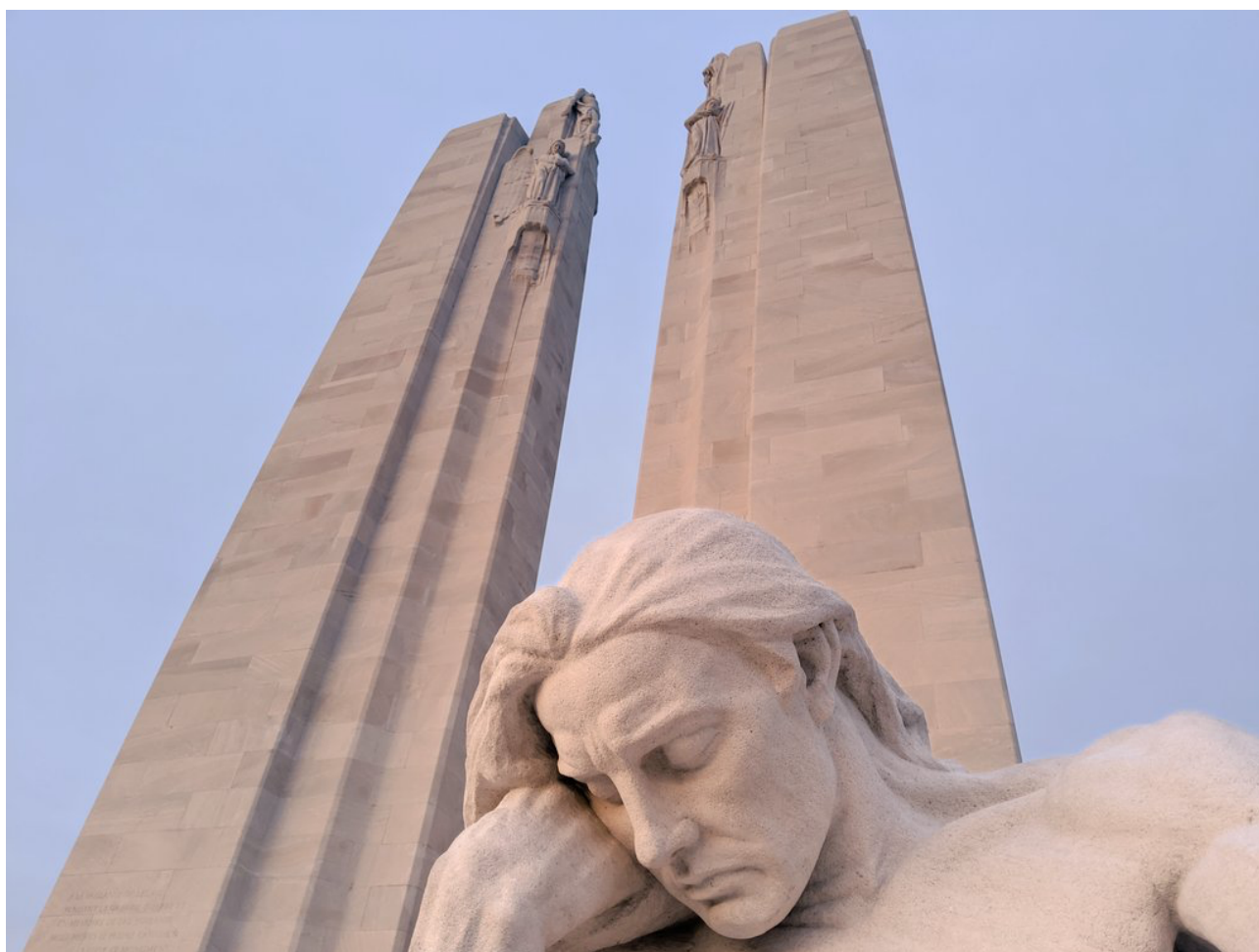




remembrance ni



## Vimy Ridge Memorial

**Today's Roll records the deaths of two members of the Royal Marine Light Infantry.**

One from Lisburn died in the German air raid on Scarborough in 1915. Another from Groomsport died in France in 1917 following the amputation of a leg shattered by gun shot. John Dymond from Coleraine, one of today's

veterans also served in the RMLI. Two sailors George Lowry from Bangor and Patrick Tyre from Belfast and Cookstown were lost in HMS Stronghold sunk by Japanese navy in Java sea in 1942. In 1944 Lt Col. Gilbert Nangle from Moneymore serving with the Gurkha Rifles fell at Cassino, Italy. Those he commanded were responsible for seizing and holding Hangman's Hill close to the Abbey of Monte Cassino, one of the most remarkable actions of the Italian campaign. In 1945 it was confirmed that James Clayton from Gilford had died whilst a Japanese POW.

## On this Day – March 2

### **2nd March 1915 Belfast Newsletter**

The remains of Private R. Carey, of B Company, 11th Battalion Inniskilling Fusiliers, were interred in the Ballymena Cemetery on Sunday with military honours. The deceased, a smart young soldier, had been transferred from the camp at Shane's Castle to the Ballymena Infirmary on the 17th ult., suffering from measles, and died on Saturday morning. The master of the workhouse immediately communicated with the senior medical doctor in the camp and also with the deceased's father, who resides at Hartington Street, Belfast, and is an employee in the Queen's Island. On Sunday Captain Myles, the officer commanding the regiment, arrived with five motor cars, containing a number of the deceased's comrades. The coffin, which was covered with a Union Jack, was carried by the soldiers to the graveside, followed by the regimental

pipers. Rev. Canon Ross was the officiating clergyman, and "The Last Post" was sounded by a trumpeter.

At the meeting of Ballymena Urban Council yesterday, Mr. Thomas Kerr said that he, as a councillor, was present at the funeral the previous day, and was asked on all sides the question whether the deceased soldier was being buried in the poor's ground, and he replied that he was not. The public went away with the impression that some slight had been paid to the deceased by the military authorities.

The clerk said that the military authorities, through Captain Myles, purchased a grave Mr. Henry said the military authorities, as soon as they heard of the death, took charge of the funeral. They would have been pleased if the funeral had been postponed till Monday, as they intended bringing over a great number of the soldiers, but the deceased's father insisted on it being carried out on Sunday. The funeral was very largely attended, and the Ulster Volunteers turned out in full strength, and all paid their last tribute of respect to the deceased.

Private Rondaine Carey, 17359, B' Company 11th Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, died of Measles and abscess to throat. Son of Henry Stevenson and Wilhelmina Margareta Carey, of Hartington Street, Belfast. Deceased was 19 years of age and is buried in Ballymena New Cemetery, County Antrim

## **1940**

British India liner Domala bombed in English Channel, killing 100 people.

## 1941

The German Twelfth Army moves into Bulgaria.  
Great Britain breaks off diplomatic relations with Bulgaria.  
Germans occupy Bulgaria on way to invade Greece.  
The RAF launches a heavy raid against Cologne.

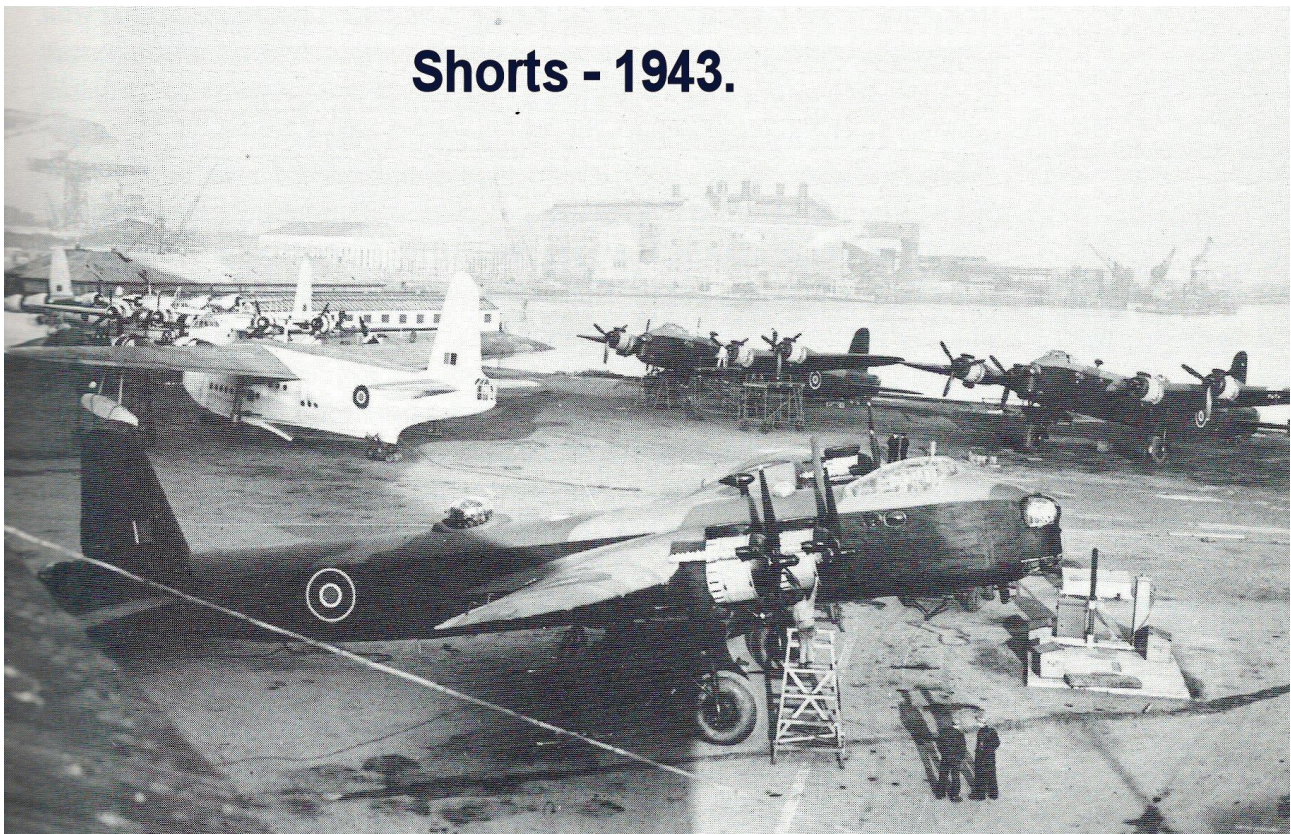
## 1942

Churchill declares that the Tirpitz is 'the most important naval vessel in the situation today' and believes her destruction would 'profoundly affect the course of the war'.  
General Wavell reassumes post as C-in-C India and Burma.  
Burma is now cut off from the Southwest Pacific.  
The Dutch take supreme command of all allied forces in Southwest Pacific.  
In Australia, all adult civilians are liable for compulsory war service.  
US Army reorganizes into three autonomous commands—Ground Forces, Army Air Forces, and Services of Supply.  
The Stage Door Canteen opens on Broadway in 44th St. Theater, where stars entertain and serve servicemen.

## 1943

The battle of the Bismarck Sea opens Northeast of New Guinea.  
US Fifth Air Force (SW Pacific) B-25s use skip-bombing to attack a Japanese convoy sinking 12 ships.  
Germans begin a withdrawal from Tunisia, Africa.  
The center of Berlin is bombed by the RAF. Some 900 tons of bombs are dropped in a half hour.





## Sunderlands and Stirlings built in Belfast

### 1945

RAF conducted its last major raid on Köln, Germany, with 858 aircraft. The city was captured 4 days later by American forces. Köln was bombed in 262 separate air raids by the Allies during the war.

US Ninth Army crosses into Germany and reaches the Rhine near Düsseldorf.

The U.S. Third Army captures Trier on the Moselle.

The RAF launches a heavy attack (300 bombers) against Mannheim, causing a devastating firestorm.

After 14 days of fierce fighting, the 503rd Regimental Combat Team – the “Rock Force” – raised the American Flag in the presence of General MacArthur at the Topside Barracks on Corregidor in the Philippines.

In the United States, strikes close ten Chrysler and Briggs

plants

**1946**

Ho Chi Minh elected President of North Vietnam  
Representing their comrades who died on this day



## Roll of Honour – March 2

*Representing their comrades who died on this day*

**1915**

**+HOLMES, James**

Royal Marine Light Infantry, Plymouth Division. Private. Ply/17083. Died 02/03/1915. Aged 19. He died of wounds while serving on HMS London during the German raid on Scarborough. Son of Thomas and Annie Holmes of 2 Low Road, Lisburn. He had two brothers who also served during the war. Sergeant W.J. Holmes worked in Belfast before the war, and lived with his wife at Millbrook Road, on the Low





Joncourt is a small village 10 Kms north of St. Quentin and the British Cemetery is located to the south on the D71. The Cemetery contains 61 First World War burials, 55 of which belong to the 10th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Road in Lisburn. A reservist and member of the UVF, he served in 2 Irish Guards and won the DCM at Loos on the 29/09/1915. In a letter published in the Lisburn Standard on the 26/11/1915 one of his colleagues, Sgt. Rolleston, described him as, “a great warrior [who] made a name for himself ... at the outbreak of the war”. Home on leave in the second week of January 1916, he received his DCM from the King on St. Patrick’s Day 1916 and the occasion was marked the next day by the presentation of a purse of sovereigns subscribed by the people of Lisburn. Private

## Remembrance Ni, March 2

Thomas Holmes, also of the Irish Guards, “gave up a lucrative post in America on the outbreak of the war” to return home and enlist. Both appear to have survived the war. Portland Royal Naval Cemetery, England

### **+IRWIN, William**

North Irish Horse. 626. Trooper. Died 02/03/1915 of disease at No.10 Stationery Hospital, St Omer. Age 25. Born in Feddins Garvary, County Fermanagh, around 1890, son of Margaret Irwin. He enlisted in the North Irish Horse at Tempo in October or November 1911. On 17/08/1914 he embarked for France with A Squadron of the NIH, seeing action in the retreat from Mons and Advance to the Aisne. Longuenesse (St Omer) Souvenir Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France





## 1916

### **+DUNNING, T J**

Royal Irish Rifles, 9th Btn. Rifleman. 14506. Died 02/03/1916. Aged 21. Husband to Margaret Dunning, of 16, Haddow St., Belfast. Sucrierie Military Cemetery, Colincamps, Somme, France

### **+HILLAN, John**

Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). 1st Btn. Private. B/7536. Died 02/03/1916 at Rouen. Age 43 . Native of Poyntzpass, Newry. Husband to Elizabeth Donaldson. Bois-Guillaume Communal Cemetery, France

### **+LAVELLE, Thomas J**

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 7th Btn. Private. 22885. Died 02/03/1916 near Loos. Age 34. Worked as a shoemaker before he enlisted. Son of Thomas. And Annie Lavelle, Quarry Row, Camlough. Husband to Elizabeth Lavelle, of 2, Syenite Place, Rostrevor. Loos Memorial, France

### **+O'RAWE, Edward**

Royal Irish Fusiliers. 1st Bn. C Coy. Private. 9807. Died 02/03/1916 struck by a lorry in a road accident. Age 26. Born in Belfast. Lived in Tandragee. Son of Edward and Jane O'Rawe, of St. Helena, Tandragee, Co. Armagh. Henu Churchyard, Pas de Calais, France

### **+OVERTS, James**

Royal Field Artillery. 82nd Bty. 10th Bde. Gunner. 91344. Died 02/03/1916 from wounds. Born in Armagh. Enlisted in

the Royal Garrison Artillery. The 1911 census shows him to be serving in Burma. In November 1915 he transferred to the Royal Field Artillery. He disembarked in Egypt on 03/12/1915. An application for his medals was made in March 1923 by a Mrs McGlone of Cottage Court, Callan St., Armagh. Kut Wat War Cemetery, Iraq

**+REYNOLDS, James Andrew**

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 7th Btn. 2nd Lieutenant. Died 02/03/1916. Son of Thomas William and Marcella Elizabeth Reynolds. The family lived in Scotch Street, Dungannon, from where Thomas ran the family chemist and grocer shop. James was born on 31/01/1896. Tragically, his mother died just two weeks after he was born. By 1901, the four children

[Joncourt British Cemetery](#)

were living with their aunt in Ballycastle. By 1911, the family had moved to Belfast. James enlisted and was with the 7th Battalion of the Royal Irish Fusiliers. During training, James fell ill and died of at the family home in Belfast. Dungannon WM

**1917**

**+COUSINS, John**

RNR. AB. 1192D. Died 02/03/1917. Aged 47. John who was a fisherman enlisted in the RNR in 1894. Mobilised in 1914 he served at shore establishments at Portsmouth. He died of natural causes Husband to Sarah Cousins, Stanley Terrace, Kilkeel. Mourne - PCI RH. Mourne Presbyterian Churchyard. Kilkeel WM

**+GORDON, James**

Canadian Infantry, 5th Btn.(Central Ontario Regt.). Private. 799154. Died 02/03/1917. Born on 04/08/1895 at Liminary, Ballyclug, Ballymena. Son of William Gordon and Martha Bryson, Ballymarlow, Ballymena. Brother of Charles who also served. Fosse No. 10 Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. 1st Ballymena Presbyterian Church RH.

### **+KELLY, Charles**

Royal Munster Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Private. 5161. Died 02/03/1917. Age 25. Son of Charles and Mary Kelly, of 25, Derry St., Belfast. Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord, France

### **+KINNAIRD, John**

Australian Infantry, AIF. 4th Btn. Private. 2680. Died 02/03/1917. Aged 27. John Kinnaird, known as Jack, was born on 04/08/1889 in East Street, Newtownards. He was a son of William and Sarah Ann Kinnaird who were married on 15/06/1885 in First Newtownards Presbyterian Church. They had eleven children. The Kinnaird family lived in Newtownards, in East Street, then John Street and later at 41 South Street. Jack Kinnaird worked as a plumber before he moved to Australia and there he worked as a miner before he enlisted on 29/07/1915 in Newcastle, New South Wales..Private Jack Kinnaird was posted to Egypt for a short period and from Alexandria he sailed to France. He disembarked in Marseilles on 30/03/1916 and in July that year he was wounded in action. He was hospitalised suffering from shell shock. He was wounded in action again on the morning of 2 March 1917 during an enemy attack at Le Barque and he died later that day. First news of his death came in a letter to his father from Private H.G. Brown, one of his comrades. After Jack Kinnaird's death was



officially confirmed, his personal effects comprising a tobacco pouch, unit colours, letters, cards, photos, wallet, pocket book, money belt, shell and scarf were sent to his father who was living at 41 South Street, Newtownards. Warlencourt British Cemetery, France. Newtownards and District WM. St Mark's Parish Church of Ireland Church (C of I) Newtownards RH

### **+TONER, Patrick**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 8th Btn. Serjeant. 16969. Died 02/03/1917. Born in Ballinascreen, Draperstown. Patrick Toner enlisted in Omagh. Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord, France

### **+WATERSON, Henry**

Royal Naval Division, 1st Royal Marine Btn., Royal Marine Light Infantry. Private. CH/1261(S). Died: 02/03/1917. Aged 22. Born in Groomsport on the 27/12/1894. He was the youngest child of William Waterson and his wife Jane (nee Malone). His father was a fisherman and after his education Henry followed in his father's footsteps taking up fishing as his occupation. He enlisted on the 24/11/1915 and embarked with the Royal Marine Brigade on 28/06/1916. He was drafted to the BEF and joined the 4th Entrenching Battalion on 10/11/1916 before transferring to the 1st Royal Marine Battalion on the 25/11/1916. At the end of February 1917 he received a gun shot wound to the left leg resulting in a compound fracture of tibia which required amputation. He died of his wounds in 11th Stationary Hospital, Rouen. St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, France. Groomsport Parish RH. Groomsport WM. Family memorial in Bangor Cemetery. ADM 159/145/1261



**+WEIR, Patrick J**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Btn. Sergeant. G/14585 .  
Died 02/03/1917 near Albert, France. Aged 40. Born in Fintona, County Tyrone about 1877. Patrick Weir married Elizabeth Jane Weir. The 1901 census shows Patrick living with his wife and child in Fintona, working as a rural postman. By 1911, Patrick Weir was working as a railway porter. He was 34 years old. They now had seven children. The family now lived in Mullaghmore, Mountnorris, County Armagh. Elizabeth J. Weir, later lived at 2, Boyd's Square, Dungannon. Dernancourt Communal Cemetery, Dernancourt, Somme. Dungannon WM, St Anne's C of I WM, Holdfast LOL 1620 RH

**1918**

**+MURRAY, P**

Royal Engineers, 57th Field Coy. Driver. 25545. Died 02/03/1918. Age 22. Brother of Catherine Murray, of 51, Park View Street, Old Park Road, Belfast. Nine Elms British Cemetery, Belgium

**+O'HARE, Robert**

RNR. Seaman. 6681A. HM Trawler Clenboyne. Died 02/03/1918. Age 23. Son of Mr and Mrs Peter O'Hare, River St., Newry. Dunkirk Town Cemetery.

**1919**

**+ARMSTRONG, John**

Royal Munster Fusiliers. Private. 19195. transf. to Labour Corps. 390497. Died 02/03/1919. Age 45. John was originally Royal Irish Rifles, the RMF, and finally Labour Corps. Son of Isaac and Mary Ann Armstrong, of Carrickmore, Co. Tyrone; husband to Ellen Armstrong, of 42, Danube St., Belfast. Belfast City Cemetery

**+DALTON, Alexander.**

MMR. Fireman. 865447. HMS Eaglet. Died 02/03/1919. Aged 25. Son of William Dalton of 128 Bristol Street, Belfast. Blaris Old Cemetery, Lisburn

**+GORMAN, James**

RNR. Stoker 3410 (S). HMS Maidstone. Died 02/03/1919. St Mary's Catholic Cemetery, Newry

**1941**



**+MILLAR, William Alexander**

RAFVR. Sergeant (Pilot). 748196. Died 21/03/1941. Aged 21. 83 Sqdn. Son of David and Mary J. Millar, of Belfast. Bayeux War Cemetery, Calvados, France. 502 (Ulster) Squadron WM, St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast

**+MORRISON, Robert**

1st Btn. Royal Ulster Rifles. Rifleman, No. 7013673. Died 02/03/1941. Aged 25. Born in Belfast, the foster son of Rosina Reid, of Monkstown. Carnmoney (Holy Evangelists) Church of Ireland churchyard extension.

**+MURRAY, James Noel**

RAFVR. Sergeant. 9681789. Died 02/03/1941. 9 Sqd. Son of James and Ethel Murray, of Dunmurry. Runnymede Memorial, Panel 49.

**+SINCLAIR, John Brown**

RN. Able Seaman. D/JX 218639. Died 02/03/1941. H.M.S. President III (S.S. Castlehill), On board the coal cargo ship SS Castlehill en route from Cork, Ireland to Newport, Wales. Built in Greenock, Scotland and owned by John Kelly Ltd. of Belfast, Co. Antrim, the merchant vessel went down in the Bristol Channel off Minehead, Somerset, with the loss of all but 1 crew member. A Heinkel HE111 of Kampfgeschwader 27 claimed the sinking. Sinclair was a Royal Navy DEMS Gunner based at HMS President III. He was born on 06/12/1907 in Belfast. Plymouth Naval Memorial, Plymouth, Devon.

**+STARRETT, Samuel**

Royal Ulster Rifles, 8th Btn. Rifleman. 7013794. Died

[Remembrance Ni, March 2](#)

02/03/1941. Aged 20. Son of Robert George and Annie Starrett, of Cullion, Co. Tyrone. Glendermott C of I Churchyard, County Londonderry,

**1942**

## **HMS STRONGHOLD**

A Japanese task group consisting of the heavy cruiser Maya and the destroyers Arashi and Nowaki discovered and sank the destroyer HMS Stronghold as she tried to escape the south of Java for the safer waters of Northern Australia. Maya later took on board 50 survivors from HMS Stronghold.



### [HMS Stronghold](#)

#### **+LOWRY, George Victor**

RN. Able Seaman. D/SSX 20899. Date of Death:  
02/03/1942. Age 22. HMS Stronghold. Over eight years'

service. An elder brother Sgt. Wm Lowry was serving in Palestine. Son of William and Violet Lowry, Railway View St., Bangor. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 20/03/1942 and 14/12/1945). First Bangor Presbyterian Church WM. Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 65

**+TYRE, Patrick Joseph**

RN. Able Seaman. Died 02/03/1942. Age 21. A brother John was also serving in the East with RN. Son of Patrick and Elizabeth Tyre, Ardilea St., Belfast, formerly of Cookstown. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 20/03/1942 and 21/12/1945). Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 66

**1944**

**+HILL, William James**

RAFVR. Sergeant (Wireless Operator (Air)). 1084513. Died 02/03/1944. 156 Sqdn. Born in Lurgan on 29/01/1922, son of William Hill of High Street. He was a pupil at Lurgan College from September 1934 until July, 1937. Durnbach War Cemetery, Bayern, Germany

**+NANGLE, Gilbert William**

Gurka Rifles, 7th Btn. Major. IA/966. Died 02/03/1944, during the Battle for Monte Cassino. At the time of his death, A/Lt Col Gilbert Nangle was commanding 1st/9th Gurkhas and it was he who gave the order that led to C Company, under Captain Michael Drinkall, seizing and holding Hangman's Hill close to the Abbey of Monte Cassino, one of the most remarkable actions of the Italian campaign. Son of retired Colonel Kenlis E. and Sybil B. Nangle who lived at Ballyeglish Rectory, Moneymore. Gilbert Nangle enlisted in the Indian Army at the outbreak of World War 2. He was



Mentioned in Dispatches. Cassino War Cemetery, Cassino, Frosinone, Italy

**1945**

**+CLAYTON, James**

RAFR. Corporal. Acting Pilot Officer and Radio Operator. 970707. Died 02/03/1945 aged 28, whilst a prisoner of war. Born 19/03/1917. Son of James and Martha Clayton, of 3 Prospect Terrace, Gilford. He was a prisoner of war at the brutal Sandakan Camp, Borneo, Malaysia for almost 4 years. In January 1942, his name was on a list of recipients of a Red Cross Package from the local headquarters in Gilford. In September 1945, the Clayton family received a postcard stamped from the POW Camp in Borneo from



March 2 in 1945, Castel Borsetti area, Italy. Churchill tank from "C" Squadron North Irish Horse carrying Italian infantry

James stating he was “in excellent health”. He also said spirits were high and he had received mail from them. By September 1945, the reality was that the Sandakan Camp had closed. Many of the men had been sent out on what became known as “Death Marches”. The family learned of the death of Jim in December 1945. His death was commemorated on Column 452 of Changi War Memorial in Singapore, now commemorated in Krangi Cemetery, Singapore. Gilford WM

**+COCHRANE, Robert**

Royal Artillery. Gunner. 6975323. Date of death 02/03/1945. Age: 37. 1st Maritime Regt. RA .Robert had 7 years’ service before the outbreak of WW2. He died in an accident when he fell from a ship while boarding the vessel and drowned in Seaham harbour near Durham. His address on enrolment was Alexander Street, Main Street, Bushmills. Son of James and Elizabeth Cochrane, Antrim. His father was Head Porter at Antrim station and before that at Castledawson station. Ballymena Cemetery, Cushendall Road.

**+McSPERRIT, Bernard Ignatius**

Royal Artillery. Gunner. 7017181. Died 02/03/1945. Aged 28. attd. 4th Btn. The Parachute Regiment, A.A.C. Son of Francis and Maria McSperrit, of Belfast. Rome War Cemetery, Italy. See note below.

Both Gunners Robert Cochrane and Bernard McSperrit were former infantrymen. Cochrane had served as a soldier of The Corps of The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and The Royal Irish Fusiliers, and McSperrit of the Royal Ulster Rifles. Gnr Cochrane’s service number indicates that he enlisted in the mid-1920s.

The 8th Bn Royal Ulster Rifles, was converted to 117th Light AA Regiment Royal Artillery on 1 January 1942, although it retained Rifles' distinctions. The regiment served in the Mediterranean (Tunisia, Sicily and Italy) and was re-roled as infantry in Italy in May 1944, officially disbanding as a Gunner unit in June. The unit wasn't converted as a whole but its soldiers reinforced units of the newly-formed 61 Brigade, a Green Jacket formation, under Brigadier Adrian Gore whose family roots were in County Donegal.

## **VETERAN**

### **DYMOND, John**

RMLI. Private.10349. Plymouth Division. Order of St. Stanislaus 1916 for service in Jupiter in the White Sea. South Africa war medal 1904. Enrolled 12/06/1900. Re-engaged 12/07/1912. Prior to the war, he served in Gibraltar and Highflier, Bulwark, Isis, Vivid and Flora. War service in Jupiter, Devonshire and Cordelia. Discharged 14/07/1921. Occupation - Cooper. Son of the sexton of Terrace Row Presbyterian Church, John Dymond of Terrace Row, Coleraine. Born Coleraine 02/03/1878. "Brother of Jim killed in action with Scottish Rifles, and Robert of Inniskillings (Ulster Division), a prisoner of war after the big push". (Coleraine Chronicle 02/09/1916). Terrace Row - PCI RH. ADM 159/77/10349

### **KIDD, Edward**

Rifleman Edward Kidd from Randalstown was awarded the Military Medal in November 1916. His courageous actions for which he was awarded the Military Medal were recorded in a letter from Captain A.P.I. Samuels : - " News has just come round that the 11th R.I.R. had a raid on the German

trenches. One man above all others is mentioned as having killed six Germans and held on by himself throwing bombs at great length and was the last man to leave the German trenches : in fact, he covered the retreat of the party, and was especially mentioned for his coolness and bravery - Edward Kidd. It is the second time he has done this as he had greatly distinguished himself on the 1st of July”.

Edward Kidd initially enlisted in the 9th Battalion (West Belfast Volunteers) Royal Irish Rifles and then transferred to the 11th Battalion (South Antrim Volunteers) Royal Irish Rifles. He deployed to France with the 36th Ulster Division and served with distinction until discharged on 02/03/1919. Rifleman Edward Kidd's headstone in 2nd Randalstown Presbyterian graveyard.

### **VINT, Robert Washington**

RAMC. Colonel. QUB 1910 BCh, BAO. Lieutenant RAMC, Jan 1912. Captain, March 1924. Lt Colonel, June 1934. Colonel, July 1939. Served to 24/04/1947. Served India 1914 - 16, Mesopotamia 1916 - 19. Born 1887. Son of John and Margaret Vint, Carrickfergus. Died 02/03/1953  
1945

**Every day is a Remembrance  
Day**

***We will remember them***



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

**Information about individuals who served - please forward to remembrance ni at email below**

**remembrance ni**

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The **remembrance ni** programme is overseen by Very Rev Dr Houston McKelvey OBE, QVRM, TD who served as Chaplain to 102 and 105 Regiments Royal Artillery (TA), as Hon. Chaplain to RNR and as Chaplain to the RBL NI area and the Burma Star Association NI. Dr McKelvey is a Past President of Queen's University Services Club. He may be contacted at [houstonmckelvey@mac.com](mailto:houstonmckelvey@mac.com)

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