion
War Number: D/21298
Outcome of War: Survived. Robert served overseas and was attached to the King Edward's Horse Regiment. He was a class Z Army Reserve 2 December 1919

Robert's brother, John, on the previous page, also fought in the war. After the war, Robert served the Methodist Church in Carrickfergus in a number of ways before being one of the prime movers in establishing a Methodist Church in Greenisland.

Capt Robert Henry Wilson RAMC

This memorial to Capt Robert Henry Wilson RAMC (over) is in Ballynure Methodist Church



Name: **Robert Henry Wilson**
 Rank: Captain
 Date of Birth: 2/5/1891
 Place of Birth: Ballylagan, Ballynure
 Parents' names: Henry and Elizabeth J Wilson
 Occupation: Medical Doctor (just graduated)
 Regiment: Royal Army Medical Corps
 Battalion: 84th Brigade Royal Artillery



Outcome of War: Robert was wounded by a shell splinter on 21st April 1917 while tending to an injured soldier. He died of his wounds on 15th May 1917 in the Duchess of Westminster Hospital, Le Touquet.

In his book, 'Sailing Ship and Sugar Planter', Hubert Greer records that his older brother John Wilson of Ballylagan was with him in the days before he died. Captain Wilson was interred with military honours at Etaples Military Cemetery (Grave XVII E 19) on May 22nd 1917 (See next page).

Capt Robert Henry Wilson MB is also recorded on the War Memorial in Ballylinney Presbyterian Church, Ballyclare.

CAPTAIN R. H. WILSON, M.B., Royal Army Medical Corps, officially reported wounded, is a son of Mr. William Wilson, Ballylaggan, Ballynure, County Antrim. This officer graduated in Queen's University of Belfast in 1915, and immediately accepted a commission in the Royal Army Medical Corps, being promoted to his present rank on 18th August, 1916.

Belfast Newsletter 2/5/17 and 5/5/17

THE ROLL OF HONOUR.
CAPTAIN R. H. WILSON, M.B., Royal Army Medical Corps, second son of Mr. Henry Wilson, Hillview, Straid, Ballyclare, died on 15th May, at the Duchess of Westminster's Hospital, Le Touquet, of wounds received in action on 21st April. Deceased, who was 26 years of age, was educated at the Royal Belfast Academical Institution and Queen's University. He graduated in 1915, and went to the front the same year.

Belfast Newsletter 23/5/17

Etaples Military Cemetery



Note: 'Rock of ages, Cleft for me' at the bottom of the headstone

GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

SECTION G.R. UNIT 21. REPORT No. 1. SCHEDULE No. 234 C.

COMMUNE ETAPLES.

PLACE OF BURIAL ETAPLES MILITARY CEMETERY.

Map Ref. 1/100,000 Calais 13 B.6.5.4.

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT.

Land belongs to

(PLOT "A" (OFFICERS)). PLOT 17, ROW "E".

The following are buried here:—

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or Despatched	Map Reference
1/London R.	-	MAYER.	✓ LT.G.M.	16. 2.17.	E.	165) 1.4
4/H.L.I.	-	McSWEENEY.	✓ 2/LT.R.R.	10. 3.17.	"	170) 2.1
16/Res. Inf. Port. Army	* -	MAGRO.	✓ LT.J.	* 6. 4.17.	"	175) 3.1
10/A & Suth Hdrs.	-	DENHAM.	✓ CPT.G.P.	14. 4.17.	"	180) 4.1
* removed to Plot 23, Row B, Grave 9. XY 244						
10/att 8/Leicester R.	-	UNDERWOOD.	✓ 2/LT.J.	16. 4.17.	"	185) 5.1
1/5 Gordon Hdrs.	-	WIDDALL.	✓ 2/LT.J.D.	17. 4.17.	"	190) 6.1
7/K.R.Rif.C.	-	WILLIAMSON.	✓ 2/LT.K.H.	19. 4.17.	"	195) 7.1
3/att 2/Suffk.R.	-	FRANCIS.	✓ 2/LT.V.	20. 4.17.	"	200) 8.1
2e/North'd Fus.	-	PRICE.	✓ 2/LT.J.W.J.	22. 4.17.	"	205) 9.1
16/Middx.R.	-	CARRUTHERS.	✓ CPT.S.M.C.	26. 4.17.	"	210) 10.1
20/North'd Fus.	-	SMITH.	✓ 2/LT.J.A.	28. 4.17.	"	215) 11.1
20/North'd Fus.	-	ANDREW.	✓ 2/LT.J.J.	29. 4.17.	"	220) 12.1
10/Lan. Fus.	-	MERCER.	✓ 2/LT.E.D.	2. 5.17.	"	225) 13.1
R.F.A.C/70 Bde.	-	HAINES.	✓ 2/LT.S.G.	4. 5.17.	"	230) 14.1
4/Gordon Hdrs.	-	KEMP.	✓ 2/LT.A.C.	7. 5.17.	"	235) 15.1
2/Sea.Hdrs.	-	FERGUSON.	✓ LT.J.W.	9. 5.17.	"	240) 16.1
1/R.M.L.I.	-	GOLDSMITH.	✓ CPT.J.	11. 5.17.	"	245) 17.1
10/R.W. Fus.	-	WILLIAMS.	✓ 2/LT.E.G.	13. 5.17.	"	250) 18.1
RAMC att. 84/Bde.RFA.	-	WILSON.	✓ CPT.R.H.	15. 5.17.	"	255) 19.1
R.G.A. 239/S. Bty.	-	CROOKER.	✓ 2/LT.W.	20. 5.17.	"	260) 20.1
23/Middx.R.	-	BAINES.	✓ 2/LT.G.	5. 6.17.	"	265) 21.1
8/Bufs.	-	ARNOLD.	✓ 2/LT.H.A.C.	12. 6.17.	"	270) 22.1
7/Leinster R.	-	STANNUS.	✓ MAJ.T.R.	17. 6.17.	"	275) 23.1
11/S.Lan.R.	-	SHAW.	✓ 2/LT.R.J.	26. 6.17.	"	280) 24.1
42/Canadians.	-	WATT.	✓ LT.C.	11. 7.17.	"	285) 25.1
RAMC ADMS. 37/Div.	-	TREHERNE.	✓ CPT.C.W.	12. 8.17.	"	290) 26.1
12/R. Irish Rifs.	-	BENTON.	✓ 2/LT.C.E.	19. 8.17.	"	295) 27.1
RFA. 256/Bde.	-	FRASER-SMITH.	✓ 2/LT.S.	3. 9.17.	"	300) 28.1

John W. Jones
3/15/58

RECEIVED
25.11.18
9/13/58

In Memory of

Captain

Robert Henry Wilson

Royal Army Medical Corps who died on 15 May 1917 Age 26

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wilson, of Straid, Ballynure, Co. Antrim. Native of Ballylagan, Ballynure.

Remembered with Honour

Etaples Military Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Remembered in Ballynure Old Graveyard

Name: **William Kearns Adrain**
 Rank: 2nd Lieutenant
 Date of Birth: 1896
 Place of Birth: Ballyclare
 Parents' names: Robert and Jane Kearns Adrain
 Occupation: Employed in his uncle's firm, W Kearns & Co, Manufacturers, Brunswick Street, Belfast
 Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
 Battalion: 5th Battalion attached to the 1st Battalion.



William Kearns Adrain was educated at the Model School and Royal Belfast Academical Institution. He became a member of Queen's University OTC and, in October 1915, was posted to a commission in the 5th Battalion, Royal Irish Regiment. He left for the front line on 10th July and was attached to the Royal Irish Rifles. He was killed on 24th August 1916 and his remains laid to rest in Vermelles British Cemetery (Section III P17) by Rev J K Hamilton, Presbyterian Chaplain (late of Helen's Bay).

Name	Grade	Rank	Regt. No.
A. D. ADRAIN			
William Kearns			
R. B. 12121	088/12	116	116/12121
116/12121			
(1) 116/12121			
R. 12121			

A letter, sent from his commanding officer to William's widowed mother, Jane, recorded that *'One of the small trenches was hit and the men inside it buried. Your son went to help digging them out as they were buried in the debris and succeeded in getting them out, but, as he was coming back he saw another trench mortar coming over and ran for shelter in a mine shaft which got a direct hit and he was buried. We dug him out with all speed, but he must have been killed instantaneously.'*

'During the short time he was here, he was very popular with his men and had the makings of a promising soldier. I deeply regret his loss and wish to add my most sincere sympathy in the very great loss you have sustained, and wish to add that he was performing a gallant deed when his death occurred.'

Second-Lieutenant W. K. ADRAIN.

Second-Lieutenant W. Kearns Adrain, killed in action on 24th ult., was a son of Mrs. J. K. Adrain, 5 Donard Villas, Antrim Road Belfast, and nephew of Mr. D. Kearns, Alderside, Cyprus Avenue, Bloomfield, and Mr. J. Kearns, Woodlawn, Hampton Park. He was 29 years of age, and was educated at the Model School and the Royal Academical Institution, Belfast, from which he entered the service of Messrs. Barclay & Crawford, Ballymena.

After a period with them he joined his uncle's firm, W. Kearns & Co., manufacturers, Brunswick Street. He became a member of the Queen's University O.T.C., and in October, 1915, was posted to a commission in the 5th Battalion Royal Irish Regiment.

After the customary training at Richmond Barracks, Dublin, and Ballykinlar Second-Lieutenant Adrain left for the front on 10th July, and was attached to the Royal Irish Rifles. Details of his gallant death are to hand in a letter to the bereaved mother from the commanding officer, who writes:—

One of the small trenches was hit and the men inside it buried. Your son went to help digging them out as they were buried in the debris, and succeeded in getting them out; but as he was coming back he saw another trench mortar coming over and ran for shelter in a mine shaft which got a direct hit, and he was buried. We dug him out with all speed, but he must have been killed instantaneously. During the short time he was here he was very popular with his men, and had the makings of a most promising soldier. I deeply regret his loss and wish to add my most sincere sympathy in the very great loss you have sustained, and wish to add that he was performing a gallant deed when it occurred.

Rev. J. K. Hamilton, Presbyterian chaplain (late of Helen's Bay), who laid the remains of this gallant young officer to rest, has also sent a letter of sympathy, in which he mentions that deceased was out at service on the Sunday before going into the trenches, and he had a conversation with him that day.

From a local paper, September 1916

82A. COMPREHENSIVE REPORT. 1.11.20. Army Form W. 2372
GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.
 REPORT No. 1 SCHEDULE No. 765.
 VERMILLES
 PLACE OF BURIAL VERMILLES BRITISH CEMETERY.
 Map Reference 44a.6.7.3.0.3.
 The following are listed here—

Request	No.	PLAT	State	Rank	Date of Death	Cause Related to G. S. R. U.	Final Age
2/northants.	19766	1000	✓	PRV. S.	25.8.16	all	18.
2/lincolns	20774	1000	✓	PRV S.	21.8.16	crushed	15.
24/Y.S.G.	19656	CLARE	✓	PRV S.	23.8.16	erected	15.
24/-20-	33344	STOANBERG	✓	PRV S.	21.8.16		15.
2/northants	16513	DOCK	✓	PRV S.	-0-		15.
2/northants	16513	ADRIAN	✓	S/LT. V.A.E.	*		17.
2/lincolns	20774	CASEY	✓	PRV S.			19.
-20-	2/9720	COHENE	✓	PRV S.	25.8.16.		19.
-20-	146	DEWEE	✓	PRV S.	*		20.
-20-		WILSON	✓	S/LT. A.S.	"		21.
-20-	2/17607	FLANN	✓	PRV S.	22.8.16.		22.
-20-	2/16420	WINTERBORN	✓	PRV S.	24.8.16.		22.
-20-	2/15007	BRIDGES	✓	PRV S.	25.8.16.		23.



In affectionate remembrance of a lovely and pleasant young life



The gravestones in Ballynure Old Cemetery remembering William Kearns Adrain (left) and Robert J Millar (right).

Name: **Robert John Millar**
 Rank: Sergeant
 Date of Birth: 1890
 Place of Birth: Belfast
 Parents' names: Joshua and Elizabeth Millar
 Occupation: General Labourer
 Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
 Battalion: 1st Battalion
 War Number: 7445



Outcome of War: Robert was killed in action at the Battle of the Somme on 1st July 1916 and is remembered on Panel 15A and 15B on the Thiepval Memorial as one of the 72,104 men who died in that area of France and for whom there is no known grave.

UK, Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919 about Robert Millar	
Name:	Robert Millar
Birth Place:	Belfast
Death Date:	1 Jul 1916
Death Place:	France and Flanders
Enlistment Place:	Belfast
Rank:	Sergeant
Regiment:	Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion:	1st Battalion
Regimental Number:	7445
Type of Casualty:	Died of wounds
Theatre of War:	Western European Theatre

INDEX No. M.R.21 MILLAR, Pte. John, 43314. 2nd Bn. Royal
 THIEPVAL MEM. Scots Fusiliers. 12th Oct., 1916.
 PART XXX MILLAR, Lce. Cpl. John D., S/12834. 7th Bn.
 Seaforth Highlanders. 12th Oct., 1916. Age 24.
 Son of Mrs. Isabella Millar, of Bellevue, Roslin,
 Midlothian.
 MILLAR, Pte. Lauchlan, S/1541. 10th Bn.
 Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. 14th July,
 1916.
**MILLAR, Serjt. Robert, 7445. 1st Bn. Royal
 Irish Rifles. 1st July, 1916.**

The Parish of Ballygowan & Ballyclare

Name: **Patrick Sweeney**
Rank: Rifleman
Date of Birth: 1892
Place of Birth: Ballygillan
Parents' names: Mr and Mrs James Sweeney
Regiment: Royal Irish Rifles
Battalion: 1st Battalion
War Number: 9419

Outcome of War:

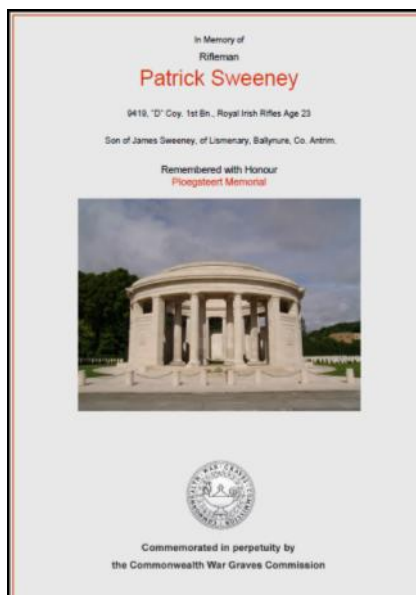
Patrick, aged 23, was killed in action on 9th May 1915 during the Battle of Aubers Ridge close to Festubert.

The Battalion had been in billets at Bac St Maur since the 5th May 1915 and left at 11.00pm on the 8th May to march to the assembly trenches at La Cordonnerie Farm. The operation was part of an attempt to take Aubers Ridge co-ordinated with the French attack at Souchez. Patrick was killed in action on 9th May during the Battle of Aubers Ridge close to Festubert.

There is no known grave and Patrick is commemorated on panel 9 at Ploegsteert Memorial, Belgium

Although living in the townland of Lismenary in one of the (now derelict) cottages beside the new Ballybracken roundabout in Ballynure, he enlisted in Belfast into the 1st Battalion Royal Irish Rifles. His will states that he left all his possessions to his father, James Sweeney, of Ballybracken, Ballynure.

It is likely that the family were members of the Parish of Ballygowan and Ballyclare. Patrick is not remembered on any War Memorial in Ballynure, but is remembered in Cookstown (http://www.cookstownwardead.co.uk/persondepth.asp?cas_id=38),



INDEX No. M.R.32
PLOEGSTEERT
MEMORIAL
PART SEVEN

SWAN, Pte. William, 18660. 1st Bn. Duke of Cornwall's Light Inf. 28th April, 1918. Age 32. Husband of Annie Swan, of 72, Burgess St., Limehouse, London.

SWANN, Pte. Ernest, 20116. 1st Bn. Sherwood Foresters. 9th May, 1915. Age 43. Husband of Eliza Ann Swann, of 76, Alfreton Rd., Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts.

SWANN, Pte. Herbert Edward, 8840. 2nd Bn. Scots Guards. 18th Dec., 1914.

SWANN, Pte. John Henry, 10838. 1st Bn. The Cameronians (Sco. Rif.). 26th Oct., 1914.

SWANSBURY, Cpl. Charles, G/7965. 2nd Bn. Royal Fusiliers. 4th Sept., 1918. Age 30. Son of James and Eliza Swansbury, of 38, West St., Harrow-on-the-Hill; husband of Rose Howarth (formerly Swansbury), of 27, Wordsworth Rd., Wealdstone, Harrow.

SWATMAN, Pte. Sidney Robert, 241840. 1st/5th Bn. Northumberland Fusiliers. 10th April, 1918. Age 22. Son of Robert Swatman, of 3, "Vimy Ridge," Norwich Rd., Wymondham, Norfolk.

SWEENEY, Pte. Daniel, 242054. 2nd/6th Bn. Sherwood Foresters. 16th April, 1918.

SWEENEY, Pte. Frank, 26/1229. 26th (Tyneside Irish) Bn. Northumberland Fusiliers. 1st Oct., 1916. Age 35. Son of the late Edward and Annie Sweeney.

SWEENEY, Rfn. Patrick, 9419. "D" Coy., 1st Bn. Royal Irish Rifles. 9th May, 1915. Age 23. Son of James Sweeney, of Lismanary, Ballynure, Co. Antrim.

SWEENEY, Rfn. Richard, Z/1475. 3rd Bn. The Rifle Brigade. 5th March, 1915.

SWEET, Pte. Frank Norman, 9042. 2nd Bn. Northamptonshire Regt. 9th May, 1915. Age 20. Son of Mrs. Kate Florence Miller, of 1, Millman Place, Bedford Row, Holborn, London.

SWEETLOVE, Cpl. Harold William Thomas, 27238. 2nd Bn. Hampshire Regt. 11th April, 1918. Age 21. Son of Thomas and Eliza L. Sweetlove, of 7, Hope Place, Scotland Green, Tottenham, London.

SWEETMAN, Pte. William, 11741. 1st Bn. Border Regt. 11th April, 1918.

SWETENHAM, Lt. Edmund. 2nd Bn. Durham Light Inf. 27th Oct., 1914. Age 24. Son of Lieut. Comdr. Clement William Swetenham (R.N.), of Somerford Booths, Congleton, Cheshire; husband of Louise Swetenham.

SWIFT, Pte. John, 7284. 2nd Bn. Royal Dublin Fusiliers. 18th Oct., 1914.

SWIFT, Pte. William Henry, 38814. 15th/17th Bn. West Yorkshire Regt. 19th July, 1918.

SWINBURN, Pte. Alfred Victor, 7438. 1st Bn. Leicestershire Regt. 2nd March, 1915.

SWINDELL, Pte. John V., 75607. 1st/8th Bn. Durham Light Inf. 9th April, 1918. Age 20. Son of Mrs. Alice S. Swindell, of The Black Horse, Locksbottom, Farnborough, Kent.

SWITHEBANK, Pte. Roland, 11581. 2nd Bn. Durham Light Inf. 30th Oct., 1914. Age 21. Son of John William and Alice Swithenbank.

SWORDS, Pte. Thomas, 7669. 2nd Bn. Leinster Regt. 20th Oct., 1914. Age 27. Son of James Swords, of Kinnegad, Co. Westmeath.

SYKES, Pte. Alfred, 7654. 1st Bn. East Yorkshire Regt. 18th Oct., 1914. Age 30. Son of the late Brook Sykes; husband of Lena Sykes (née Firth), of 3, Unwin Place, Smith Lane, Daisy Hill, Bradford.

SYKES, Pte. Charles William, 6234. 21st Div., Cyclist Coy., Army Cyclist Corps. 25th Jan., 1916.

SYKES, Pte. Fred, 12/1071. 12th Bn. King's Own Yorkshire Light Inf. 13th April, 1918.

SYKES, Pte. Henry, 9275. 2nd Bn. Essex Regt. 9th Nov., 1914. Age 21. Son of Oliver and Louisa Sykes, of 31, Maryland Rd., Stratford, London.

SYME, Pte. Donald A. R., 59087. 8th Bn. Royal Scots. 12th April, 1918.

SYMES, Pte. Harold, 43242. 2nd/8th Bn. Worcestershire Regt. 3rd Sept., 1918. Age 20. Son of Mrs. Symes, of Stoneymarsh, Romsey, Hants.

SYMON, Cpl. David, 266429. 8th Bn. Black Watch. 19th July, 1918.

SYMONS, Rfn. John, Z/1032. 1st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. 3rd April, 1915.

TABERNER, Pte. George, 1803. 2nd Bn. Royal Warwickshire Regt. 10th Nov., 1914.

INFORMAL WILL.

W.O. No. 1 E/196231/1

DOMICILE. *Irish*

Record No. *202/275205-69*

The enclosed document

dated *3/11/14*

Name *Patrick Sweeney*

and signed *Patrick Sweeney*

Regtl. No. *9419 R*
and Rank

appears to have been written
or executed by the person

Regt. *1st Bn Irish Rifles*

named in the margin while
he was "in actual military

Died at *France*

service" within the meaning
of the Wills Act, 1837, and

Date of Death *9/5/15 France*

has been recognised by the
War Department as con-
stituting a valid will.

WAR OFFICE.

H Reader

Date *25th January 1917*

14

WILL.

In the event of my Death
I give the whole of my
Property and effects to
My Father ^{James} Sweeney
Ballybrackon
Ballynure
Boatrim
Ireland

3rd 11/14

Patrick Sweeney
Riflesman
1st Bn Royal Irish Rifles

Acknowledgements

In addition to those already mentioned in the preface, I wish to thank:

- Mr Jonathan Auld for information about John Auld;
- Mr Mervyn Crooks for information about Samuel Crooks;
- Ballynure Historical Society for the pictures of Samuel Fulton McCreary and the information about 2nd Lieutenant William Kearns Adrain;
- The Dean of Connor, The Very Rev John F A Bond for information about the brothers Eldred Merwin and Verus Calvin Montgomery;
- Mrs Linda Dodds for her help with the memorials in Ballynure Methodist Church;
- Mrs Catherine Kitson (nee Jenkins) for information about her grandfather, John Hill;
- Col Duncan Koller for information about Thomas Henderson Gamble;
- Mrs Nance Mackey for information about her uncle, Matthew George Hill;
- Mrs Ella and Mr Herbie Mawhinney for their help with the Shannon brothers;
- Mr Laurence McAuley for information about Hector Smyth Montgomery;
- Mr Peter McClellan Buchanan for information about the three McClellan brothers, Allan John, Peter and Watson;
- Mr Robert McCreary for information about his father, Samuel Fulton McCreary, and his uncle, Major Robert McCreary, MC OBE;
- Mrs Doreen Stevenson for information about her great-uncle, James Noble McFerran MM MSM;
- Mrs Maureen Lennon (née Shannon) and Mr Gerry Shannon for information about the brothers Robert (Rab) John and Thomas (Tam) Shannon;
- Mr William James (Bill) Park for information about his father James Shaw Park;
- Mr Phillip Tardif for information on Samuel Fulton McCreary and William Andrew Patton (North Irish Horse);
- The Librarian in Larne for permission to reproduce the concert advert from their Larne Times archive.

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<http://northirishhorse.com.au/index.htm>

Finally I want to thank my daughter, Dr Lezley-Anne Hanna, and her husband, Dr Alan Hanna, for proofing the book and for all their advice with the layout.

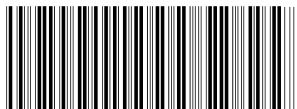


Ballynure and District Friendship Club is open to all members of the community who are over 50 years of age. It meets at 2.15pm on the last Friday of the month in Ballynure Presbyterian Minor Hall.

Various trips and excursions are organised throughout the year.

The Club receives a Community Grant from Newtownabbey Borough Council and a Rural Transport Grant from the Department for Regional Development.

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