Ennistymon and the Great War

By Ger Browne

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With special thanks to Gus O’Halloran who kindly brought me on a tour of Ennistymon, and through his eyes showed me what it looked like 104 years ago, and where the WW1 soldiers lived. Gus wrote an invaluable Booklet on North Clare and the Great War, and also had a North Clare WW1 Database on the Clare Library website. Get well soon Gus.
**Michael Halloran**: Bogberry, Ennistymon. ‘Joined army WW1. Wounded and gassed.’ Age 32. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

**Lance Corporal Andrew Hegarty**: Bogberry, Ennistymon. 2nd Royal Munster Fusiliers 9773. A POW in Dec 1915 (CJ) ‘Twenty three year old Lance Corporal Andrew Hegarty of the Royal Munster Fusiliers was a prisoner since the early days of the war (Etreux)....“On arrival at our Lager in September 1914 we were crowded into stifling tents containing 300 men. The gloom and misery endured at this time is beyond description, and many heartrending and distressing incidents occurred.”.... Now over three years on from his capture and incarceration, Lance Corporal Hegarty, who hails from Bogberry Street in Ennistymon has finally made it home to his family. He also has two brothers in the British Expeditionary Force, 25 year old John who is a member of the Munster Fusiliers and 27 year old Pat who is in the Irish Guards. (died 1920)’ (The Clare People 17th Oct 2017)


**Lance Sergeant Patrick Lee Hegarty**: Bogberry Ennistymon, died 23rd Feb 1920 age 30, 3rd (Reserve) Bn Irish Guards 3178, (TB) (PMcN) Buried in Ennistymon Cemetery. Husband of Margaret Hegarty. (Guss O’Halloran) Brother of Andrew RMF and Johnny RMF.

**Michael Molloy**: Bogberry, Ennistymon. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

**CSM Michael O’Connor**: Bogberry, Ennistymon. He was a Clerk aged 40 when he enlisted in Sept 1914 into the Connaught Rangers 4495 and later the Army Cyclist Corps. He served with the Med Expeditionary Force in Gallipoli from July 1915 to Sept 1915. His wife was Annie O’Connor, and they had 4 daughters Mary, Annie, Norah and Catherine (who died in Sept 1915). He was discharged in Aug 1916.(British Army WW1 Pension Records fold3.com) Michael O’Connor: Ardnaculla, Ennistymon. ‘Age 53. Having fought at Salonika, demobilized 29/6/1917’. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

**Private Patrick O’Loughlin**: Bogberry Ennistymon. He was a labourer aged 45 when he enlisted in 1915 into the 3rd Royal Munster Fusiliers 6563 (and later with the Royal Irish Rifles in India).
Private Patrick O'Loughlin: Bogberry, Ennistymon. He was a labourer aged 45 when he enlisted in 1915 into the 3rd Royal Munster Fusiliers 6563 (and later with the Royal Irish Rifles in India). He was married to Susan Murphy and they had 4 children. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)  

Private Thomas O'Shea: Bogberry, Ennistymon. 2nd Bn Royal Munster Fusiliers 6458. Wounded Sept 1916 (at the Somme). (CJ) Born in 1882. He served in three campaigns, The Boer War, East Indies and WW1. He received a shrapnel wound and a gun shot wound to the hand and leg and was discharged due to injuries in March 1917. (Guss O’Halloran)

John Reidy: Born 1888 in Ennistymon, died 5th July 1919 at home age 31, from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Royal Iniskilling Fusiliers 24444, 5th Battalion (in the UK, WW1 Service Medal and Award Rolls, 1914-1920), G/M in Ennistymon Cemetery. (TB) Son of Mrs. Margaret Reidy, of Bogberry, Ennistymon. He entered the war on the 17/10/1915 and was discharged on the 27/3/1919. (Guss O’Halloran)

Paddy Sherlock: Bogberry, Ennistymon, (March 1896 - 20th Sept 1956) ‘Paddy Sherlock joined the British army (1st RMF) in 1913, at the age of seventeen. A recruiting sergeant came to Ennistymon looking for volunteers. Paddy was of the age that must see the world, and anyway, he was generally unemployed, belonged to a large family and had no great commitments at home. He served in France first, and then his regiment was transferred to the Dardanelles and from there to Upper Silesia in Poland, in the Great war of 1914-1918. While at home in Ennistymon in 1916 he married Bridget Leary in Miltown Malbay church. The witness to the marriage was John Thynne (Died Dec 1918) and the bride’s sister Mary Anne Leary. When the Munster Fusiliers were disbanded in 1922 Paddy received a gratuity of £10 and seven shillings and six pence per week for the following two years. It is said he soon sold this pension for a small down payment.’ From: Ennistymon Parish Magazine 1989. (He landed at V Beach in Gallipoli aboard the River Clyde Troop ship, as a member of the Munster Fusiliers.)

Private Thomas Sherlock: Bogberry, Ennistymon, Co Clare. He was a labourer aged 43 when he enlisted in Aug 1915 in the 5th Royal Munster Fusiliers 6469. He had previously served with the Leinster Regiment 2nd Bn. He was discharged in March 1916. He married Catherine Ward in 1894 and they had 5 daughters and 3 sons. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)
Francis Davis: Ennistymon, died 8th Dec 1918 age 29, Royal Irish Fusiliers 2nd, G/M in Ennistymon. (TB) (Died on sick leave NCS) He was discharged on the 21st May 1918. Son of Bridget Davis of Church Hill, Ennistymon, Co Clare. In Sept 1917 the Royal Irish Fusiliers 2nd were deployed to Egypt and Palestine as part of the Palestine campaign. He was a General labourer aged 17 when he enlisted in 1906 into the Royal Munster Fusiliers 3973. He died from TB (fold3.com)

Michael Davoren: Lived in Churchill Ennistymon. 8th Royal Munster Fusiliers 5805. He was a baker and worked (and was born) in Kilfenora. 8th (not the 3rd Gus O’Halloran) Royal Munster Fusiliers. NCS. A recent POW in June 1918 (SR) He received a letter from the King after the war.

**Church Hill Ennistymon**

**Thomas McCarthy**: Church Hill Ennistymon, Survived War, Royal Irish Regiment. NCS Age 40 on enlistment in 1915. (Guss O’Halloran) **Private Thomas McCarthy**: 2 Victoria Terrace, Church Hill Ennistymon, Co Clare. He was a casual labourer aged 40 when he enlisted in 1915 with the Royal Irish Regiment 4090. He had previously served with the Royal Munster Fusiliers. He married Bridget Shanahan in Oct 1914 and they had a daughter Mary. He survived the War. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

**Civilian John Murphy**: Upper Churchill, Ennistymon. He was killed on the 20th Sept 1922 following a bomb explosion at Tralee, County Kerry. He had previously served in the British Army. His wife was Annie Murphy. *File relates to Annie Murphy’s application under the Army Pensions Acts in respect of the death of her husband John Murphy who was killed on 20 September 1922 following a bomb explosion at Tralee, County Kerry.* (Ireland, Military Service Pension Index, 1916-1923 ancestry.com)

**Michael O’Connor**: Born in Doolin lived in Ennistymon, killed in action 24th Sept 1916 age 30 at the Somme, 2nd Royal Munster Fusiliers 6377 (1st Div), G/M in Thiepval France. Husband of Ellen O’Connor, Church Hill, Ennistymon. (TB) (Guss O’Halloran) Battle of Flers–Courcelette, 15–22 September. *‘Mike’ O’Connor*: Ennistymon. NCS

**John O’Sullivan**: Church Hill Ennistymon, died of wounds 3rd June 1915 age 23 (Possibly from Rue Du Bois), Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 5795, G/M in England. (TB) Son of Stephen and Margaret O’Sullivan Church Hill, Ennistymon. (Guss O’Halloran)

**John Thynne**: Born and lived in Ennistymon, killed in action 27th Aug 1914, near Caudry after the Battle Of Le Cateau (26/08/1914). Royal Irish Regiment 2nd Bn 10330, 8th Brigade, 3rd Division. G/M in France. Tragically his two brothers also died in the war, Michael (died May 1915) and Patrick Thynne (died May 1915). Son of John and Catherine Thynne, Church Hill Ennistymon. (TB) (Guss O’Halloran)

**Michael Thynne**: Church Hill Ennistymon, died of wounds on the 4th May 1915 age 30 in Gallipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn, G/M in Turkey. (TB) Brother of John and Patrick who both also died. Son of John and Catherine Thynne. (Guss O’Halloran)

**Patrick Thynne**: Born in Ennistymon lived in Brighton, Killed in action in Festurbet, 17th May 1915, Irish Guards 1st Bn 3179, 4th (Guards) Brigade of the 2nd Division. G/M in France.
Private Simon/Sinon Neylon: Ennistymon, died 22\textsuperscript{rd} July 1916, Royal Munster Fusiliers 5\textsuperscript{th}. Buried in Ennistymon Cemetery, in the West part, South of ruin. He fell from a train travelling from Limerick to the Curragh. His parents sued the GSW Railway. Service Number 5/6832.

Private John Reidy: Ennistymon, died July 1919 age 31, Royal Iniskilling Fusiliers. He is buried in Ennistymon Cemetery, South of gate, leading from West to East. Son of Mrs. Margaret Reidy, of Bogberry, Ennistymon. Service Number 24444.
Private Thomas Heavey/Private Thomas Barlow: Died 8th April 1919, age 36. Royal Army Service Corps. Also known as Thomas Barlow. Buried in Ennistymon Cemetery, in the South corner of the West part of the Cemetery. Service Number DM2/225827

Private Francis Davis: Ennistymon, died 8th Dec 1918 age 29, Royal Irish Fusiliers 5th. He died on sick leave. Buried in Ennistymon Cemetery, in the West part, South of ruin. Son of Bridget Davis of Church Hill, Ennistymon, Co Clare. Service Number G/534

August 1916

Patrick Lynch: Kilmoon, Lisdoonvarna, died 6th Aug 1916 age 34, Australian Pioneers Unit 4th, G/M in the Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery in France. He is remembered on the Lynch family headstone in Ennistymon Cemetery, North-East of the ruin. He was the son of Patrick and Margaret Lynch Lisdoonvarna. They owned Lynch’s Hotel in Lisdoonvarna. Service Number 1660.
Victoria Terrace Soldier’s Houses were built by the McNamara’s from Ennistymon House.

Private Patrick Connole: 6 Victoria Terrace Church Hill Ennistymon, Co Clare. He was a Labourer aged 33 when he enlisted in 1911 in the Royal Munster Fusiliers 5th Bn 5676. He had previously served with the RGA for 12 years up to 1910. He served with the BEF in 1915 -16 (2nd RMF) and in Salonika 1917 -18 (Royal Irish Fusiliers). He received a gunshot wound to the forearm in June 1916. He was discharged in April 1919. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

Private P Connole: Ennistymon. Wounded June 1916. (CJ)

Patrick Connole: Ennistymon, survived the War, Royal Artillery. Brother of John. NCS. ‘From February (1916) the trench warfare recommenced, taking the heavy monthly toll of brave men’s lives, each of the five succeeding months taking an average of 50 killed and wounded alone, to say nothing of those incapacitated by trench fever and other disease.’ (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)

Johnny Connole: Ennistymon, Survived the War, Royal Army Medical Corps. He was posted and mobilised to the 13th Field Ambulance Corps on 5th August, 1914. Private Connole was awarded The 1914 Star (Auth: A.O. 360/1917), the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. NCS (See Clare WW1 Individual Profiles) Private John Connole: RAMC 3031. He was taken prisoner in 1914 and sent to Sennelager, a POW Camp in Germany. (The National Archives – findmypast)

Gerard Halloran: Ennistymon. Royal Munster Fusiliers. Son of Michael Halloran. 5 of his brothers and two brothers in law fought in WW1. No Gerard Halloran or O’Halloran in RMF [Can’t sort out any of the Hallorans without more info. to go on, on a quick search] Jeremiah ‘Gerry’ Halloran: Ennistymon. NCS
Victoria Terrace Church Hill


Martin Halloran: Ennistymon, 5th Bn Royal Munster Fusiliers 6389. NCS Son of Michael Halloran. 5 of his brothers and two brothers in law fought in WW1.

‘Mickey’ Halloran: Ennistymon, RMF 5th, survived War. Michael Halloran's six sons (William, Patrick, John, Martin, Michael and Gerard) and his two brothers-in-law (John and Patrick Connole) all fought in the First World War. NCS

Michael Halloran Junior: Ennistymon. Enlisted into Royal Munster Fusiliers in 1911, but was discharged shortly after due to a back injury. Son of Michael Halloran. 5 of his brothers and two brothers in law fought in WW1.

Patrick Halloran: 6 Victoria Terrace, Ennistymon, died of wounds 29th April 1915, Connaught Rangers 1st Battalion The 3rd (Lahore) Division, G/M in France. (TB) Son of Michael Halloran. 5 of his brothers and two brothers in law fought in WW1. He fought in the Second Battle of Ypres, and was wounded and died at 11 hours and 13 minutes on the morning of Thursday the 29th April 1915. (Guss O’Halloran)

William Halloran: Ennistymon. 6th Bn Royal Munster Fusiliers. Son of Michael Halloran. 5 of his brothers and two brothers in law fought in WW1. He was discharged in April 1916 aged 19. After the War he went to New York with his brother Jeremiah. He died in a swimming accident in 1928. (Guss O’Halloran)

Corporal Joseph Kelleher: 2 Victoria Terrace, Church Hill Ennistymon. Aged 20 when he enlisted in 1915. 8th Royal Munster Fusiliers 5748 (and later in 1915 with the East Lancashire Regiment 53598). His parents were Martin and Anne Kelleher. He survived the War. (WW1 British Army Service Records @ ancestry.com) Corporal J Kelleher: Clare. Royal Munster Fusiliers, wounded at the front in May 1916. (Loos) (CJ)
**Thomas Patrick Davis:** Church St Ennistymon. Enlisted in the Canadian Infantry in Montreal in 1914 age 37. (CI) Was previously in the Royal Munster Fusiliers for 7 years. (Guss O’Halloran) **Thomas Patrick Davis:** Born 14/11/1880 in Ennistymon Co Clare. He lived in Mass. USA. He was a Bank Clerk when he enlisted with the Canadian Expeditionary Force 3082090 in 1916. His wife was Bridget Davis Church Street. (Canada, Soldiers of the First World War 1914-1918. Ancestry.com)

**Patrick Riordan:** Born in Ennistymon lived in Australia (emigrated to Australia when he was 27 as a bootmaker), enlisted in Queensland, died of wounds (gunshot to the breast) 20th May 1916 age 29, in action near Armentieres. Australian Infantry 25th Bn 3300, 2nd Division. G/M in France. Son of John and Johanna Riordan, Church Street Ennistymon. (TB)MA. (Guss O’Halloran) He was a Labourer aged 25 when he enlisted in Dec 1915 in Enoggera Queensland into the 7th Reinf 25th Bn. 3300. His brother was Michael Riordan, Ennistymon. He is buried in Cemetery Ration Farm 1.5 miles South of Armentiers.(UNSW)

**Bridget Roche:** Church Street Ennistymon. ‘Age 50. Son invalided from Royal Navy. Incapable of work.’ (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

**John Henry MacLaurin:** Born in Ennis lived in the The Rectory, Ennistymon, died 20th Sept 1918 age 18, Royal Air Force, G/M in Drumcliffe Cemetery. He is also commemorated on a memorial in St Flannan’s Cathedral Killaloe. The only son of Rev Robert Twiss MacLaurin and Maud Dolmage (Daughter of Rev Julius Griffith). He died when his aeroplane crashed and burst into flames crash at Wittering Aerodrome, near Stamford in England. (TB)

**The Church of Ireland Ennistymon**
Deerpark

John Clohessy: Born and lived in Ennistymon, killed in action 21st August 1915 in the attack on Scimitar Hill Gallipoli, age 28, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn. 3856. G/M in Helles Memorial Turkey. Son of Mrs Anne Foran of Deerpark. (Guss O’Halloran)(TB)

Private Joseph Griffin: Co C 65th Engineers 1803752. His sister was Miss Mary Griffin Deer Park West, Ennistymon Co Clare. (U.S., Army Transport Service, Passenger Lists, 1910 – 1939)

Joseph O’Brien: Deerpark Ennistymon. Royal Munster Fusiliers 3680. NCS He enlisted in Jan 1915 and served 88 days. His wife was Mary and their son Thomas. No medals were awarded as he did not serve overseas.(Guss O’Halloran)

Private Patrick O’Brien: Deerpark Ennistymon. He was a labourer aged 37 when he enlisted in Jan 1915 with the Royal Munster Fusiliers 8th Bn 3680. He was discharged in April 1915. He married Mary O’Brien in Oct 1904 and they had a son Thomas. His mother was Bridget O’Brien.(British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

Austin O’Connor Jnr: Deerpark Ennistymon. 8th Royal Munster Fusiliers. NCS (Guss O’Halloran) Austin O’Connor (Jnr): Deerpark Ennistymon. ‘Labourer. Age 30. Served in WW1 (Gassed and Wounded)’. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne) [Was in 8 Bn. then 1 Bn. and later 2 Bn. can’t have been too badly gassed or wounded as he served until 31-3-1920 and went to reserves] Eddie Lough

Michael Shannon: Deerpark Ennistymon. ‘Ex Army, Tailor. Age 48.’ (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)
Major George Macnamara: Ennistymon House, died of wounds 27th May 1917 age 27 near Loos, Wiltshire Regiment. G/M in France. Just before he died he was Mentioned in Despatches. (TB) (CJ) ‘(third and) Youngest son of Henry Valentine Macnamara DL, of Doolin and Ennistymon House, by his wife Elizabeth Edith...Served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from October 1914, when his regiment was overwhelmed by immensely superior numbers near Ypres. As Transport Officer and unaccompanied, he bravely attempted to get up to its assistance. He was fired at by ten Germans who occupied an eminence about 300 yards from him, and was eventually wounded, a bullet passing through his body, was invalided home, but though far from recovered in health, took up home duty in February 1915. In June 1916 he was sent to France..and was killed in action at Hill 70 near Loos, 25th May 1917.’ From De Ruvigny’s Roll of Honour. ‘He was subsequently posted to a unit of the North Staffordshire Regiment as Acting Major and second in command and with it when he was killed....He met his death at the conclusion of a most successful enterprise carried out by the battalion of which he was largely instrumental...Just before he was killed his name appeared in the list of those mentioned in Despatches’ Sat Record June 1917

Miss Violet Macnamara: raised funds for the Red Cross in 1915.

Murphy: McNamara’s Gate Lodge Ennistymon. NCS

Falls Hotel & Spa

Location: Killeinagh
Graveyard is located off the Ennistymon – Ennis road. Leaving Ennistymon turn left after 1Km at Glann Cross. The cemetery is 1Km on the right.

Thomas Shannon, New York.
PVT 165 INF 42 Div.
August 12th, 1919.
Andrew Shannon, died 9th February, 1945, aged 45.
Veronica Shannon died 18th February, 1945, aged 18.
Ignatius Shannon, died 16th June, 1988, aged 48.
Bridget died 16th May, 1996, ages 88.
Thomas died 12th August, 1918.
John died 6th May, 1969, aged 72.
Joachim McDonagh MM: Ennistymon, survived War. Royal Munster Fusiliers RMF. NCS On the wounded list in Oct 1916. (CJ) He was awarded the Military Medal for Gallantry in the Field (possibly at Guillemont). (Guss O’Halloran) Private J McDonough: 8th RMF 5845. Awarded the Military Medal on the 14/9/1916. (RMF Book Capt McCance)

Anthony White: Lahinch Road Ennistymon. He was a Labourer aged 19 when he enlisted in 1907 into the 8th Connaught Rangers 9135. He was invalided in March 1912. His parents were Michael and Jane White and his brother Edward below. He served in India 1908-11. He was mobilized back to the Connaught Rangers but was discharged in Jan 1916 medically unfit. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

Private Edward White: Lahinch Road Ennistymon. He was a Clerk aged 20 when he enlisted in 1907 into the Connaught Rangers 9134. He served in India and then in the BEF and the MEF during the war. He was discharged in Feb 1917 for medical reasons (due to exposure to gas and TB). His parents were Michael and Jane White, his brother Willie and sister Lizzie. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)
Cyril Edwards: Main St Ennistymon. Army Service Corps. NCS (Guss O’Halloran)

James Fitzpatrick: Ennistymon, Royal Field Artillery, Survived War. NCS (Guss O’Halloran)

James Fitzpatrick: 8 Main St Ennistymon. ‘In January 1921, after leaving army, got a grant to study in Dublin. Age 27’. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

James Mills: Newtown Street Ennistymon, served on HMS Cumberland. NCS (Guss O’Halloran)

Private Thomas Moran: Main Street, Ennistymon Co Clare. He was a labourer aged 28 when he enlisted in Feb 1915 with the Royal Munster Fusiliers 8th Bn 5852. His mother was Mary Moran. He was discharged in March 1915. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

Neylon: Ennistymon. Brother of ‘Tosser’ Neylon (Roughan’s Shop)
Andrew O’Brien: 2 Monastry Road Ennistymon. ‘Age 50. WW1, demobilised 31/12/1919. Son in army serving in Tipperary’. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)


New Road Ennistymon

New Road, Ennistymon.
Sergeant Frank Coalpoise (Colpoise): Born and lived in Ennistymon, died of wounds 17th Nov 1917, possibly received at the Broembeek (8th-16th Oct 1917). Irish Guards 1st Bn. 4586, G/M in Belgium. He was one of the Irish Guards who at the famous charge at Ypres, helped to wipe out the Kaiser’s favourite regiment, the Prussian Guards (11th Nov 1914). His father was employed at O’Dwyer’s Mills.

John Fitzpatrick: Born in Ennistymon, killed in action 21st Aug 1915 age 21 at the attack on Scimitar Hill in Gallipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn, G/M in Turkey. (TB) Son of John Fitzpatrick of 5 New Road Ennistymon. Brother of Eileen O’Brien of New Road. (Guss O’Halloran)

Mrs Mary Fitzpatrick: 8 New Road Ennistymon. Greengrocer. Age 52. ‘Four sons in WW1’. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

Patrick O’Loughlin: Born 1868 in Ennistymon, Co. Clare. Previous Service in the Royal Munster Fusiliers during the Boer War, 1904. Royal Garrison Regiment, Royal Irish Rifles, 1914-1918. Service number, Royal Irish Rifles: 501. He enlisted for the First Boer War (1897-1902) at Tralee where he joined the Royal Munster Fusiliers. He fought during the Second Boer War (1904-1905) as a member of the Royal Garrison Artillery. He fought during World War I (1914-1918) as a member of the Royal Irish Rifles. Discharged to a pension and returned to Ennistymon where he lived on New Road. (Clare Library)’Patie’ O’Loughlin: NCS

George H Roberts: 8 River View Terrace, New Road, Ennistymon. Enlisted in WW1. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)“Robby” Roberts: Ennistymon. NCS
Captain James Golding Harding: Bank House (no 23 Parliament St), Ennistymon, killed in action 30th Oct 1917 age 21 (in The Second Battle of Passchendaele 26 Oct-10 Nov 1917), Royal Field Artillery, 21st Trench Mortar Battery 21st Div, G/M in Belgium. His father Charles Furlouge (mother Elanor Harding) was the Manager of the National Bank in Ennistymon. (TB) (Guss O’Halloran) No. 23 Parliament St. Chambers was once the home of George Harding, Bank Manager, National Bank. The Hardings had 4 children, 2 boys and 2 girls. Later owned by Paddy Chambers, Solicitor and his wife Agnes who had 4 sons. One of the sons, Joseph, has his solicitors offices there now.

Private Bernard Farrelly: Parliament Street Ennistymon. He was 19 when he enlisted in 1915, into the Army Service Corps 094694. He was a butcher before the War, which he survived. (British Army WW1 Service Records @ ancestry.com)

Leonard Galwey Foley: Lahinch. Canadian Infantry (CI) A Civil Engineer. His father was Manager of the National Bank in Ennistymon. (Guss O’Halloran) DOB 28/11/1889. Born in Lahinch Co Clare. He was a Civil Engineer when he enlisted in Vancouver in March 1915 into the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force 116317 11th Mounted Rifles. His mother Mrs E G Foley lived in Dublin. He re-enlisted in May 1916. (Library and Archives Canada)
The story is that Thomas McGann was saving hay in Blackwell’s field when the train came in to Ennistymon Railway Station with soldiers going to war and the band playing. He stuck the fork in the ground and went off saying "Tell my mother I’ll write" jumped on the train and enlisted. He was killed soon afterwards.

Thomas (King) McGann: Born in Ennistymon, enlisted in Ennis, killed in action 6th Nov 1914 age 30, during the First Battle of Ypres, Irish Guards 1st Bn 3356, 2nd Div, G/M on the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres Belgium. Son of Patrick and Jane McGann Ennistymon. (TB)

Petty Officer John O’Donoghue: He was born in Co Cork, but moved to Clare in his teens as his father was involved in the West Clare Railway. He joined the Army Service Corps in 1915, and then went on to be a Petty Officer in the Royal Navy. He is buried in an unmarked grave in Ennistymon Cemetery Churchill. (MOD Clare Library Forum 2009)
**Ennistymon Workhouse Cemetery**

***Location:*** Ennistymon Workhouse was located at Lahinch, between Ennistymon and Lahinch. In 1850-51 it had accommodation for 900 people. The attached Hospital had accommodation for 50 patients.

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**Captain James Blaine Miller:** A 1st Class passenger on the Lusitania which sank on May 7th 1915. His body was washed ashore on the Clare coastline and he was buried in Ennistymon Workhouse Cemetery (Disinterred and sent to Erie, Pennsylvania, 4 December 1915).

**Female:** A passenger on the Lusitania which sank on May 7th 1915. Her body was washed ashore at Lahinch, on 20th July 1915. She was buried in Ennistymon Workhouse Cemetery.

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**Captain James Blaine Miller:** A 1st Class passenger on the Lusitania which sank on May 7th 1915. His body was washed ashore on the Clare coastline and he was buried in Ennistymon Workhouse Cemetery (Disinterred and sent to Erie, Pennsylvania, 4 December 1915). (Brian Doyle)
**Martin Beakey**: Lived in Ennistymon, died 22nd Oct 1920 age 21, Royal Irish Regiment 2nd Bn 7109830, G/M in England. Son of Patrick and Bridget Beakey Cahersherkin Ennistymon. (TB) (Guss O’Halloran)

**Netley Military Cemetery**
Netley
Eastleigh Borough
Hampshire, England
Plot: R.C. 939

The cemetery contains 636 First World War burials.

The cemetery was at the back of the Royal Victoria Military Hospital and was used during both wars for burials from the hospital.

During World War I, **Netley Hospital** accommodated around 2,500 beds. Many of the staff were Red Cross volunteers, as most of the regular staff were overseas.

Some 50,000 patients were treated at Netley during the war.
Private Patrick Blood

**Patrick Blood:** Born and lived in Ennistymon, died of wounds 4th Sept 1916 at Guillemont at the Somme, Royal Munster Fusiliers 8th 5844 (16th Div), G/M in France. (TB) (Guss O’Halloran)

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<th>Delville Wood Cemetery</th>
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<tr>
<td>Longueval</td>
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<td>Departement de la Somme</td>
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<td>Picardie, France</td>
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<td>Plot: XXI. F. 3.</td>
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‘On September 3rd the 8th Battalion moved into position at 3am for the attack on Guillemont... The leading companies left their trench together with the 6th Bn Connaughts at 12.30am..... The enemy had been cleared from Guillemont and the Quarries and Battalion HQ was established in the village. At 2.35pm... the Battalion advanced as far as the sunken road east of Guillemont..... consolidating the position.... the failure of the Brigade on the left to make good its advance on Ginchy exposed the left flank of the Battalion, and three heavy counter-attacks preceded by artillery preparation had to be repulsed. The Battalion was relieved at 2am on the 4th September..... Casualties; 265 all ranks.’

There are now **5,523** burials and commemorations of the First World War in this cemetery.
Michael ‘Micko’ Canny MM: Ennistymon. 1st Royal Munster Fusiliers. He was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (Military Medal in RMF Book) and the French Medal Militaire for saving British and French officers under heavy gunfire in Sept 1917 (in Passchendaele). (CJ)

Private Michael Canny: 1st RMF 5414. He was awarded the Military Medal on the 29/9/1917. ‘From the 4th to the 18th August the Battalion had the task and drudgery of holding the line under heavy bombardments, lying in shell holes full of water...with no overhead protection, with everything soaked, and sore feet, whilst the continuous bombardment banished all chances of sleep... On October 17th the Battalion was relieved by the 6th Royal Irish Regiment.’ (History of the Royal Munster Fusiliers 1861 to 1922. Captain S Mc Cance)

The Military Medal (M.M.)

The Military Medal was awarded to the non officer ranks of the British Army and Commonwealth Forces. It was an award for gallantry and devotion to duty when under fire in battle on land. On the reverse of the medal is inscribed “For Bravery in the Field”.

Gallant Ennistymon Man.

High honours have just been given to a gallant son of the Town of the Cascades.  
Private Michael Canny, who has been awarded a Certificate of Merit, the D.C.M., and the French Medal Militaire, for saving British and French Officers under heavy gunfire. Private Canny is a native of Ennistymon, and belongs to the “Munsters.”

Aug 1917
John Clohessy: Born and lived in Ennistymon, killed in action 21st August 1915 in the attack on Scimitar Hill Gallipoli, age 28, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn. 3856. G/M in Helles Memorial Turkey. Son of Mrs Anne Foran of Deerpark. (Guss O’Halloran)(TB)

The landing at Suvla Bay took place on the night of 6 August 1915 against light opposition. The Ottomans were able to occupy the Anafarta Hills, preventing the British from penetrating inland, which reduced the Suvla front to static trench warfare. The final British attempt to resuscitate the offensive came on 21 August with attacks at Scimitar Hill and Hill 60. Control of the hills would have united the Anzac and Suvla fronts but both attacks failed.

‘The Turkish retaliation set alight to the scrub..the advance having to be carried out through the smoke and fire…. The Battalion, in the air as regards its right flank, was caught by a frontal and enfilading fire. Very heavy casualties were suffered in consequence, and the attack failed.....Under cover of darkness the Battalion was withdrawn....killed, other ranks, 13.’

The Helles Memorial serves the dual function of Commonwealth battle memorial for the whole Gallipoli campaign and place of commemoration for many of those Commonwealth servicemen who died there and have no known grave. There are also panels for those who died or were buried at sea in Gallipoli waters. The memorial bears more than 21,000 names.
Frank Coalpoise (Colpoise): Born and lived in Ennistymon, died of wounds 17th Nov 1917, possibly received at the Broembeek (8th-16th Oct 1917). Irish Guards 1st Bn. 4586, G/M in Belgium. He was one of the Irish Guards who at the famous charge at Ypres, helped to wipe out the Kaiser’s favourite regiment, the Prussian Guards. His father was employed at O’Dwyer’s Mills. (TB)

Sergeant Frank Coalpoise

Plot I.M. 13. Poperinghe Old Military Cemetery
Poperinge. Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium

The Irish Guards 1st Bn at THE Broembeek 8th-16th Oct 1917: There were pill-boxes of concrete in front; there was a fortified farm buried in sandbags, Egypt House, to be reduced; there were nests of machine-guns on the right which the troops on the right had not yet overrun, and there was an almost separate and independent fight in and round some brick-fields, which, in turn, were covered by the fire of snipers from the fringes of the forest…. The affair resolved itself into a series of splashing rushes, from one shell-hole to the next, terrier-work round the pill-boxes, incessant demands for the Lewis-guns…. They had lost in sixteen days 252 other ranks and 14 officers killed or wounded.

Wulverghem-Lindenhoek Road Military Cemetery. Heuvelland Arrondissement Ieper West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium Plot: I. E. 30.

There are now 1,010 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery.

‘..enlisted in the Grenadier Guards about 1894, and served with the Sudan Expedition, including the Battle of Omdurman and the Capture of Khartoum; and through the South African War 1899-1902 (receiving three medals). He then went to Canada about 1906 and settled in Ottawa, and was working on the railroad, but on the outbreak of the European war joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force, came over with the second contingent and was killed in action in Belgium 17th Oct 1915. He was in charge of a machine gun, when a shell fell within 15 yards of his post, killing him and three more instantly..... He was a splendid soldier, and on the 16th Oct had been promoted L-Corporal. He died at his post, and no man could do more.’ From De Ruvigny’s Roll of Honour.
Francis Davis: Ennistymon, died of Pulmonary Tuberculosis on the 8th Dec 1918 age 29, Royal Irish Fusiliers 2nd Regiment G/534, G/M in Ennistymon. (TB) (Died on sick leave NCS) Son of Bridget Davis of Church Hill, Ennistymon, Co Clare.

Ennistymon Cemetery
Ennistymon
County Clare, Ireland
Plot: West part, South of ruin.

He was awarded the 1914/15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. He was also awarded a Silver War Badge for illness attributed to action.

He was discharged on the 21st May 1918.

In Sept 1917 the Royal Irish Fusiliers 2nd were deployed to Egypt and Palestine as part of the Palestine campaign.
Michael Davoren: Lived in Churchill Ennistymon. 8th Royal Munster Fusiliers 5805. He was a baker and worked (and was born) in Kilfenora. 8th (not the 3rd Gus O’Halloran) Royal Munster Fusiliers.

NCS M Davoren: Kilfenora. Royal Munster Fusiliers. A recent POW in June 1918 (SR)

Michael Davoren's Letter from the King
Trooper John Francis Dwyer

John Francis Dwyer: Born in Ennistymon, lived in Queensland, killed in action 7th August 1915 in Gallipoli age 41, Australian Light Horse 2nd Regiment 741, G/M in Turkey. He was 40 years old when he enlisted in Queensland Australia in Nov 1914. He was working as a labourer. He had previous military experience with the Royal Artillery. He was sent from Egypt for duty in Turkey on the 6th Aug 1915. (TB)

Quinn's Post Cemetery, Anzac Gallipoli Canakkale, Turkey. Plot: Special Memorial 38.

The post was named from Major Hugh Quinn of the 15th Battalion, Australian Infantry. There are now 473 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery.

The landing at Suvla Bay took place on the night of 6 August 1915 against light opposition. The New Zealand Infantry Brigade came within 500 metres of the near peak of Chunuk Bair by dawn on 7 August but was not able to seize the summit. This delay had fatal consequences for another supporting attack on the morning of 7 August, by the Australian 3rd Light Horse Brigade at the Nek, which was to coincide with the New Zealander attack from Chunuk Bair against the rear of the Ottoman defences. The attack went ahead regardless, ending in a costly failure, after the opening artillery barrage lifted seven minutes early, leaving the assaulting troops to attack alerted Ottoman defenders on a narrow front.
Private Patrick Edwards

Patrick Edwards: Born and lived in Ennistymon, killed in action 21st Dec 1914 in Festubert, 2nd Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 5752, G/M in France. (TB)

Le Touret Memorial Richebourg-l'Avoue
Departement du Pas-de-CalaisNord-Pas-de-Calais, France Plot: Panel 43 and 44.

Givenchy / Festurbet 18th – 22nd Dec 1914

21st Dec 1914: ‘Slowly but surely the advance continued... Suddenly a shot rang out, followed by another and then an inferno seemed to be let loose... The 2nd Munsters were 500 yards in advance of the troops on either flank!... Officers and men were falling everywhere; in ten minutes 11 officers and over 200 men were hit..... Slowly, reluctantly and methodically, at about 4am on the 23rd, the shattered remnants of the four companies filed back to their starting point, unconquered and unconquerable.’ (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)

Almost all of the 13,400 men commemorated on the Memorial were killed in actions along a part of the Western Front that was the scene of some of the heaviest fighting of the first year of the war.
Private John Fitzpatrick

John Fitzpatrick: Born in Ennistymon, killed in action 21st Aug 1915 age 21 at the attack on Scimitar Hill in Gallipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 6162, G/M in Turkey. (TB) Son of John Fitzpatrick of 5 New Road Ennistymon. Brother of Eileen O’Brien of New Road. (Guss O’Halloran)

Helles Memorial Gallipoli
Canakkale, Turkey
Plot: No Known Grave; name is listed on Panel 185 to 190

The Helles Memorial commemorates more than 21,000 of those Commonwealth servicemen who died there and have no known grave.

The Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Battalion in Gallipoli:

The climax came with the Suvla attack on 21 August in the Battle of Scimitar Hill, the last great battle of the campaign, the Turks inflicting severe casualties, the scrub bushes then catching fire killing many wounded and others taking cover. The unsuccessful attack cost the Munsters 79 men and three officers that day alone.

‘The Turkish retaliation set alight to the scrub.. the advance having to be carried out through the smoke and fire.... The 1st Battalion, in the air as regards its right flank, was caught by a frontal and enfilading fire (from the flank). Very heavy casualties were suffered in consequence, and the attack failed.....Under cover of darkness the Battalion was withdrawn....killed other ranks, 13.’ (History of the Royal Munster Fusiliers 1861 to 1922. Captain S Mc Cance)
Private John Joseph Flanagan

John Joseph Flanagan: Born and lived in Ennistymon, killed in action 8th March 1916 age 37 at Loos, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 5663, G/M in France. Son of John and Catherine Flanagan. (TB)

Maroc British Cemetery, Grenay
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France Plot: I. D. A.

This Cemetery now contains 1,379 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War. During the greater part of the war it was a front-line cemetery used by fighting units and field ambulances.

‘From February (Loos 1916) the trench warfare recommenced, taking the heavy monthly toll of brave men’s lives, each of the five succeeding months taking an average of 50 killed and wounded alone, to say nothing of those incapacitated by trench fever and other disease.’ (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)
Lance Sergeant Timothy Foley

Lance Sergeant Timothy Foley: Born in Ennistymon, died April 13th 1918 age 23, Irish Guards 2nd Bn 8218 (4th Guards Brigade), G/M in Belgium. Killed in action. (TB) Son of Bridget and Michael Foley, Callura, Ennistymon. (Guss O’Halloran)


This Memorial commemorates more than 11,000 servicemen of the UK and South African forces who died in this sector during WW1 and have no known grave.

The Battle of Estaires was one of the opening phases of The Battle of the Lys (7–29 April 1918) The objective was to capture Ypres, forcing the British forces back to the channel ports and out of the war. ‘The morning of April 12th 1918. broke hot and sunny, under a sky full of observation-balloons that seemed to hover directly above them. These passed word to the German guns, and the bombardment of heavies and shrapnel began. About two-thirty the enemy attacked.... No. 2 Company of the Irish Guards had made a defensive flank in view of this danger, and as the enemy pressed past punished them with Lewis-gun fire...... By dusk it would have puzzled any one in it to say where our line stood; but, such as it was, it had to be contracted, for there were not men enough for the fronts.....There was a hope that the Fifth Division would that evening relieve the 2nd Irish Guards in the line, but the relief did not come...

The 4th Guards Brigade stopped the German rush to the sea through a gap that other divisions had left ; and in doing so lost two thirds at least of its effectives......Sir Douglas Haig, in his despatches, wrote: “The performance of all the troops engaged in the most gallant stand,” which was only an outlying detail of the Battle of the Lys, ”and especially that of the 4th Guards Brigade on whose front of some 4000 yards the heaviest attacks fell, is worthy of the highest praise. No more brilliant exploit has taken place since the of the enemy's offensive.’ Rudyard Kipling
Private Patrick Halloran

Patrick Halloran: 6 Victoria Terrace, Ennistymon, died of wounds 29th April 1915 Second Battle of Ypres, Connaught Rangers 1st Battalion, 9143 3rd (Lahore) Division, G/M in France. (TB) Son of Michael Halloran. 5 of his brothers and two brothers-in-law fought in WW1.

Hazebrouck Communal Cemetery
Hazebrouck
Département du Nord
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France

Patrick Halloran features in the poignant photograph "The Last Goodbye", as he holds hands with his mother and sister for the last time. He fought in the Second Battle of Ypres, and was wounded and died at 11 hours and 13 minutes on the morning of Thursday the 29th April 1915. He was awarded the following: The 1914/15 Star, the British War Medal, and the Victory Medal.

In August 1914 the Connoles were joined by their brother-in-law Michael Halloran and his six sons. Patrick Halloran enlisted with the Connaught Rangers while his father, Michael, and brothers, John, William, Michael, Jeremiah and Martin, joined the Royal Munster Fusiliers. (Guss O’Halloran)

Photo – Keir McNamara
Captain James Golding Harding

Captain James Golding Harding: Bank House (no 23 Parliament St), Ennistymon, killed in action 30th Oct 1917 age 21, (in The Second Battle of Passchendaele 26 Oct-10 Nov 1917) Royal Field Artillery, 21st Trench Mortar Battery, 21st Div, G/M in Belgium. His father Charles Furlouge was the Manager of the National Bank in Ennistymon. (TB) (Guss O’Halloran) His mother was Elanor Harding. They lived at No. 23 Parliament St. (later owned by Paddy Chambers, Solicitor), and had 4 children, 2 boys and 2 girls.

Hooge Crater Cemetery, Ypres (Ieper)
Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium
Plot: VII. E. 17.

The Second Battle of Passchendaele was the culminating attack during the Third Battle of Ypres of the First World War. The battle took place in the Ypres Salient area of the Western Front, in and around the Belgian town of Passchendaele, between 26 October and 10 November 1917. The second stage on 30 October was intended to complete the capture of the positions the Canadian Corps had attacked on 26 October and gain a base for the final assault on Passchendaele. The main attack began at 5:50 am on 30 October and was preceded by a rolling barrage with a preliminary artillery bombardment directed largely at pillboxes.

Hooge Crater Cemetery was begun by the 7th Division Burial Officer early in October 1917. There are now 5,916 Commonwealth WW1 servicemen buried or commemorated in this cemetery.
Private Patrick J Hartigan

Patrick J Hartigan: Lived in Ennistymon (Born in Moymore), killed in action 26th April 1918 age 26 near Ypres in the Second Battle of Kemmel (25–26 April 1918), Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment), 2nd Bn, 72743, 6th Div, G/M in Belgium. Son of James and Anne Hartigan of Moymore, Ennistymon. (Guss O’Halloran) His brother James was killed in the Civil War.


Second Battle of Kemmel (25–26 April 1918): Several British divisions did their best to check the German advance with the sparse means at their disposal. Aware of his ally's perilous situation, General Foch sent in French reinforcements to face the Germans at Kemmel Hill where they were exposed to a massive bombardment on 25-26 April. Despite the huge losses the Allies succeeded in stabilizing the front and by 29 April the Kaiserschlacht had run its course, ending in failure.

Brandhoek New Military Cemetery No 3 contains 530 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

On Wednesday the 19th of July 1922 a soldier of Óglaigh na hÉireann/National Forces was killed when as part of a patrol of eight men patrolling Ballinasloe County Galway they were ambushed by a large force. The soldier was seriously injured and died later in the Mater Hospital Dublin, his name was: Private James Hartigan aged 19 of Moymore, Ennistymon, County Clare.
Private Thomas Heavy (Served as Thomas Barlow)

Thomas Heavy (Served as Thomas Barlow): He died on the 8th April 1919 due to Tuberculosis and heart failure, age 36, Royal Army Service Corps DM2/225827. Buried in Ennistymon. He was also a Driver with the RASC. NCS (P McN) (TB) He enlisted in the army on the 21/9/1916 and was discharged on the 2/12/1918.

Ennistymon Cemetery
Ennistymon
County Clare, Ireland
Plot: In South corner of West part.
The Cemetery contains 5 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

He was awarded the 1914/15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He was also awarded the Silver War Badge for wounds received in action.
Ennistymon Cemetery
Ennistymon
County Clare, Ireland
Plot: In the East part.

The Cemetery contains 5 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

L/Sgt Hegarty was given a full military honours funeral when he died in Feb 1920.

The Irish Guards 3rd (Reserve) Battalion was formed in 1914 at Warley Barracks as the 2nd Reserve Battalion. In July 1915 it became the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion and remained at Warley Barracks.
John Howard: Born in Ennistymon, lived in Miltown Malbay, killed in action by shrapnel 19th Oct 1915 in Suvla Bay in Gallipoli, 1st Royal Munster Fusiliers, G/M in Turkey. (TB) (Guss O'Halloran)

Azmak Cemetery, Suvla
Gallipoli, Canakkale, Turkey.
Plot: II.G.11.
There are now 1,074 First World War servicemen buried or commemorated in this cemetery.

Nov 1915 Clare Journal

For the 1st Royal Munster Fusiliers there was little further action other than holding front lines from September through November 1915, when the weather worsened. Late in the month gales swept over the peninsula, hundreds were drowned in the flooded trenches or from exposure or frostbite, followed on 28 November by a blizzard. The battalion was evacuated as it arrived, on the River Clyde sailing 2 January 1916 for Alexandria.
Private Peter Loftus DCM

Peter Loftus: Born and lived in Ennistymon. Died of wounds 19th May 1915 age 19 in Gallipoli (possibly wounded during the Turkish attack on May 1st), Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 9483, G/M in Alexandria, Egypt. Awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (3rd July 1915). Son of W. and Annie Loftus. (TB)

He was awarded the DCM. ‘On the 26th April 1915 at Sedd-EL-Bahr, for gallant conduct in volunteering to advance to a forward position under heavy fire, where he established himself, thus enabling the attack to make headway when the position was captured.’ London Gazette July 3rd 1915. He was also Mentioned in Despatches (5th Aug 1915). (Guss O’Halloran)

Alexandria (Chatby) Military Cemetery
Alexandria
Al Iskandariyah, Egypt
Plot: H. 94.

On April 25, 1915, the SS River Clyde was beached for the landing at Cape Helles during the Battle of Gallipoli. The ship carried 2,000 soldiers mainly from the 1st Battalion of the Royal Munster Fusiliers, and the Royal Dublin Fusiliers. However, the plan failed and the River Clyde, lying under the guns of the Turkish defenders, became a death trap.

At daybreak next day just three companies of Munsters, two of Hampshires and one company Dubliners had made it to the shelter of some dunes. On the 26th they took fort Sedd-el-Bahr overlooking the bay, charging and taking the village behind.

On the night of 1 May the Turks, almost out of ammunition but spurred by the then young Atatürk carried out a tremendous attack. The battalion was reduced to 4 officers and 430 men, who attempted further attacks the following days, but by the 11th were down to 372 men. Private Loftus died of wounds.
The Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) continued

A Photo of Peter Loftus, his Memorial Plaque and a photo of his grave in Alexandria with two of his comrades. All thanks to Stephen McDonagh, a local historian from Labasheeda, whose Great Grand Uncle was Peter Loftus.

The Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM)

Level 2 Gallantry Award

Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) was awarded to non-commissioned officers for gallantry in the field in the face of the enemy. The D.C.M. was the first official medal awarded to recognise an act of gallantry in the field by a member of the armed forces who was below the rank of officer. It was the other ranks' equivalent of the Distinguished Service Order.
Flight Cadet John Henry MacLaurin

**John Henry MacLaurin:** Born in Ennis lived in the The Rectory Ennistymon. Died 20th Sept 1918 age 18, Royal Air Force 1st TDS, G/M in Drumcliff Cemetery Ennis. He is also commemorated on a memorial in St Flannan’s Cathedral Killaloe. The only son of Rev Robert Twiss MacLaurin and Maud Dolmage (Daughter of Rev Julius Griffith). He died when his aeroplane crashed and burst into flames crash at Wittering Aerodrome, near Stamford in England. *(TB)* (Irish Regiments of World War One Facebook Page).
Major George Macnamara

Major George Macnamara MID: Lived in Ennistymon House. Died of wounds 27th May 1917 age 27 near Loos, Wiltshire Regiment 2nd Bn. G/M in France. Just before he died he was Mentioned in Despatches. (TB) (CJ) In June 1916 he returned to France after being invalided home...and was killed in action at Hill 70 near Loos, 25th May 1917.

‘Youngest son of Henry Valentine Macnamara, of Doolin and Ennistymon House, by his wife Elizabeth Edith...Served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from October 1914, when his regiment was overwhelmed by immensely superior numbers near Ypres. As Transport Officer and unaccompanied, he bravely attempted to get up to its assistance. He was fired at by ten Germans who occupied an eminence about 300 yards from him, and was eventually wounded, a bullet passing through his body, was invalided home, but though far from recovered in health, took up home duty in February 1915.

In June 1916 he was sent to France...and was killed in action at Hill 70 near Loos, 25th May 1917.’ From De Ruvigny’s Roll of Honour.

Noeux-les-Mines Communal Cemetery
Noeux-les-Mines
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: I. L. 22.

June 1917 Sat Record
Private Thomas McGann

Thomas (King) McGann: Born in Ennistymon, enlisted in Ennis, killed in action 6th Nov 1914 age 30, during the First Battle of Ypres, Irish Guards 1st Bn 3356, 2nd Div, G/M on the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres Belgium. Son of Patrick and Jane McGann Ennistymon.(TB)

Panel 11
Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial
Ypres (Ieper)
Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium

From the 21st October to the 12th November 1914 the 1st Irish Guards Battalion fought continuously in the first battle of YPRES, losing more than 700 men. From October 25th to the 26th, the focus of the German assaults came south. Attacking between Messines and Wytschaete, German forces succeeded in capturing both towns. The attack was ultimately halted on November 1 with help from French forces. After a pause, German forces made the last push against Ypres attacking along Menin Road. While German assaults continued for a few days, they were minor. Fighting flickered for five days before quieting down for the winter.

The YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL now bears the names of more than 54,000 officers and men whose graves are not known.

The story is that Thomas McGann was saving hay in Blackwell’s field when the train came in to Ennistymon Railway Station with soldiers going to war and the band playing. He stuck the fork in the ground and went off saying "Tell my mother I’ll write" jumped on the train and enlisted. He was killed soon afterwards.
Patrick McNamara: Ennistymon. Died 15th May 1917 age 38, Royal Navy on **HMS Pylades** 292326, G/M in England. *(TB) NCS* Son of Michael and Ellen McNamara of Killispuglinane, Ennistymon. (Guss O’Halloran)

**HMS Pylades** was launched in 1916. It survived WW1, and was scrapped in 1921.

During the First World War, Plymouth, Devonport and Stonehouse contained between them the Royal Dockyard, Royal Naval Barracks (known as H.M.S. Vivid), the Royal Marine Barracks of the Plymouth Division, and naval and military hospitals. **Ford Park Cemetery** *(formerly known as Pennycomequick or Plymouth Old Cemetery)* contains 752 burials of the First World War, more than 200 of them in a naval plot.
Captain James Blaine Miller

Captain James Blaine Miller: A 1st Class passenger on the Lusitania which sank on May 7th 1915. His body was washed ashore on the Clare coastline and he was buried in **Ennistymon Workhouse Cemetery** (Disinterred and sent to Erie, Pennsylvania, 4 December 1915). (Brian Doyle)

**Location:** Ennistymon Workhouse was located between Ennistymon and Lahinch. In 1850-51 it had accommodation for 900 people. The attached Hospital had accommodation for 50 patients.

**Captain James Blaine Miller:** A 1st Class passenger on the Lusitania which sank on May 7th 1915. His body was washed ashore on the Clare coastline and he was buried in Ennistymon Workhouse Cemetery (Disinterred and sent to Erie, Pennsylvania, 4 December 1915).

**Female:** A passenger on the Lusitania which sank on May 7th 1915. Her body was washed ashore at Lahinch, on 20th July 1915. She was also buried in Ennistymon Workhouse Cemetery.

The Lusitania leaving New York on its last voyage.
Simon Neylon: Born in Ennistymon lived in Lahinch, died 22nd July 1916, Royal Munster Fusiliers 5th Bn 6832, G/M in Ennistymon Cemetery. He fell from a train travelling from Limerick to the Curragh. His parents sued the GSW Railway for £500. (TB)

‘After the train had passed Lisnagary station where it did not stop, Pte Neylon felt very sick and leaned out of the carriage window to prevent vomiting in the carriage. The door opened, and as Pte Neylon was falling out one of escort caught him but had to let go or they would have gone with him. He fell on the track and sustained injuries from which he later died.’ Clare Journal March 1917.
Sergeant Cornelius J O’Brien DSC


The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Sergeant Cornelius J. O'Brien (ASN: 568759), United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in action while serving with Company E, 2d Engineers, 4th Division, A.E.F., near Ville-Savoye, France, 11 August 1918. While engaged on the construction of a bridge over the Valle River, Sergeant O'Brien voluntarily left shelter during intense fire and carried one of his wounded officers through a heavy machine-gun and artillery barrage to a dressing station.

Action Date: 11-Aug-18.

Plot H Row 4 Grave 15
Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery,
Romagne-sous-Montfaucon
Departement de la Meuse
Lorraine, France

The DSC is second highest award for military valor in the U.S., behind only the Medal of Honor. The Distinguished Service Cross was established in 1918 to honor heroism of the highest degree that did not quite merit the Medal of Honor.
John O’Connor: Born in Liscannor lived in Ennistymon, killed in action 27\textsuperscript{th} Aug 1914 age 29 in Étreux, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2\textsuperscript{nd} Bn 6137, G/M in France. (TB)

Étreux British Cemetery, Étreux
Departement de l’Aisne

The Cemetery at Étreux was created in the aftermath of a fierce rearguard action fought by a detachment of the British Expeditionary Force during the retreat from Mons in August 1914.

3 companies of the 2nd. Battalion of The Munsters halted the advance of the German Army for fourteen hours in the area of Oisny & Étreux during the retreat from Mons, thus enabling the rest of the British Army to withdraw to a safe distance of twelve miles.

‘By 5 p.m., the battalion was in danger of being overrun and began to retire south toward Étreux in order to rejoin the main force of British troops which had been retreating for most of the day. Yet as they approached Étreux, the Munsters discovered that much of the town had already been occupied by German troops who now began to lay down heavy machine-gun and artillery fire. Cut off from its own army and greatly outnumbered by the enemy, the rearguard now began to suffer serious casualties as it tried to fight its way through the German lines. British troops charged again and again at the houses in the northern outskirts of the village, which were full of German soldiers, but were beaten back by intense enemy fire.

By 7 p.m. the rearguard was under attack from all sides, the commanding officer had been killed, and the surviving officers and men had retired to an apple orchard from where they continued to resist the advancing German forces. Shortly after 9.15 p.m. those who were still standing, about 250 men, finally surrendered.’
After the armistice, the orchard in which the casualties had been buried was purchased by the family of Lieutenant Frederick Styles, an officer of the Munsters who had been killed during the rearguard action. The family erected the large Celtic Cross in the centre of the cemetery which lists the First World War battle honours of the Munsters, as well as a stone memorial bench and plaque. In 1924 the cemetery was handed over to the French state and its care became the responsibility of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Photos – Keir McNamara
Private Michael O’Connor


Thiepval Memorial. Thiepval
Departement de la Somme
Picardie, France
Plot: Pier and Face 16 C.

‘A small bombing raid by “A” Company was carried out from the left salient on September 24th, but this was not successful, and the bombers withdrew to their trench with some loss.’ The following day the Battalion was given a month’s rest. (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)

The Thiepval Memorial, the Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men who died in the Somme and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916.
Sapper John O'Loughlin


Wytschaete Military Cemetery
Heuvelland. Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

Volunteer Instructor Killed: The Ennistymon Volunteers have learned with deepest regret of the death at the Front in Belgium of their late instructor Sapper John O'Loughlin who was attached to the Royal Engineers. The commanding officer, in communicating news of the death to the bereaved widow of the deceased under the date 15/01/1915, wrote "It is with deep regret that I report to you the death of your husband. He was killed last night when doing his duty at the front. Only two weeks ago it was my great pleasure to mention his name in despatches for the very good work he had done on previous occasions in the face of the enemy. His loss is very deeply felt by the officers and men of the company. With greatest sympathy in your terrible loss." A native of Ennistymon, the deceased was only 35 years old and besides his widow leaves 4 little ones ranging from 4 months to 6 years of age to mourn his loss. The local Volunteer Corps for whom the late sapper did so much during his period as instructor has arranged for a memorial mass to be offered for him. The Clare Journal Feb 1915.

In Dec 1914 the French and the 3rd Division were to capture Wytschaete and Petit Bois. Even though the attack failed, the 3rd Division got to within 50 yards (46 m) of the German line and found uncut wire. One battalion captured 200 yards (180 m) of the German front trench and took 42 prisoners.
Private John O'Sullivan

John O'Sullivan: Born and lived in Ennistymon, died of wounds 3rd June 1915 age 23 (Possibly from Rue Du Bois in the Battle of Aubers Ridge), Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 5795, G/M in England. Son of Stephen and Margaret O'Sullivan Church Hill, Ennistymon. (TB) (Guss O'Halloran)

Fort Pitt Military Cemetery. Rochester
Medway Unitary Authority. Kent, England
Plot: 1320.

During both wars there were naval and military establishments in the neighbourhood of Rochester. Fort Pitt Military Cemetery contains a plot of 265 First World War graves.

9th May 1915: ‘The British bombardment began at 5 a.m., the Munsters then pressing forward with extraordinary bravery, German fire sweeping No-Mans-Land, some Munsters audaciously charging ahead through the German lines, briefly waving a green flag on its breastwork, then moving beyond until cut off by the British artillery bombardment that followed, which killed many sheltering in shell craters. By 11 a.m. the 2RMF was withdrawn with only 3 officers and 200 men remaining, having lost 19 and 370 respectively.

It was one of only two battalions to reach the German lines. But suffered the regiment’s highest loss of any one day of the war, 11 officers and 140 men killed in action.’
Private John Reidy

John Reidy: Born 1888 in Ennistymon, died 5th July 1919 at home age 31, (from TB), Royal Iniskilling Fusiliers 24444, 5th Battalion (in the UK, WWI Service Medal and Award Rolls, 1914-1920), G/M in Ennistymon Cemetery. Son of Mrs. Margaret Reidy, of Bogberry, Ennistymon. He entered the war on the 17/10/1915 and was discharged on the 27/3/1919. (Guss O’Halloran)

Ennistymon Cemetery,
South of gate,
leading from West to East.
Ennistymon Co Clare

John Reidy enter the War in Oct 1915 when the Royal Iniskilling Fusiliers 5th (Service) Battalion (10th Div), was deployed to Salonika and engaged in various actions against the Bulgarian Army including; The Battle of Kosturino, Retreat from Serbia, Capture of the Karajokois, Capture of Yenikoi.

In Sept 1917 they were deployed to Egypt and then Palestine and engaged in various actions during the Palestine Campaign including; Third Battle of Gaza, Capture of the Sheria Position, Capture of Jerusalem, Defence of Jerusalem.

On the 28.05.1918 they left the 10th Division and deployed to France, embarking at Alexandria via Taranto arriving at Serqueux. On the 19.07.1918 they transferred to the 198th Brigade of the 66th Division, and fought in The Battle of Cambrai, The Pursuit to the Selle, The Battle of the Selle, and a phase of the Final Advance in Picardy. On the 11.11.1918 they ended the war near Avesnes.
Patrick Riordan: Born in Ennistymon lived in Australia (emigrated to Australia when he was 27 as a bootmaker), enlisted in Queensland, died of wounds (gunshot to the breast) 20th May 1916 age 29, in action near Armentieres. Australian Infantry 25th Bn 3300, 2nd Division. G/M in France. Son of John and Johanna Riordan, Church Street Ennistymon. (TB)MA

Ration Farm Military Cemetery
La Chapelle-d'Armentieres
Departement du Nord
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France.
Plot: I. G. 12.

He was a Labourer aged 25 when he enlisted in Dec 1915 in Enoggera Queensland into the 7th Reinf 25th Bn. 3300. His brother was Michael Riordan, Ennistymon. He is buried in Cemetery Ration Farm 1.5 miles South of Armentiers. (UNSW)

The 2nd Division started to arrive in France in March 1916, and was initially sent (as part of the I Anzac Corps with the Australian 1st Division) to a quiet sector south of Armentières to acclimatise to the Western Front conditions.

There are now 1,313 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in the cemetery.

During the Great War Armentières was an important town in the British lines in Artois: a main route to and from the trenches where units were billeted, a depot for support and Lines of Communication troops, Divisional headquarters for the neighbouring sectors, the site of many artillery gun sites and a forward rail
Private Stephen Scully

Stephen Scully MM: Ennistymon. 1st Royal Munster Fusiliers. He was awarded the Military Medal for gallantry and fearless conduct on the 24/1/1919. On the 28th Aug 1918 ‘as a stretcher bearer he rendered most valuable assistance to the wounded of his own Battalion. He worked fearlessly and untiringly from 2pm on the 28th to 6am on the 29th and cleared a whole area of wounded… On Sept 2nd he displayed the same gallantry in an intense barrage, bandaging the wounded and carried them to an Aid Post’. (SR).

The Military Medal (M.M.)

The Military Medal was awarded to the non officer ranks of the British Army and Commonwealth Forces. It was an award for gallantry and devotion to duty when under fire in battle on land. On the reverse of the medal is inscribed “For Bravery in the Field”.

Honours for Ennistymon Man

Pte. Stephen Scully, R.M.E., who is a native of Ennistymon, has just been awarded the Military Medal, for “gallantry and fearless conduct.” The circumstances under which the award came to be gained are thus set out in the Orders of Major General Barnes, Commanding the 57th Division.

“On August 28th, 1918, during an attack, this stretcher-bearer rendered most valuable assistance to the wounded of his own Battalion, and of the Battalion of the King’s Liverpool Regiment. He worked fearlessly and untiringly from 2 o’clock, p.m. on the 28th, until 6 a.m. on the 29th, and cleared a whole area of wounded. After the Battalion had been relieved he refused to come out until he had rescued those who were lying in shell-holes outside his own area.

“On September 2nd, he displayed the same gallantry working in an intense barrage, bandaging the wounded, and later, returning, carried them to the Aid Post.”

April 1919
Private Thomas Shannon

**Thomas Shannon**: Cahersherkin, Ennistymon. Died in 1918 US Army. (PMcN) He is buried in Killeinagh Cemetery over 1 mile from Ennistymon. (Guss O’Halloran) Private Thomas Shannon: Born in Co Clare. He was aged 25 when he enlisted in the US Army 69th Infantry 91144 in June 1917. He lived in New York City. He served overseas from Oct 1917. **He died of wounds received in action at Ourcq on the 12th August 1918.** He had also fought at Luneville, Baccarat, Chasseus-Champagne and Chateau Thierry. His next of kin was his father Patrick Shannon from Cahersherken Co Clare. (New York, Abstracts of World War I Military Service, 1917-1919 Ancestry .com)(42nd Div)(July 18-August 6, 1918-The Aisne-Marne Operation)

**SAD HOMECOMING**: His body was returned to Ireland on the steamer SS Orloch Head on the 4th Nov 1921, during the Civil War and consigned to Mrs. Anne Shannon, Cahersherkin, Ennistymon, Co. Clare, and subsequently buried in Killeinagh Cemetery.

**Location**: Killeinagh

Graveyard is located off the Ennistymon – Ennis road.

Leaving Ennistymon turn left after 1Km at Glann Cross. The cemetery is 1Km on the right.

On 28th July 1918, the Irish American regiment (the 69th) engaged the German forces on the River Ourcq, advancing without the normal preliminary artillery bombardment. They forced a river crossing and fought alone with exposed flanks on the enemy’s side of the river against withering machine-gun fire. The Shamrock battalion was in the eye of the storm, suffering heavy casualties, amongst them Sergeant Joyce Kilmer, renowned poet and author of the ballad “Trees”, who was killed in action.

It was at this juncture that the whole of the battalion came under the command of Captain Martin Meaney from Cree. Meaney led them in the last attack that broke the German resistance which included the elite Fourth Prussian Guard Division under the Kaiser’s son Prince Ethel Frederick. This victory was widely acclaimed as a great feat of arms. (D Murrihy)
Private John Thynne

John Thynne: Born and lived in Ennistymon, killed in action 27th Aug 1914, near Caudry after the Battle Of Le Cateau (26/08/1914). Royal Irish Regiment 2nd Bn 10330, 8th Brigade, 3rd Division. G/M in France. Tragically his two brothers also died in the war, Michael (died May 1915) and Patrick Thynne (died May 1915). Son of John and Catherine Thynne, Church Hill Ennistymon.(TB)

Chambieres French National Cemetery,
Metz
Departement de la Moselle
Lorraine, France
Plot: 393

Metz is located in the Department of the Moselle, in the north-east of France on the River Moselle.

Chambieres French National Cemetery is on the northern side of the city. There are now nearly 100, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site.

The 2nd battalion of the Royal Irish Regiment had performed a redoubtable rearguard action at the Belgium town of Mons on August 23rd, 1914, taking up positions along the Mons-Conde canal, which saved the British army from disaster.

During the Retreat From Mons they fought in the Battle Of Le Cateau on the 26/08/1914 at Caudry. On the evening of 25th August, the troops were too exhausted to continue the retreat from Mons and it was decided to stand fast and give battle to the pursuing German First Army. In the early hours of 26th August, II Corps took up a defensive position in the open downs between Caudry and Le Cateau, and prepared to fight. Using similar tactics to those used at Mons, rapid fire volleys and air-shrapnel artillery fire, the four British Divisions inflicted heavy losses on the numerically superior German divisions, keeping them at bay for several hours until their reserve divisions arrived.

The 3rd Division took up a position around Caudry. The 7th Infantry Brigade on the left, north of Caudry village, 8th Infantry Brigade in the centre and the 9th Infantry Brigade on the right. They held off the German attacks, allowing the majority of the Division was able to retire in good order.
Private Michael Thynne

Michael Thynne: Church Hill Ennistymon, died of wounds on the 4th May 1915 age 30 in Gallipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 6934, G/M in Turkey. Brother of John (Dec 1918) and Patrick (May 1915) who both also died in the War. Son of John and Catherine Thynne, Church Hill, Ennistymon.

Helles Memorial. Gallipoli Canakkale, Turkey
Plot: Final resting place unknown.
Name listed on Panel 185 to 190.

The Helles Memorial serves the dual function of Commonwealth battle memorial for the whole Gallipoli campaign and place of commemoration for many of those Commonwealth servicemen who died there and have no known grave. There are also panels for those who died or were buried at sea in Gallipoli waters. The memorial bears more than 21,000 names.

On the night of 1 May the Turks, almost out of ammunition but spurred by the then young Atatürk carried out a tremendous attack. "They crept up in the dark into our trenches bayoneting our men before we knew it had begun. Bayoneting on both sides was terrible. At dawn the Turks were mowed down, and heaps of bodies and streams of blood remaining everywhere." The RMF 1st battalion was reduced to 4 officers and 430 men, who attempted further attacks the following days, but by the 11th were down to 372 men.
Lance Corporal Patrick Thynne

Patrick Thynne: Born in Ennistymon lived in Brighton, Killed in action in Festurbet, 17th May 1915, Irish Guards 1st Bn 3179, G/M in France. Brother of Michael (May 1915) and John (Dec 1918) who both also died in the War. Son of John and Catherine Thynne, Church Hill, Ennistymon. (TB)

Le Touret Memorial
Richebourg-l’Avoue
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: Panel 4.

The Battle of Festubert (15–25 May 1915) was the continuation of the Battle of Aubers Ridge (9 May) and part of the larger French Second Battle of Artois. The battle was preceded by a 60-hour bombardment after which the initial advance made some progress in good weather conditions. The attack was renewed on 16 May and by 19 May the 2nd Division and 7th Division had to be withdrawn due to heavy losses. The British forces dug in at the new front line in heavy rain. The Germans brought up reinforcements and reinforced their defences. From 20–25 May the attack was resumed and Festubert was captured. The offensive had resulted in a 3-kilometre (1.9 mi) advance.

Almost all of the 13,400 men commemorated on the Memorial were killed in actions along a part of the Western Front that was the scene of some of the heaviest fighting of the first year of the war. This included the battle of Festubert (15 – 25 May 1915).

Following the British capture of the village of Neuve Chapelle in March 1915, the Germans greatly strengthened their defences along the Aubers ridge, reinforcing their positions with thick barbed wire entanglements, concrete blockhouses and machine gun emplacements. These extra defences frustrated British attempts to break through enemy lines and led to very heavy casualties at the battles of Aubers Ridge and Festubert in May 1915.
Lance Corporal John Walsh

John Walsh: Born and lived in Ennistymon, killed in action 7th June 1917 age 32, at Wytschaete. Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 3683, G/M in Belgium. Son of Michael Walsh, Ballygastel, Lisdoonvarna. (TB)

Wytschaete Military Cemetery
Heuvelland
Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen),

The Flanders offensive began at 3.10am on 7 June 1917 with the detonation of nineteen huge mines previously burrowed under the German lines. There followed the advance of the 16th Irish Division (incl 1st RMF) opposite the village of Wytschaete, to the right the 36th (Ulster) Division opposite the village of Messines, the largest ever concentration of Irish soldiers on a battlefield.

Their advance has been reported by all who saw it as a sight never to be forgotten, a captured German officer stated that they moved as if on parade.

The 1RMF took all its objectives on schedule despite the loss of nearly all of its supporting tanks. The subsequent battle was a complete success militarily. Casualties were low in an action which was one of the most successful of the battalion's actions, resulting from thorough planning, training and good leadership.
The 37 Men from Ennistymon who died in WW1 named on the new Great War Memorial in Ennis
**The List of those from Ennistymon in the Great War**

**Robert Atcheson:** Ardnaculla South Ennistymon, Royal Engineers. **NCS** (Guss O’Halloran)


**Walter Bane:** Ennistymon. Survived ? **NCS**

**Patrick Barrington:** DOB 9/9/1893. Born in Ennistymon lived in Canada. He was a fireman when he enlisted in May 1915 into the Canadian Oversea Expeditionary Force 410680. His next of kin was Peter Barrington Ennistymon *(CI)* (Guss O’Halloran) **(Library and Archives Canada)**

**Martin Beakey:** Lived in Ennistymon, died 22nd Oct 1920 age 21, Royal Irish Regiment 2nd Bn 7109830, G/M in Netley Hospital, England. Son of Patrick and Bridget Beakey Cahersherkin Ennistymon. **(TB)** (Guss O’Halloran)

During World War I, Netley Hospital accommodated around 2,500 beds. Many of the staff were Red Cross volunteers, as most of the regular staff were overseas. Some 50,000 patients were treated at Netley during the war. On the 23rd of April 1918 the Royal Irish Regiment 2nd Bn transferred to 188th Brigade, 63rd (Royal Naval) Division. They were in action at the The Battle of Albert in August 1918, then moved north to Arras seeing action at The Battle of Drocourt-Queant in September, then the Battles of the Hindenburg Line, and The passage of the Grand Honelle in the first week of November during the Final Advance in Picardy.

**F Blood:** Ennistymon. Royal Munster Fusiliers. Wounded Sept 1916. *(CI)*
Patrick Blood: Born and lived in Ennistymon, died of wounds 4th Sept 1916 at Guillemont at the Somme, Royal Munster fusiliers 8th 5844 (16th Div), G/M in France. (TB) (Guss O’Halloran)  

P Blood: Ennistymon. Royal Munster Fusiliers. Wounded Sept 1916. (CJ) ‘On September 3rd the Battalion moved into position at 3am for the attack on Guillemont.... The leading companies left their trench together with the 6th Bn Connaughts at 12.30am..... The enemy had been cleared from Guillemont and the Quarries and Battalion HQ was established in the village. At 2.35pm... the Battalion advanced as far as the sunken road east of Guillemont.... consolidating the position.... the failure of the Brigade on the left to make good its advance on Ginchy exposed the left flank of the Battalion, and three heavy counter-attacks preceded by artillery preparation had to be repulsed. The Battalion was relieved at 2am on the 4th September..... Casualties; 265 all ranks.’

‘Mannie’ Brennan: Ennistymon. Son of Sergeant Brennan. NCS

Michael T Brosnan: Ennistymon Royal Engineers. Survived War? NCS

James Browne: Ennistymon, he survived the War. Royal Garrison Artillery. NCS (Guss O’Halloran)

Martin Burke: Born in Ennistymon 10th June 1896. Royal Naval Reserve Service DA22453. (UK Royal Naval Reserve Service Records Index, 1860 - 1955) There are over 148,000 records for this period. Predominantly these cover the First World War (1914-1918)- The National Archives.

Patrick (Sturdy) Burke: Ennistymon, survived War? Labour Corps. NCS

Michael ‘Micko’ Canny MM: Ennistymon. 1st Royal Munster Fusiliers. He was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (Military Medal in RMF Book) and the French Medal Militaire for saving British and French officers under heavy gunfire in Sept 1917 (in Passchendaele). (CJ) See Clare Newspapers and WW1 page 147. Private Michael Canny: 1st RMF 5414. He was awarded the Military Medal on the 29/9/1917. ‘From the 4th to the 18th August the Battalion had the task and drudgery of holding the line under heavy bombardments, lying in shell holes full of water...with no overhead protection, with everything soaked, and sore feet, whilst the continuous bombardment banished all chances of sleep... On October 17th the Battalion was relieved by the 6th Royal Irish Regiment.’ (History of the Royal Munster Fusiliers 1861 to 1922. Captain S Mc Cance)
‘Modder’ Carthy: Ennistymon, Royal Munster Fusiliers RMF. NCS (No Carthy in RMF)

John Clohessy: Born and lived in Ennistymon, killed in action 21st August 1915 in the attack on Scimitar Hill Gallipoli, age 28, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st, 3856. G/M in Helles Memorial Turkey. Son of Mrs Anne Foran of Deerpark.

‘The Turkish retaliation set alight to the scrub..the advance having to be carried out through the smoke and fire.... The Battalion, in the air as regards its right flank, was caught by a frontal and enfilading fire. Very heavy casualties were suffered in consequence, and the attack failed.....Under cover of darkness the Battalion was withdrawn....killed, other ranks, 13.’ (Guss O’Halloran)(TB)

[Richard Clohessy RMF 4/8098 was wounded, this number shows 4 Bn. In award rolls shown as 1 Bn. and later 2 Bn. possible 4 Bn. was enlistment unit]

Sergeant Frank Coalpoise (Colpoise): Born and lived in Ennistymon, died of wounds 17th Nov 1917, possibly received at the Broembeek (8th-16th Oct 1917). Irish Guards 1st Bn. 4586, G/M in Belgium. He was one of the Irish Guards who at the famous charge at Ypres, helped to wipe out the Kaiser’s favourite regiment, the Prussian Guards (11th Nov 1914). His father was employed at O’Dwyer’s Mills.

The Irish Guards 1st Bn at THE BROEMBEEK 8th-16th Oct 1917: There were pill-boxes of concrete in front; there was a fortified farm buried in sandbags, Egypt House, to be reduced; there were nests of machine-guns on the right which the troops on the right had not yet overrun, and there was an almost separate and independent fight in and round some brick-fields, which, in turn, were covered by the fire of snipers from the fringes of the forest. Enemy aircraft skimming low gave the German artillery every help in their power, and the enemy’s shelling was accurate accordingly. The only thing that lacked in the fight was the bayonet. The affair resolved itself into a series of splashing rushes, from one shell-hole to the next, terrier-work round the pill-boxes, incessant demands for the Lewis-guns (rifle-grenades, but no bombs, were employed except by the regular bombing sections and moppers-up who cleared the underground shelters), and the hardest sort of personal attention from the officers and N.C.O.’s. All four companies reached the final objective mixed up together and since their right was well in the air, by the reason of the delay of the flanking troops, they had to make a defensive flank to connect with a battalion of the next division that came up later.

They had begun the month of October with 28 officers and 1081 other ranks. They had lost in sixteen days, 252 other ranks and 14 officers killed or wounded. (Rudyard Kipling)(TB)
**Johnny Connole**: Ennistymon, Survived the War, Royal Army Medical Corps. He was posted and mobilised to the 13th Field Ambulance Corps on 5th August, 1914. Private Connole was awarded The 1914 Star (Auth: A.O. 360/1917), the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. NCS

Private John Connole: RAMC 3031. He was taken prisoner in 1914 and sent to Sennelager, a POW Camp in Germany. (The National Archives – findmypast)

**Private Patrick Connole**: 6 Victoria Terrace Church Hill Ennistymon, Co Clare. He was a Labourer aged 33 when he enlisted in 1911 in the Royal Munster Fusiliers 5th Bn 5676. He had previously served with the RGA for 12 years up to 1910. He served with the BEF in 1915-16 (2nd RMF) and in Salonika 1917-18 (Royal Irish Fusiliers). He received a gunshot wound to the forearm in June 1916. He was discharged in April 1919. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

**Private P Connole**: Ennistymon. Wounded June 1916. (CJ) Patrick Connole: Ennistymon, survived the War, Royal Artillery. Brother of John. NCS. ‘From February (1916) the trench warfare recommenced, taking the heavy monthly toll of brave men’s lives, each of the five succeeding months taking an average of 50 killed and wounded alone, to say nothing of those incapacitated by trench fever and other disease.’ (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)

**John Conway**: Born in Cork 13/7/1874, killed in action 17th Oct 1915 age 38, Canadian Infantry (Saskatchewan Regiment) 28th Bn 73535, 2nd Canadian Division. G/M in Belgium. Eldest son of Patrick Conway Ivy Cottage Ennistymon. ‘Enlisted in the Grenadier Guards about 1894, and served with the Sudan Expedition, including the Battle of Omdurman and the capture of Khartoum; and through the South African War 1899-1902 (receiving three medals). He then went to Canada about 1906 and settled in Ottawa, and was working on the railroad, but on the outbreak of the European war joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force, came over with the second contingent and was killed in action in Belgium 17th Oct 1915. He was in charge of a machine gun, when a shell fell within 15 yards of his post, killing him and three more instantly.... He was a splendid soldier, and on the 16th Oct had been promoted L-Corporal. He died at his post, and no man could do more.’ From De Ruvigny’s Roll of Honour.

The Canadian Infantry 2nd Division embarked for the Western Front in September 1915, and spent a long and bitterly cold winter in a Belgian section of the front between Ploegsteert Wood and St. Eloi, south of Ypres.

**John Conway.** Born Co. Clare, Ireland 13 July 1877, Conway listed previous service (7 years) with the British Regulars. He enlisted October 27, 1914. (Eamon Dillon - who has bought the Memorial Plaque of John Conway.)
? Cooper: Ennistymon, son of Sergeant Cooper? NCS

‘Jim’ Corry: Ennistymon. NCS

? Costelloe: Ennistymon, Son of Biddy Costelloe, killed in a trench standing next to Micko Davoren. NCS

Tom Coughlan: Ennistymon. Survived? NCS

Francis Davis: Ennistymon, died 8th Dec 1918 age 29, Royal Irish Fusiliers 2nd, G/M in Ennistymon. (TB)(Died on sick leave NCS) He was discharged on the 21st May 1918. Son of Bridget Davis of Church Hill, Ennistymon, Co Clare. In Sept 1917 the Royal Irish Fusiliers 2nd were deployed to Egypt and Palestine as part of the Palestine campaign. He was a General labourer aged 17 when he enlisted in 1906 into the Royal Munster Fusiliers 3973. He died from TB (fold3.com)

Thomas Patrick Davis: Church St Ennistymon. Enlisted in the Canadian Infantry in Montreal in 1914 age 37. (CI) Was previously in the Royal Munster Fusiliers for 7 years. (Guss O’Halloran)

Thomas Patrick Davis: Born 14/11/1880 in Ennistymon Co Clare. He lived in Mass. USA. He was a Bank Clerk when he enlisted with the Canadian Expeditionary Force 3082090 in 1916. His wife was Bridget Davis Church Street. (Canada, Soldiers of the First World War 1914-1918. Ancestry.com)

Michael Davoren: Lived in Churchill Ennistymon. 8th Royal Munster Fusiliers 5805. He was a baker and worked (and was born) in Kilfenora. 8th (not the 3rd Gus O’Halloran) Royal Munster Fusiliers. NCS M Davoren: Kilfenora. Royal Munster Fusiliers. A recent POW in June 1918 (SR)


Patrick Dillon: Churchill, Ennistymon. ‘Ex Army. Age 30. WW1. Lost an arm.(Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)[date suggests 8 Bn. Found him in 8 Bn. Then to 2 Bn. And later to 1 Bn.]
Daniel Donnelly: Ennistymon. Home injured in 1914 after Battle of Aisne. (CJ)

John Francis Dwyer: Born in Ennistymon, lived in Queensland, killed in action 7th August 1915 in Gallipoli age 41, Australian Light Horse 2nd Regiment 741, G/M in Turkey. He was a Labourer aged 40 when he enlisted in Nov 1914 in Cunnamulla Queensland into the 2nd Light Horse Regiment. KIA 7/8/1915 near Quinn’s Post Gallipoli. His father was Patrick John Dwyer Ennistymon. (UNSW) He had previous military experience with the Royal Artillery. He was sent from Egypt for duty in Turkey on the 6th Aug 1915. (TB)

The landing at Suvla Bay took place on the night of 6 August 1915 against light opposition. The New Zealand Infantry Brigade came within 500 metres of the near peak of Chunuk Bair by dawn on 7 August but was not able to seize the summit. This delay had fatal consequences for another supporting attack on the morning of 7 August, by the Australian 3rd Light Horse Brigade at the Nek, which was to coincide with the New Zealander attack from Chunuk Bair against the rear of the Ottoman defences. The attack went ahead regardless, ending in a costly failure, after the opening artillery barrage lifted seven minutes early, leaving the assaulting troops to attack alerted Ottoman defenders on a narrow front.

Private Alfred Edwards: Ennistymon. Enlisted in 1916 when he was aged 24. Cameron Highlanders & Army Service Corps 3800. His father was Richard Edwards. He returned home in Dec 1918. He was a POW for 145 days. (British Army WW1 Service Records @ ancestry.com) A Edwards: Clare. Cameron Highlanders. POW in Nov 1917. (SR)

Cyril Edwards: Main St Ennistymon. Army Service Corps. NCS (Guss O’Halloran)

Patrick Edwards: Ennistymon, killed in action 21st Dec 1914 in Festubert, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn, G/M in France. (TB)

21st Dec 1914: ‘Slowly but surely the advance continued... Suddenly a shot rang out, followed by another and then an inferno seemed to be let loose... The Munsters were 500 yards in advance of the troops on either flank!... Officers and men were falling everywhere; in ten minutes 11 officers and over 200 men were hit..... Slowly, reluctantly and methodically, at about 4am on the 23rd, the shattered remnants of the four companies filed back to their starting point, unconquered and unconquerable.’ (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)
Patrick Egan: Ennistymon, Survived War? Royal Irish Rifles. 

Private Bernard Farrelly: Parliament Street Ennistymon. He was 19 when he enlisted in 1915, into the Army Service Corps 094694. He was a butcher before the War, which he survived. (British Army WW1 Service Records @ ancestry.com)

‘Jacko’ Fitzpatrick: Ennistymon, Brother of ‘Micko’ Fitzpatrick. 

James Fitzpatrick: Ennistymon, Royal Field Artillery, Survived War. (Guss O’Halloran) James Fitzpatrick: 8 Main St Ennistymon. ‘In January 1921, after leaving army, got a grant to study in Dublin. Age 27’. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

John Fitzpatrick: Born in Ennistymon, killed in action 21st Aug 1915 age 21 at the attack on Scimitar Hill in Gallipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn, G/M in Turkey. (TB) Son of John Fitzpatrick of 5 New Road Ennistymon. Brother of Eileen O’Brien of New Road. (Guss O’Halloran) ‘The Turkish retaliation set alight to the scrub.. the advance having to be carried out through the smoke and fire…. The Battalion, in the air as regards its right flank, was caught by a frontal and enfilading fire (from the flank). Very heavy casualties were suffered in consequence, and the attack failed…..Under cover of darkness the Battalion was withdrawn….killed, other ranks, 13.’ (History of the Royal Munster Fusiliers 1861 to 1922. Captain S Mc Cance)

Private John Joseph Fitzpatrick: Born in Ennistymon and lived on Station Road Lahinch. Royal Engineers Tank Corps. He also served in the Canadian Army. (Guss O’Halloran)

Mrs Mary Fitzpatrick: 8 New Road Ennistymon. Greengrocer. Age 52. ‘Four sons in WW1’. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

‘Micko’ Fitzpatrick: Ennistymon, Brother of ‘Jacko’ Fitzpatrick. 

Joseph Flaherty: Ennistymon. Royal Navy. Brother of Peter Flaherty. (Guss O’Halloran)
J Flaherty: Ennistymon. Royal Munster Fusiliers. Wounded in Dec 1917. (SR) 2 J Flaherty’s in the RMF.[5001 date suggests 8 Bn. confirmed in a doc. if he is the man can’t have been too badly wounded as he was discharged to the reserve. The other man RMF 15008 enlisted in Yorkshire and was in 1 Bn. RMF, he died of wounds] Eddie Lough

Peter Flaherty: Ennistymon. Royal Navy. Brother of Joseph NCS (Guss O’Halloran)

Simon Flaherty (Simon O’Loughlin): NCS

John Joseph Flanagan: Born and lived in Ennistymon, killed in action 8th March 1916 age 37 at Loos, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 5663, G/M in France. (TB) Son of John and Catherine Flanagan. (Guss O’Halloran)

‘From February (1916) the trench warfare recommenced, taking the heavy monthly toll of brave men’s lives, each of the five succeeding months taking an average of 50 killed and wounded alone, to say nothing of those incapacitated by trench fever and other disease.’ (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)

Timothy Flanagan: Ennistymon. He was a Labourer aged 25 when he enlisted on the 20th Aug 1914 into the 7th Bn Seaforth Highlanders 1602. He was discharged on the 28th Aug 1914. (British Army WW1 Pension Records fold3.com)

Patrick Flanagan: Ennistymon, Survived War? Connaught Rangers. NCS

Flynn: Ennistymon, Fought in India. NCS

Leonard Galwey Foley: Lahinch. Canadian Infantry (CI) A Civil Engineer. His father was Manager of the National Bank in Ennistymon. (Guss O’Halloran)

DOB 28/11/1889. Born in Lahinch Co Clare. He was a Civil Engineer when he enlisted in Vancouver in March 1915 into the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force 116317 11th Mounted Rifles. His mother Mrs E G Foley lived in Dublin. He re-enlisted in May 1916. (Library and Archives Canada)
Lance Sergeant Timothy Foley: Ennistymon, killed in action 13th April 1918 age 23, Irish Guards 2nd Bn 8218, G/M in Belgium. (TB) Son of Bridget and Michael Foley, Callura, Ennistymon. (Guss O’Halloran)

The Battle of Estaires was one of the opening phases of The Battle of the Lys (7–29 April 1918) The objective was to capture Ypres, forcing the British forces back to the channel ports and out of the war. In planning, execution and effects, Georgette was similar to (Operation Michael, earlier in the Spring Offensive.'The morning of April 12th 1918. broke hot and sunny, under a sky full of observation-balloons that seemed to hover directly above them. These passed word to the German guns, and the bombardment of heavies and shrapnel began. About two-thirty the enemy attacked.... No. 2 Company of the Irish Guards had made a defensive flank in view of this danger, and as the enemy pressed past punished them with Lewis-gun fire...... By dusk it would have puzzled any one in it to say where our line stood; but, such as it was, it had to be contracted, for there were not men enough for the fronts. Of No. 2 Company not more than fifty were on their feet. No. 3 Company with No. 4 were still in support of the 4th Grenadiers somewhere in front of Ferme Gombert (which had been Battalion H.Q. till shelled out) and the Vieux-Berquin road; and No. 1 Company, besides doing its own fighting, had to be feeding the others.....There was a hope that the Fifth Division would that evening relieve the 2nd Irish Guards in the line, but the relief did not come...

The 4th Guards Brigade stopped the German rush to the sea through a gap that other divisions had left; and in doing so lost two thirds at least of its effectives......Sir Douglas Haig, in his despatches, wrote: "The performance of all the troops engaged in the most gallant stand," which was only an outlying detail of the Battle of the Lys, "and especially that of the 4th Guards Brigade on whose front of some 4000 yards the heaviest attacks fell, is worthy of the highest praise. No more brilliant exploit has taken place since the of the enemy's offensive.' Rudyard Kipling

Patrick Garrahy: Born 6th Sept 1900 in Ennistymon. Royal Navy K54852 from Oct 1918 – March 1919. The first and last ship he served on was the Vivid II. (UK Royal Navy Registers of Seamans Services 1853-1928)

Jeremiah Joseph Gillie: Born 22nd Nov 1899 in Ennistymon. Royal Navy M29106 from Feb 1918 – April 1925. The first and last ship he served on was the Vivid I. (UK Royal Navy Registers of Seamans Services 1853-1928)

Private Joseph Griffin: Co C 65th Engineers 1803752. His sister was Miss Mary Griffin Deer Park West, Ennistymon Co Clare. (U.S., Army Transport Service, Passenger Lists, 1910 – 1939)
Gerard Halloran: Ennistymon. Royal Munster Fusiliers. Son of Michael Halloran. 5 of his brothers and two brothers in law fought in WW1. No Gerard Halloran or O'Halloran in RMF [Can’t sort out any of the Hallorans without more info. to go on, on a quick search] Jeremiah ‘Gerry’ Halloran: Ennistymon. NCS


Martin Halloran: Ennistymon, 5th Bn Royal Munster Fusiliers 6389. NCS Son of Michael Halloran. 5 of his brothers and two brothers in law fought in WW1.

‘Mickey’ Halloran: Ennistymon, RMF 5th, survived War. Michael Halloran's six sons (William, Patrick, John, Martin, Michael and Gerard) and his two brothers-in-law (John and Patrick Connole) all fought in the First World War. NCS

Michael Halloran Junior: Ennistymon. Enlisted into Royal Munster Fusiliers in 1911, but was discharged shortly after due to a back injury. Son of Michael Halloran. 5 of his brothers and two brothers in law fought in WW1.

Michael Halloran: Bogberry, Ennistymon. ‘Joined army WW1. Wounded and gassed.’ Age 32. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

Patrick Halloran: 6 Victoria Terrace, Ennistymon, died of wounds 29th April 1915, Connaught Rangers 1st Battalion The 3rd (Lahore) Division, G/M in France. (TB) Son of Michael Halloran. 5 of his brothers and two brothers in law fought in WW1. He fought in the Second Battle of Ypres, and was wounded and died at 11 hours and 13 minutes on the morning of Thursday the 29th April 1915. (Guss O’Halloran)

The Second Battle of Ypres was fought from 22 April – 25 May 1915 for control of the strategic Flemish town of Ypres in western Belgium after the First Battle of Ypres the previous autumn. It was the first mass use by Germany of poison gas on the Western Front.
**Ennistymon**

**William Halloran:** Ennistymon. 6th Bn Royal Munster Fusiliers. Son of Michael Halloran. 5 of his brothers and two brothers in law fought in WW1. He was discharged in April 1916 aged 19. After the War he went to New York with his brother Jeremiah. He died in a swimming accident in 1928. (Guss O’Halloran)

**Private Patrick Hannabury:** Ennistymon. Australian Imperial Force (AI) Served in Gallipoli. He was aged 38 when he enlisted in 1915. Discharged in Aug 1916. (Guss O’Halloran)

He was a Colt Breaker aged 38 when he enlisted in Jan 1915 in Broadmeadows Victoria into the 22nd Bn. 828. He landed in Gallipoli in Aug 1915. He was admitted to hospital in Oct 1915 with a nervous breakdown, after suffering shell shock. His brother was Dennis Hannabury, Victoria. (UNSW)

**Captain James Golding Harding:** Bank House (no 23 Parliament St), Ennistymon, killed in action 30th Oct 1917 age 21 (in The Second Battle of Passchendaele 26 Oct-10 Nov 1917), Royal Field Artillery, 21st Trench Mortar Battery 21st Div, G/M in Belgium. His father Charles Furlouge (mother Elanor Harding) was the Manager of the National Bank in Ennistymon. (TB) (Guss O’Halloran)

No. 23 Parliament St. Chambers was once the home of George Harding, Bank Manager, National Bank. The Hardings had 4 children, 2 boys and 2 girls. Later owned by Paddy Chambers, Solicitor and his wife Agnes who had 4 sons. One of the sons, Joseph, has his solicitors offices there now.

The **Second Battle of Passchendaele** was the culminating attack during the Third Battle of Ypres of the First World War. The battle took place in the Ypres Salient area of the Western Front, in and around the Belgian town of Passchendaele, between 26 October and 10 November 1917. The second stage on 30 October was intended to complete the capture of the positions the Canadian Corps had attacked on 26 October and gain a base for the final assault on Passchendaele. The main attack began at 5:50 am on 30 October and was preceded by a rolling barrage with a preliminary artillery bombardment directed largely at pillboxes. The advance appeared to have reached its limit by late afternoon and reports of a large number of Germans concentrating north of Mosselmarkt indicated a possible counterattack. Currie and Plumer ultimately decided that every effort should be made to hold the line in the hope of not having to retake the positions before the assault on Passchendaele.

*Trench mortar batteries* were a whole new form of artillery developed to meet the unusual conditions of war on the Western Front. The lighter mortars were manned by the regiments of infantry, while the RFA provided the manpower for the heavier mortars.
**Austin Hardy**: Ennistymon. Aged 43 when he enlisted in 1915. 7th Royal Munster Fusiliers 4098. He had previously served with the Royal Artillery. He was discharged in March 1915. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

**Patrick J Hartigan**: Lived in Ennistymon (Born in Moymore), killed in action 26th April 1918 age 26 near Ypres in the Second Battle of Kemmel (25–26 April 1918), Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment) 2nd Bn, 6th Div, G/M in Belgium. (TB) Son of James and Anne Hartigan. (Guss O’Halloran) His brother James was killed in the Civil War.

**Second Battle of Kemmel** (25–26 April 1918): Several British divisions did their best to check the German advance with the sparse means at their disposal. Aware of his ally’s perilous situation, General Foch sent in French reinforcements to face the Germans at Kemmel Hill where they were exposed to a massive bombardment on 25-26 April. Despite the huge losses the Allies succeeded in stabilizing the front and by 29 April the *Kaiserschlacht* had run its course, ending in failure.

On Wednesday the 19th of July 1922 a soldier of Óglaigh na hÉireann/National Forces was killed when as part of a patrol of eight men patrolling Ballinasloe County Galway they were ambushed by a large force. The soldier was seriously injured and died later in the Mater Hospital Dublin, his name was: Private James Hartigan aged 19 of Moymore, Ennistymon, County Clare.

**Sapper James Haslam**: Ennistymon. He was a Chain Surveyor aged 24 when he enlisted in 1896 into the Royal Engineers 229. He served with the Egyptian Expeditionary Force in 1915/16, and in Salonica 1917/18. He was discharged in Feb 1919. He was awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal in Oct 1915. His mother was Mary, Castle St Limerick. He married Ellen Jane in Dec 1906 and they had 2 children Mary and Edward. He was awarded an Honorary Testimonial of the Royal Humane Society for Gallant Conduct in Oct 1909. He saved a Francis Reynolds from drowning. (British Army WW1 Pension Records fold3.com)

**Thomas Heavy** (Served as Thomas Barlow): He died on the 8th April 1919 (possibly due to wounds), age 36, Royal Army Service Corps DM2/225827. Buried in Ennistymon. He was also a Driver with the RASC. NCS(P McN) (TB) He enlisted in the army on the 21/9/1916 and was discharged on the 2/12/1918. (TB)
Lance Corporal Andrew Hegarty: Bogberry, Ennistymon. 2nd Royal Munster Fusiliers 9773. A POW in Dec 1915 (CJ)

‘Twenty three year old Lance Corporal Andrew Hegarty of the Royal Munster Fusiliers was a prisoner since the early days of the war (Etreux)…. “On arrival at our Lager in September 1914 we were crowded into stifling tents containing 300 men. The gloom and misery endured at this time is beyond description, and many heartrending and distressing incidents occurred.”…. Now over three years on from his capture and incarceration, Lance Corporal Hegarty, who hails from Bogberry Street in Ennistymon has finally made it home to his family. He also has two brothers in the British Expeditionary Force, 25 year old John who is a member of the Munster Fusiliers and 27 year old Pat who is in the Irish Guards. (died 1920)’  (The Clare People 17th Oct 2017)

Johnny Hegarty: Bogberry Ennistymon. NCS J Hegarty: Ennistymon. Royal Munster Fusiliers. On the wounded list in June 1916. (CJ) Brother of Andrew RMF and Pat Irish Guards, who died in 1920. Only one John Hegarty in the RMF. [Listed in award rolls as in 9 Bn. demobilised 31-3-1920] Eddie Lough. ‘ The next day (May 7th 1916) the 9th Battalion relieved the 8th Bn Royal Irish Fusiliers in the left half section of the Hulluch Sector…. On May 28th the Battalion was replaced in the 48th Brigade by the 1st Bn RMF…’

Lance Sergeant Patrick Lee Hegarty: Bogberry Ennistymon, died 23rd Feb 1920 age 30, 3rd (Reserve) Bn Irish Guards 3178, (TB) (PMcN) Buried in Ennistymon Cemetery. Husband of Margaret Hegarty. (Guss O’Halloran) Brother of Andrew RMF and Johnny RMF.

The Irish Guards 3rd (Reserve) Battalion was formed in 1914 at Warley Barracks as the 2nd Reserve Battalion. In July 1915 it became the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion and remained at Warley Barracks.

John Howard: Ennistymon, killed in action by shrapnel 19th Oct 1915 at Suvla Bay in Gallipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn, G/M in Turkey. ‘October 1915 was spent in the usual trench warfare, relieving and being relieved, working-parties, sniping. There were no actual engagements.’ (TB) (Guss O’Halloran)

Driver Patrick Howard: Ennistymon, Co Clare. He was a Labourer aged 37 when he enlisted in Aug 1914 with the Royal Field Artillery 84347. He served previously with the Royal Field Artillery for 12 years. He was discharged in Oct 1914. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)
Gunner Mark Howley: Born in Innisdiamond (Ennistymon ?) 27/11/1850. He was aged 17 when he enlisted in 1867 into the Royal Garrison Artillery 1403. He was discharged in Feb 1915. He was mobilized again into the City of London Battery 5540, in Dec 1914 (aged 64) and discharged in Feb 1915 for medical reasons. (British Army WW1 Pension Records fold3.com)

Corporal John Hynes: Born in Ennistymon about 1890. Lived in Westchester New York. He was aged 23 when he enlisted on the 16th Sept 1913 into 3 Co CAC Fort Wadsworth NY. He did not serve abroad. (New York, Abstracts of World War I Military Service, 1917-1919)

Gunner Dugald Robert Johnson: Ennistymon. Canadian Infantry (CI) (Guss O’Halloran) DOB 19/6/1890. Born in Ennistymon Co Clare and lived in Montreal. He was a Shoe Salesman when he enlisted in Kingstown in April 1916 into the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force 349009 (8th Brigade Canadian Field Artillery). He fought in France. His Father was William Johnson, Dublin. (Library and Archives Canada)

‘Jack’ Jordan: Ennistymon. NCS

Jimmy Kelleher: Ennistymon. US Marines (2nd Div). Retired from Marines in 1926 due to exposure to mustard gas. NCS

Corporal Joseph Kelleher: 2 Victoria Terrace, Church Hill Ennistymon. Aged 20 when he enlisted in 1915. 8th Royal Munster Fusiliers 5748 (and later in 1915 with the East Lancashire Regiment 53598). His parents were Martin and Anne Kelleher. He survived the War. (WW1 British Army Service Records @ ancestry.com) Corporal J Kelleher: Clare. Royal Munster Fusiliers, wounded at the front in May 1916. (Loos) (CJ)

Sergeant Kelleher: Ennistymon. Royal Munster Fusiliers. Wounded in Oct 1916. Suffered from shellshock (CJ) [the only Sgt. Kelleher RMF found was John Kelleher RMF Sgt. 6123, he was a regular soldier, enlisting in 5-8-1908, he was discharged due to “sickness”, which would fit “shellshock”. No medal card info. from SWB record] Eddie Lough

John Leyden: Ennistymon also in Boer War. NCS
Billy Linehan: Ennistymon. NCS

Peter Loftus DCM MID: Ennistymon, died of wounds in Gallipoli (possibly wounded during the Turkish attack on May 1st), 19th May 1915 age 19, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 9483, G/M in Alexandria, Egypt. He was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (3rd of July 1915). (TB)

‘On the 26th April 1915 at Sedd-EL-Bahr, for gallant conduct in volunteering to advance to a forward position under heavy fire, where he established himself, thus enabling the attack to make headway when the position was captured.’ Son of W. and Annie Loftus. He was also Mentioned in Despatches (5th Aug 1915). (Guss O’Halloran) Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn: On the night of 1 May the Turks, almost out of ammunition but spurred by the then young Atatürk carried out a tremendous attack. "They crept up in the dark into our trenches bayoneting our men before we knew it had begun. Bayoneting on both sides was terrible. At dawn (May 2nd) the Turks were mowed down, and heaps of bodies and streams of blood remaining everywhere." The battalion was reduced to 4 officers and 430 men, who attempted further attacks the following days.

‘On May 1st the Turks attacked in force about 10.30pm... A platoon of W Company which was in reserve... put up a great fight... The Turks charged time after time, but were beaten back each time with the bayonet. At dawn the Battalion was reinforced by the 1st Essex, and a final charge forced the Turks to retire, leaving piles of dead in front of the trench... As the Battalion had no bombs of any sort, the men were at great disadvantage, but outfought the enemy when it came to close-quarter work.’ (History of the Royal Munster Fusiliers 1861 to 1922. Captain S Mc Cance)

James Longe: Ennistymon, Co Clare. He was a Labourer aged 24 when he enlisted in Sept 1914 with the Royal Field Artillery 9572. He was discharged in Dec 1914. His father was Patrick Longe. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)
John Henry MacLaurin: Born in Ennis lived in the The Rectory, Ennistymon, died 20th Sept 1918 age 18, Royal Air Force, G/M in Drumcliffe Cemetery. He is also commemorated on a memorial in St Flannan’s Cathedral Killaloe. The only son of Rev Robert Twiss MacLaurin and Maud Dolmage (Daughter of Rev Julius Griffith). He died when his aeroplane crashed and burst into flames crash at Wittering Aerodrome, near Stamford in England. (TB) (Irish Regiments of World War One Facebook Page). (TB)

Major George Macnamara: Ennistymon House, died of wounds 27th May 1917 age 27 near Loos, Wiltshire Regiment. G/M in France. Just before he died he was Mentioned in Despatches. (TB) (CJ)

‘(third and) Youngest son of Henry Valentine Macnamara DL, of Doolin and Ennistymon House, by his wife Elizabeth Edith...Served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from October 1914, when his regiment was overwhelmed by immensely superior numbers near Ypres. As Transport Officer and unaccompanied, he bravely attempted to get up to its assistance. He was fired at by ten Germans who occupied an eminence about 300 yards from him, and was eventually wounded, a bullet passing through his body, was invalided home, but though far from recovered in health, took up home duty in February 1915. In June 1916 he was sent to France...and was killed in action at Hill 70 near Loos, 25th May 1917.’ From De Ruvigny’s Roll of Honour.

‘He was subsequently posted to a unit of the North Staffordshire Regiment as Acting Major and second in command and with it when he was killed....He met his death at the conclusion of a most successful enterprise carried out by the battalion of which he was largely instrumental...Just before he was killed his name appeared in the list of those mentioned in Despatches’ Sat Record June 1917 (See Profiles of the Clare War Dead L-M)

Thomas Maloney: Born 20th May 1891 in Ennistymon Co Clare. Royal Navy M5435 from Jan 1913 – Jan 1925. The first ship he served on was the Victory I. The last ship he served on was the Victory II. (UK Royal Navy Registers of Seamans Services 1853-1928)

Private Thomas McCarthy: 2 Victoria Terrace, Church Hill Ennistymon, Co Clare. He was a casual labourer aged 40 when he enlisted in 1915 with the Royal Irish Regiment 4090. He had previously served with the Royal Munster Fusiliers. He married Bridget Shanahan in Oct 1914 and they had a daughter Mary. He survived the War. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)
Patrick McCormack: Ennistymon. He was a Saddle and Harness Maker. ‘He served in the Dragoons between Dec 1916 and March 1922. He returned home to parents home in Ennistymon’. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

Edward ‘Eddie’ McDonagh: Ennistymon. 2nd Royal Munster Fusiliers. Enlisted in Ennis on 4/8/1900 age 20. He served in India, the Boer War and in the British Expeditionary Force in WW1. He died in Sept 1950 aged 70. NCS (Guss O’Halloran)

Joachim McDonagh MM: Ennistymon, survived War. Royal Munster Fusiliers RMF. NCS On the wounded list in Oct 1916. (CJ) He was awarded the Military Medal for Gallantry in the Field (possibly at Guillemont). (Guss O’Halloran) Private J McDonough: 8th RMF 5845. Awarded the Military Medal on the 14/9/1916. (RMF Book Capt McCance) (Service Number 3378 according to Guss O’Halloran) ‘On September 3rd the Battalion moved into position at 3am for the attack on Guillemont…. The leading companies left their trench together with the 6th Bn Connaughts at 12.30am….. The enemy had been cleared from Guillemont and the Quarries and Battalion HQ was established in the village. At 2.35pm… the Battalion advanced as far as the sunken road east of Guillemont…. consolidating the position…. the failure of the Brigade on the left to make good its advance on Ginchy exposed the left flank of the Battalion, and three heavy counter-attacks preceded by artillery preparation had to be repulsed. The Battalion was relieved at 2am on the 4th September….. Casualties; 265 all ranks.’

Private John McDonagh: Ennistymon. Australian Pioneers Battalion. (Guss O’Halloran) John McDonagh: Ennistymon. Australian Imperial Force. (AI) He was a Labourer aged 25 when he enlisted in 1916 in Rockhampton Queensland into the 11th Depot Battalion 2164. His father was John McDonagh Ennistymon. (UNSW)

‘Luglo’ McDonagh: Ennistymon. NCS

Private Michael McDonagh: Ennistymon. Australian Imperial Force. (AI) MA He was a Lenghtsman aged 34 when he enlisted in Feb 1916 in Rockhampton Queensland into the 11th Depot.2163. He was wounded in action in France on the 17th Oct 1917 (gun shot wound to the back and head). He was discharged in Aug 1918 due to the wounds. His wife was Delia McDonagh. He had served previously for 7 years on the RMF. His father was John McDonagh. (UNSW)

‘Slant’ McDonagh: Ennistymon. NCS
Corporal Patrick McDonough: Ennistymon. He was a Labourer aged 18 when he enlisted in 1893 into the 5th Royal Munster Fusiliers 4324 (and later In the Labour Corps). He served in France from June 1917 until Feb 1918. He was discharged in May 1918 for medical reasons. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

Thomas (King) McGann: Born in Ennistymon, enlisted in Ennis, killed in action 6th Nov 1914 age 30 during the First Battle of Ypres, Irish Guards 1st Bn 3356, 2nd Div, G/M on the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres Belgium. Son of Patrick and Jane McGann Ennistymon. Grand-uncle of Tom Coughlan. (Guss O’Halloran) (TB)From the 21st October to the 12th November 1914 the 1st Irish Guards Battalion fought continuously in the first battle of YPRES, losing more than 700 men. From October 25th to the 26th, the focus of the German assaults came south. Attacking between Messines and Wyttschaete, German forces succeeded in capturing both towns. The attack was ultimately halted on November 1 with help from French forces. After a pause, German forces made the last push against Ypres attacking along Menin Road. While German assaults continued for a few days, they were minor. Fighting flickered for five days before quieting down for the winter.

John McGoldrick: Born 7th May 1884 in Kilfarboy Ennistymon Co Clare. Royal Navy 206429 from Sept 1899 – Nov 1924. The first ship he served on was the Black Prince. The last ship he served on was the Theseus. (UK Royal Navy Registers of Seamans Services 1853-1928)

William McGoldrick: Born 7th May 1884 in Kilfarboy Ennistymon Co Clare. Royal Navy 206440 from Sept 1899 – 10th March 1917. The first ship he served on was the Black Prince. The last ship he served on was the Victory I. (UK Royal Navy Registers of Seamans Services 1853-1928) Twin of John above!

Michael McMahon: Ennistymon. He was a labourer aged 34 when he enlisted on the 2nd October 1914 into the 6th Bn Royal Irish Regiment 1736. He was discharged on the 21st Oct 1914 as he was medically unfit. (British Army WW1 Pension Records fold3.com) Mike ‘The Dane’ McMahon: Ennistymon. NCS

Patrick McNamara: Born in Killaspuglonane Ennistymon 6th March 1879, died 15th May 1917 age 38, Royal Navy 292326on HMS Pylades. G/M in England. (TB) NCS Son of Michael and Ellen McNamara of Killispuglinane Ennistymon. (Guss O’Halloran) H.M.S. Pylades was one of one hundred and three destroyers of the “M” class built for the Royal Navy during the Great War. His first ship was the Vivid II in June 1899.
Captain James Blaine Miller: A 1st Class passenger on the Lusitania which sank on May 7th 1915. His body was washed ashore on the Clare coastline and he was buried in Ennistymon Workhouse Cemetery (Disinterred and sent to Erie, Pennsylvania, 4 December 1915). (Brian Doyle)

Henry ‘Harry’ Mills: Ennistymon, Survived War? Royal Garrison Artillery. NCS

James Mills: Newtown Street Ennistymon, served on HMS Cumberland. NCS (Guss O’Halloran)

HMS Cumberland was one of 10 Monmouth-class armoured cruisers built for the Royal Navy in the first decade of the 20th century. She was sent to West Africa after the beginning of World War I in August 1914 and captured 10 German merchant ships in September. Cumberland spent the rest of the war on convoy escort duties.

Briars’ Molloy : Ennistymon. NCS

Michael Molloy: Bogberry, Ennistymon. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

Private Martin Moran: Ennistymon, Co Clare. He was aged 43 when he enlisted in July 1915 in the Royal Irish Regiment 9004. He was discharged in Oct 1915 for medical reasons. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)
Private Thomas Moran: Main Street, Ennistymon Co Clare. He was a labourer aged 28 when he enlisted in Feb 1915 with the Royal Munster Fusiliers 8th Bn 5852. His mother was Mary Moran. He was discharged in March 1915. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

Private Michael M Mullen: Born in Ennistymon Co Clare. He lived in St Francis Maine. He was aged 23 when he enlisted into Co B 319 MG Bn 1895585. He served overseas from May 1918 to Jan 1919. He was wounded in action on the 8th Oct 1918. (Maine, Military Index, 1917-1920)

Jack’ Murphy: Murphy: Ennistymon, A postman with one hand. NCS

Private Joseph Murphy: Royal Munster Fusiliers RMF (PMcN)

? Murphy: McNamara’s Gate Lodge Ennistymon. NCS

Civilian John Murphy: Upper Churchill, Ennistymon. He was killed on the 20th Sept 1922 following a bomb explosion at Tralee, County Kerry. He had previously served in the British Army. His wife was Annie Murphy. ‘File relates to Annie Murphy’s application under the Army Pensions Acts in respect of the death of her husband John Murphy who was killed on 20 September 1922 following a bomb explosion at Tralee, County Kerry.’ (Ireland, Military Service Pension Index, 1916-1923 ancestry.com)

Ann Murrihy: Ardnculla Ennistymon. ‘Age 71. Four sons in army WW1’. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

Martin Murrihy: Ennistymon, 7th Royal Munster Fusiliers 6375. Brother of Mickey and Tom. NCS (Guss O’Halloran) [Was in 7 Bn. and later to 6 Bn.]Eddie Lough

Michael ‘Mickey’ Murrihy: Ennistymon, 2nd Royal Munster Fusiliers 6159, Brother of Tom and Martin. NCS (Guss O’Halloran)

Tom Murrihy: Ennistymon, 9th Royal Munster Fusiliers 4487. Brother of Martin and Mickey. NCS (Guss O’Halloran) [Was in 9 Bn.RMF] Eddie Lough
? Neylon: Ennistymon. Brother of ‘Tosser’ Neylon (Roughan’s Shop)


Simon/Sinon Neylon: Ennistymon, died 22nd July 1916, Royal Munster Fusiliers 5th Bn, Service Number 5/6832. G/M in Ennistymon Cemetery. (TB)

He fell from a train travelling from Limerick to the Curragh. His parents sued the GSW Railway for £500. After the train had passed Lisnagary station where it did not stop, Pte Neylon felt very sick and leaned out of the carriage window to prevent vomiting in the carriage. The door opened, and as Pte Neylon was falling out one of escort caught him but had to let go or they would have gone with him. He fell on the track and sustained injuries from which he later died.’ Clare Journal March 1917.

Andrew O’Brien: Abbey View Ennistymon. Royal Irish Fusiliers. NCS (Guss O’Halloran)

Andrew O’Brien: 2 Monastry Road Ennistymon. ‘Age 50. WW1, demobilised 31/12/1919. Son in army serving in Tipperary’. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)


On September 26, 1918 nine American divisions began the first assault along a twenty-four mile front from the Argonne Forest to the Meuse River—about 150 miles east of Paris. The intense fighting caused heavy losses on both sides, but American forces had penetrated the formidable defenses of the “Hindenburg Line” by October 11. The DSC is second highest award for military valor in the U.S., behind only the Medal of Honor. The Distinguished Service Cross was established in 1918 to honor heroism of the highest degree that did not quite merit the Medal of Honor.
Sergeant Cornelius J. O'Brien, Company E, 2nd Engineers, 4th Div. The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 9, 1918, takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Sergeant Cornelius J. O'Brien (ASN: 568759), United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in action while serving with Company E, 2d Engineers, 4th Division, A.E.F., near Ville-Savoye, France, 11 August 1918. While engaged on the construction of a bridge over the Valle River, Sergeant O'Brien voluntarily left shelter during intense fire and carried one of his wounded officers through a heavy machine-gun and artillery barrage to a dressing station. **Action Date:** 11-Aug-18.

Joseph O’Brien: Deerpark Ennistymon. Royal Munster Fusiliers 3680. **NCS** He enlisted in Jan 1915 and served 88 days. His wife was Mary and their son Thomas. No medals were awarded as he did not serve overseas. (Guss O’Halloran)


Private Patrick O’Brien: Deerpark Ennistymon. He was a labourer aged 37 when he enlisted in Jan 1915 with the Royal Munster Fusiliers 8th Bn 3680. He was discharged in April 1915. He married Mary O’Brien in Oct 1904 and they had a son Thomas. His mother was Bridget O’Brien. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

‘Paty Frankeen’ O’Brien: Ennistymon. (Grandfather of Leigh’s) **NCS**


Austin O’Connor Jnr: Deerpark Ennistymon. 8th Royal Munster Fusiliers. NCS (Guss O’Halloran) Austin O’Connor (Jnr): Deerpark Ennistymon. ‘Labourer. Age 30. Served in WW1 (Gassed and Wounded)’. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne) [Was in 8 Bn. then 1 Bn. and later 2 Bn. can’t have been too badly gassed or wounded as he served until 31-3-1920 and went to reserves] Eddie Lough

Private James Daniel O’Connor: Ennistymon. Australian Imperial Force. MA He was a Fitter aged 41 when he enlisted in 1917 in Geraldtown WA into the Engineer Reinf 20492. His brother was Michael O’Connor Victoria. His mother was Susan O’Connor Doolin P.O. (UNSW)

John O’Connor: Born in Liscannor lived in Ennistymon, killed in action 27th Aug 1914 age 29 in Etreux, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn, G/M in France. (TB)

‘By 5 p.m., the battalion was in danger of being overrun and began to retire south toward Étreux in order to rejoin the main force of British troops which had been retreating for most of the day. Yet as they approached Étreux, the Munsters discovered that much of the town had already been occupied by German troops who now began to lay down heavy machine-gun and artillery fire. Cut off from its own army and greatly outnumbered by the enemy, the rearguard now began to suffer serious casualties as it tried to fight its way through the German lines. British troops charged again and again at the houses in the northern outskirts of the village, which were full of German soldiers, but were beaten back by intense enemy fire. By 7 p.m. the rearguard was under attack from all sides, the commanding officer had been killed, and the surviving officers and men had retired to an apple orchard from where they continued to resist the advancing German forces. Shortly after 9.15 p.m. those who were still standing, about 250 men, finally surrendered.’


‘A small bombing raid by “A” Company was carried out from the left salient on September 24th, but this was not successful, and the bombers withdrew to their trench with some loss.’ The following day the Battalion was given a months rest. (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)
CSM Michael O’Connor: Bogberry, Ennistymon. He was a Clerk aged 40 when he enlisted in Sept 1914 into the Connaught Rangers 4495 and later the Army Cyclist Corps. He served with the Med Expeditionary Force in Gallipoli from July 1915 to Sept 1915. His wife was Annie O’Connor, and they had 4 daughters Mary, Annie, Norah and Catherine (who died in Sept 1915). He was discharged in Aug 1916. (British Army WW1 Pension Records fold3.com) Michael O’Connor: Ardnaculla, Ennistymon. ‘Age 53. Having fought at Salonika, demobilized 29/6/1917’. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

Patrick O’Connor: Ennistymon, survived War? Royal Munster FusiliersRMF. NCS

Patrick O’Connor: Born 7/3/1892 in Ennistymon. He lived in Chicago, Illinois USA. He was a Fireman when he enlisted with the Canadian Expeditionary Force 3105822 in 1917. His next of kin was his father Austin O’Connor, Ennistymon. (Canada, Soldiers of the First World War 1914-1918. Ancestry.com)

Petty Officer John O’Donoghue: He was born in Co Cork, but moved to Clare in his teens as his father was involved in the West Clare Railway. He joined the Army Service Corps in 1915, and then went on to be a Petty Officer in the Royal Navy. He is buried in an unmarked grave in Ennistymon Cemetery Churchill. (MOD Clare Library Forum 2009)

Paddy O’Donoghue: NCS

Trooper John Albert Taylor O’Dwyer: Ennistymon. Australian Imperial Force. (AI) He was a Tram Conductor aged 35 when he enlisted in 1916 in Sydney into the 1st LHR. His brother George O’Dwyer lived in Sydney. (UNSW)

Private Frank O’Grady: Ennistymon, Co Clare. He was a Groom aged 26 when he enlisted in 1919 with the Army Service Corps 45959. He had previously served with the South Irish Horse. He was discharged in 1920. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

Edward Paul O’Loughlin: Ennistymon. Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force (1069896). (Clare Library) DOB 14/10/1893. Born in Ennistymon Co Clare and lived in Alberta. He was a Butcher when he enlisted in Dec 1917 into the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force 1069896. His father was John O’Loughlin, Ennistymon Co Clare. (Library and Archives Canada)
Garibaldi O'Loughlin: Ennistymon. NCS Also fought in Boer War. Had an Indian whalebone umbrella which he used to carry his messages home in. Used to collect 1p Mass collection at door of church. Was paid 1p wages for this. NCS

John (Duff NCS) O'Loughlin: Born in Ennistymon, killed in action 14\textsuperscript{th} Jan 1915 (during the Winter Operations 1914-1915) age 32, Royal Engineers Unit, 56\textsuperscript{th} Field Company 4827, 3rd Division. G/M in Wytschaet Cemetery Belgium. (TB) Mentioned in Despatches (Feb 1915).

\begin{quote}
\textquote{The Ennistymon Volunteers have learned with deepest regret of the death at the Front in Belgium of their late instructor Sapper John O'Loughlin who was attached to the Royal Engineers. The commanding officer, in communicating news of the death to the bereaved widow of the deceased under the date 15/01/1915, wrote \textquote{It is with deep regret that I report to you the death of your husband. He was killed last night when doing his duty at the front. Only two weeks ago it was my great pleasure to mention his name in despatches for the very good work he had done on previous occasions in the face of the enemy. His loss is very deeply felt by the officers and men of the company. With greatest sympathy in your terrible loss.\textquote{A native of Ennistymon, the deceased was only 35 years old and besides his widow leaves 4 little ones ranging from 4 months to 6 years of age to mourn his loss. The local Volunteer Corps for whom the late sapper did so much during his period as instructor has arranged for a memorial mass to be offered for him.\textquote{ The Clare Journal Feb 1915.}
\end{quote}

In Dec 1914 the French and the 3\textsuperscript{rd} Division were to capture Wytschaete and Petit Bois. Even though the attack failed, the 3rd Division got to within 50 yards (46 m) of the German line and found uncut wire. One battalion captured 200 yards (180 m) of the German front trench and took 42 prisoners.

Sergeant John O'Loughlin: Kilmoon, Ennistymon. 8\textsuperscript{th} Royal Munster Fusiliers. (G/1031). (Clare Library) He was a yardsman aged 48 when he enlisted in Tralee in September 1914 into the Royal Munster Fusiliers, for Home Service only.. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

Martin O'Loughlin: Ennistymon. Royal Munster Fusiliers. (Clare Library)


He fought during World War I (1914-1918) as a member of the Royal Irish Rifles. Discharged to a pension and returned to Ennistymon where he lived on New Road. (Clare Library)

Private Patrick O’Loughlin: Bogberry Ennistymon. He was a labourer aged 45 when he enlisted in 1915 into the 3rd Royal Munster Fusiliers 6563 (and later with the Royal Irish Rifles in India). He was married to Susan Murphy and they had 4 children. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

Corporal Patrick O’Loughlin MM: Ennistymon. 1st Bn Royal Munster Fusiliers 3855. He was awarded the Military Medal 13/3/1918. (Michael O’Loughlin Clare Library)

Simon O’Loughlin (Flaherty): Ennistymon. Royal Munster Fusiliers and the Royal Air Force. (5140 & 239416) (Clare Library)

‘Siney’ O’Loughlin: Ennistymon. (Clare Library)
Thomas O'Loughlin: Ennistymon, Survived War no 53100, Royal Field Artillery. NCS

Private Thomas O'Shea: Bogberry, Ennistymon. 2nd Bn Royal Munster Fusiliers 6458. Wounded Sept 1916 (at the Somme). (CJ) Born in 1882. He served in three campaigns, The Boer War, East Indies and WW1. He received a shrapnel wound and a gun shot wound to the hand and leg and was discharged due to injuries in March 1917. (Guss O'Halloran)

John O'Sullivan: Church Hill Ennistymon, died of wounds 3rd June 1915 age 23 (Possibly from Rue Du Bois), Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 5795, G/M in England. (TB) Son of Stephen and Margaret O'Sullivan Church Hill, Ennistymon. (Guss O'Halloran)

‘The British bombardment began at 5 a.m., the Munsters then pressing forward with extraordinary bravery, German fire sweeping No-Mans-Land, some Munsters audaciously charging ahead through the German lines, briefly waving a green flag on its breastwork, then moving beyond until cut off by the British artillery bombardment that followed, which killed many sheltering in shell craters. By 11 a.m. the 2RMF was withdrawn with only 3 officers and 200 men remaining, having lost 19 and 370 respectively. It was one of only two battalions to reach the German lines. But suffered the regiment's highest loss of any one day of the war, 11 officers and 140 men killed in action.’

John Joseph O'Sullivan: Ennistymon. Seaman. Joined the Canadian Army in Feb 1918 age 31. He was living in New York. (Guss O'Halloran)

Patrick Joseph O'Sullivan: Born 26th July 1886 in Ennistymon Co Clare. Royal Navy 347090 from Nov 1904 – Oct 1928. The first ship he served on was the Vivid I. The last ship was the Drake II. (UK Royal Navy Registers of Seamans Services 1853-1928)

Private Patrick Reeves: Ennistymon. He was aged 18 when he enlisted in Jan 1913 into the Connaught Rangers 4152. He was discharged in 1914. His brothers were John (above) and Edward. (British army WW1 Pension Records fold3.com)
John Reidy: Born 1888 in Ennistymon, died 5th July 1919 at home age 31, from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Royal Iniskilling Fusiliers 24444, 5th Battalion (in the UK, WWI Service Medal and Award Rolls, 1914-1920), G/M in Ennistymon Cemetery. (TB) Son of Mrs. Margaret Reidy, of Bogberry, Ennistymon. He entered the war on the 17/10/1915 and was discharged on the 27/3/1919. (Guss O’Halloran)

John Reidy entered the War in Oct 1915 when the Royal Iniskilling Fusiliers 5th (Service) Battalion (10th Div), was deployed to Salonika and engaged in various actions against the Bulgarian Army including; The Battle of Kosturino, Retreat from Serbia, Capture of the Karajokois, Capture of Yenikoi. In Sept 1917 they were deployed to Egypt and then Palestine and engaged in various actions during the Palestine Campaign including; Third Battle of Gaza, Capture of the Sheria Position, Capture of Jerusalem, Defence of Jerusalem. On the 28.05.1918 they left the 10th Division and deployed to France, embarking at Alexandria via Taranto arriving at Serqueux. On the 19.07.1918 they transferred to the 198th Brigade of the 66th Division, and fought in The Battle of Cambrai, The Pursuit to the Selle, The Battle of the Selle, and a phase of the Final Advance in Picardy. On the 11.11.1918 they ended the war near Avesnes.

Steven Reynolds: Ennistymon. Canadian Infantry. (CI) DOB 17/3/1884. Born in Ennistymon Co Clare and lived in Calgary, Alberta. He was a Labourer when he enlisted in March 1917 into the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force 2288402, Forestry Company. His brother was Patrick Reynolds, Ennistymon, Co Clare. (Library and Archives Canada)

Joseph Riordan: Born in Ennistymon, killed in action 29th Nov 1917 age 26, in the Battle of Cambrai (20 Nov - 7 Dec 1917). Royal Iniskilling Fusiliers 1st Bn 26467, 87th Brigade in 29th Division. G/M in France. Formerly with the Royal Munster Fusiliers. Son of J Riordan RIC. (TB)
The Battle of Cambrai (20 Nov - 7 Dec 1917): The proposed method of assault was new, with no preliminary artillery bombardment. Instead, tanks would be used to break through the German wire, with the infantry following under the cover of smoke barrages. The attack began early in the morning of 20 November 1917 and initial advances were remarkable. However, by 22 November, a halt was called for rest and reorganisation, allowing the Germans to reinforce. From 23 to 28 November, the fighting was concentrated almost entirely around Bourlon Wood and by 29 November, it was clear that the Germans were ready for a major counter attack. During the fierce fighting of the next five days, much of the ground gained in the initial days of the attack was lost. (See Profiles of the Clare War Dead N-W)

Patrick Riordan: Born in Ennistymon lived in Australia (emigrated to Australia when he was 27 as a bootmaker), enlisted in Queensland, died of wounds (gunshot to the breast) 20th May 1916 age 29, in action near Armentieres. Australian Infantry 25th Bn 3300, 2nd Division. G/M in France. Son of John and Johanna Riordan, Church Street Ennistymon. (TB)MA. (Guss O’Halloran)

He was a Labourer aged 25 when he enlisted in Dec 1915 in Enoggera Queensland into the 7th Reinf 25th Bn. 3300. His brother was Michael Riordan, Ennistymon. He is buried in Cemetery Ration Farm 1.5 miles South of Armentiers.(UNSW) The 2nd Division started to arrive in France in March 1916, and was initially sent (as part of the I Anzac Corps with the Australian 1st Division) to a quiet sector south of Armentières to acclimatise to the Western Front conditions.

George H Roberts: 8 River View Terrace, Ennistymon. Enlisted in WW1. (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

"Robby" Roberts: Ennistymon. NCS

Bridget Roche: Church Street Ennistymon. ‘Age 50. Son invalided from Royal Navy. Incapable of work.’ (Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

Private Austin Ronan: 17th Battery Field Artillery, Camp Jackson, SC, 386539. He departed New York on the Minneakahda, on the 21st July 1918. His next of kin was his mother Mrs Katherine Ronan, Ennistymon Co Clare. (U.S., Army Transport Service, Passenger Lists, 1910-1939)

Private Patrick Ryan: Ennistymon. He was a shoemaker aged 18 when he enlisted in Aug 1912 into the 2nd Connaught Rangers 10479. He was discharged in March 1914 for medical reasons. His parents were Patrick and Mary, and his sister Bridget. (British Army WW1 Pension Records fold3.com)
Stephen Scully MM: Ennistymon. 1st Royal Munster Fusiliers. He was awarded the Military Medal for gallantry and fearless conduct on the 24/1/1919. On the 28th Aug 1918 ‘as a stretcher bearer he rendered most valuable assistance to the wounded of his own Battalion. He worked fearlessly and untiringly from 2pm on the 28th to 6am on the 29th and cleared a whole area of wounded… On Sept 2nd he displayed the same gallantry in an intense barrage, bandaging the wounded and carried them to an Aid Post’. (SR). See Clare Newspapers and WW1 page 181.

‘August 21st marks the beginning of the great Allied push which spread from the North Sea to Verdun..During the night of the 27th August the Battalion assembled behind Riencourt and Hendecourt…at 2.42pm (Aug 28th) the two leading companies advanced ....and came under considerable machine-gun fire, but they forced their way forward, and the final objective was reached by 1.15pm...(taking enemy support trenches on the Hindenburg Line). The enemy showed signs of making a counter-attack about 5pm, so the companies engaged them with rifle grenades, and the attack did not develop... The Battalion was relieved the next day...’ (RMF Book Capt McCance)

Michael Shannon: Deerpark Ennistymon. ‘Ex Army, Tailor. Age 48.’(Colonial Office London and Peter Beirne)

Private Thomas Shannon: Cahersherkin, Ennistymon. Died in 1918. US Army.(PMcN) He is buried in Killeinagh Cemetery over 1 mile from Ennistymon. (Guss O’Halloran) Born in Co Clare. He was aged 25 when he enlisted in the US Army 69th Infantry, 42nd Div 91144 in June 1917. He lived in New York City. He served overseas from Oct 1917. He died of wounds received in action at Ourcq on the 12th August 1918, in the The Aisne-Marne Operation (July 18-Aug 6 1918). He had also fought at Luneville, Baccarat, Chasseus-Champagne and Chateau Thierry. His next of kin was his father Patrick Shannon from Cahersherkin Co Clare. (New York, Abstracts of World War I Military Service, 1917-1919 Ancestry.com)

On 28th July 1918, the Irish American regiment (the 69th) engaged the German forces on the River Ourcq, advancing without the normal preliminary artillery bombardment. They forced a river crossing and fought alone with exposed flanks on the enemy’s side of the river against withering machine-gun fire. The Shamrock battalion was in the eye of the storm, suffering heavy casualties, amongst them Sergeant Joyce Kilmer, renowned poet and author of the ballad “Trees”, who was killed in action. It was at this juncture that the whole of the battalion came under the command of Captain Martin Meaney from Cree. Meaney led them in the last attack that broke the German resistance which included the elite Fourth Prussian Guard Division under the Kaiser’s son Prince Eithel Frederick. This victory was widely acclaimed as a great feat of arms. (D Murrihy)
The Aisne-Marne Operation (July 18-Aug 6 1918): the American 1\textsuperscript{st}, 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 26\textsuperscript{th}, 3\textsuperscript{rd}, 28\textsuperscript{th}, 4\textsuperscript{th}, 42\textsuperscript{nd} and 32\textsuperscript{nd} Infantry Divisions are organized into the American I and III Corps that participate with the French 10\textsuperscript{th}, 6\textsuperscript{th}, 9\textsuperscript{th} and 5\textsuperscript{th} armies in the Franco-American offensive that marks the beginning of the German Army's retreat from France. **Casualties:** 38,490. (7 Claremen died)

On November 4th, 1921, the steamer SS Orloch Head arrived in Dublin with the remains of 26 men of the US Armed Forces. The Freemans Journal newspaper covered the arrival and listed the names as follows: Thomas Shannon, consigned to Mrs. Anne Shannon, Cahersherkin, Ennistymon, Co. Clare. (John P. Quinlan ww2irishaviation.com)

**Tommy Shannon**: Ennistymon. Tailor. One hand. NCS

**‘Tosser’ Shannon**: Ennistymon. NCS

**‘Jack’ Shea**: Ennistymon. NCS

**‘Tommy’ Shea**: Ennistymon. One hand. NCS

**‘Buller’ Sherlock**: Ennistymon. NCS

**Paddy Sherlock**: Bogberry, Ennistymon, (March 1896 -20\textsuperscript{th} Sept 1956) ‘Paddy Sherlock joined the British army (1\textsuperscript{st} RMF) in 1913, at the age of seventeen. A recruiting sergeant came to Ennistymon looking for volunteers. Paddy was of the age that must see the world, and anyway, he was generally unemployed, belonged to a large family and had no great commitments at home. He served in France first, and then his regiment was transferred to the Dardanelles and from there to Upper Silesia in Poland, in the Great war of 1914-1918.

While at home in Ennistymon in 1916 he married Bridget Leary in Miltown Malbay church. The witness to the marriage was John Thynne (Died Dec 1918) and the bride's sister Mary Anne Leary. When the Munster Fusiliers were disbanded in 1922 Paddy received a gratuity of £10 and seven shillings and six pence per week for the following two years. It is said he soon sold this pension for a small down payment.’ From: Ennistymon Parish Magazine 1989. (He landed at V Beach in Gallipoli aboard the River Clyde Troop ship, as a member of the Munster Fusiliers.)

**S Sherlock**: Ennistymon, Survived War? Leinster Regiment. NCS
Private Thomas Sherlock: Bogberry, Ennistymon, Co Clare. He was a labourer aged 43 when he enlisted in Aug 1915 in the 5th Royal Munster Fusiliers 6469. He had previously served with the Leinster Regiment 2nd Bn. He was discharged in March 1916. He married Catherine Ward in 1894 and they had 5 daughters and 3 sons. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

Joseph Smythe: Ennistymon. Royal Munster Fusiliers. On wounded list in June 1916. (CJ) The only J Smythe in the RMF. [Number indicates 8 Bn. confirmed in award roll] Eddie Lough. ‘Whilst in the line (June 1916) the Battalion was employed on clearing the trenches, reinforcing the parapets, strengthening shelters, wiring etc. The drummers of the Battalion sounded the “Last Post” at the memorial service for the late Field-Marshal Earl Kitchener of Khartoum held... on June 13th 1916...... Casualties whilst in the Loos Sector, June 17th to July 3rd: Killed – 36; Wounded – 130.’


John Thynne: Born and lived in Ennistymon, killed in action 27th Aug 1914, near Caudry after the Battle Of Le Cateau (26/08/1914). Royal Irish Regiment 2nd Bn 10330, 8th Brigade, 3rd Division. G/M in France. Tragically his two brothers also died in the war, Michael (died May 1915) and Patrick Thynne (died May 1915). Son of John and Catherine Thynne, Church Hill Ennistymon.(TB) (Guss O’Halloran)

The 2nd battalion of the Royal Irish Regiment had performed a redoubtable rearguard action at the Belgium town of Mons on August 23rd, 1914, taking up positions along the Mons-Conde canal, which saved the British army from disaster. During the Retreat From Mons they fought in the Battle Of Le Cateau (26/08/1914) at Caudry. On the evening of 25th August, the troops were too exhausted to continue the retreat from Mons and it was decided to stand fast and give battle to the pursuing German First Army. In the early hours of 26th August, II Corps took up a defensive position in the open downs between Caudry and Le Cateau, and prepared to fight.
Using similar tactics to those used at Mons, rapid fire volleys and air-shrapnel artillery fire, the four British Divisions inflicted heavy losses on the numerically superior German divisions, keeping them at bay for several hours until their reserve divisions arrived. **The 3rd Division** took up a position around Caudry. The 7th Infantry Brigade on the left, north of Caudry village, **8th Infantry Brigade** in the centre and the 9th Infantry Brigade on the right. They held off the German attacks, allowing the majority of the Division was able to retire in good order.

**Michael Thynne**: Church Hill Ennistymon, died of wounds on the 4th May 1915 age 30 in Gallipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn, G/M in Turkey. **(TB)** Brother of John and Patrick who both also died. Son of John and Catherine Thynne. (Guss O’Halloran)

‘On the night of 1 May the Turks, almost out of ammunition but spurred by the then young Atatürk carried out a tremendous attack. “They crept up in the dark into our trenches bayoneting our men before we knew it had begun. Bayoneting on both sides was terrible. At dawn (May 2nd) the Turks were mowed down, and heaps of bodies and streams of blood remaining everywhere.” The battalion was reduced to 4 officers and 430 men, who attempted further attacks the following days.’

**Patrick Thynne**: Born in Ennistymon lived in Brighton, Killed in action in Festurbet, 17th May 1915, Irish Guards 1st Bn 3179, 4th (Guards) Brigade of the 2nd Division. G/M in France. Brother of Michael (May 1915) and John (Dec 1918) who both also died in the War. Son of John and Catherine Thynne, Church Hill, Ennistymon. **(TB)**

**The Battle of Festubert (15-25 May 1915)** was the continuation of the Battle of Aubers Ridge (9 May) and part of the larger French Second Battle of Artois. The battle was preceded by a 60-hour bombardment after which the initial advance made some progress in good weather conditions. The attack was renewed on 16 May and by 19 May the 2nd Division and 7th Division had to be withdrawn due to heavy losses. The British forces dug in at the new front line in heavy rain. The Germans brought up reinforcements and reinforced their defences. From 20–25 May the attack was resumed and Festubert was captured. The offensive had resulted in a 3-kilometre (1.9 mi) advance. (Guss O’Halloran)

**George Tobin**: Ennistymon. Born in 1901. He was a Labourer aged 17, when he enlisted on the 29th Oct 1918 into the RAF 311383. **(British RAF Airmen’s Service Records 1912-1939 at findmypast)**

‘**Georgie** Tobin**: Ennistymon. **NCS**
Lance Corporal John Walsh: Ennistymon, killed in action 7th June 1917 age 32 at Wytschaete Ridge, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn, G/M in Belgium. (TB)

‘At 3.10am, on June 7th the mines were exploded.... At the same moment our troops dashed up the slopes and in three hours had cleared the crest.. The Battalion arrived at the second objective on time and deployed at 6.50am... The third objective was reaches at 7.20am... They captured or killed many of the enemy in dug-outs as they advanced, and at 7.50am the fourth objective was taken and consolidation commenced.... By 8am everything was taken... The artillery barrage was excellent; the Battalion was able to follow it closely, and was on the enemy before they coul offer any serious resistance..... Over 7 thousand prisoners were taken that day... The Battalion was relieved on the 8th at 7.45am... Casualties Killed 1 officer, 5 other ranks: wounded 2 officers 63 other ranks; missing, 43 other ranks.’

? Vaughan: Ennistymon. NCS

‘Deeven’ Walshe: Ennistymon. NCS

Anthony White: Lahinch Road Ennistymon. He was a Labourer aged 19 when he enlisted in 1907 into the 8th Connaught Rangers 9135. He was invalided in March 1912. His parents were Michael and Jane White and his brother Edward below. He served in India 1908-11. He was mobilized back to the Connaught Rangers but was discharged in Jan 1916 medically unfit. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

Private Edward White: Lahinch Road Ennistymon. He was a Clerk aged 20 when he enlisted in 1907 into the Connaught Rangers 9134. He served in India and then in the BEF and the MEF during the war. He was discharged in Feb 1917 for medical reasons (due to exposure to gas and TB). His parents were Michael and Jane White, his brother Willie and sister Lizzie. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com)

‘Micko’ White: Ennistymon. NCS

During the reprisals in Ennistymon for the Rineen Ambush in Sept 1920 the following occurred - ‘Mr Linnane himself also went out, but on hearing a number of shots re-entered his house, as so did all the other boys subsequently except Patrick Linnane who was shot dead. Two boys named Healy and Vaughan tried to go to his assistance but were unable to do so because of the firing. He was subsequently brought into Connele’s stable by an ex-soldier named White and was attended to by Fr Mullins CC, who arrived in time to give the Last Sacraments. The deceased had a bullet wound across the temple, and a nasty wound in the back of the skull.’ The Clare Champion Oct 2 1920

Private William White: Ennistymon. Australian Imperial Force (AI) MA He was a POW and wounded in Nov 1916. He had three brothers in the war. His father was Michael White. (CJ) He was a labourer aged 24 when he enlisted in Brisbane in Aug 1915 into the 31st Bn (28). (UNSW)

Newspaper Articles
Ennistymon and WW2

**Sergeant Pat Clancy**: London Metropolitan Police. Ballymacraven Ennistymon. On the 18th December 1941 he was on board the mailboat SS *Cambria* travelling from Dun Laoghaire to Holyhead, when it was attacked by a German plane.

‘On the first bombing attack, the ships anti-aircraft gun went into action which drove the plane off but the plane returned and machine gunned the decks wounding two passengers, one being a woman. During the fight there was a great deal of excitement on board the ‘Cambria’. Dr Michael Garry (from Kildysart living in Formby Liverpool) and Sergeant Clancy are reported to have given invaluable help in allaying the fears of the passengers, getting them to take cover and in aiding the wounded. They received slight injuries themselves.’


**John, William, Michael, Jeremiah and Martin Halloran**: ‘In 1939, with the outbreak of the Second World War, the Connole brothers and Michael Halloran (senior) again answered the call to arms but were refused on age grounds. The five surviving Halloran brothers, however, were accepted and, as experienced soldiers, they knew what they would be facing. John, William and Michael enlisted with the British Army while their brothers Jeremiah and Martin, who were then living in New York, enlisted with the US Armed Forces. ‘Jeremiah and Martin experienced the turmoil of the D-Day landings and were lucky to survive’, said Gerard.

The Hallorans returned from the war highly decorated veterans. John, William and Michael returned to England while Jeremiah and Martin returned to America, all awaiting their discharge. As life slowly returned to normal, William remained in England and Michael and John returned to Ireland, marrying sisters Catherine and Agnes MacNamara respectively, and settling down in their hometown of Ennistymon. While Martin stayed in America, Jeremiah finally came home to Ennistymon in 1963.(Clare Library)
Private John Carmody

Private John Carmody: Ennistymon. ‘I recently came across a man named John Carmody. He was killed in action in WW2, on the 24th Sept 1944 aged 26. Regimental Number 6209855, Duke of Cornwall’s Lite Infantry. Buried in Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery, Gelderland, Netherlands, Grave Ref VI.H.12. He was married to a lady named Nora and they came from Deer Park East, Ennistymon, Co. Clare. There is no information about him on the CWGC website and I have written to CWGC saying he should be remembered as coming from Ennistymon, Co. Clare. They kindly wrote back saying, that while they agree with me, to verify him, they would need a birth cert or baptismal cert or any legal document that could verify him.’ (Tom Burke – Keir McNamara)
Staff Sergeant Joseph L Flanagan: Clouna Ennistymon. US rangers 2nd Bn. Lived in Massachusetts. Died on the 31st Aug 1944. He is buried in the Brittany American Cemetery and Memorial Saint-James, Departement de la Manche, Basse-Normandie, France. ‘Joseph Flanagan, whose mother Kathleen McNamara (daughter of Michael McNamara and Bridget Delia Ryan) came from Clouna near Ennistymon, was killed in Normandy in the hours leading up to the D-Day landings. He was among the first US Rangers 2nd Bn to be killed at Normandy, most likely near Omaha Beach, on the night of June 5 or morning of June 6 1944 (Aug 31 1944 on headstone). Joseph was part of the pre-invasion forces, whose job it was to knock out the German coastal defense guns. An auditorium at the Southern Junior High School, Summer Street, Somerville, Massachusetts, USA, was named after him. It has since been torn down. Joseph’s brother Daniel, served in the Merchant Marine during World War 2.’ (Clare Herald)

On the morning of D-Day 6 June 1944 a crack unit of US 2nd Ranger Battalion scaled the 90-foot cliffs under relentless enemy fire and disabled the German guns trained directly onto the landing beaches.

D Day - The 2nd Rangers had planned to land at the base of the cliffs at 0600 hours, however, because of a navigational error, they landed nearly an hour late. This cost the lives of more Rangers as well as the element of surprise. During the attack, the 190 remaining Rangers scaled the cliffs utilizing rope ladders, but only 90 Rangers were still able to bear arms after two days of relentless fighting. During the assault, 2nd Battalion managed to disable a battery of 155mm French artillery captured by the Germans, which was their primary objective. These guns were to be aimed at Utah Beach, however, the Rangers prevented their use, saving American lives on the shores of Normandy. The 2nd Rangers were later involved in the Battle for Brest (7th Aug - 19th Sept).