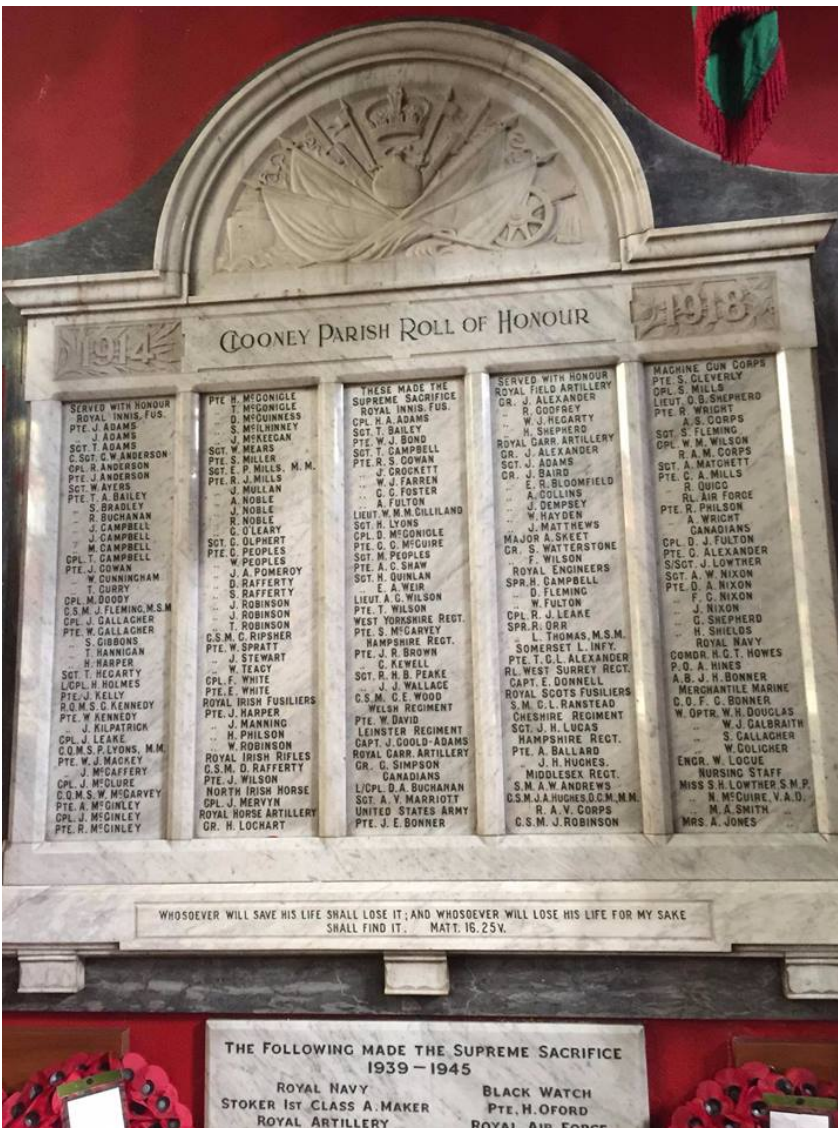




# remembrance ni

## Silent witness

The First World War Roll of Honour in All Saints Parish Church, Clooney Waterside area of Londonderry.



There are five columns of names.

Those listed in the centre column are the

names of those who died in service. Today's Veteran is James Robinson. His service and that of his younger brother John is commemorated on the Roll above.



**Group Captain Leonard Cheshire - see page 4**

## **On this day - August 13**

### **1916**

Destroyer Laforey Class HMS Lasso while escorting a convoy off the Dutch Maas Lightship has a huge explosion near her stern tubes. She broke in two sinking with the loss of six of her crew. Its reported she was torpedoed by UB-10.

### **1917**

Sloop HMS Bergamot, serving as a Q-ship, was torpedoed and sunk by German submarine U-84 with the loss of 14 lives, 70 nautical miles northwest of the coast of County Donegal.

## 1937

Second Sino-Japanese War: Japanese forces begin the Battle of Shanghai, a conflict that will last 3 months and involve 1 million troops”

## 1940

‘Adlertag’, or ‘Eagle Day’. The Luftwaffe launched mass attacks intended to incapacitate RAF. They flew 1,485 sorties, inflicting damage & casualties but blunders lead to incorrect target selection, & ultimately RAF ability to defend British air space remained.

## 1942

Bernard Montgomery took command of British 8th Army. “I have cancelled the plan for withdrawal. If we are attacked, there will be no retreat. If we can’t stay here alive, then we will stay here dead.”

The '**Manhattan Project**' commences, under the direction of US General Leslie Groves: its aim - to deliver an atomic bomb. The Manhattan Project was the codename for the American effort to develop and test nuclear weapons during World War II. Run by General Leslie Groves, the construction of the actual bomb was overseen by Robert Oppenheimer, who was head of the Los Alamos Laboratory where it was developed.

In 1939 a letter written by Leo Szilard and signed by Albert Einstein was delivered to US President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The letter urged the United States to develop

uranium stockpiles and commence research efforts, especially as Nazi Germany might do the same.

Two bomb types were developed: Little Boy, a uranium bomb, and Fat Man, a plutonium bomb. The work was carried out with extreme secrecy; many of those working on the project had no idea what they were working towards.

Despite the security, Soviet spies managed to penetrate the project, and were aware that the US had developed the bomb.

On July 16, 1945, the Trinity test became the first detonation of a nuclear weapon. Less than a month later, President Harry Truman authorized the use of nuclear weapons on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, to date the only use of nuclear weapons in history. The bombs brought about the quick end of World War II without the need for a catastrophic invasion of Japan, but with an exceptionally high loss of civilian life in the two destroyed cities.

In a specially commissioned blog post RAF Museum curator, Peter Devitt, describes the nuclear attack on Nagasaki, seen from the eyes of legendary Group Captain Leonard Cheshire (Photo, page 2).

<https://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/blog/cheshire-and-the-bomb/>

Photo next page - Nearly 140,000 Allied personnel became Prisoners of War in the Far East. To ensure speedy repatriation, the British Pacific Fleet's carriers became troopships.



## **ULSTER EXILES IN VANCOUVER - 1943 SOMME REMEMBRANCE.**

Members of the Irish Protestant Association (Vancouver, B.C.) paid tribute to the men of the 36th (Ulster) Division at a Somme memorial rally on July 1, when they placed a wreath on the Cenotaph, Victory Square, Vancouver.

Rev. W. R. Brown (Dungannon) gave an address in which he eulogised the gallantry of the Ulstermen at the Battle of the Somme, saying the Ulstermen of to-day who were fighting for the Empire would not be wanting in that courage to which they were paying tribute.

The president, Mr. S. Turkington (Derry City), placed a wreath bearing the Red Hand of Ulster and carrying a

suitable inscription on the Cenotaph. The tribute was a beautiful specimen of floral art, and was supplied by Mr. Hugh Donnan (Newtownards)...

Ballymena Weekly Telegraph - Friday 13 August 1943

## 1943

**Irish Brigade at Maletto** - "Contact was made with the American 1st Division, who arrived at the road junction at 0930hrs. This was a great performance by the RIrF & could only have been carried out by a fine, well officered battalion led by an able & determined commanding officer... this concluded the fighting of the Irish Brigade in the Sicilian campaign. Total casualties were 25 officers & 365 ORs. They were not high considering the duration & scope of operations carried out. The proportion of Coy Commanders, though, was very high (5 killed & 5 wounded)".

Fusilier Edward Graham was killed during the final forward advance of 1 RIrF towards Randazzo. It took his two sons, Edward & Sydney, who were 2 weeks old when their father was killed, 74 years before they could visit his final resting place.

## 1944

Captain Glenn Miller performed in Northern Ireland with a show in Belfast before paying a visit to Langford Lodge.

# Roll of Honour – August 13

*Representing their comrades who died on this day*

**1914**                      **First Old Portoran to die in WW1**

**+MILLER, Inglis Francis Rowley**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. Lieutenant. Died 13/09/1914. Age 21. First Old Portoran to die in WW1. Son of Major Rowley Alexander Miller and the late Ella Francis Miller, of Millbank, Omagh. Porte-de-Paris Cemetery, France

**1915**

**+CAMPBELL, William**

Royal Irish Rifles. 6th Btn. Rifleman. 11159. Died 13/08/1915. Aged 21. Son of William and Margret Campbell, of 28, Walbeck St., Antrim Rd., Belfast. Helles Memorial, Turkey (including Gallipoli)

**+GREEN, H**

Royal Irish Rifles. 1st Btn. Rifleman. 5050. Died 13/08/1915. Age 24. Son of Ennis and Ellen Green, of Ringawoody, Ardglass, Co. Down; husband to Mary Eilen Green. Y Farm Cemetery, Bois-Grenier, France

**+SMYTH, Joseph**

Leinster Regiment, 2nd Btn. Private. 8406. Died 13/08/1915 of wounds. Age 27. Born on 04/01/1888. Son of James and Hester Smyth, of Beagh, Maghera, Co. Londonderry. Served with Leinster Regt. in India. Birr Cross Roads Cemetery, Ypres, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

### **+TRAVERS, Michael**

Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Private. 4081. Died 13/08/1915. Aged 22. Son of James and Bridget Travers, 46, Nelson Street, Derry. At the time of Michael Travers' death four brothers were serving. One of them, James, husband of Maggie Travers, 36, Nelson Street, Derry, was reported wounded around April 1916. Maggie Travers also received notification, around September 1917, that her husband was suffering from a gunshot wound in the right hand, and was in hospital in France. Another brother, Private B. Travers, Royal Inniskillings, was reported a prisoner of war at the beginning of May 1918. He fought at Mons and the Aisne, had been four times wounded during the Great War. His wife resided at Nailor's Row. Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey, and on the Diamond War Memorial, Londonderry.

## **1916**

### **+AUSTIN, Hugh Morrell**

Highland Light Infantry, 12<sup>th</sup> Btn. 2nd Lieutenant. Died 13/08/1916. Aged 25. Less than a year later his brother 2nd Lieutenant James Austin died serving with the Manchester Regiment on 21/06/1917. Hugh was born on 09/10/1890 at Killane, Ahoghill. Son of merchant Hugh and wife Elizabeth Austin, nee Knowles of Fenagh, Cullybackey. The family



later moved to Belfast. They lived at Cedar Avenue, Belfast in 1901, St Jude's Avenue, Belfast in 1911 and were at Cranmore Avenue, Belfast at the time of Hugh's death. Adanac Military Cemetery, Miraumont, Somme, France. Cooke Centenary Presbyterian Church, Belfast RH, family headstone in Cullybackey Reformed Presbyterian (Pound) Cemetery

**+FORKER, William George**

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 11th Btn. Company Sergeant Major. MM.S/5025. Died 13/08/1916. Age 36. Portadown News 03/03/1917 - "Mrs Georgina Forker, Church Street, Portadown, has received the Military Medal awarded to her husband, the late Company Sergeant Major W. G. Forker, 11th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, for bravery in the field. The late Sergeant Forker, who was a man of fine physique, was awarded the decoration for taking part in a dangerous raid on the German trenches under machine gun and shell fire. Sometime after the award the gallant Sergeant was killed in action." Son of Margaret Forker, Husband to Georgina Forker, of 17, Church St., Portadown. Adanac Military Cemetery, Miraumont, Somme, France.

**+WATT, David**

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 2nd Btn. Private. 7619. Died 13/08/1916. Age 34. Son of Mrs. Jane Watt, of 143, Kitchener St., Belfast. Theipval Memorial, Somme, France

**1917**

### **+BARRETT, William John**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 9th Btn. Private. 14589. Died 13/08/1917 of wounds. Age 28 years old. Son of John and Elizabeth Barrett, of Aghindarragh, Fivemiletown. Born 27/11/1892. He was one of nine children, all born in the Fivemiletown area. The 1901 census records William as 8 years old, living with the family at Aghinlark, Cole, Tyrone. John's father was a labourer. By the 1911 census William was 18 and single. He had left home and was working as a servant for the Cowan family at Mullaghmore, Fivemiletown, Tyrone. Mendinghem Military Cemetery, Poperinge, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Fivemiletown WM, St John's Church, Fivemiletown RH

### **+FULTON, Alexander**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. 10th Btn. Private. 26000. Died 13/08/1917. Age 31. Son of William James and Rebecca Fulton, of, 411a, Claudy, Co. Derry; husband to Jane Fulton, of 53, Duke St., Londonderry. Brandhoek New Military Cemetery, Belgium

### **+HERRON, John**

Black Watch (Royal Highlanders), 8th Btn. B Coy. Lance Corporal. S/40477. Died 13/08/1917. Age 21 years old. Son of William Herron, of 26, Lisburn Avenue, Belfast, and the late Margaret Herron. Ruyaulcourt Military Cemetery, France

### **+McROBERTS, Thomas**

RIR. 15<sup>th</sup> Btn. D Coy. Second Lieutenant. Died 13/08/1917. Aged 28. Prior to the outbreak of the Great War Thomas McRoberts worked as a draper and house furnisher. He

was a member of the North Down Regiment of the Ulster Volunteer Force and joined the ranks of a Reserve Battalion of the 36<sup>th</sup> (Ulster) Division. From there he was sent to a Cadet Unit from which he qualified for a commission. He left for the Western Front on 30/04/1917 and less than four months later he died in action. Born on 28/12/1888 in Mill Street, Comber. Son of Thomas and Jane McRoberts (nee Cairns, sometimes Cairnes) who were married on 22/04/1874 in St Anne's Church of Ireland Church Belfast. The McRoberts family lived in Comber, in Mill Street and then in Castle Street. They had eleven children. Tyne Cot Cemetery, Belgium. Comber and District WM; Comber Masonic Lodge No. 46; Comber C of I Parish Church (St Mary's) and on the Banner of LOL No. 100 (Comber Ulster Defenders) on which he is named with Captain GJ Bruce and Second Lieutenant E DeWind VC

### **+PAULL, Paul**

Royal Irish Rifles. 12th Btn. Lance Corporal. 18626. Died 13/08/1917. Age 25. Son of John and Isabella Paull, of Leitrim, Ballymoney. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

### **+VINT, William John**

Royal Irish Rifles. 15th Btn. Rifleman. 1399. Died 13/08/1917. Age 19. Son of Robert Vint, of Tullyniskey, Dromara, and the late Isabella Jane Vint. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

**1918**

### **+WILLIAMSON J**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 2nd Btn. A Coy. Private. 28889. Age 24. Died 13/05/1918. Son of John and Mary Jane

Williamson, of Londonderry; husband of C. Lee (formerly Williamson), of 22, Emerson St., Londonderry. Potijze Chateau Wood Cemetery, West Vlaanderen, Belgium

## 1940

### **+McDONALD, James**

RAF. Aircraftman 1st Class. 639844. Died 13/08/1940. Aged 18. He and Sergeant Hill died when their Miles Master trainer crashed during night take off at No 8 Flying School in Scotland. James was also a trained gunner. Son of Alexander and Mary McDonald, of Armagh. Montrose (Sleepyhillock) Cemetery, UK

## 1941

### **+INGRAM, David Milford**

Royal Australian Artillery. Gunner. NX3320. Died 13/08/1941. Aged 20. A.I.F. 2/1 Australian Field Regt. Son of David H. Ingram and Annie Ingram, of Belfast. Athens Memorial, Greece

### **+WARD, John Mercer**

RAFVR. Corporal. 1108851. Died 13/08/1941. Aged 21. Son of Samuel G. Ward and Elisibeth M. Ward of Dromore. Dromore First Presbyterian Churchyard

## 1942

### **+WALLACE, John**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Lance Corporal. 6979011. Died 13/08/1942. Age 27. Son of Mary Ann Wallace, of Maguiresbridge. Rangoon Memorial, Myanmar

**+WICKLOW, Thomas James**

RN. Stoker First Class. D/KX88837. Died 13/08/1942. Age 28. HMS Drake. A brother was a sergeant in the RAF. Seven years' service in RN. Married with two young daughters, his family resided in Scotland. Eldest son of Mr and Mrs James Wicklow, Tavanagh St., Belfast. (Belfast Weekly Telegraph 21/08/1942). Edinburgh (Seafield) Cemetery.

**+WILSON, James**

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Fusilier. 6980235. Died 13/08/1942. Age 21. Son of John and Catherine Wilson, of Belfast. Rangoon Memorial, Myanmar

**1943**

**+BOLTON, William Taylor**

Royal Irish Fusiliers. Lieutenant. 255824. Date 13/08/1943. Age 20. Lt Bolton was killed in the pursuit towards Randazzo. He joined the Faughs in December 1942 after being commissioned. He was posted temporarily to The Sherwood Foresters but rejoined the Faughs at the end of the Tunisian campaign. He was initially a platoon commander in A Company but was transferred to B Company when it lost most of its officers. Son of Samuel and Sadie Bolton, of Belfast. Catania War Cemetery, Sicily, Italy

**+MONTGOMERY, Hugh Graham**

RAF. Sergeant (Pilot). 657862. Died 13/08/1943. Aged 28 years. Educated at Campbell College, Greenmount Agricultural College and Queen's University Belfast. BSc 1937 QUB. He was a keen amateur motorcycle racer and

won the Leinster Grand Prix in May 1939. Formerley served in Royal Artillery in an Anti-Aircraft regiment. He saw action with the British Expeditionary Force in France, receiving shrapnel injuries during the Dunkirk evacuation. He was a despatch rider with the regiment. At the end of 1941, he transferred to the RAF. He gained his wings in October 1942 after completion of training in Rhodesia. Born in 1916, he was the only son of Hugh Campbell Montgomery, Assistant Secretary Ministry of Home Affairs and Emilie Montgomery (née Graham) of 20 Shandon Park, Belfast. Dundonald Cemetery. QUB WM

**1944**

**+BURNSIDE, John Kean**

RAF. Flight Sergeant. 521847. DFM. Died 13/08/1944. Aged 32. 61 Sqdn. Son of Samuel and Agnes Burnside, Belfast. Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Germany

**+HARPER, Robert Shaw**

Grenadier Guards. 1st (Motor) Btn. Lance Serjeant. 2617893. MM. Died 13/08/1944. Age 35. Earned the MM in Normandy in August 1944 although he died in action two days later. Lt Col Goulburn dealt with the paperwork to ensure that he received the MM for his courage and leadership at le Val on 11 August. Son of William and Mary A. Harper, of Castlewellan, Co. Down. St Charles de Percy War Cemetery, France. Castlewellan WM

**+MAGEE, John James**

Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, 1st Btn. Corporal. 5382457. Died 13/08/1944. Aged 26. Son of John James Magee and

Isabella Jane Magee, of Ardstraw, Co. Tyrone. Banneville-La-Campagne War Cemetery."

## **VETERAN**

### **ROBINSON, James**

Sergeant. 334 Royal Army Veterinary Corps. James was born at Termon St, Londonderry in January 1891 and enlisted in the Army in 1908, transferring to the Army Veterinary Corps in 1910. He embarked for France with the BEF on 13/08/1914 and served throughout the war, being discharged with the Silver War Badge due to sickness in December 1918. James' service and that of his younger brother, John, is commemorated on the Roll of Honour at All Saints Parish Church, Londonderry.

**Every Day is a Remembrance Day**

***We will remember them***

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# remembrance ni

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

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