Private Michael M Lahiffe


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

“The Last Absolution of the Munsters at Rue Du Bois, 1915” by Fortunino Matania. The picture represents an actual incident on May 9th 1915, and depicts the Chaplain, Father Gleeson giving General Absolution to 800 men the evening before the Battle of Aubers Ridge in France. Colonel Victor Rickard is the other figure on horseback and was killed the following day. Sgt-Major J.T.Leahy who was there described how “On a lonely dark road-side, lit up now and then by flashes from our own and German flares, arose to Heaven the voices of 800 men singing that glorious hymn, ‘Hail Queen of Heaven’. Every man had his rosary beads out, reciting the prayers in response to Fr Gleeson.” He then went down among the men, blessing and encouraging them. At dawn the next morning, in the short period of the attack, the Munsters lost nineteen officers and 374 men. That evening those who survived returned to the same place for prayer.
Private James Larkin

James Larkin: Born in Killaloe lived in Wexford. Died of wounds 24th May 1915 age 29 in The Second Battle of Ypres 22nd April – 25th May 1915, Royal Irish Regiment 2nd Bn 8120, 4th Div, G/M in France. (TB)

Vlamertinghe Military Cemetery
Ypres (Ieper)
Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium

‘Private James Larkin...was the victim of gas poisoning in an engagement near Ypres on the 24th May... Private Larkin, who was scarcely 29 years old was of fine physical stature. The deepest sympathy is felt for his parents and relatives in their great loss.’ From the Enniscorthy Guardian.

The Second Battle of Ypres 22nd April – 25th May 1915: Fighting renewed around Ypres on 8 May and continued until 13 May, and then again from 24-25 May, with repeated use of gas attacks. Still the Allied lines held, although German forces secured additional high ground to the east of the town from 8-12 May. During the battle the British, French and Canadians suffered 60,000 casualties, the Germans only 35,000.

This was the first time gas had been used by either side and the violence of the attack forced an Allied withdrawal and a shortening of the line of defence.
Private John Larkin

John Larkin: Born in Killaloe lived in Sydney, enlisted in April 1917. Died 14th Dec 1917 aged 40, Australian Infantry 45th Bn 3659, 4th Div, G/M in Australia. Husband of Margaret Larkin Sydney, and father of four children, Michael Patrick, Kathleen Mary, Margaret May and Mary Josephine. He died of tuberculosis meningitis at Bedford Park Sanitorium, Port Lyttleton, Australia. (TB)

He was a Carter aged 40 when he enlisted on April 1917 in Sydney into the 1st Infantry Depot Bn. 3659. He was married to Margaret Larkin, Sydney. He returned to Australia in Oct 1917. (UNSW)

The 45th Battalion was in reserve for the 4th Division's first major action of 1917 'the first battle of Bullecourt' and was not committed to the attack. It was, however, heavily engaged during the battle of Messines in June, and suffered commensurate casualties. The focus of the AIF’s operations had now switched to the Ypres sector in Belgium and the 45th took part in another major battle near Passchendaele on October 12. Conditions were horrendous and the operation was hastily planned - thus it resulted in failure.

West Terrace Cemetery
Adelaide
Adelaide City
South Australia, Australia
Plot: Western. 0. 129. (GRM/5*).
Catholic Section

The West Terrace Cemetery is South Australia’s oldest cemetery, first appearing on Colonel William Light’s 1837 plan of Adelaide. Originally known as the Adelaide Public Cemetery, it is divided into a number of sections for various communities and faiths, including two Catholic areas, as well as Jewish, Afghan, Islamic and Quaker sections.
Private John Leahy

John Leahy: Born in Ennis lived in Corrovorin Ennis. Killed in action 1\textsuperscript{st} May 1915 age 30 in Gallipoli on the Helles Memorial, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1\textsuperscript{st} Bn 7310, G/M in Turkey. Son of Mrs Hannah Leahy The Causeway (Francis St) Ennis. (TB) He died on the same day, the same Regiment, the same Battalion as Private Michael Kearney.

Royal Munster Fusiliers 1\textsuperscript{st} 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 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, but by the 11th were down to 372 men.

‘On May 1\textsuperscript{st} 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 wth the bayonet. At dawn the Battalion was reinforced by the 1\textsuperscript{st} 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.’

The Helles Memorial serves the dual function of Commonwealth Battle Memorial for the whole Gallipoli campaign and place of commemoration for more than 21,000 of those Commonwealth servicemen who died there and have no known grave. The United Kingdom and Indian forces named on the memorial died in operations throughout the peninsula, the Australians at Helles. There are also panels for those who died or were buried at sea in Gallipoli waters.
Private William Leahy


Panel 11

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

‘On the 6th Nov after an hour’s preparation with heavy, light, and machine-gun fire, the enemy attacked the French troops on the Battalion’s right, who fell back and left the flank of the Battalion (No. 2 Company) open. The Company “in good order and fighting” fell back by platoons to its support trenches, but this left No. 1 Company practically in the air, and at the end of the day the greater part of them were missing. As the Germans occupied the French trenches in succession, they opened an enfilade fire on the Irish which did sore execution. Once again the Adjutant went to the Brigadier to explain the situation. The Household Cavalry were sent up at the gallop to Zillebeke where they dismounted and advanced on foot. The 1st Life Guards on the left were detailed to retake the Irish Guards’ trenches, while the 2nd Life Guards attacked the position whence the French had been ousted.

A hundred Irish Guardsmen, collected on the spot, also took part in the attack, which in an hour recovered most of the lost positions.’ Rudyard Kipling

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

On 24th August 1916, orders were received by the 2nd Battalion that an attack was to be made on the 400 yards of the old German trench still remaining in enemy hands. The effort was doomed to failure from the start. It is said that another Commanding Officer had declined to deliver the attack.

The artillery preparations was misdirected and inaccurately delivered; the outer sectors of the objective were to have been blown in by trench mortars, which completely failed; the attack was ordered by daylight and as a consequence of faulty preparations the enemy was completely unshaken.

In 7 a.m. the assault was delivered and the Germans immediately opened a heavy fire from concealed machine-gun emplacements and held up the attack.
Edward Leggatt: Kilrush. Killed in action 1st Nov 1914 age 44 on the HMS *Good Hope*, Royal Navy 159975, G/M in England. Son of George and Mary Ann Leggatt Kilrush. (TB)

The HMS *Monmouth* and HMS *Good Hope* participated in the Battle of Coronel off the coast of Chile on 1 November 1914. Early in the battle, a shell from SMS *Gneisenau* penetrated the armour of the forward gun turret of HMS *Monmouth*. When it was clear that *Monmouth* was out of action, *Gneisenau* shifted fire to HMS *Good Hope*.

A short while later, drifting and on fire, *Monmouth* was attacked by the newly arrived light cruiser SMS *Nürnberg*. *Monmouth* and *Good Hope* both sank with a combined loss of 1,570 lives. There were no survivors from either ship.

An Engine Room Artificer (ERA) was a fitter, turner or boilermaker, able to read and write and was competent in the workings of engines and boilers, and trained in the maintenance and operation and uses of all parts of marine engines.
Private James Lenane

James Lenane: Born and lived in Lisdoonvarna. Died of wounds 2nd Nov 1914 (During the First Battle of Ypres), Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 5271, G/M in Belgium. (TB)

Poperinghe Old Military Cemetery
Poperinge Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium
Plot: I. L. 48. This Cemetery was made in the course of the First Battle of Ypres and contains 450 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War.

First Battle of Ypres:

‘In the latter part of October (1914) the 2nd Battalion divided into three or four detachments, moved up with the British Army to the Ypres sector, and in the bitter and prolonged fighting of that period were put into the line in any sector which threatened to break or had already broken.

Time after time a party of the Munsters restored the situation, recaptured the lost trenches, or delivered the counter stroke, thereby performing work as valuable as it was unselfish.’ (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)
Private Frank Lennane


Panel 23 to 28 and 163A.
Tyne Cot Memorial.
Zonnebeke
Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium

The Tyne Cot Memorial is one of four memorials to the missing in Belgian Flanders which cover the area known as the Ypres Salient. Servicemen who died after 16th August 1917 are named on the memorial at Tyne Cot. The MEMORIAL now bears the names of almost 35,000 officers and men whose graves are not known.

The Battle of Broodseinde (4th October 1917), was the last assault launched by Plumer in good weather. The operation aimed to complete the capture of the Gheluvelt Plateau and occupy Broodseinde Ridge. The Germans sought to recapture their defences around Zonnebeke, with a methodical counter-attack also to begin on 4 October. The British inflicted devastating casualties.
Private Thomas Lennon

Thomas Lennon: Born and lived in Kilrush. Killed in action 12th Nov 1914 age 20 (in the First Battle of Ypres), Connaught Rangers 1st Bn 10135, 7th (Ferozepore) Brigade, 3rd (Lahore) Division, G/M in France. Son of Margaret Lennon, Burton Street Kilrush. (TB)

Rue-du-Bacquerot
No. 1 Military Cemetery, Laventie
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France  Plot: I. A. 11.

The cemetery contains 637 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War.

The 3rd (Lahore) Division was an infantry division of the British Indian Army. It was formed by General Kitchener while he was Commander-in-chief of India between 1902 & 1909. The division was sent to France at the outbreak of the Great War, landing at Marseilles on 26 September 1914 as part of the Indian Corp, and got into action piecemeal at the simultaneous Battles of La Bassee, 1st Messines and Armentieres along the British part of the Western Front in October–November 1914. In early November 1914 the Ferozepore Brigade (with the 1st Connaught Rangers) was transferres to the Indian sector between Givenchy and Neuve-Chapelle, where Thomas Lennon was killed.

Photos – Keir McNamara
Private Ronald Lernan

Ronald Lernan: Born in Co Longford, lived in Clonwhite (Cloonwhite) Doonbeg. Killed in action 27th Aug 1918 at St Leger (178 casualties), Irish Guards 1st Bn 5467, 2nd Div, G/M in in Mory (just North of Baupame) France. (TB) He is also remembered on the WW1 Memorial Stone in the grounds of Kilkee Catholic Church.

Mory Abbey Military Cemetery Mory
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France

Mory Abbey Military Cemetery contains 619 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

THE AFFAIR OF ST. LÉGER (27th Aug 1918): Final orders did not arrive till after midnight on the 26th, and there was much to arrange and link up between then and seven o’clock, barrage time... After what seemed an immense time (two hours or so) Captain Thompson, ordered his men to dig in, in support, and they spent till nightfall “recovering casualties”.

The WW1 Memorial Stone in the grounds of Kilkee Catholic Church.
Lance Corporal Martin Leyden/Lyden

**Martin Leyden/Lyden:** Born in Killuran (Tulla) lived in O’Callaghan’s Mills. Died in Queen Mary’s Hospital Lancashire 19th Dec 1916 age 42 (Probably from wounds in the Battle of Guillemont, 3–6 Sept at the Somme), Royal Irish Regiment 2nd Bn 5054, 7th Div, G/M in England. (TB) L Corp **Matt Leyden:** Royal Irish Regiment. POW in Dec 1915. (CJ) Son of Denis and Bridget Leyden, Iragh, O’Callaghan’s Mills. He had also served in the North-West frontier of India in 1895.

**Whalley (Queen Mary's Hospital) Military Cemetery**

Whalley

Ribble Valley Borough

Lancashire, England

During the First World War, the 2,000 bed Queen Mary’s Military Hospital was housed in the County Asylum at Whalley. The Military Cemetery associated with the hospital was handed over to the War Department in February 1916. **The cemetery has a Cross of Sacrifice and there is also a memorial to all the servicemen, nearly 300 of them, who died in the Hospital.**

**The Battle of Guillemont** (3-6 September 1916) was an attack on the village which was captured by the Fourth Army on the first day. Guillemont was on the right flank of the British sector, near the boundary with the French Sixth Army. German defences ringed the British salient at Delville Wood to the north and had observation over the French Sixth Army area to the south towards the Somme river. The German defence in the area was based on the second line and numerous fortified villages and farms north from Maurepas at Combles, Guillemont, Falfemont Farm, Delville Wood and High Wood, which were mutually supporting.

The battle for Guillemont was considered by some observers to be the supreme effort of the German army during the battle. Numerous meetings were held by Joffre, Haig, Foch, Rawlinson and Fayolle to co-ordinate joint attacks by the four armies, all of which broke down. A pause in Anglo-French attacks at the end of August, coincided with the largest counter-attack by the German army in the Battle of the Somme.
Private Dennis Liddane

Dennis Liddane: Born in Kilkee, lived in New Jersey USA. Died of wounds Oct 10th 1918 age 25. US Army 327th Infantry, 82nd Division. G/M Meuse-Argonne Cemetery in France. He is also remembered on the WW1 Memorial Stone in the grounds of Kilkee Catholic Church. Son of Thomas and Ellen Liddane, RehyKilkee. (September 26-November 11, 1918-The Meuse-Argonne Offensive.)

Born in 1893, he was the youngest of ten children and emigrated to the United States, arriving in New York on August 30, 1913, joining his siblings who had emigrated before him. He lived in New Jersey, became an American citizen and obtained a position as a guard at NY Edison – an electricity company. He worked there until he was drafted into the US Army in 1917. He was sent to France with the 327th Infantry Regiment on April 25, 1918 and subsequently died of wounds received in the intense fighting that occurred in the final weeks of the war. He is now buried in the Meuse-Argonne Cemetery, the largest American Cemetery in Europe, with 14,200 other War Dead. (Clare Museum)

The WW1 Memorial Stone in the grounds of Kilkee Catholic Church.

Plot D Row 28 Grave 33
Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery
Romagne. France.

The service medals of Dennis Liddane, including a Purple Heart, photographs and a citation signed by President Barack Obama, have been donated to Clare Museum.
Private John Lillis


John Lillis: Enlisted in Oct.1915, in Nova Scotia, 8th Irish Bn., King's Liverpool Regiment. Born 5 May, 1880, in Kilrush, son of Thomas (died 1906) and Margaret (Hanrahan) Lillis; brother of Mrs. Minnie Curren, Mrs. Charles O'Neil, Mrs. William M. Fitzgerald, Mrs. John F. Houlihan, Bridget, Anna, Patrick, and Thomas F., the last two deceased. Lumberman. Resident in Massachusetts twenty-five years. (Massachusetts and the Great War)

Thiepval Memorial. Thiepval
Departement de la Somme
Picardie,
France
Plot: Pier and Face 1 D 8 B and 8 C.

Battle of Delville Wood (14 July – 15 Sept 1916)The Battle of Delville Wood was an operation to secure the British right flank, while the centre advanced to capture the higher lying areas of High Wood and Pozières. After the Battle of Albert the offensive had evolved to the capture of fortified villages, woods, and other terrain that offered observation for artillery fire, jumping-off points for more attacks, and other tactical advantages. The mutually costly fighting at Delville Wood eventually secured the British right flank.

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.
**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.**
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.
Private James Looney


Bienvillers Military Cemetery
Bienvillers-au-Bois
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais,
The cemetery now contains 1,605 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War.

In early 1918 the Irish Guards 1st Bn fought in The Battle of St Quentin (21–23 March 1918), The Battle of Bapaume (24–25 Mar 1918) and The First Battle of Arras 1918 (28 March 1918). James Looney was killed before The Battle of Albert (21–23 August 1918), and is buried in Bienvillers-au-Bois south of Arras.
Edward Lucitt: Born in Labasheeda lived in Tralee. Died of wounds 14th Sept 1914 age 30, Irish Guards 1st Bn 2225, 4th (Guards) Brigade 2nd Div, G/M in France. (TB) Brother of John also Irish Guards 1st Bn (died Nov 1914) and Joseph (Born in Tralee died April 1918). Son of E and Margaret Lucitt, No 3 Bridge St, Tralee. He died of wounds in the Battle of Aisne that raged from 12-15 Sept 1914. The battle was an Anglo-French counter-offensive following the Battle of the Marne. (Clare People Sept 2015)

The First Battle of the Aisne was the Allied follow-up offensive against the right wing of the German First Army, and the Second Army as they retreated after the First Battle of the Marne earlier in September 1914. The Advance to the Aisne (6 Sept – 1 October) consisted of the Battle of the Marne (7–10 September) and the Battle of the Aisne (12–15 September).


The Forêt de Retz was the scene of a rearguard action (after the Allied defeat at Battle of Mons on August 23 1914), fought by the 4th (Guards) Brigade on 1 September 1914. In the aftermath of the fighting, many of the dead Guardsmen were buried by the people of Villers-Cotterêts.

The cemetery was formed by the Irish Guards when the British forces regained this territory two months later and contains 98 Commonwealth burials of the First World War,

The family grave at Ratass Cemetery, Tralee lists three sons of Edmond and Margaret Falvey

Lucitt Edmond (not Edward) 14 Sept 1914 age 30
John 6 Nov 1914
Joseph 14 Apr 1918 - he is buried there.
-all three were casualties of the Great War.
Private Edward (Edmond) Lucitt continued

His grave is separate from the other soldiers and officers, and has a green area in front of it! (Keir McNamara)

Photos – Keir McNamara
Lance Corporal John Lucitt

John Lucitt: Born in Labasheeda lived in Tralee. Killed in action 6th Nov 1914, Irish Guards 1st Bn 3947, 4th (Guards) Brigade, 2nd Div, in the Battle of Nonne Bosschen (1st to 11th Nov 1914), G/M on the Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres Belgium. (TB) Brother of Edward and Joseph who also died in the war. Son of Edmond and Margaret Falvey Lucitt of 3 Bridge Street, Tralee.

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

The First Battle of Ypres, began on 19 October 1914. The battle caused major casualties among the old Regular Army. The 1st Irish Guards Battalion was involved in fighting for the duration of ‘First Ypres’, taking part in the major actions, at Langemarck, Gheluvelt and Nonne Bosschen. In the Battle of Nonne Bosschen (1st to 11th Nov 1914), Foch planned an offensive towards Messines and Langemarck for 6 November to expand the salient around Ypres but was forestalled by German attacks on the flanks from 5–9 November.

The family grave at Ratass Cemetery, Tralee lists three sons of Edmond and Margaret Falvey

Lucitt Edmond (not Edward) 14 Sept 1914 age 30
John 6 Nov 1914
Joseph 14 Apr 1918-he is buried there.
-all three were casualties of the Great War.
Jack Lynch (Second Lieutenant John Lynch?)


Panel 5 and 9.
Ypres (Menin Gate)
Memorial
Ypres (Ieper)
Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders
(West-Vlaanderen),
Belgium
**Sapper James Lynch**

**Sapper James Lynch:** Born in Deerpark Doora. He was a surveyor that joined the Ordnance Survey in Ennis. He later transferred to the English Head Office in Southampton, where he took special courses in military and topographical surveys. He then served all over the British Empire, mapping various territories. During the Great War, he was sent to France to map trenches etc. Unfortunately his health broke down and he **died in the Mental Hospital in Ennis in 1920**, as a result of the hardships he endured in the war. He enlisted in Sept 1895 age 20 into the Royal Engineers 29466. He was discharged as being physically unfit on the 15/11/1918. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.co) He is buried in Quin Abbey. ‘...also James Lynch, Ordnance Survey, who died 23rd September 1920 of Deerpark, Doora....The family grave is just at the entrance to the graveyard.’ (Eric Shaw)

There were five Lynch brothers from Deerpark (James, John, Thomas, Michael and Patrick), Doora who joined the Ordnance Survey Office in Ennis in the 1890s and who, when qualified, joined the Royal Engineers. They all finished their courses in Chatham in Kent, where they grasped the techniques of Military survey work, and were then were transferred to Southampton for more advanced courses. John and Patrick were amongst the pioneers selected to survey most of the unmapped lands of British territory in the Gold Coast, the Orange Free State, Transvaal, Cape Territory, Mauritius, Singapore and Canada. In later years Michael and James were sent foreign on similar work. On the outbreak of the Great War, the brothers were sent to France, where their work was of a hazardous nature, surveying the lands, and laying out trenches over the battle grounds. John was promoted to Colonel in the field from non-commissioned rank and Patrick was promoted to Major. Michael attained the rank of Warrant Officer while Thomas was killed in Armentieres.
**Private James Lynch**

**James Lynch:** Born in and lived in Sixmilebridge. Killed in action 7th June 1917 age 22, during The Battle of Messines (Jun 7, 1917 – Jun 14, 1917) 7th/8th Royal Irish Fusiliers 43181, 49th Brigade in 16th (Irish) Division, G/M in Ypres Belgium. Son of Peter and Ellen Lynch, Feenagh, Sixmilebridge. *(TB)*

He enlisted in 1916. *(WW1 British Army Service Records @ ancestry.com)*

The **Battle of Messines** (Jun 7, 1917 – Jun 14, 1917) was an offensive conducted by the British Second Army, under the command of General Sir Herbert Plumer, on the Western Front near the village of Messines in West Flanders, Belgium. Zero Day was fixed for 7 June, with zero hour at 3:10 a.m. The 16th (Irish) Division attacked between Maedelstede Farm and the Vierstraat–Wytschaete road. The mines at Maedelstede and the two at Petit Bois devastated the defence; the mines at Petit Bois on the left were about 12 seconds late and knocked over some of the advancing British infantry.

The **Third Battle of Ypres** was an offensive mounted by Commonwealth forces to divert German attention from a weakened French front further south. The initial attempt in June to dislodge the Germans from the Messines Ridge was a complete success, but the main assault north-eastward, which began at the end of July, quickly became a dogged struggle against determined opposition and the rapidly deteriorating weather. The campaign finally came to a close in November with the capture of Passchendaele.
Sapper James Lynch: Born in Deerpark Doora. He was a surveyor that joined the Ordnance Survey in Ennis. He later transferred to the English Head Office in Southampton, where he took special courses in military and topographical surveys. He then served all over the British Empire, mapping various territories. During the Great War, he was sent to France to map trenches etc. Unfortunately his health broke down and he died in the Mental Hospital in Ennis in 1920, as a result of the hardships he endured in the war. He enlisted in Sept 1895 age 20 into the Royal Engineers 29466. He was discharged as being physically unfit on the 15/11/1918. (British Army WW1 Pension Records 1914-1920 ancestry.com) He is buried in Quin Abbey. ‘….also James Lynch, Ordnance Survey, who died 23rd September 1920 of Deerpark, Doora... The family grave is just at the entrance to the graveyard.’ (Eric Shaw) There were five Lynch brothers from Deerpark (James, John, Thomas, Michael and Patrick), Doora who all joined the Ordnance Survey Office in Ennis in the 1890s and who, when qualified, joined the Royal Engineers.
**Private Martin Lynch**

**Martin Lynch**: Born and lived in Miltown Malbay. Killed in action 23rd July 1916 age 21 in Guillemont on the Somme, Manchester Regiment 19th Bn 26713 (30th Div), G/M on the Thiepval Memorial in France. Son of Thomas Lynch, Main Street, Miltown Malbay. (TB)

**Thiepval Memorial**

Departement de la Somme Picardie, France.
Plot: Pier and Face 13 A and 14 C.
The Thiepval Memorial, 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.

Orders were received that the **Manchester Regiment 19th Battalion** were to attack the Village of Guillemont on the 23rd (July 1916) and on the 22nd they moved to Silesia support trench. At 10pm, the Battalion moved off in single file along the Maricourt-Montauban Road. The battalion formed up in a mass single rank behind Trones wood facing Guillemont. Trones wood was continually shelled during the night and at 2.30am the Companies moved through the wood and took up positions facing Guillemont.

The attack began at 3.40am, and from the start, was subject to heavy shell, rifle and machine gun fire—but there were few casualties until the Men reached the German wire defences, when the losses became serious. At 3.30pm on the 23rd July the Battalion withdrew to Silesia support trench and later moved to Happy Valley. Casualties suffered by the Battalion in the above actions were: Killed; 7. Wounded; 55. Missing; 500.

Photos – Keir McNamara
**Private Michael Lynch**

**Michael Lynch:** Born in Ballynote Kilrush, lived in Kilkee. Killed in action 1st May 1915 in Galipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 9548, G/M on the Helles Memorial in Turkey. *(TB)*

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**Helles Memorial**

**Gallipoli**

**Canakkale, Turkey**

**Plot:** Final resting place unknown.

**Name listed on Panel 185 to 190.**

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**The eight month** campaign in Gallipoli was fought by Commonwealth and French forces in an attempt to force Turkey out of the war, to relieve the deadlock of the Western Front in France and Belgium, and to open a supply route to Russia through the Dardanelles and the Black Sea. The Allies landed on the peninsula on 25-26 April 1915; the 29th Division at Cape Helles in the south and the Australian and New Zealand Corps north of Gaba Tepe on the west coast, an area soon known as Anzac.

**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 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, but by the 11th were down to 372 men.

‘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 wth 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.’

**The Helles Memorial** commemorates more than 21,000 of those Commonwealth servicemen who died there and have no known grave.
Patrick Lynch: Born in Kilmoon, Lisdoonvarna, enlisted in Australia. Died 6th Aug 1916 age 34 in the The Battle of Pozières (23 July – 7 August), Australian Infantry 4th Pioneers 1660, G/M in France. (TB) MA He was a butcher. Son of Patrick and Margaret Lynch Lisdoonvarns, who owned Lynch’s Hotel. He is also commemorated on the family gravestone in Ennistymon. (Guss O’Halloran) Killed in action.
**Sapper Thomas Joseph/John Lynch**

**Thomas Joseph/John Lynch:** Born in Deerpark, Quin. Died of wounds 16<sup>th</sup> May 1915 age 32, during The Battle of Festubert (15–25 May 1915), Royal Engineers 11<sup>th</sup> Field Company 13419, 2<sup>nd</sup> Div, G/M in France. Son of John and Bridget (nee Hickey) Lynch, Doora, Quin. (TB) He is also remembered on the family headstone in Quin Abbey. One of 5 brothers (James, John, Thomas, Michael and Patrick) who served in WW1. They were all in the Royal Engineers.

**Le Touret Memorial**  
Richebourg-l'Avoue,  
Departement du Pas-de-Calais  
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France.  
Panel 1.

Almost all of the 13,400 men commemorated on the Memorial were killed in actions along a part of the Western Front that included the Battle of Festubert.

**The Battle of Festubert** (15–25 May 1915) was an attack by the British army in the Artois region of France. The battle was preceded by a 60-hour bombardment by 433 artillery pieces that fired about 100,000 shells. This bombardment failed to significantly damage the front line defences of the German 6th Army but the initial advance made some progress in good weather conditions. The attack was renewed on 16 May and by 19 May the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division and 7th Division had to be withdrawn due to heavy losses.

And their son Thomas Joseph, Royal Engineers,  
who was killed in action in France 15<sup>th</sup> May 1915, aged 29
Able Seaman Thomas Lynch

Thomas Lynch: Born in Carrigaholt, lived in Falmouth. Died 28\textsuperscript{th} June 1917 age 43, \textit{HMS Vivid III} (a shore establishment and part of the Naval Base at Devonport) Royal Navy 155798, G/M in England. (TB) (KCT) He is also remembered on the WW1 Memorial Stone in the grounds of Kilkee Catholic Church. Son of Mr E and Mrs J Lynch, Kilcredane, Carrigaholt and husband to Catherine Lynch Falmouth in Cornwall.

Falmouth Cemetery
Falmouth
Cornwall Unitary Authority
Cornwall, England

Falmouth became a drifter base in January 1915 and in 1918, a centre for ship repairs. Falmouth Cemetery contains 86 First World War burials.

The Memorial Stone in the grounds of Kilkee Catholic Church.

Thomas Lynch: Born 22\textsuperscript{nd} Jan 1874 in Carrigaholt Co Clare. Royal Navy 155798. The first ship he served on was the Vivid in Oct 1907.He died of ‘Carcinoma of the pylorus (stomach)’ in the Royal Hospital in Plymouth. (UK Royal Navy Registers of Seamans Services 1853-1928)
Private Patrick Lyons

Patrick Lyons: Born and lived in Newmarket on Fergus. Killed in action 3rd May 1915 in Gallipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 8505, G/M on the Helles Memorial in Turkey. (TB)

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

On the night of 1 May 1915 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 (1st RMF) 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 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.

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. The memorial bears more than 21,000 names.
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).

MACLAURIN, JOHN HENRY, Flight Cadet, Royal Air Force, only s. of the Rev. Robert Twiss MacLaurin, M.A., Rural Dean of Kilfenora, Canon of Killaloe, and Rector of Kilnamona, Ennistymon, co. Clare, by his wife, Maud Dolmage, 2nd dau. of the Rev. Julius H. Griffith, D.D., Rector of Ennis; b. Ennis, co. Clare, 25 Nov. 1899; ed. Tipperary Grammar School, and Campbell College, Belfast; was in the employ of Messrs. Hawthare & Leslie, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and while there served in the 1st Volunteer Batn. Northumberland Fusiliers, 22 July, 1917, to 7 Jan. 1918; joined the R.A.F. as Flight Cadet 7 Jan. 1918; trained at Blackdown, Hastings, Oxford (Braemose College), Uxbridge and Stamford, obtaining his Pilot’s Certificate, and was accidentally killed while flying at Wittering Aerodrome, Stamford, 29 Sept. 1918. Buried in Drumcliff Cemetery, Ennis. His Flight Commander wrote: “He was a qualified Pilot, and one of the best they had,” and his Capt. and Adjutant: “I may say I knew your son to be a very promising Pilot, with plenty of courage and sound judgment.” Some of his brother officers also wrote: “He was thought a great deal of by all who knew him; his loss is a big blow to his flight, as he was a good Pilot and knew no fear.” Unm.

DEATH OF FLIGHT CADET MACLAURIN.

We sincerely regret to hear of the death, as the result of a flying accident, on Sunday, of Flight Cadet J. H. MacLaurin, the only son of Rev. Canon R. T. MacLaurin, The Rectory, Ennistymon. He had not yet reached his nineteenth year, and had not long been in the ranks of the gallant force, which has sent forth so many fine young spirits to offer up the final sacrifice for their country, against a foreign enemy. He was exceedingly popular with all his comrades, who deeply mourn the sudden end to a ‘highly promising career.’

The remains were brought to Ennis by the last train on Wednesday night, and the Intending took place at Drumcliff on next day. There was a special service at the Parish Church, where the remains had lain overnight, and at the close the coffin was borne from the building to the hearse by a party of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, of whom about fifty manned in the cortège, under Lieut. Llewellyn and Townshend, Major Longford and Lieuts. Kilard and McCull were also present.

The chief mourners were the bereaved parents, Canon and Mrs MacLaurin.

There were also present Rev. T. H. Abercrom, Ennis; Rev. Canon Stanley, Newmarket-on-Fergus; Rev. Mr Rutcherford, Compin; Rev. Mr Daly, Kilfenora; Rev. W. H. Brown, Quin; Rev. R. Scott, Ennis; Col. O’Callaghan-Malmesbury, W. B. N., M.P.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF ROBERT TWISS MACLAURIN, M.A., RECTOR OF KILNAMONA, ENNISTYMON, AND ORPHAN OF THE REV. J. H. GRIFFITH, D.D., RECTOR OF ENNIS, CO. CLARE.

Who was killed on the 29th September 1918.

MAUD DOLMAGE

Who entered the Army in 1914, and who died 23rd October 1918, in the same hospital as our son.

Francis (Frank) Joseph Macnamara: Born in Kilrush. Died 8th July 1917 age 25, King’s African Rifles 2nd 11565, G/M in Dar El Salaam War Cemetery, Tanzania. Son of William and Anne Macnamara.

Dar es Salaam War Cemetery
Dar-es-Salaam
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Plot: 2. B. 12.

The King’s African Rifles including the 2nd Bn of 4 companies, served with distinction mainly in German East Africa (Tanzania).

At the outbreak of WW1 Tanzania was the core of German East Africa. From the invasion of April 1915, Commonwealth forces fought a protracted and difficult campaign against a relatively small but highly skilled German force under the command of General von Lettow-Vorbeck. The Germans finally surrendered on 23 Nov 1918.

Dar es Salaam War Cemetery now contains 1,764 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

Thanks to Neilus O’Doherty along with Pat and Maria for the photos, and all their great work for Pemba Support in Tanzania. Pemba is a small tropical island off Tanzania with a population of .5 Million people.
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.

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

‘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.

June 1917 Sat Record
Second Lieutenant Maccon John Macnamara

2nd Lt Maccon John Macnamara: Born 1897 in Baunkyle, Corofin. Killed in action 26th March 1918 age 20 in Operation Michael (21 March – 5 April 1918), Royal Dublin Fusiliers 2nd Bn, G/M in France. Son of Dr George Uthank and Frances Jane Macnamara, Baunkyle, Corofin. (TB)

Panel 79 and 80
Pozieres Memorial Pozieres
Departement de la Somme
Picardie, France

The Pozieres Memorial relates to the period of crisis in March and April 1918 when the Allied Fifth Army was driven back. The Memorial commemorates over 14,000 casualties of the United Kingdom and 300 of the South African Forces who have no known grave and who died on the Somme from 21 March to 7 August 1918.

On 21 March the Regiment was on the defensive during the Battle of St. Quentin when the Germans began an immense bombardment as part of their last-gasp major offensive known as Operation Michael (21 March – 5 April 1918) against British and Empire forces in the Picardy area. The 1st and 2nd Dublins suffered heavily from the intense bombardment (which included poison gas) and when the Germans attacked shortly afterwards, the Germans broke through the shattered remnants. The Germans made significant gains but their offensive gradually lost momentum and the Germans were pushed back by April. The 16th (Irish) Division, with 7,149 casualties was destroyed and had to be taken out of the order of battle to be rebuilt.
Private Patrick Francis MacNamara

Patrick Francis MacNamara: Born in Limerick, lived in the USA, buried in Kilquane Cemetery, Parteen Co Clare. Died March 4th 1919 (possibly from wounds during Canada's Hundred Days), Canadian Infantry (Quebec Regiment), 42nd Bn. 3080114, 3rd Canadian Division. Son of Mrs. MacNamara, of Quarry Rd., Thomond Gate, Limerick. He is also commemorated on a panel at Grangegorman.

Kilquane Cemetery, Parteen
In the North-East corner.

He was a male nurse, and lived in Dorchester, Massachusetts, USA. He named an Aunt in Dorchester as his next of kin.

Commemorated on a panel on the screen wall in Grangegorman.

Canada’s Hundred Days is the name given to the series of attacks made by the Canadian Corps (including the 3rd Canadian Division) between 8 August and 11 November 1918, during the Hundred Days Offensive of World War I. They fought in the Battle of Amiens, Second Battle of the Somme, Battle of the Scarpe, Battle of the Canal du Nord, Battle of Cambrai, Battle of the Selle, Battle of Valenciennes and finally at Mons, on the final day of combat before the Armistice of 11 November 1918. In terms of numbers, during those 96 days the Canadian Corps engaged and defeated or put to flight elements of forty seven German divisions. The Canadian Corps suffered 45,835 casualties during this offensive.
Private William MacNamara/McNamara

William McNamara/MacNamara: Born and lived in Whitegate. Killed in action 18th June 1916 near Loos, Royal Munster Fusiliers 8th Bn 5716, G/M in France.(TB)

Saint Patrick’s Cemetery, Loos
Loos-en-Gohelle
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: I. E. 1.

‘Whilst in the line (June 1916) the 8th 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.’

St. Patrick's Cemetery was begun during the Battle of Loos by French and British troops, and used in 1916 very largely by the units of the 16th (Irish) Division. There are now 583 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-18 war commemorated in this cemetery. Photo taken by Sean Glennon.
Private John Madigan

John Madigan: Born and lived in Kilrush. Killed in action 10th July 1917 age 24, Royal Munster Fusiliers, 2nd Bn 4596, G/M in Belgium. He is also remembered on the WW1 Memorial Stone in the grounds of Kilkee Catholic Church. Son of Michael and Nora Madigan, Kiltrellig, Kilbaha. (TB)

Coxye Military Cemetery
Koksijde
Arrondissement Veurne
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium

This cemetery was used at night for the burial of the dead brought back from the front line. The cemetery now contains 1,507 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

The WW1 Memorial Stone in the grounds of Kilkee Catholic Church.

‘The Germans had projected a raid on a large scale on the British trenches near Nieuport, and as a feint on the 10th (July 1917) concentrated a violent bombardment on the Munsters’ camp... Scarceley a hut in the camp escaped damage... Four officers were wounded, seven rank and file were killed, and thirty –seven wounded.’ (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)
Private Michael Magee/McGee

**Michael Magee/McGee:** Born and lived in Scariff. Killed in action 26th April 1915 age 36 at Sedd-el-Bahr in Gallipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 9792, G/M on the Helles Memorial in Turkey. Son of Michael and Johanna McGee, St John’s Street, Killaloe.(TB)

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

The Helles Memorial commemorates over 21,000 Commonwealth servicemen who died in Gallipoli and have no known grave.

On April 25, 1915, the SS River Clyde was beached for the landing at Cape Helles. 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. Turkish counter-attacks were held off.

‘By 12.30am on the 26th all the troops from the River Clyde had been got ashore and nearly all the wounded had been got back to the vessel... At daybreak they forced their way into the courtyard of the Fort; by 8am the Fort was occupied, and the advance through the village of Sedd-el-Bahr commenced...’

When the Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Battalion landed at V Beach on **April 25th 1915**, they were close to full strength, numbering **26 officers and 900 other ranks**. When roll call was taken on May 11th 1915, only **7 officers and 372 men had survived** the V Beach landing and subsequent fighting.
Private Michael Maher

Michael Maher: Born in Tipperary, lived in Killaloe. Died of wounds 11th Aug 1917 in Mesopotamia, Connaught Rangers 1st Bn 7759, G/M in Iraq. Son of Mrs Bridget Maher, Townlough, Ballina Killaloe. (TB)

The Basra Memorial commemorates more than 40,500 members of the Commonwealth forces who died in the operations in Mesopotamia from the Autumn of 1914 to the end of August 1921 and whose graves are not known.

On January 10, 1916 the 1st Connaught Rangers, having left the Western Front, disembarked at Basra and were transported up the Tigris River to Kut. Various attempts to reach the trapped British force at Kut met with failure throughout the early months of 1916. Losses among the relieving forces were high as they tired to vain to break through the Turkish lines. Finally on April 28, 1916 short of food and water the garrison at Kut surrendered. Throughout the summer of 1916 the ranks of the Connaught Rangers facing the Turkish lines at Kut were decimated by a cholera epidemic, which claimed many lives.

In December 1916 a new offensive was launched against the Turkish lines and Kut was retaken in February 1917. Baghdad fell on March 11, 1917. The Turkish army fled north. Following the retreat of the Turkish army the Connaught Rangers were garrisoned in Feluja and Baghdad. Throughout early 1917 they and other regiments were used to subdue hostile native tribes in the region. Later in the campaign the Rangers manned the front line at Samara facing Turkish armies at Tekrit.

On April 2, 1918 the 1st battalion Connaught Rangers embarked at Nahr Umar and left Mesopotamia for Egypt having served 2 years and 3 months. During that time the battalion had 286 fatalities about one third victim of disease and heat stroke. About 2,000 Connaught Rangers served in Mesopotamia.
**Private John Mahoney/Mahony**

**John Mahoney/Mahoney**: Born and lived in Kilrush. Died of wounds 16th July 1915 at La Basse Canal, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 5334, G/M in France. Son of Mrs Mahoney, Crofton Street Kilrush. (TB)

Bethune Town Cemetery  
Department du Pas-de-Calais  
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France  
Plot: IV. D. 12.

Bethune Town Cemetery contains 3,004 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

**Aug 1916 Clare Journal**

“The Battalion remained defending the same sector as previously. It knew the line ten miles to the north and south of the La Basse Canal like a book, and this same area was the scene of the new fight. By the end of May (1915) the Battalion bombers under 2nd Lieutenant J O’Brien (Clare Abbey House Clarecastle?), were distinguishing themselves by daring raids….. The bombing raids of the Battalion drew congratulations from the Divisional commander. The trench work, however, was not carried off without loss, the week ending July 19th (1915) for instance, cost the Munsters 43 in killed and wounded.” (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)
Private John Mahony

**John Mahony**: DOB 16/4/1891. Born and lived in Ennis, on Old Mill Street. Killed in action 29th July 1916 near Loos (shot by a sniper), Royal Munster Fusilier 8th Bn 3761, G/M in France. (TB)

He married Bridget Moriarty, as of Old Mill Street, on 4th August, 1915 at Ennis Cathedral and ten days later he departed to Fermoy to rejoin his unit. The 8th Battalion was transferred to England in September and deployed to the Western Front on 20th December. Almost a year after his wedding 29th July 1916, he was killed in action in France. According to his family he was due to return home on leave a week later. Bridget’s brother, who was also a member of the 8th Battalion, returned home to his sister with the news that her husband had been shot by a sniper. Bridget, who had become a widow at 22 years old, never recovered from the loss of her husband and never remarried. She turned her home into a shrine to her husband, adorning the walls with photos and paintings of him and keeping the postcards her husband had sent her from France until her death in 1972. Sadly she never got to visit his grave at Mazingarbe Communal Cemetery Extention. (Clare Museum)

**Mazingarbe Communal Cemetery Extension**

Mazingarbe. Departement du Pas-de-Calais Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France. Plot: I. C. 12. This Cemetery was begun by the 16th (Irish) Division in April 1916. It contains 248 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

‘On the night of the 29th-30th July 1916 the 8th Battalion carried out a raid at 11.25pm... 2nd Lt Holland’s party entered the enemy fire trench.... driving the enemy into the barrage established by the bombing groups on the parapet; they bombed all the dug-outs.... Casualties: Killed - 2nd Lt Fitzpatrick, 1 other rank (Private John Mahony); wounded 2nd Lt Holland and 6 other ranks.’

Nov 1916 Clare Journal

Photo of headstone taken by Gerry O’Sullivan
Chief Petty Officer Myles (O’) Mahoney


Kildeema Burial Ground Quilty
Grave no. 110, In the New Ground

The Admiralty was in charge of the Coastguard Service and coastguards became an arm of the Navy. When war broke out the coastguards played a vital role in helping the war effort and looked after the foreshores of Britain watching for signs of the enemy. Coastguards were trained to signal messages from land to ships at sea from Port War signal stations. This enabled the quick transfer of important information and orders between the Admiralty and ships. The coastguard patrols also escorted (protected) merchant ships with carrying supplies and munitions and also hospital ships bringing wounded soldiers back home to Britain.

In loving memory of Myles O’Mahony RN
who died 23rd May 1916
from exposure on war
Lerviee (Service)
age 51 years
Erected by his loving wife
Lance Corporal Patrick Mahoney

Patrick Mahoney: Born (13/3/1890) in Pound St / Hector St Kilmurry, lived in Quebec, killed in action in the Battle of Vimy Ridge, 9th April 1917 age 27, Canadian Infantry (Quebec Regiment) 14th Bn 448723, G/M in France. Husband of Minnie Mary Mahoney No 5 Artillery St, Quebec. (TB) (CI) He was a Labourer when he enlisted in Quebec in Oct 1915 into the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force 448723. His wife was Minnie May Mahoney, Quebec. (Library and Archives Canada)

Ecoivres Military Cemetery
Ecoivres
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: VI. C. 15.

Successive divisions used the French military tramway to bring their dead in from the front line trenches and, from the first row to the last, burials were made almost exactly in the order of date of death. Plots V and VI contain the graves of the men killed in the capture of Vimy Ridge in April 1917 (which includes Private P Mahoney). The Cemetery contains 1,728 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

The Battle of Vimy Ridge (The Battle of Arras 9 April – 16 May 1917) had incredible significance for Canada as a young nation. For the first time ever the Canadian Corps, with all four of its divisions attacked as one, under Canadian leadership with sole members from Canada. This tactical victory clearly showed how effective and powerful the Canadian Expeditionary Forces had become. This single Canadian offensive amounted to the capture of more land, prisoners and armaments than any previous offensive.

After a week of intense Allied bombardment, the Canadian Corps attacked the ridge at 5:30 am on 9 April, Easter Monday, or Bloody Easter. Timing and co-ordination were critical — the troops moved up the long western slope of the ridge, just behind a rolling artillery barrage designed to keep the Germans hidden in their bunkers and away from their machine guns as long as possible. In wind, sleet and snow, an initial wave of more than 15,000 Canadians stormed the ridge and captured most of the German positions by the afternoon of the first day. The fighting left 3,598 Canadians dead, and another 7,000 wounded. There were an estimated 20,000 casualties on the German side.
Private Michael Maloney

Michael Maloney: Born and lived in O’Brien’s Bridge Co Clare, died at home 13th Aug 1914 age 18, Royal Munster Fusiliers 5th Bn 5889. Possibly from illness. Buried in Cork Military Cemetery where he is listed on the WW1 Memorial. He is also commemorated on a headstone in Grangegorman Cemetery. (TB) Son of M. Maloney, of Fairyhall, Montpelier, O’Brien’s Bridge.

Cork Military Cemetery. Cork

Grangegorman Military Cemetery Dublin.

The Royal Munster Fusiliers 5th were based in Queenstown / Cobh at the time Michael Maloney died. (Maloney on Grave. Moloney in Memorial Records)
Private 1st Class Thomas Joseph Maloney: Born in Miltown Co Clair (Clare). He was aged 28 when he enlisted on the 26th Sept 1917 into Co B 309th Infantry until Nov 1917, and then into the Provisional Rct Bn until Feb 1918 and then into Co B 344 Bn 304 Brigade Tank C until his death. He died of pneumonia on the 11th Oct 1918. He served overseas from Jan 1918. (WW1 New York Army Cards fold3.com) G/M in Saint Mihiel American Cemetery and Memorial, France. (findagrave.com)

Saint Mihiel American Cemetery and Memorial
Thiaucourt-Regnieville
Departement de Meurthe-et-Moselle
Lorraine, France

Brigadier General Samuel D. Rockenbach, as the Chief of Tank Corps for the American Expeditionary Forces under Pershing, organized, trained, equipped and then deployed the first American tank units to the Western Front of 1918 Europe. An initial plan for 2,000 light Renault FT tanks and 200 heavy British Mark VI tanks was changed to 20 battalions of 77 light tanks each and 10 battalions of 45 heavy tanks each. A total of eight heavy battalions (the 301st to 308th) and 21 light battalions (the 326th to 346th) were raised, but only four (the 301st, 331st, 344th and 345th) saw combat.

Captain George S. Patton, the first officer assigned to the unit, set up a light tank school at Bourg, France, starting on November 10, 1917. In the first half of 1918, the 326th and 327th Tank Battalions were organized at Patton's school, while the 301st Heavy Tank Battalion was raised at Camp Meade, Maryland, USA and transported to the British Tank Schools at Bovington Camp in southern England, for training.
Driver Patrick Manning

Patrick Manning: Born in Kilrush, died 10th Sept 1916 age 25 in Turkey, Royal Field Artillery 76th Battery 53082, G/M in Iraq. He was taken prisoner by the Turks when the Kut garrison surrendered on the 29th April 1916. He was subsequently marched to Turkey, died there in September 1916, and was buried in Anatolia, Turkey. After the war his remains were taken to Baghdad and buried in the North Gate Cemetery. He was also listed as wounded in June 1916. Son of Patrick and Maria Manning, 9 Pound Street, Kilrush. (TB) (Similar to Corney Carroll and Michael Coleman)

Baghdad (North Gate)
War Cemetery
Baghdad, Iraq.
Plot: XXI. E. 16.

The North Gate Cemetery was begun in April 1917 and has been greatly enlarged since the end of the First World War by graves brought in from other burial grounds in Baghdad and northern Iraq, and from battlefields and cemeteries in Anatolia where Commonwealth prisoners of war were buried by the Turks.

At present, 4,160 Commonwealth casualties of the First World War are commemorated by name in the cemetery.

The Royal Field Artillery 76th Battery was part of the X Brigade. This Brigade was made up of the 76th, 63rd and 82nd Batteries, and served with 6th (Poona) Division, Indian Army. It sailed for Mesopotamia in autumn 1914 and saw service in the Tigris campaigns before being besieged at Kut-al-Amara.

On 29 April 1916 the gunners were taken prisoner when the garrison of Kut surrendered. General Townshend arranged a ceasefire on the 26th and, after failed negotiations, he simply surrendered on 29 April 1916 after a siege of 147 days. Around 13,000 Allied soldiers survived to be made prisoners. 70% of the British and 50% of the Indian troops died of disease or at the hands of their Ottoman guards during captivity.
Patrick Mannix: Born (dob 20/3/1877) in Ballyvaughan, lived in New Zealand, killed in action in Palestine 5th Nov 1917 age 40 (just after the Capture of Beersheba 31st Oct 1917), Auckland Mounted Rifles, New Zealand Expeditionary Force 36118, G/M in Israel. Son of Michael and Mary Mannix Ballyvaughan. (TB) He was a Miner who enlisted in Nov 1916 into the 26th Auckland Mounted Rifles 36118. He lived in Okahahura. His father Michael lived in Queensland and his mother Mary O’Grady lived in Ballyvaughan. (WW1 Archives-New Zealand)

Beersheba War Cemetery.
Beersheba HaDaron (Southern District),
Israel  Plot: A. 21.
The cemetery was made immediately on the fall of the town, remaining in use until July 1918. The cemetery now contains 1,241 WW1 Commonwealth burials.

By October 1917, General Allenby's force had been entrenched in front of a strong Turkish position along the Gaza-Beersheba road for some months, but they were now ready to launch an attack with Beersheba as its first objective. The Capture of Beersheba (31 Oct 1917): Tel el Saba, allocated to the NZMR Brigade, was defended by about 300 Turks whose role was to protect eight machine guns that dominated the wadi and the flat land along its banks. The New Zealand brigade began its assault at 9.10 a.m. on 31 October 1917. The Aucklands attacked directly from the east, and got very close to the first enemy position. Two or three machine guns and 60 prisoners were taken at 2.40 p.m. The guns were immediately turned around and used against the main defensive position. Twenty minutes later the Aucklands, reinforced by a WMR squadron and a light horse squadron, completed the job by charging the tel itself. As they clambered up the steep slopes, a number of fleeing Turks were shot down as they ran. 132 prisoners were taken, along with four Maxim machine guns and a camp cooker. Twenty-five Turks lay dead on the tel. Enemy aircraft and artillery bombed and shelled the tel and its environs for the next two hours. Eight NZMR Brigade men were killed and 26 wounded on 31 October, almost all from the Auckland Mounted Rifles.
Sergeant Peter Marinan: Born in Co Clare about 1887. He lived in Cleveland Ohio. He was aged 29 when he enlisted on the 8th Sept 1917 into Co H 331 Infantry, then Co D 328 Infantry until his death, due to pneumonia on the 17th Oct 1918 (1945439). He served overseas from June 1918. He fought at St Mihel and at Meuse-Argonne. (Ohio Soldiers in WW1, 1917-1918) G/M in the Saint Mihiel American Cemetery.

Saint Mihiel American Cemetery and Memorial
Thiaucourt-Regnieville
Departement de Meurthe-et-Moselle
Lorraine, France

MARINAN, PETER, 1945439, White, 7412 Spafford Ave., Cleveland, O. NA Cleveland, O. Sept 8/17. Br County Clare, Ireland. 29 8/12 yrs. Co H 331 Inf July 20/18; Co D 328 Inf to death. Pvt Sept 8/17; Corp Oct 1/17; Sgt Feb 7/18; Pvt July 19/18; Corp Sept 1/18. St Mihel; Meuse-Argonne; Defensive S for. AEF June 4/18 to death. Died of pneumonia Oct 17/18. Notified James Cusack, brother-in-law, 7412 Spafford Rd., Cleveland, O.
Private Thomas Markham

Thomas Markham: Born and lived in Meelick, killed in action 21st March 1918 age 25 during the German Offensive, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 7020, G/M on the Pozieres Memorial in France. Son of Michael and Catherine Markham. (TB)

Pozieres Memorial
Pozieres
Departement de la Somme
Picardie, France
Panel 78 and 79.

‘Early in March (1918) the much-talked-of German offensive which was to end the war loomed.... On March 21st the long-expected attack began...(at Epehy). The bombardment started at 4.30 a.m.... Heavy attacks by infantry and low-flying aeroplanes against the front continued.... Desperate fighting continued all the morning.... By noon the Battalion was isolated.. The Munsters alone held on doggedly.... 6.30 pm.. Suddenly some German infantry appeared close by, advancing from the rear.... The enemy was closing in upon them from all sides.... The G.O.C. Brigade, Brigadier-General Ramsay, repeatedly congratulated the Battalion on the stand it was making during the day..’ (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)

The POZIERES MEMORIAL relates to the period of crisis in March and April 1918 when the Allied Fifth Army was driven back by overwhelming numbers across the former Somme battlefields, and the months that followed before the Advance to Victory, which began on 8 August 1918. The Memorial commemorates over 14,000 casualties of the United Kingdom who have no known grave and who died on the Somme from 21 March to 7 August 1918.
Private Harry Martin

**Harry Martin**: Born and enlisted in Clare (Could be a different Clare), killed in action 21st Aug 1915 in Gallipoli, 5th Bn Suffolk Regiment 1346. (TB)

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.

The landings at Suvla Bay August 1917.

On July 30th the 1/5th Suffolks took the Aquitania from Liverpool to Lemnos. On August 10th, 1915, they were ferried to Suvla Bay in Gallipoli to join the Anzacs to help fight the Turkish Army. The campaign in Gallipoli was an attempt to outflank the enemy. By August 15th they had advanced with other territorial units of the 54th Division some 1,500 yards under heavy fire. Inside 72 hours, 11 officers and 178 other ranks of the 1/5th were killed or wounded.
2nd Lieutenant George Wyndham Maunsell

2nd Lt George Wyndham (Lyndham) Maunsell: Born at Islandmagrath House, Clarecastle, died 23rd Feb 1917 age 28, Indian Army Reserve of Officers (2nd Queen Victoria’s Own Sappers and Miners), G/M in Iraq. An Executive Engineer. He died in Kut Mesopotamia. Son of Richard and Elizabeth Maunsell. (TB)

Wyndham was killed in the Battle of the River Tigris. ‘Your son was killed on the morning of 23rd February whilst working with my company of Sappers (Royal Engineers) on the crossing of the Tigris River at Shamran bend. We were working the centre of three ferries under very heavy shell and machine-gun fire. Your son was out on an exposed beach with the men, and with my other subalterns (2nd Lieutenants), organising the Sapper rowing parties embarking men of the 9th Gurkhas in the pontoons doing splendid work, when he was hit through the heart and died instantly.’ From De Ruvigny’s Roll of Honour.

March 1917 Clare Journal

Islandmagrath in Clarecastle as it looks today. He is also remembered on a Memorial in St Columba’s Church in Ennis.
Private John McAuley


Struma Military Cemetery
Greece
III.D. 7.

From the Allied base at Salonika, a road ran north-east across the Struma river to Seres, and it was this road that the right wing of the Allied army used for the movements of troops and supplies to the Struma front during the Salonika Campaign.

Struma Military Cemetery contains 947 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

‘On October 3rd 1916 an attack was made... the objective included the taking of the village of Jenikov... The attack commenced at 3.30am.....about midday the Bulgars could be seen in the distance forming up for a counter-attack which however was dispersed by artillery fire.. At 4pm a sudden bombardment by enemy artillery fire opened.... The counter-attack (by the Bulgars) was held for a time....but it was deemed advisable to draw..back a couple of hundred yards...night had come on....A force of Bulgars had crossed the main road with the intention of attacking the Munsters in flank or from the rear. The Suffolks had caught this force in the dark and charged with the bayonet; 200 Bulgar corpses were found in the morning.... the Battalion was directed soon after 9pm to retire to Lone Tree.....all the wounded were evacuated..Casualties – killed 11; wounded 34....

The only immediate award the Battalion got (on October 3rd 1916) was a Military Medal gained by Private W A Batson....No 6347 Private John McCauley, of “C” Company, would have also received an award on the same occasion, but unfortunately he was killed the same day when carrying a message to Colonel Worship. His Company Commander describes him as the bravest man I have ever met, and being an old soldier who had served with the 1st Battalion in Gallipoli had a wonderful steadying effect on the other men.”
Lance Corporal John McCarthy

**John McCarthy**: Born and lived in Ennis, killed in action 9th May 1915 at Rue Du Bois in the Battle of Aubers Ridge, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 6596, G/M in France. (TB)

“**The Last Absolution of the Munsters at Rue Du Bois, 1915**” by Fortunino Matania. The picture represents an actual incident on May 9th 1915, and depicts the Chaplain, Father Gleeson giving General Absolution to 800 men the evening before the Battle of Aubers Ridge in France. Colonel Victor Rickard is the other figure on horseback and was killed the following day. Sgt-Major J.T.Leahy who was there described how “On a lonely dark road-side, lit up now and then by flashes from our own and German flares, arose to Heaven the voices of 800 men singing that glorious hymn, ‘Hail Queen of Heaven’. Every man had his rosary beads out, reciting the prayers in response to Fr Gleeson.” He then went down among the men, blessing and encouraging them.

‘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 Joseph McCarthy

Joseph McCarthy: Born in Clarecastle Co Clare lived in Nenagh, killed in action 21st April 1915, in the Battle of Hill 60 (17 April – 7 May 1915), Leinster Regiment 1st Bn 4195, 27th Division, G/M in Menin Gate Ypres Belgium.

The Leinster Regiment 1st Battalion arrived at Ypres on 2 April 1915, and took part in the Battle of Hill 60 (17 April – 7 May 1915) south of Ypres. It was captured by the British on the 17th April. The Germans maintained a heavy bombardment of the hill and on the 20th April, attacked again mainly with bombing parties, before infantry assaults were attempted at 6:30 and 8:00 p.m. German attacks continued into 21 April, by when the hill had become a moonscape of overlapping shell-holes and mine craters.

The divisions of II Corps and V Corps simulated attack preparations on 21 April but on 22 April, British attention was diverted further north, where the French 45th Division was struck by the first German gas attack of the Second Battle of Ypres.

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

Michael McCarthy: Born and lived in Grace Street, Kilrush. Killed in action 21st Dec 1914 age 25 in Festubert, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 5360, G/M in France. Son of John and Bridget McCarthy, Grace St, Kilrush. (TB)

Panel 43 and 44
Le Touret Memorial
Richebourg-L’Avoue
Department du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France.

The Le Touret Memorial commemorates over 13,400 British soldiers who were killed in this sector of the Western Front.

‘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)
Corporal Patrick H McCarthy: Born in Co Clare. He was aged 25 when he enlisted in the US Army 69 Infantry 90172 in July 1917. He lived in New York City. He served overseas from Oct 1917. He died of Broncho Pneumonia on the 22nd Oct 1918. He had fought at Rouge Bouquet, Birdleaux, Champagne, Chateau Thierry and St Mihiel. His next of kin was his sister Mrs D Ryan in New York. G/M in France.

Saint Mihiel American Cemetery and Memorial
Thiaucourt-Regnieville
Departement de Meurthe-et-Moselle
Lorraine,
France

The World War I St. Mihiel American Cemetery and Memorial in France, 40.5 acres in extent, contains the graves of 4,153 of military dead.
Rifleman Peter Reginald McConville

Peter Reginald McConville: Born (11/2/1892) in Co Clare lived in New Zealand, died of gunshot wounds to the face and shoulder and a fractured skull at the 8th General Hospital Rouen, 18th June 1917 age 25 after the Battle of Messines, New Zealand Rifle Brigade A Company 3rd Battalion 20202 (NZ Div), G/M in France. Son of Ellen and Michael McConville, Co Clare. He was an accountant when he enlisted in New Zealand. (TB)

Bois Guillaume Communal Cemetery
Extension
Bois-Guillaume
Departement de la Seine-Maritime
Haute-Normandie, France
Plot: A. 17B.

The extension adjoins Bois-Guillaume Communal Cemetery. It was begun in March 1917 and most of the burials came from No.8 General Hospital, which was quartered at Bois-Guillaume in a large country house and grounds.

There are now 360 First World War burials in the extension.

The New Zealand Division was among those selected for the assault on the ridge and the village of Messines. The carefully prepared attack was a striking success. It began at 3.10 a.m. on 7 June 1917 with the explosion of huge mines that had been placed under the German lines by hard-working tunnellers. Almost immediately, New Zealand troops of 2nd and 3rd (Rifle) brigades left their trenches and advanced towards the ridge in front of them, on which lay the ruins of Messines village. Australian and British troops on either side of them did the same.

Following hard behind a meticulously planned sequence of standing and creeping barrages, these troops crossed no man's land in minutes. Everything went to schedule, and by 7 a.m. the New Zealanders had cleared Messines of the enemy. Taking over the advance, 1st Brigade pushed beyond the village. A German counter-attack in the early afternoon was repulsed.

Australian troops then moved through to secure the final objective line 1.5 kilometres beyond the crest.
Alfred McCormack: Born in Limerick lived in O’Briens Bridge Co Clare, died 19th Jan 1917 age 28 on the submarine HMS/M.E-36, Royal Navy 231071, G/M in Plymouth England. Son of James and Margaret McCormack Fairy Hill O’Brien’s Bridge. (TB)

The E-36 was a British submarine on Patrol in the North Sea. She left Harwick to patrol around Terschelling and was struck by another submarine the E-43. After it sunk nothing of the submarine or her crew was ever heard of again. The wreck was never located.

After the First World War, an appropriate way had to be found of commemorating those members of the Royal Navy who had no known grave. It was recommended that the three manning ports in Great Britain - Chatham, Plymouth and Portsmouth - should each have an identical memorial of unmistakable naval form, an obelisk, to commemorate the seamen of the Royal Navy who sailed from that port. Plymouth Naval Memorial commemorates 7,251 sailors of the First World War.
Christopher McCormack: Born and lived in Ennis, died of wounds 23rd July 1916 (after the Capture of La Boisselle 1st – 6th July 1916, during the Battle of Albert), Royal Horse Artillery 19th Division, Ammunition Col. 100572, G/M in France. (TB)

Heilly Station Cemetery. Heilly Deparment de la Somme Picardie, France Plot: II. B. 64.

The 19th Division fought in the Capture of La Boisselle (1–6 July 1916) which was a British local operation during the Battle of Albert. On 1 July 1916, the first day on the Somme, La Boisselle was attacked by the 34th Division as part of the III Corps but the bombardment had not damaged the German deep-mined dug-outs (minierte Stollen) and a German listening post overheard a British telephone conversation the day before, which gave away the attack. The III Corps divisions lost more than 11,000 casualties and failed to capture La Boisselle or Ovillers, gaining only small footholds near the boundary with XV Corps to the south and at Schwabenhöhe, after the Lochnagar mine explosion had destroyed some of the defences of Reserve Infantry Regiment 110. The advance of the 103rd Brigade was over ground with a fold, which meant that the disastrous attack by the preceding brigades could not be seen as the brigade advanced to be engaged by artillery and machine-gun fire, which inflicted 70 percent casualties, before the troops had reached the British front line. The 19th (Western) Division was rushed forward from reserve, in case of a German counter-attack on Albert. The 19th Division continued the attack and captured most of the village by 4 July, completing the operation by 6 July. Photos – Keir McNamara
**Sergeant Martin J McCormack**

**Sergeant Martin J McCormack:** Born in County Clare about 1875. Lived in New York City. He was aged 38 when he enlisted on the 24th Nov 1913 into Battery F 3 Field Artillery, and later Sup Co 12 FA. He did not serve overseas. He died due to an embolism on the 9th July 1917. His next of kin was his sister Mary Kennedy E 57 St New York. He is buried in Arlington Cemetery Site 19007. (New York, Abstracts of World War I Military Service, 1917-1919)

**Arlington National Cemetery**

Arlington
Arlington County
Virginia, USA
Plot: Site: 19007

**Arlington National Cemetery** is the final resting place of more than 400,000 fallen heroes from the fronts of Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as the veterans of World Wars I and II, the Korean conflict, Vietnam, the Cold War and America’s Civil War. Established in 1864, the cemetery is still fully operational today, conducting an average of 27 funerals each day throughout its 624 developed acres.
Private Patrick McCormack

Patrick McCormack: Born, lived and enlisted in Ennis, killed in action 19th June 1915, Connaught Rangers 1st Bn 10755, 7th (Ferozepore) Brigade 3rd (Lahore) Division, G/M in France. (TB)

The 1st Connaught Rangers engaged in various actions on the Western Front including; The Battles of La Basse, the 1st Messines and Armentieres. On the 05.12.1914 it amalgamated with the 2nd Battalion at Le Touret N.E. of the Bethune. In 1915 it fought in the Battles of Neuve Chapelle, Aubers Ridge, Festubert and Loos. On the 11.12.1915 it embarked for Mesopotamia from Marseilles arriving at Basra.

The Le Touret Memorial commemorates over 13,400 British soldiers who were killed in this sector of the Western Front from the beginning of October 1914 to the eve of the Battle of Loos in late September 1915 and who have no known grave. This part of the Western Front was the scene of some of the heaviest fighting of the first year of the war, including the battles of La Bassée (10 October – 2 November 1914), Neuve Chapelle (10 – 12 March 1915), Aubers Ridge (9 – 10 May 1915) and Festubert (15 – 25 May 1915).

Panel 43 Le Touret Memorial
Richebourg-L’Avoue
Department du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais,
France
**Master William McCready**

**William McCready:** Born in Antrim, died 20th June 1917 age 31 on the **SS Keeper**, Mercantile Marine Unit, G/M in England. She was sunk by a submarine. Husband of Delia Murphy from Clarecastle. (TB) He is also remembered on the SS Keeper Monument in Clarecastle which was unveiled in 2017. (Eric Shaw)

**Tower Hill Memorial**
**London Borough of Tower Hamlets**
**Greater London, England.** The First World War section of the Tower Hill Memorial commemorates almost 12,000 Mercantile Marine casualties who have no grave but the sea.

Among those drowned (12), were three sailors from Clare Castle, A. Considine, R. Cole and J McMahon, along with the captain, William McCready, besides eight others aboard the merchant ship. The SS Keeper, was on a voyage from Belfast to Limerick carrying grain for Bannatyne’s of Limerick, when she was sunk by a German submarine UC-66 off the coast of Antrim on 10th June 1917.

The SS Keeper Monument was unveiled in Clarecastle in June 2017.
Michael McDonagh: Born in Liscannor lived in Dublin, died 21st Sept 1918 in India (possibly due to influenza), Royal Irish Fusiliers 1st Garrison Bn 28279, G/M in Myanmar/Burma. (TB)

The Royal Irish Fusiliers 1st Garrison Battalion was formed in Dublin in September 1915 and moved to India in February 1916, and joined the Bombay Brigade in 6th Poona Divisional Area. They arrived in Mandalay in May 1917 from Bombay (in the Burma Division). In October 1917 they moved to Schwebo (in Burma/Myanmar), and in December 1918 they moved to Maymyo (now called Pyin Oo Lwin in Myanmar). There are 53 Casualties recorded for the 1st Garrison Bn RIF. Some caution is needed as they may have been evacuated to hospital centres before dying either from malaria or some other tropical disease although the large number of casualties in 1918-1919 suggest they were victims of the influenza pandemic, by definition they were in a lower medical category.

A photo of Michael McDonagh’s Memorial Plaque, thanks to Stephen McDonagh, a local historian from Labasheeda, whose Great Grandfather was Michel McDonagh.
Private James McDonald

James McDonald: Born in Kilrush, lived in Waterford, died of wounds 25th May 1915 age 35, during the Second Battle of Ypres, Royal Irish Regiment 2nd Bn 8189, G/M in France (TB)

Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension
Bailleul
Department du Nord
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: I. F. 75.

BAILLEUL COMMUNAL CEMETERY contains 4,403 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

The Second Battle of Ypres was fought from 22 April – 25 May 1915 and comprised the only major attack launched by the German forces on the Western Front in 1915, Eric von Falkenhayn preferring to concentrate German efforts against the Russians on the Eastern Front. It eventually concluded in failure in May and as a consequence the German army gave up its attempts to take the town, choosing instead to demolish it through constant bombardment. By the end of the war Ypres had been largely reduced to piles of rubble, the town’s magnificent Cloth Hall a wreck. During the battle the British, French and Canadians suffered 60,000 casualties, the Germans only 35,000.

Bailleul was occupied on 14 October 1914 by the 19th Brigade and the 4th Division.

It was a corps headquarters until July 1917.
Private Michael McDonald

Michael McDonald: Born in Ennis lived in Kilmaley, killed in action 24th May 1915, during the Second Battle of Ypres, Royal Irish Regiment 2nd Bn 7015, 12th Brigade, 4th Div, G/M in Menin Gate, Ypres Belgium. (TB)

The Second Battle of Ypres was fought from 22 April – 25 May 1915 and comprised the only major attack launched by the German forces on the Western Front in 1915, Eric von Falkenhayn preferring to concentrate German efforts against the Russians on the Eastern Front. It eventually concluded in failure in May and as a consequence the German army gave up its attempts to take the town, choosing instead to demolish it through constant bombardment. By the end of the war Ypres had been largely reduced to piles of rubble, the town’s magnificent Cloth Hall a wreck. During the battle the British, French and Canadians suffered 60,000 casualties, the Germans only 35,000.

The Second Battle of Ypres began in April 1915 when the Germans released poison gas into the Allied lines north of Ypres. This was the first time gas had been used by either side and the violence of the attack forced an Allied withdrawal and a shortening of the line of defence.

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

John McDonnell: Born and lived Kilrush, died of wounds 14th Oct 1916 in Cardiff hospital (probably received at the Battle of Ginchy 9th Sept 1916), Royal Munster Fusiliers 8th Bn 4337, (16th Div), G/M in Kilrush. He is also commemorated on Grangegorman Memorial.

Kilrush Church of Ireland Churchyard, near North East corner of the Chapel.

Clare Journal Oct 1916

Grangegorman Memorial Cabra County Dublin, Ireland Plot: Cenotaph, Panel 8. [Screen Wall]

A 26-year-old tailor from Moore Street before his enlistment into the 8th RMF, his remains arrived in Kilrush on 19 October, 1916, and lay overnight in the church before a Requiem Mass and funeral the following day, which witnessed "a cortege of large proportions"
Private Michael McEvoy


Also his son Michael died 5th July 1916 at Basra, Iraq aged 18 years.

St Flannan’s Cathedral Graveyard

During the First World War, Basra was occupied by the 6th (Poona) Division in November 1914, from which date the town became the base of the Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force. A number of cemeteries were used by the MEF in and around Basra; Makina Masul Old Cemetery was used from December 1914 to October 1916 and the Makina Masul New Extension was begun alongside the old cemetery in August 1917. These two sites, enlarged later when more than 1,000 graves were brought in from other burial grounds, now form Basra War Cemetery.

‘A cemetery in Iraq that contains the graves of thousands of British servicemen who died in the two World Wars has been completely destroyed. The graveyard in Basra has been left without a single one of its 4,000 headstones still standing after repeated vandalism and looting in the years since the fall of Saddam Hussein.’ Nov 2013
Private Michael McEvoy

Michael McEvoy
1898 – 1916

He didn’t live, to cruise at ease,
Wafted by stately Shannon breeze.
He didn’t live, to charm his bride,
Walk arm-in-arm by Shannon side.

He didn’t with his children live to share,
The many delights of the County Clare,
Fish Merriman’s Loch Grainey, walk the Cliffs of Moher,
Or dance a Clare set in Kilfenora.

He didn’t on the Black-and-Tan mount an attack,
Or fight the Civil War ’gainst his brother Jack.
He wasn’t blitzed in Delville Wood,
Nor on Somme’s banks shed his blood;

But Michael did see action in nineteen sixteen,
And him but an innocent lad of eighteen,
But it wasn’t with comrades in the G.P.O.,
’Twas by Tigris Euphrates Michael was laid low.
Near Abraham’s birthplace in the land of Ur,
Came a boy from Killaloe from a background poor;
With his gun, to where Sumerians first crafted the pen,
Came a boy, that Killaloe would never see again.

Michael died in the desert warm,
Fragmented ’midst shards of cuneiform.
Michael prematurely died,
By Tigris banks his bones abide.
Michael never did come back,
His youthful bones lie shattered in Iraq.
When the guns that morn went rat-a-tat-tat,
Michael McEvoy fell in Iraq;
When the shells that day went whine and thwack,
Michael McEvoy was smithereened in Iraq.

Michael followed Redmond and the promise of Home Rule,
And that’s why his detractors say that Michael was a fool,
To believe the propaganda that small nations would be free,
When in Ireland’s case, their Lordships ensured this would not be.
When Michael donned the khaki he knew many he’d enrage,
    But Michael and his comrades opted for a global stage.
Michael took the shilling when but sixteen years of age,
    By eighteen, Michael’s head held the wisdom of a sage.
Yet, his critics say that people like young Michael died in vain,
    They were merely cannon fodder bred like cattle to be slain,
While to die beneath an Irish sky guaranteed the rank of martyr,
    That those in Michael’s uniform were nothing more than traitors.

Michael never knew about Ottoman or Jew.
    Sunni, Kurd or Shia were unknown in Killaloe.
Michael’s education was the National school,
    And many say that Michael was nothing but a tool
Of disintegrating dynasties, nothing but a pawn,
    But Michael by eighteen had glimpsed another dawn.
Michael glimpsed the decades as the decades would unfold,
    Glimpsed power blocs emerging and the history to be told,
Still some persist in saying Michael’s life was void of meaning,
    That the shell that woke him up that day was the one that stopped his dreaming.

Michael was dispatched to Mesopotamia,
    Where the dysentery, mosquitoes and the Turks triggered mania,
The butchery at Kut was for them a rude awakening,
    When the boys realised that their God had forsaken them,
Weathering that firestorm was always touch and go,
    But Michael hadn’t reckoned with the wiles of Sykes-Picot
Michael’s paper shield did not keep him safe that day,
    No archangelic Michael to his rescue led the way.

Michael’s weekly wage was but seven bob all found,
    And for his very life blood, earned lodgings in the ground.
But Michael’s experience had he lived to make at home,
    Would be “Change at Limerick Junction”, and change out of uniform,
Or join as his brother did, the struggle to be free,
    And fight the very Empire he had served so gallantly.

Did survivors of this mayhem find, when home they made their way,
    A country fit for heroes? No, just promises betrayed.
Private Michael McEvoy

Continued

Michael lies in Basra with his comrades, where they died,
The Michaels in their rank and file ’neath their crosses crucified;
They leave us hushed and humbled, those innocents sacrificed,
And the places where they fell are perpetually sanctified.

The Michaels down the centuries bravely heard the martial call,
And marched to fife and drum and the rhythm of footfall,
They marched in Roman legion, they marched with Genghis Khan,
And played their part as Viking, Norman and with Napoleon,
As oppressor, freedom fighter; if you crossed them, woe betide,
And they all had this in common; they were always on God’s side.
They shed their blood at Shiloh, at the Boyne and Alamein,
They were there at the beginning, and they’ll be at Armageddon.
They were, when they enlisted, merely callow innocents,
But were blooded, trained, initiated in the cult of violence.

Michael was a crossroads man, his life a paradox,
A dealer in identities, Taffies, Tommies, Paddies, Jocks.
Michael was a modern man, a misfit and a beacon,
Helping synthesize that selfhood we are painfully still seeking.
A unionist, a nationalist, by no ensign controlled,
Primarily a free man, who can not be pigeon-holed.

Another conflagration now convulses poor Iraq,
As that battle-weary region suffers soul-searing attack.
While the greedy of the earth seek to divvy up the spoils,
Poor old Michael’s sweat and blood have deeply mingled with the oil.
Still, the Tigris, the Euphrates, Somme and Shannon seek the sea,
Still, the Michaels of this world hold the key to destiny.

As from dungeons of ignorance and hate we seek release,
The sacrificial Michaels are our guarantee of peace,
Why? Because if we don’t learn from them, they’ll have surely died in vain,
And condemn us to repeat these slaughters time and time again.

Paddy McEvoy December 2003
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.
Private Patrick McGee

Patrick McGee: Born and lived in Killaloe, killed in action 28th April 1916 in the Hulluch Sector, Royal Munster Fusiliers 9th Bn 4435, G/M in Loos France. (TB)

Dud Corner Cemetery
Loos-en-Gohelle
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: II. F. 20.

‘The 9th Battalion disembarked at Havre on December 20th 1915, forming part of the 48th Brigade 16th Division....On the 26th March 1916 the Battalion proceeded to the Hulluch Sector and took over the left sub-sector. In April 1916 the Battalion took its turn in the trenches with the usual reliefs.’

The name “Dud Corner” is believed to be due to the large number of unexploded enemy shells found in the neighbourhood after the Armistice. There are now nearly 2,000, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. The great majority of the dead buried here fell in the Battle of Loos 1915.
Private John McGrath

**John McGrath**: Born and lived in Kilrush, killed in action 9th May 1915 in Rue Du Bois in the Battle of Aubers Ridge, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 5788, G/M in France. (TB)

**Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery**

**Souchez**

**Departement du Pas-de-Calais**

**Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France**

**Plot: XXIX. B. 24.**

“The Last Absolution of the Munsters at Rue Du Bois, 1915” by Fortunino Matania. The picture represents an actual incident on May 9th 1915, and depicts the Chaplain, Father Gleeson giving General Absolution to 800 men the evening before the Battle of Aubers Ridge in France. Sgt-Major J.T.Lehy who was there described how “On a lonely dark road-side, lit up now and then by flashes from our own and German flares, arose to Heaven the voices of 800 men singing that glorious hymn, ‘Hail Queen of Heaven’. Every man had his rosary beads out, reciting the prayers in response to Fr Gleeson.” He then went down among the men, blessing and encouraging them.

‘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 Martin McGrath

**Martin McGrath** (Also known as Patrick): Born and lived in Kilrush, died of wounds at sea 17th Aug 1915 (Gallipoli), possibly received in the action at Kiretch Teke Sirt. Royal Irish Regiment 5th Bn 3425, 10th (Irish) Division, G/M on Helles Memorial in Turkey. *(TB)*

**Helles Memorial**
Gallipoli
Canakkale, Turkey
Panel 55.

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.

**The Royal Irish Regiment 5th Bn** landed at Suvla Bay, Gallipoli on the 7th August 1915, and were in action at Kiretch Teke Sirt between the 6th and 10th of August. The first serious attempt at the ridges was made on the night of 8 August, following intervention from Hamilton but on the morning of 9 August, the Ottoman reinforcements had begun to arrive and the British were driven back. The fighting concentrated around Scimitar Hill which protruded northwards from the Anafarta Spur and dominated the southern approach to the Tekke Tepe ridge. During 15 to 16 August 1915 the 5th battalion was engaged in heavy fighting against Turkish Infantry on the Kiretch Tepe Ridge suffering losses of 10 officers and 210 other ranks killed, wounded or missing.
**Private Martin McGrath**

**Martin McGrath**: Born and lived in Kilrush, **died of wounds** 15th Sept 1916 age 24, 5th Royal Munster Fusiliers 5/6372, G/M in Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire in England. Son of Martin McGrath, Pella Road Kilrush. (TB)

**Netley Military Cemetery**

Netley
Eastleigh Borough
Hampshire, England
Plot: RC 887

Netley Military Cemetery is a permanent military cemetery, the property of the Ministry of Defence. The cemetery was at the back of the Royal Victoria Military Hospital and was used during both wars for burials from the hospital.

The cemetery contains 636 First World War burials. In addition to the Commonwealth graves, there are a number of war graves of other nationalities including 69 German graves dating from the First World War.
Private Patrick McGreen: Born and lived in Kilkee, died of wounds 30th June 1916 in the Loos Sector, age 20, Munster Fusiliers 8th Bn 4375, G/M in France. (TB) He is also remembered on the Memorial Stone in the grounds of Kilkee Catholic Church. Son of Thomas and Mary McGreen, Ball Alley Lane, Kilkee.

Bethune Town Cemetery contains 3,004 Commonwealth burials. During the First World War Bethune was an important railway and hospital centre.

The Memorial Stone in the grounds of Kilkee Catholic Church

Bethune Town Cemetery
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: V. F. 11.

‘Whilst in the line the 8th 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 1916 Killed – 36; Wounded – 130.’
Private John McInerney

John McInerney: Born and lived in Killaloe, killed in action 10th Nov 1917 age 21 in Passchendaele, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 5899, G/M in Belgium. Son of Annie McInerney, John Street, Killaloe. (TB) ‘He was born 23 Oct 1897. The family spent many years in London where at least some of the children were born. John enrolled in Killaloe Boy’s School in October 1904 and left in June 1908. John enlisted at Killaloe in 1914.’ (The Killaloe Anthology Sean Kierse)

Panel 143 to 144
Tyne Cot Memorial
Zonnebeke
Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium

On the 10th November 1917 the 2nd Battalion joined in the battle raging round the Passchendaele Ridge. ‘The barrage opened at 5.55 a.m., and zero hour was at 6 o’clock.... By 6:45 a.m. the whole of the objectives allotted to the Battalion were in our hands, and all ranks were in high fettle...the impatient Commanders...decided to exploit their success and continue the advance. The order was received with a cheer. The main ridge, which overlooked the whole battle field was only 800 yards away, and the advance continued...

About 7.30 a.m. the advance came to a standstill. At 7.50 a.m. the enemy was observed preparing a counter-attack... On came the enemy, their attack being carried out by an entirely fresh unit just arrived smart and clean on the battlefield, the celebrated “Cockchafers”... The roll-call showed that of the 20 officers and 630 enlisted men who marched into action but 7 officers and 240 men remained...’

Photos – Keir McNamara
**Driver Martin McInerney**

**Martin McInerney:** Born in Kilmurry Ibrickane lived in Quilty, killed in action 22nd Dec 1916 age 51, Royal Field Artillery 1st Reserve Brigade 89623, G/M in Newcastle-upon-Tyne England. Husband of Catherine McInenrey, Quilty West. Son of Martin and Mary (nee Stack) McInerney. (TB) He was a fisherman before the war, and left behind his wife Catherine and three young children. (Clare People Jan 3 2017)

**Newcastle-upon-Tyne**
**St Andrews & Jesmond Cemetery**
**Newcastle-upon-Tyne**
**Metropolitan Borough of Newcastle upon Tyne**
**Tyne and Wear, England**
**Plot: W. U. 452.**

**The Royal Field Artillery 1st Reserve Brigade** consisting of 1, 2 and 3 Batteries was based in Newcastle upon Tyne. There were three roles for home-based units of the Royal Artillery: 1. As depot or training units; 2. For providing mobile artillery forces for use in the event of enemy attack. 3. For providing static artillery forces to defend key ports and coastal installations.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne (St. Andrew's and Jesmond) Cemetery contains 183 First World War burials, about half of them in a war graves plot. Many being those of servicemen and women killed on active service, or who later succumbed to wounds.
Private Michael McInerney

Michael McInerney: Born and lived in Meelick Co Clare, died of wounds 22nd March 1918 age 22 in the German Offensive, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 6456, G/M in Pozieres France. Son of Timothy and Annie McInerney of Derramore, Meelick. Brother of Patrick below who was killed in April 1916. (TB)

Early in March (1918) the much-talked-of German offensive which was to end the war loomed.... On March 21st the long-expected attack began...(at Epehy). The bombardment started at 4.30 a.m.... Heavy attacks by infantry and low-flying aeroplanes against the front continued... Desperate fighting continued all the morning... By noon the Battalion was isolated.. The Munsters alone held on doggedly....6.30 pm.. Suddenly some German infantry appeared close by, advancing from the rear.... The enemy was closing in upon them from all sides...’ (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)

The POZIERES MEMORIAL relates to the period of crisis in March and April 1918 when the Allied Fifth Army was driven back by overwhelming numbers across the former Somme battlefields, and the months that followed before the Advance to Victory, which began on 8 August 1918. The Memorial commemorates over 14,000 casualties
Private Patrick McInerney

Patrick McInerney: Born and lived in Meelick, killed in action 15th April 1916 age 21, Irish Guards 1st Bn 4078, 1st (Guards) Brigade, 2nd Division. G/M in Belgium. Son of Timothy and Annie McInerney of Derramore, Meelick. Brother of Michael above who died in March 1918. (TB)

In early 1916 the 2nd division moved to Vimy Ridge, and underwent further organisational changes - the 19th Bde being replaced by the 99th and most of the old regular battalions moved out to other divisions.

Hooge Chateau and its stables were the scene of very fierce fighting throughout the First World War. In July 1915, after German attacks, the crater was made by a mine sprung by the 3rd Division. On 30 July 1915, the Germans took the chateau, and on 9 August 1915, it and the crater were regained by the 6th Division. The Germans retook Hooge on 6 June 1916.

There are now 5,916 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery.
Thomas McInerney: Born in Co Wicklow, killed in action 16th May 1915 near Armentieres, Leinster Regiment 2nd Bn 8719, 6th Division, G/M in France. Son of Mrs M McInerney Killwran, Broadford, Co Clare. (TB)

Ferme Buterne Military Cemetery, Houplines, Departement du Nord, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: C. 10.

The 2nd Leisters were in Armentieres (billeted in the lunatic asylum) on 12th May 1915. There were 11 casualties (including 2 dead) from the battalion when the area was hit by five shells at 12:30pm whilst some of the men were returning from the canteen.

Ferme Buterne Military Cemetery was used from January to October 1915, and contains 129 Commonwealth burials.

Photos – Keir McNamara
2nd Lieutenant J. McKeogh (Grave unknown)

Roll of Honour

Second Lieut. J McKeogh, son of the late Dr McKeogh, Killaloe has, we regret to hear, died of wounds.

Sat Record May 1918

2nd Lt. J. McKeogh: Killaloe, died of wounds May 1918. Son of Dr McKeogh. (TB) His name is not on any database, and only appears in the article below.
2nd Lieutenant Michael Vincent McKiernan MM

2nd Lt Michael Vincent McKiernan: He lived in Co Galway, died of wounds 11th May 1918 age 22, possibly received during the German Spring Offensive, Connaught Rangers 6th Bn, 16th Div, G/M in France. He won the Military Medal and Bar before he became an officer. Son of James and Anna Maria McKiernan, Clooney, Quin Co Clare. (TB)

On 21 March 1918, the Connaught Rangers 6th Bn was "practically annihilated" during the German Spring Offensive breakthrough. In one week during The Battle of St Quentin (21-23 March) and The Battle of Rosieres (26-27 March), the battalion lost 22 officers and 618 other ranks. As a result of these heavy losses, the survivors were transferred into the 2nd Battalion, the Leinster Regiment.

The cemetery extension contains 8,348 Commonwealth burials of the First World War

During the First World War, Commonwealth camps and hospitals were stationed on the southern outskirts of Rouen.

Saint Sever Cemetery Rouen
Departement de la Seine-Maritime
Haute-Normandie, France
Plot: Officers, B. 7. 3.
Private Stephen McKnight MM

Stephen McKnight: Born and lived in Kilrush, killed in action 22\textsuperscript{nd} March 1918 at St Emilie, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1\textsuperscript{st} Bn 3622, G/M in Pozieres France.\textit{(TB)} He won the Military Medal\textit{(and 2 Parchment Certificates)}. Son of Patrick and Ellen McKnight, Hector Street, Kilrush. Brother of James McKnight who fought with the US Army in WW1. (Morgan Roughan)

Pozieres Memorial. Pozieres
Departement de la Somme
Picardie, France. Panel 78 and 79.

The Memorial commemorates over 14,000 casualties.

‘The Germans had 192 Divisions on the Western Front.....On the 21\textsuperscript{st} March at St Emilie.. at 5pm the enemy attacked in great force, but got no farther than the wire, on which he left many dead. Successive attacks in massed formation continued every half hour till 9pm, when the enemy fell back exhausted.....On the 22\textsuperscript{nd} the enemy started a heavy bombardment at 5am....An hour later he attacked in great force, but beyond suffering very heavy losses made no progress..at 3pm it appeared the enemy was still making progress round the right flank, for orders were received.. that the whole line was to fall back to Tincourt. ....The Battalion was now 7 officers, 450 other ranks, out of 24 officers, 950 other ranks on the morning of the 21\textsuperscript{st} ...’
Sergeant Thomas McKnight

Thomas McKnight: Born and lived in Moylesky, Mullagh Co Clare, killed in action 13th Sept 1916 on the Somme (In the lead up to the Battle of Flers–Courcelette, 15–22 September), Irish Guards 2nd Bn 3198 (Guards Div). G/M on the Thiepval Memorial in France. (TB)

The Battle of Flers–Courcelette (15th – 22nd Sept) was the third and final general offensive mounted by the British Army, which attacked an intermediate line and the German third line to take Morval, Lesboeufs and Gueudecourt, which was combined with a French attack on Fréjicourt and Rancourt to encircle Combles and a supporting attack on the south bank of the Somme. The strategic objective of a breakthrough was not achieved but the tactical gains were considerable, the front line being advanced by 2,500–3,500 yards (2,300–3,200 m) and many casualties were inflicted on the German defenders. The battle was the début of the Canadian Corps, New Zealand Division and tanks of the Heavy Branch of the Machine Gun Corps on the Somme.

The 1st and 2nd Irish Guards had very heavy losses in this Battle.

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.
Agnes McMahon

Agnes McMahon: Born in Sixmilebridge, died 27th Oct 1918 age 22, Queen Mary’s Auxiliary Army Corps 18691, G/M in St Lawrence’s Cemetery Limerick. Daughter of Mrs Mary McMahon, Limerick. (TB)

By 1917 the amount of men remaining available to serve was drastically reduced, and so women were recruited for service with the Army in a non-nursing capacity for the first time in British history. The regiment Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps was formed. On 31 March 1917 the first women in the WAAC were sent to the battlefields in France, just 14 cooks and waitresses. The WAAC later became the Queen Mary’s Army Auxiliary Corps (QMAAC) when Queen Mary became its Patron.

Mary Agnes McMahon, known as Agnes, was born in 1896 and was the middle child of Michael and Mary McMahon’s five children. In 1911 Agnes was working in Cleeves Condensed Milk Factory, while her father and brothers were railway servants. The family moved around Limerick in 1901: they were living in Lady’s Lane, in 1911 in Lee’s Lane and by 1918 in 14 Prospect, Rosbrien.

Agnes would have seen her brothers heading off to war and on seeing the posters calling women too Agnes packed up her bags and headed to the Officer’s Cadet School in Kildare. She served with Queen Mary’s Army Auxiliary Corps under the service number 18691. She was ranked as a volunteer when she died, aged 22, on the 27 October 1918 at 14 Ellen Street Limerick. She was buried in Mount St Lawrence Cemetery on the 29th October 1918. (Sharon Slater in People & Genealogy)
Private Charles McMahon

Charles McMahon: Born and lived in Malt House lane, Kilmush. Killed in action 9th May 1915 in Rue Du Bois in the Battle of Aubers Ridge, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 5879, G/M in France. (TB)

Le Touret Memorial
Richebourg-l’Avoue
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France.
Panel 43 and 44.
Over 13,000 names are listed on the memorial of men who fell in this area before 25 September 1915 and who have no known grave.

“The Last Absolution of the Munsters at Rue Du Bois, 1915” by Fortunino Matania. The picture represents an actual incident on May 9th 1915, and depicts the Chaplain, Father Gleeson giving General Absolutiion to 800 men the evening before the Battle of Aubers Ridge in France. It was commissioned by Jessie-Louise Rickard in memory of her husband Colonel Victor Rickard, who is the other figure on horseback and was killed the following day. Sgt-Major J.T.Leahy who was there described how “On a lonely dark road-side, lit up now and then by flashes from our own and German flares, arose to Heaven the voices of 800 men singing that glorious hymn, ‘Hail Queen of Heaven’. Every man had his rosary beads out, reciting the prayers in response to Fr Gleeson.” He then went down among the men, blessing and encouraging them.

‘The British bombardment began at 5 a.m., the 2nd 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 Christopher McMahon

Christopher McMahon: Born in Ennis lived in Dublin, killed in action 16th Aug 1915, Royal Irish Fusiliers 5th Bn 16182, 31st Brigade in 10th (Irish) Division. G/M in Turkey. (TB)

Helles Memorial
Gallipoli
Canakkale, Turkey
Plot: Final resting place unknown. Name listed on Panel 178 to 180.

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.

The Royal Irish Regiment 5th Bn landed at Suvla Bay, Gallipoli on the 7th August 1915, and were in action at Kiretch Teke Sirt between the 6th and 10th of August. The first serious attempt at the ridges was made on the night of 8 August, following intervention from Hamilton but on the morning of 9 August, the Ottoman reinforcements had begun to arrive and the British were driven back.

The fighting concentrated around Scimitar Hill which protruded northwards from the Anafarta Spur and dominated the southern approach to the Tekke Tepe ridge. Scimitar Hill had been captured then abandoned on 8 August; attempts to retake the hill on 9 and 10 August, were thwarted by the Ottomans. The gunfire was so intense it set the undergrowth ablaze and many of the wounded were incinerated where they lay.

During 15 to 16 August 1915 the battalion was engaged in heavy fighting against Turkish Infantry on the Kiretch Tepe Ridge suffering losses of 10 officers and 210 other ranks killed, wounded or missing.
Private Frederick McMahon

Frederick McMahon: Born and lived in Ennis, died of wounds 22nd Oct 1916 age 38, (The Battle of the Transloy Ridges Oct 1st-Nov 11th), Royal Dublin Fusiliers 1st Bn 43088 (29th Div), G/M in France. He was also in the Royal Munster Fusiliers (6724). Husband of Mary McMahon Lifford, Ennis. (TB)


The burials in this cemetery were carried out under extreme pressure and many of the graves are either too close together to be marked individually, or they contain multiple burials. There are now 2,890 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery.

The Battle of Le Transloy began in good weather and Le Sars was captured on 7 October. Pauses were made from 8–11 October due to rain and 13–18 October to allow time for a methodical bombardment, when it became clear that the German defence had recovered from earlier defeats. Another pause followed before operations resumed on 23 October on the northern flank of the Fourth Army, with a delay during more bad weather on the right flank of the Fourth Army and on the French Sixth Army front, until 5 November. Next day the Fourth Army ceased offensive operations, except for small attacks intended to improve positions and divert German attention from attacks being made by the Reserve/Fifth Army. Larger operations resumed in January 1917.

Photos – Keir McNamara
Fireman J McMahon

J McMahon: Lived in Clarecastle, died 10th June 1917 on the SS Keeper, Mercantile Mariner Unit, G/M in England. (TB) He is also remembered on the SS Keeper Monument in Clarecastle which was unveiled in 2017. (Eric Shaw)

Among those drowned (12), were three sailors from Clare Castle, A. Considine, R. Cole and J McMahon, along with the captain, William McCready, besides eight others aboard the merchant ship

The SS Keeper, was on a voyage from Belfast to Limerick carrying grain for Bannatyne’s of Limerick, when she was sunk by a German submarine UC-66 off the coast of Antrim on 10th June 1917.

The SS Keeper Monument was unveiled in Clarecastle in June 2017.
Private James McMahon

James McMahon: Born and lived Tuamgraney, killed in action 27th Sept 1915 age 26, Irish Guards 2nd Bn 6650, G/M in France. Son of Thomas and Mary McMahon, Tuamgraney. He was in the RIC before he enlisted in 1914. (TB)

Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery
Souchez
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: VI. C. 6.

In September 1915, the 2nd Irish Guards, who had reached France in August, took part in the Battle of Loos, which lasted from 25 September until early October.

‘At a moderate estimate the Battalion had now been on foot and lively awake for forty-eight hours; the larger part of that time without any food. It remained for them merely to go into the fight, which they did at half past two on the morning of the 27th September when they received "verbal instructions to push forward to another line of captured German trenches, some five hundred yards, relieving any troops that might happen to be there.............They were taken out of the line "wet, dirty, and exhausted" on the night of the 30th September when, after a heavy day’s shelling, the Norfolks relieved them, and they got into billets behind Sailly-Lebourse. They had been under continuous strain since the 25th of the month, and from the 27th to the 30th in a punishing action which had cost them, as far as could be made out, 324 casualties, including 101 missing. Of these last, the Diary records that "the majority of them were found to have been admitted to some field ambulance, wounded..."

Of their officers, 2nd Lieutenant Pakenham-Law had died of wounds; 2nd Lieutenants Clifford and Kipling were missing, Captain and Adjutant the Hon. T. E. Vesey, Captain Wynter, Lieutenant Stevens, and 2nd Lieutenants Sassoon and Grayson were wounded, the last being blown up by a shell.” The 2nd Bn Irish Guards War Diary - Rudyard Kipling.
Private James McMahon

James McMahon: Lived in Clarecastle, killed in action 15th May 1916 in the Hulluch Sector, Royal Munster Fusiliers 9th Bn 4625, G/M in France. Son of Mrs Anne McMahon, Craggaun, Clarecastle. (TB)

Loos Memorial  Loos-en-Gohelle
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: Addenda Panel.

‘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...’

The Loos Memorial commemorates over 20,000 officers and men who have no known grave, who fell in the area from the River Lys to the old southern boundary of the First Army, east and west of Grenay. On either side of the cemetery is a wall 15 feet high, to which are fixed tablets on which are carved the names of those commemorated.
John McMahon: Born in Dublin lived in Kilmaley, killed in action 26th April 1917 age 42, possibly in the Battle of Arras, Royal Garrison Artillery 292979, G/M in France. His brother Thomas Francis died in the Dardanelles in May 1915. Son of John and Mary Ann McMahon Kildogher, Kilmaley.

Vermelles British Cemetery  Vermelles
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: VI. G. 5.

The Battle of Arras (also known as the Second Battle of Arras) was a British offensive on the Western Front during World War I. From 9 April to 16 May 1917, British troops attacked German defences near the French city of Arras on the Western Front. There were big gains on the first day, followed by stalemate. The battle cost nearly 160,000 British and about 125,000 German casualties.

The cemetery was begun in August 1915, and during the Battle of Loos, when the Chateau was used as a dressing station. The remaining Plots were made by the Divisions holding the line 1.6 kilometres East of the cemetery until April 1917. There are now over 2134 First World War casualties commemorated in this cemetery.
John McMahon: Born and lived in Kilrush, died at home 2nd June 1917, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 6718, G/M in KILRUSH CHURCH OF IRELAND CHURCHYARD. He is also commemorated on the Grangegorman Memorial in Dublin. Son of Michael McMahon, Grace Street Kilrush. (TB)

Buried in the Kilrush Church of Ireland Churchyard, Grave No. 453, in the South West Corner of the Cemetery.

Grangegorman Memorial Cabra County Dublin, Ireland Plot: Cenotaph, Panel 8. [Screen Wall]

‘After the German withdrawal on March 17th (1917) to the Siegfried Line…..the 2nd Battalion was the first unit to cross the Somme and was employed on draining and improving the communications destroyed by the retiring enemy. This was not done without loss from the numerous “booby traps” left behind.’ (2nd Munsters in France H S Jervis)
Drummer John McMahon

John McMahon: Born and lived in Luton. Died 7th July 1917 aged 17, Kings Own Scottish Borderers 2nd/5th Bn 31043, G/M in Drumcliff Cemetery, Ennis. (TB)

Drumcliff Graveyard is located off the Ennis-Ennistymon road. The Old Cemetery (2,270 records) is on the left side. The Calvary Section (1,844 records) is on your right. The Old section has the ruins of an old monastry.

He is buried in Drumcliff Cemetery, grave no 104, on the South-East part of the old ground.
**Leading Stoker Martin McMahon**

Born 14th July 1885 in Co Clare. Killed in the Battle of Jutland on the 31st May 1916 on the HMS *Queen Mary*. Body not recovered. His wife was Bridget Malony. (UK, Royal Navy and Royal Marine War Graves Roll, 1914-1919) **Martin McMahon**: Born 14th July 1885 in Co Clare. Royal Navy SS108844 from July 1909 – 31st May 1916. The first ship he served on was the Nelson. The last ship was the Queen Mary. (UK Royal Navy Registers of Seamans Services 1853-1928) G/M on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Portsmouth Naval Memorial**

**Portsmouth**

**Portsmouth Unitary Authority**

Hampshire, England

Name is listed on Panel 16.

**HMS Queen Mary** was the last battlecruiser built by the Royal Navy before World War I. She was refitted in early 1915 and missed the Battle of Dogger Bank in January, but participated in the largest fleet action of the war, the Battle of Jutland in mid-1916.

She was hit twice by the German battlecruiser *Derfflinger* during the early part of the battle and her magazines exploded shortly afterwards, sinking the ship.

Her wreck was discovered in 1991 and rests in pieces, some of which are upside down, on the floor of the North Sea. *Queen Mary* is designated as a protected place under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986 as it is the grave of 1,266 officers and men.
Private Martin McMahon

Martin McMahon: Born in Kilmurry McMahon enlisted in Ennis, killed in action 10th Oct 1917, possibly in counter attacks after the Battle of Poelkapelle 9th Oct 1917 (3rd Battle of Ypres), Irish Guards 1st Bn 11283, 1st Guards Div, G/M in Belgium. (TB) (Photo – Mary Hester from his niece Phil Kelly, Kildysart.)

Panel 10 to 11
Tyne Cot Memorial Zonnebeke
Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders
(West-Vlaanderen) Belgium
Cemetery Photos – Keir McNamara

The Tyne Cot Memorial is one of four memorials to the missing in Belgian Flanders which cover the area known as the Ypres Salient. Servicemen who died after 16th August 1917 are named on the memorial at Tyne Cot. The MEMORIAL now bears the names of almost 35,000 officers and men whose graves are not known.

The Battle of Poelkapelle 9th Oct 1917: The French First Army and British Second and Fifth armies attacked on 9 October, on a 13,500 yards (12,300 m) front, from south of Broodseinde to St. Jansbeek. Advances in the north of the attack front were retained by British and French troops but most of the ground taken in front of Passchendaele and on the Becelaere and Gheluvelt spurs was lost to German counter-attacks.
Lance Corporal Michael McMahon

Michael McMahon: Born and lived in Kilrush, died of wounds 10th Oct 1915 age 23 (After the Battle of Loos), Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 6004, G/M in France. Son of Thomas and Margaret McMahon, Burton Street. (TB)

Chocques Military Cemetery
Chocques
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France Plot: I. G. 23.

Chocques Military Cemetery now contains 1,801 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

The Loos offensive began on 25 September 1915. At first the 2nd RMF was in reserve. They then had to hold the line with over 200 casualties, leaving them with around 350 all ranks, reduced to 250 by the time the battle died down on 13 October.

Loos Sept 25th 1915 ‘The 2nd Munsters advanced in alternative waves over the open, and leaped over the British front line trench, loudly cheered by its inmates, on across No Man’s Land, losing heavily at every minute. They passed the Lone Tree and came up to the German wire, only to discover that the artillery bombardment had completely failed to cut it. Man after man was killed and lay against the obstacle… The first effort, costly and ineffective as it appeared at the time, was in reality a brilliant success. Green’s force, bombing down from the north, found the enemy’s attention diverted, and when the Munsters advanced again to the attack, the enemy gave under the strain and surrendered.’ The Battalion lost ‘8 officers and 210 other ranks killed and wounded.’ (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)
Private Michael McMahon

Michael McMahon: Born in Sixmilebridge, lived in Clarecastle, died of wounds 20th Aug 1917 age 25, Royal Dublin Fusiliers 1st Bn 40124, G/M in Belgium. Formerly with the Royal Munster Fusiliers (7049). Son of Pat and Kate McMahon, and husband of Mary (Taylor) McMahon (she remained a war widow for the rest of her life), Main Street, Clarecastle. (TB)

Panel 144 to 145
Tyne Cot Memorial
Zonnebeke
Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium

The Tyne Cot Memorial is one of four memorials to the missing in Belgian Flanders which cover the area known as the Ypres Salient. Servicemen who died after 16th August 1917 are named on the memorial at Tyne Cot. The MEMORIAL now bears the names of almost 35,000 officers and men whose graves are not known.

Sept 1917 Sat Record
Private Patrick McMahon

Patrick McMahon: Lived in Ennis, killed in action 22nd March 1918 age 20 at St Emilie, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 6714, 16th Irish Div, G/M in France. Son of James and Margaret McMahon Cahercon, Shanave Ennis. (TB)

Sainte Emilie Valley Cemetery, Villers-Faucon
Villers-Faucon
Departement de la Somme
Picardie, France
Plot: I. A. 12.

Villers-Faucon was captured on 27 March 1917, lost on 22 March 1918, and retaken on 7 September 1918. On the site of this cemetery at the Armistice, there were three large graves of Commonwealth soldiers buried by the Germans, which now form part of Plot I. A large proportion of these concentrated graves were those of soldiers of the 16th (Irish) Division who died in March 1918.

‘The Germans had 192 Divisions on the Western Front…..On the 21st March at St Emilie.. at 5pm the enemy attacked in great force, but got no farther than the wire, on which he left many dead. Successive attacks in massed formation continued every half hour till 9pm, when the enemy fell back exhausted….On the 22nd the enemy started a heavy bombardment at 5am….An hour later he attacked in great force, but beyond suffering very heavy losses made no progress…at 3pm it appeared the enemy was still making progress round the right flank, for orders were received.. that the whole line was to fall back to Tincourt. ....

The Battalion was now 7 officers, 450 other ranks, out of 24 officers, 950 other ranks on the morning of the 21st...’
Patrick McMahon: Born and lived in Ennis, killed in action 9th May 1915 at Rue Du Bois in the Battle of Aubers Ridge, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 6323. G/M in France. (TB)

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

“`The Last Absolution of the Munsters at Rue Du Bois, 1915” by Fortunino Matania. The picture represents an actual incident on May 9th, 1915, and depicts the Chaplain, Father Gleeson giving General Absolution to 800 men the evening before the Battle of Aubers Ridge in France.

‘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.’
Patrick McMahon: Born in Ennis enlisted in Galway, died 31st Jan 1915, during the Winter Operations 1914-15, South Lancashire Regiment 2nd Bn 9464., 3rd Div, G/M in Ypres on the Menin Gate Memorial, Belgium. (TB)

Panel 37
Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial
Ypres (Ieper)
Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium

Winter Operations 1914-15 is the name given to military operations from 23 November 1914 – 6 February 1915, on the part of the Western Front held by the British Expeditionary Force (BEF), in French and Belgian Flanders. In January 1915, rain, snow and floods added to the dangers of sniping and artillery-fire during the day and at night both sides concentrated on repairing trenches. The area from the old La Bassée battlefield, to Kemmel 20 miles (32 km) to the north, was mainly flat low-lying meadows, in the basin of the Lys (Leie) river. Clay sub-soil stopped water soaking more than 2 feet (0.61 m) down, which left trenches water-logged. The Lys rose 7 feet (2.1 m), spread out by more than 100 feet (30 m) and some trenches were abandoned. In other places trenches were blocked at both ends and continuously bailed out, the intervening ground being covered by cross-fire from the “islands”. Many men stood knee-deep in water and were relieved twice a day. In January, First Army sick leave averaged 2,144 men per day.

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


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

On the night of 1 May 1915 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 (1st RMF) 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 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.**

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. The memorial bears more than 21,000 names.
Private 1st Class Patrick McMahon: Monmore Co Clare. He was aged 27 when he enlisted on the 28th Sept 1917 into Co D 305th Infantry and later with Co A 325th Infantry (82nd Div) until his death. He served overseas from the 25th April 1918. He fought at Sagnay (Scronville) Simey; Seille; St Mihiel; and the Meuse-Argonne where he was wounded severely on the 15th October 1918. He died of Lobar Pneumonia on the 20th March 1919. His next of kin was his sister Miss Lelia Martin McMahon, Moyasta Post Office, Finagh, Monmore, Co Clare. (WW1 New York Army Cards - fold3.com)

Sad Homecoming: 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: Patrick McMahon, consigned to Mrs. Martin McMahon, Murroe, Kilrush, Co. Clare. (John P. Quinlan ww2irishaviation.com) Grave unknown.

Private 1st Class Patrick McMahon: Company A, US 325th Infantry 1897500. His sister was Miss Lelia Martin McMahon, Moyasta Post Office, Finagh, Monmore, Co Clare. He sailed from New York on April 25th 1918 on the SS Khyber. (US Army WW1 Transport Service, Passenger Lists)
McMahon: Lived in Knockaun House, Newmarket on Fergus, died of wounds 29th Dec 1915 age 28, at Verquin, Royal Munster Fusiliers 8th Bn, 16th Irish Div, G/M in France. Son of John McMahon, Knockaun House, Newmarket on Fergus. (TB)

He was wounded by a stray bullet on the night of 24th Dec 1915, while with a working party on reserve trenches, and died at Bethune hospital. He was the first casualty of the 8th Bn, 16th Irish Division. He enlisted in the Cadet Company, 7th Leinster Regiment on the outbreak of the war, and from there obtained his commission in the 8th Royal Munster Fusiliers.

‘The Battalion...on December 17th 1915... sailed for Havre... forming part of the 47th Brigade, 16th Irish Division. On arriving at Havre next day the Battalion proceeded... to its first billets at Verquin. Working parties were almost immediately furnished for work on reserve trenches, and on Christmas Eve, Second Lieutenant P S MacMahon, whilst with a working party, was hit by a stray bullet. He died from his wound a few days later – the first casualty in the Battalion, and in the Division.’

Bethune Town Cemetery
Bethune
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France Plot: II. L. 7.

Bethune Town Cemetery contains 3,004 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

Young Clare Officer Dead.
SECOND LIEUTENANT P. S. MCMAHON.

Second Lieutenant Patrick S. McMahon, who has died in France from wounds received in action, was son of Mr John McMahon, Knocknagum House, Newmarket-on-Fergus, Clare. When the country needed men he enlisted into the Cadet Company, 7th Leinster Regiment, from which he obtained his commission in the 8th Royal Munster Fusiliers, and he accompanied the battalion on field service. Second Lieut. McMahon was a well-known athlete, quite recently he won the open 100 yards at the 41th (Irish) Brigade Sports at Fermoy, and later distinguished himself at Lansdowne at the D.M.P Sports. He was a very popular young officer and his loss is deeply deplored by Lieutenant Col. Williamson and all ranks of the battalion.

January 1916 Clare Journal
Lance Corporal Thomas McMahon

Thomas McMahon: Born in Madras India lived in Ennis, killed in action 11th Nov 1914 in the First Battle of Ypres (19 Oct– 22 Nov 1914), Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment 2nd Bn) 3/9910, 5th Div, G/M in Ypres (Menin Gate) Belgium. (TB)

Addenda Panel 57, Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Ypres (Ieper) Arrondissement Ieper, West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

The Menin Gate is one of four memorials to the missing in Belgian Flanders which cover the area known as the Ypres Salient. The Salient was formed during the First Battle of Ypres in October and November 1914, when a small British Expeditionary Force succeeded in securing the town before the onset of winter, pushing the German forces back to the Passchendaele Ridge.

The First Battle of Ypres (19 Oct– 22 Nov 1914): On the 11th November, the Germans attacked from Messines to Herenthage, Veldhoek woods, Nonne Bosschen and Polygon Wood. Massed small-arms fire repulsed German attacks between Polygon Wood and Veldhoek. German casualties around Ypres had reached about 80,000 men and BEF losses, August – 30 November, were 89,964, 54,105 at Ypres. The Belgian army had been reduced by half and the French had lost 385,000 men by September, 265,000 men having been killed by the end of the year.

The YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL now bears the names of more than 54,000 officers and men whose graves are not known.
Thomas Francis McMahon: Born in Kilmaley enlisted in Liverpool, killed in action 20th May 1915 age 29 in Gallipoli, Australian Infantry 2nd Bn 1602, G/M in Turkey. Son of John and Mary Ann McMahon, Kilmaley. His brother John was also killed in April 1917. He was a Labourer aged 28 when he enlisted in 1914 in Liverpool NSW into the 2nd Bn.

In mid-May, the Turks decided to launch an attack on Anzac. This began late on 18 May with the heaviest artillery bombardment of the campaign to that point, during which the 2nd Battalion's orderly room, located on "MacLaurin's Hill", was hit. The assault began the following day, during which the 2nd Battalion, established around a position known as the "Pimple", was attacked by elements of the Ottoman 48th Regiment who poured into their forward positions through "Owen's Gulley", which rose as a re-entrant between the 2nd Battalion's position and that of 3rd Battalion which was on their left at the "Jolly".

At risk of having the line split in two and enduring heavy attack in their sap head, the 2nd called for reinforcements which came in the shape of artillerymen from the 8th Battery, who were pressed into the line as infantrymen. With only limited machine-guns and with bad light hindering the supporting artillery, the job of turning back the Turkish assault fell to the riflemen and by maintaining strict fire discipline, great effect was achieved.

By 24 May, the attack had been decisively defeated and a brief truce was called for both sides to bury the dead. There are now 1,167 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in Lone Pine Cemetery.
Civilian Thomas McMahon

Thomas McMahon: Ballyea. Ennis. He drowned on August 15th 1915 on the S S Arabic. The 15,800 ton White Star liner S S Arabic was going from Liverpool to New York, when it was torpedoed by the U-24 and sank off the Fastnet. It floated for only eleven minutes after the attack. Arabic was the first White Star Line ship to be lost in World War I. Forty-four lives were lost (3 were American) and 390 were saved. American reaction to the Arabic sinking was the proximate cause for Germany suspending unrestricted submarine warfare until 1917. Two bodies from the Arabic were washed ashore on the Clare coastline at Loophead in October 1915, a male and a female.

‘A young man, Mr Thomas McMahon was on board, and cannot be traced. He had a ticket by the Cunard Line, but changed to the White Star to accompany a friend. The name of the latter appears in the list of those saved. Miss Margaret Mulqueeny, whose name also appears in the list of survivors, belongs to the Newmarket on Fergus district. Mr J C Boland of Scariff is also safe.’ (Clare Champion Sept 2015).
Private Thomas McMahon: Moyasta Kilrush, Co A, 114th Infantry US Army (59th Brigade 29th Div) 2192956. Died from wounds in France on the 23rd Oct 1918, during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive (Sept 26-Nov 11, 1918). His body was returned to Ireland in 1922 for burial (grave unknown). (Paddy Waldron) ‘Consulate Cable: Thomas McMAHON died 1918-10-23 from wounds, Private, Co A, 114th Infantry Mg Bn, Mrs Catherine McMAHON, Moyasta, Co Clare, sister Katherine McMAHON, E 64th St, Chicago, IL.1.

The Freeman's Journal, Monday May 8, 1922 (Sharon Carberry USA)

"SAD HOMECOMING
Irish American Soldiers Who Died In France / Sixty Four Bodies From The Battlefields.

The bodies of sixth-four American soldiers, men of Irish birth, arrived in Dublin at noon yesterday on board the SS Millwater, having been exhumed from graves on French battlefields for re-interment in Irish soil. Claimed by relatives for burial in Ireland, the United States Government arranged for the removal of the bodies from France.

It is understood that the work of unloading the caskets will be commenced this morning, and the bodies will be removed to a City mortuary for storage pending their transfer by rail to their various destinations. Captain W. R. Buckley, U.S. Army, told a 'Freeman's Journal" representative that no ceremony will mark the landing of the bodies.

Accompanied by four convoyers, Captain Buckley has arrived in Dublin in connection with the shipment, and will remain in Ireland till all the bodies are delivered. The names of the convoyers are: Messers. Johnston, Stewart, Williams and Royed.

SALUTING THE DEAD

The SS. Millwater, which is a a small British coasting vessel, owned in Ipswich, received the caskets at Antwerp. Mr. Richard R., Willey, U.S. Vice-Consul at Dublin, was among those present when the vessel berthed at City Quay.

During the day the vessel was the centre of much interest, and those passing up and down the Liffey-side reverently saluted the remains, which are ranged in the holds of the vessel.

A number of relatives of the deceased have arrived in Dublin for the purpose of accompanying the remains on their last homeward journey.

Every province and practically all the counties are represented among the dead, which include Rev. Patrick J. Gallagher, Knights of Columbus Chaplain, whose body is consigned to Mr. James Galagher, Castlebar, Mayo."

Private Thomas MCMAHON next of kin: Mrs. Katherine McMahon Moyasta, Kilrush, Co. Clare. entered service at: NOT DETERMINED [using Ancestry.com]
Private Charles McNamara

Charles McNamara: Born and lived in Kilrush, killed in action 23rd Oct 1916 at the Somme, Cameronians (Scottish Rifles 2nd Bn) 6893, 8th Div. G/M in Thiepval, France. (TB) On the 23rd October the Scottish Rifles 2nd Bn took part in the attack and capture of the South part of Zenith Trench, and the attack of Orion Trench. This was in The Battle of Transloy Ridges 1 Oct – 11 Nov 1916.

The Battle of Le Transloy Ridges (1st Oct - 11th Nov 1916) began in good weather and Le Sars was captured on 7 October. Pauses were made from 8–11 October due to rain and 13–18 October to allow time for a methodical bombardment, when it became clear that the German defence had recovered from earlier defeats. Haig consulted with the army commanders and on 17 October reduced the scope of operations by cancelling the Third Army plans and reducing the Reserve Army and Fourth Army attacks to limited operations, in co-operation with the French Sixth Army. Another pause followed before operations resumed on 23 October on the northern flank of the Fourth Army, with a delay during more bad weather on the right flank of the Fourth Army and on the French Sixth Army front, until 5 November.
Rifleman Edward James McNamara

Edward James McNamara: Born and lived in Ennis, killed in action 16th Jan 1918, Royal Irish Rifles 1st Bn 47462, G/M in Belgium. (TB)

Panels 138 to 140 and 162 to 162A and 163A.
Tyne Cot Memorial
Zonnebeke
Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium

In the Battle of Passchendaele on 31 July 1917, during the opening day of the battle, the Royal Irish Rifles 1st battalion suffered massive casualties. By 16 August, when it had advanced well forward of the rest of the attacking force, it only had one surviving officer and 60 other ranks. The remainder of the battalion spent a gruelling winter on the ridges above Paschendaele before being transferred in February 1918 to the 36th (Ulster) Division near Saint-Quentin.

The Tyne Cot Memorial is one of four memorials to the missing in Belgian Flanders which cover the area known as the Ypres Salient. Servicemen who died after 16th August 1917 are named on the memorial at Tyne Cot. The MEMORIAL now bears the names of almost 35,000 officers and men whose graves are not known.

Photos – Keir McNamara
Francis McNamara: Born and lived in the Turnpike, Ennis. Killed in action 27th Sept 1918 age 21, during the fifth Battle of Ypres, 30th Div, Royal Irish Regiment (South Irish Horse) 7th Bn (no. 1901), G/M in France. Son of Joseph McNamara, Turnpike Road, Ennis. (TB)

Queant Road Cemetery. Buissy
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: VII. G. 7.

There are now 2,377 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery.

Nov 1918 Sat Record

The 30th Div fought in The Fifth Battle of Ypres, also called the Advance of Flanders and the Battle of the Peaks of Flanders (French: Bataille des Crêtes de Flandres) is an informal name used to identify a series of battles in northern France and southern Belgium from late September through October 1918.
Private Francis Joseph McNamara

Francis Joseph McNamara: Born in Co Clare lived in New Zealand, died 8th Oct 1920 age 46, Wellington Regiment, New Zealand Expeditionary Force 68303, G/M in New Zealand. Died after discharge from the NZEF from wounds inflicted (possibly in the Hundred Day's Offensive) or disease contracted while on active service. Son of Daniel and Susan McNamara. (DOB 3/11/1879) He was a fitter when he enlisted in Sept 1917 into the 3rd Reserve Bn. Wellington Regiment 68303. He lived in Christchurch. His brother was Mr J McNamara Christchurch. (TB)

H. 16 (S) Karori Cemetery
Wellington
Wellington City.
Wellington, New Zealand

There are 267 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war in the cemetery.

The Hundred Days' Offensive: On 8 August 1918, the last major offensive of the Western Front commenced. It began with an attack by the Canadian and Australian Corps at Amiens, which rolled the German lines back 8 kilometres (5.0 mi) that day. The New Zealand Division would continually be at the forefront of the advance of the Third Army for the remainder of the offensive. At this stage of the war, the New Zealand Division was still one of the strongest infantry divisions of the Dominion serving on the Western Front. It numbered 12,243 men and there were 15,000 reinforcements in England. As the division advanced, it usually did so along a brigade-sized front, with three battalions forward of a field artillery brigade. This allowed for rapid artillery support as the need arose. The brigades would leapfrog each other as they moved forward.
Private John McNamara

John McNamara: Born and lived in Ennis, died of wounds 1st May 1915 in Gallipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 8720, G/M in Turkey. (TB)

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

On the night of 1 May 1915 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 (1st RMF) 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 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.

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. The memorial bears more than 21,000 names.
Private John McNamara

John McNamara: Born in Co Clare lived in Ennis, died of wounds 27th July 1916 in Loos, Royal Munster Fusiliers 8th Bn 4464, G/M in France. Son of Martin McNamara Carnaclohy, Crusheen Co Clare.

Bethune Town Cemetery. Bethune
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: V. G. 36.

Bethune Town Cemetery contains 3,004 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

‘On July 20th/21st July 1916 (Loos), at 11.50pm, following an intense bombardment, the raiding parties again left their trenches. As before the enterprise was covered by salvoes of rifle grenades....”A” and “B” parties again failed to penetrate the enemy wire... “C” Party under Second-Lieutenant O’Brien (Hugh Murrough Vere O’Brien Ballyalla), penetrated into the the fire trench and bombed it successfully; all dug-outs were were bombed....”D” party reached the fire trench... An officer surrendered himself to one of the section leaders of “C” Party, but wounded the non-commissioned officer with his revolver after his surrender had been accepted, and was shot. Casualties: Killed - 5 other ranks; wounded 23 other ranks.’
Private Joseph McNamara


Thiepval Memorial
Thiepval
Departement de la Somme
Picardie, France
Plot: Pier and Face 7 D.

The Battle of Flers–Courcelette (15–22 Sept) was the third and final general offensive mounted by the British Army, which attacked an intermediate line and the German third line to take Morval, Lesboeufs and Gueudecourt, which was combined with a French attack on Frégicourt and Rancourt to encircle Comblies and a supporting attack on the south bank of the Somme. The strategic objective of a breakthrough was not achieved but the tactical gains were considerable, the front line being advanced by 2,500–3,500 yards (2,300–3,200 m) and many casualties were inflicted on the German defenders. The battle was the début of the Canadian Corps, New Zealand Division and tanks of the Heavy Branch of the Machine Gun Corps on the Somme. The 1st and 2nd Irish Guards had very heavy losses in this Battle.

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.
Private Michael McNamara

Private Michael McNamara: Whitegate. He died of wounds on the 10th August 1917. 7th Bn Leinster Regiment 7014. (World War 1 Stories Sean Glennon) Photo taken by Sean Glennon.

Brandhoek New Military Cemetery. Ypres (Ieper) Arrondissement Ieper West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium Plot: VI. B. 5.

In the Third Battle of Ypres an offensive was mounted to divert German attention from a weakened French front further south. The initial attempt in June 1917 to dislodge the Germans from the Messines Ridge was a complete success, but the main assault north-eastward, which began at the end of July, quickly became a dogged struggle against determined opposition and the rapidly deteriorating weather.

The campaign finally came to a close in November with the capture of Passchendaele.

In July 1917, during the Third Battle of Ypres, although the 16th Irish and 36th Ulster divisions were completely exhausted after 13 days of moving weighty equipment under heavy shelling, Gough ordered the battalions to advance through deep mud towards well fortified German positions left untouched by totally inadequate artillery preparation. By mid August, the 16th had suffered over 4,200 casualties, the 36th almost 3,600, or more than 50% of their numbers. Haig, now a field marshal, was very critical of Gough for "playing the Irish card".
Sergeant Major Michael Francis McNamara

Sgt Major Michael Francis McNamara: Born in Newcastle West Co Limerick, lived in Co Kildare enlisted in Ennis, died 20th Jan 1918 age 38 in Mesopotamia, Royal Army Service Corps GHQ Baghdad S/13074, G/M in Iraq. Died in Mesopotamia. Formerly with the Royal Munster Fusiliers 5th Bn where he was awarded the Medaille D’Honneur (Bronze) and Diploma in 1915. He was 6ft 1in and had three brothers who also enlisted (John and Peter). He was the son of Mr P McNamara Market St Ennis.

Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery
Baghdad
Iraq. Plot: XVI. J. I.

French Decoration
For Ennis Man.

ENNIS FAMILY WELL
REPRESENTED AT THE FRONT

We learn from official documents that First Class Staff Sergeant Major Michael McNamara, A. S. C., son of Mr P McNamara, Market St, Ennis, has had the Bronze Medal, for an act of courage and devotion to duty, conferred on him by the French Government. The presentation was made by the French Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Sergt. Major McNamara comes of a stalwart family, of which his father may well be proud. His elder brother, John, who is 6ft 3in. in height, and is in the Guards, fought in the South African War, and came on to Europe for the present war. The Sergeant Major is 6ft 1in. John, a third brother, who is 6ft, is in the R. G. A., and the fourth, Peter, is in the A. S. C. He is 5ft 9in. All are at the front.

Clare Journal Sept 1915

The North Gate Cemetery was begun in April 1917 and has been greatly enlarged since the end of the First World War by graves brought in from other burial grounds in Baghdad and northern Iraq, and from battlefields and cemeteries in Anatolia where Commonwealth prisoners of war were buried by the Turks. At present, 4,160 Commonwealth casualties of the First World War are commemorated by name in the cemetery,
**Chief Stoker Patrick McNamara**

*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)*

**T.4.33**  
*Ford Park Cemetery*  
(Formerly known as *Pennycomequick or Plymouth Old Cemetery*). UK

**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.
Private Patrick McNamara

Patrick McNamara: Born and lived in Corofin, killed in action 10th Nov 1917 age 21 in Passchendaele, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2nd Bn 6872, G/M in Belgium. Son of Nora McNamara, Back Street Corofin. (TB)

Panel 143 to 144 Tyne Cot Memorial. Zonnebeke. Arrondissement Ieper West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

The MEMORIAL now bears the names of almost 35,000 officers and men whose graves are not known.

On the 10th November 1917 the 2nd Battalion joined in the battle raging round the Passchendaele Ridge. ‘The barrage opened at 5.55 a.m., and zero hour was at 6 o’clock…. By 6.45 a.m. the whole of the objectives allotted to the Battalion were in our hands, and all ranks were in high fettle...the impatient Commanders ...decided to exploit their success and continue the advance. The order was received with a cheer. The main ridge, which overlooked the whole battle field was only 800 yards away, and the advance continued...About 7.30 a.m. the advance came to a standstill.. At 7.50 a.m. the enemy was observed preparing a counter-attack... On came the enemy, their attack being carried out by an entirely fresh unit just arrived smart and clean on the battlefield, the celebrated “Cockchafers”... The roll-call showed that of the 20 officers and 630 enlisted men who marched into action but 7 officers and 240 men remained....’ (The 2nd Munsters in France HS Jervis)

The Third Battle of Ypres (July-Nov. 1918) was an offensive mounted by Commonwealth forces to divert German attention from a weakened French front further south. The campaign finally came to a close in November with the capture of Passchendaele. Photos – Keir McNamara
Gunner Rody McNamara

Rody McNamara: Born in Mountshannon, lived in Waterpark House Scariff, died in Moore Barracks Hospital Shorncliffe, which was a large military camp near Cheriton in Kent, 27th March 1916 age 34, Royal Field Artillery, 9th Brigade 36589. G/M in Moynoe Cemetery, Scariff. Son of Daniel and Catherine McNamara Waterpark, Scariff. His mother was Catherine McNamara, and his brothers were John and Dan. He was awarded the 1914 Star.

He is buried in Moynoe Cemetery in Scariff, grave no. 51, South East of the Old Church.

The 9th Brigade came under command of the 7th (Meerut) Division of the Indian Army, which was part of Indian Expeditionary Force A, sent to reinforce the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) fighting in France. The division landed at Marseilles 12–14 October 1914, and finally got into action at the Battles of La Bassee. By the Battle of Loos in September 1915, Maj-Gen Claud Jacob had replaced Anderson as GOC of 7th (Meerut) Division, after which they embarked to Mesopotamia.

Gunner Rody McNamara could have been wounded in the Battle of Loos, which took place from 25 September – 13 October 1915. It was the biggest British attack of 1915, the first time that the British used poison gas and the first mass engagement of New Army units. British casualties at Loos were about twice as high as German losses.
Company Quartermaster Sergeant Michael Meade

Michael Meade: Born and lived Kilrush, killed in action 21st Aug 1915 age 35 in Suvla Bay Gallipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 5817, G/M in Turkey. Husband of Annie Kearen Meade, Tralee. They had four children. (TB) He had also served in South Africa and after that on the North West Frontier in India.

In March 1915 the 1st battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers sailed for Gallipoli via Malta, on April 25th 1915, they landed on V Beach from the River Clyde, it was here on this beach that many a Munster soldier lost his life, gunned down by a hail of rifle and machine gun fire from the Turkish defenders as they struggled ashore loaded down with equipment. Michael Meade survived this initial onslaught. Later as the battalion progressed inland, he led his men in the continued fight in gullies and on the steep slopes of the Gallipoli Peninsula.

During the Suvla Bay offensive of August 1915, CQMS Michael Meade was again in the thick of battle, the 1st battalion was gathered on the slopes of 'Chocolate Hill', in preparation for the attack on Scimitar Hill on August 21st. Fighting on that day was intense, made difficult by dense prickly scrub.

'X' and 'Y' Companies, who had gone into action approximately 180 strong, came back out numbering 23 and 18 respectively, 143 men were reported as missing, among them CQMS Michael Meade.

Michael Meade lies somewhere on the slopes of Gallipoli, but his name is not forgotten, for it is commemorated for posterity on the Helles Memorial, Gallipoli. (Geraldine Quinn of London and John Meade of Cork.)

The River Clyde

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

James Meaney: Born in Thurles lived in Kilkee, killed in action 2nd April 1918 age 18 (During the German Offensive), Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 6759, G/M in France. Son of Martin and Ellen Meaney, Ball Alley Lane, Kilkee. (TB) He is also remembered on the Memorial Stone in the grounds of Kilkee Catholic Church.

Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery
Villers-Bretonneux Departement de la Somme Picardie, France. Plot: VI. E. 2. There are now 2,142 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery.

Photos – Keir McNamara

‘In the early morning of the 26th March all the bridges over the Somme were blown up….The 1st Battalion then moved to Proyart…on the 28th March …information was received that a counter attack would be made on the enemy.. This attack failed… and at the 10am the force commenced to retire.. The Majority of the Battalion succeeded in getting away, but all the wounded had to be left….the Battalion now numbering approximately 5 officers and 170 other ranks...On the 29th March … Aubigny was reached at 6pm..for rest and refitting.’ Stragglers continued to arrive for the next few days.’

The Memorial Stone in the grounds of Kilkee Catholic Church.

Son of Martin Meaney Ball Alley Lane Kilrush Clare Ireland
**Private Daniel Meehan**

**Daniel Meehan:** Born in Clonlara, died (possibly of wounds as a POW) 17th Oct 1918 (during the Final Advance in Flanders), Royal Irish Regiment 7th (South Irish Horse) Bn 25602, 21st Brigade, 30th Division. G/M in France. *(TB)*

**IV. D. 18. Hautmont Communal Cemetery in France.**

Hautmont Communal Cemetery contains 246 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the WW1. **Allied prisoners who died in the local German hospitals** were buried there by the authorities of the town.

The 7th (South Irish Horse) Battalion, Royal Irish Regiment was formed in France, from the dismounted 1st and 2nd South Irish Horse on the 1st of September 1917. In 1918 they were in action during the Final Advance in Flanders (17 October – 11 November 1918). The hardest-fought of the final offensive actions, where the First, Third and Fourth Armies exploited their success in breaking the Hindenburg Line by pushing on across the Rivers Selle and Sambre, recapturing Valenciennes and finally in liberating Mons (very close to Hautmont where Daniel Meehan is buried).

Photos – Keir McNamara
**Surgeon Lieutenant Michael Meehan MA**

Michael Meehan: Kildysart. Surgeon in the Royal Navy, on the H.M.S. Earl of Peterborough (A Monitor). He participated in the naval battle in Heligoland Bight in 1914. He died of pneumonia, following the Spanish Flu, on the the 13th December 1918 in Venice, and is buried in Venice. He is also commemorated on a gravestone in Kildysart. (The monitors were such specialized ships that unless there was a specific requirement for shore bombardment, they tended to sit in their bases waiting for their next "call for fire".)

The Lord Clive-class monitors were originally built in 1915 to engage German shore artillery in occupied Belgium during the First World War. **Earl of Peterborough**, however was differently employed, being dispatched to the Eastern Mediterranean upon completion for service with the fleet there. Early in 1916 she shelled Turkish positions in the Dardanelles and during the remainder of the war was active against Turkish units in Egypt, Palestine and Turkey itself.

Venice (San Michele) Cemetery covers a small island between Venice and Murano. The cemetery contains 7 war graves from World War I of officers and seaman of the British merchant and Royal Navy.
Surgeon Lieutenant Michael Meehan MA (continued)

He was buried originally in Plot VI in the Catholic Section. This area was washed away and he was moved to Section 6 in the South East corner of the Cemetery. Needless to say his crypt was sanded, cleaned and spotless in comparison to the hundreds of surrounding crypts.

Surgeon Lieut.
Michael Meehan R.N.
died at Venice
13th December 1918.

He is also commemorated on the family gravestone in Kildysart.
Lance Corporal Mark S Mescal

Mark S Mescal: Born and lived in Kilrush, killed in action 1st Dec 1917 age 23, in the Battle of Cambrai (Nov 20 - Dec 6 1917), Irish Guards 1st Bn 11452, 2nd Div, G/M in Cambrai, France. Son of Michael Mescal, Vandaleur Street Kilrush. (TB) He is also remembered on the family gravestone in the Old Shanakyle Cemetery in Kilrush.

Cambrai Memorial, Louverval
Departement du Nord
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France Plot: Panel 2 and 3.

The CAMBRAI MEMORIAL commemorates more than 7,000 servicemen of the United Kingdom and South Africa who died in the Battle of Cambrai in November and December 1917 and whose graves are not known.

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. Lance Corporal Mark S Mescal died on the 1st Dec 1917.
Sailor Patrick Milican

Patrick Milican: Born in Kilrush, died 4th Nov 1916 age 19 on the SS Huntsvale, Mercantile Marine Unit, G/M in England. Son of Michael and Bridget Milican. (TB)

The 5,609 ton British cargo/transport SS Huntsville was torpedoed and sunk by German submarine UB-43, 200 miles east of Malta en route from Salonika to Algiers. Seven men were lost.

The First World War section of the Tower Hill Memorial commemorates almost 12,000 Mercantile Marine casualties who have no grave but the sea.
Rifleman Patrick Millard (Mallard): Clonlara Co Clare. Royal Irish Rifles 9304 2nd Bn. He was killed in action on the 17th October 1914, during the First Battle of Ypres. G/M on the Le Touret Memorial in France. He is on the Irish Memorial Records as coming from Clonard Co Limerick and KIA 27th Oct 1914. (Freddie Bourke)

The Le Touret Memorial commemorates over 13,400 British soldiers who were killed in this sector of the Western Front.
**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.
Private Martin Mineter

Martin Mineter: Born in Moynoe Scariff. He died 5th Aug 1916, during the Battle of Pozières Ridge (23 July – 7 Aug) at the Somme, Australian Infantry 48th Bn 473, G/M in France. (TB) MA He was an unmarried Tailor aged 41 when he enlisted in March 1915 in Perth into the 48th Bn. 473 (4th Aus Div). He landed in Gallipoli in Oct 1915. He was KIA in France on the 5th Aug 1916. (UNSW)

Villers-Bretonneux Memorial
Villers-Bretonneux
Departement de la Somme
Picardie, France

The memorial was erected to commemorate all Australian soldiers who fought in France and Belgium during WW1, and especially to name those of the dead whose graves are not known. There are now 10,738 Australian servicemen commemorated by this memorial.

The Battle of Pozières Ridge (23 July – 7 Aug 1916) began with the capture of the village by the 1st Australian Division (Australian Imperial Force) of the Reserve Army, the only British success in the Allied fiasco of 22/23 July, when a general attack combined with the French further south, degenerated into a series of separate attacks due to communication failures, supply failures and poor weather. German bombardments and counter-attacks began on 23 July and continued until 7 August. The fighting ended with the Reserve Army taking the plateau north and east of the village, overlooking the fortified village of Thiepval from the rear.
Company Sergeant Major John Minogue

John Minogue: Born in Feakle, died of wounds 17th Aug 1915 in Suvla Bay Gallipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 7th Bn 2460, G/M in Turkey. (TB)

Helles Memorial Gallipoli.
Canakkale, Turkey. Panel 185 to 190.
It 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. The memorial bears more than 21,000 names.

‘The 7th Battalion again took over the line from the Pimple (Hill 60) to the sea on the 16th August, and was heavily bombed by the enemy, but was able to retaliate on the arrival of their own supply. The position was also heavily shelled ....Captain Aplin received orders at 7.30pm that the whole position was to be evacuated. Unfortunately, the final orders did not reach the extreme left of the line....25 men remained all night, beating back the enemy attacks....Casualties; killed 19; wounded 63; missing 12.’
Lieutenant Colonel John O’Brien Minogue CMG

Lt Col. John O’Brien Minogue CMG: Born in Scariff in 1861, died 26th Oct 1916, West Yorkshire Unit, G/M in England. He was given command of a battalion of Yorkshire Infantry in May 1915. In Feb 1916 he became an ‘additional member of the Third Class for Companions of the most distinguished Order of St Michael and St George’ for military services in the field. He had a brilliant career rising from the ranks. He was a teacher in Carrigaholt. (TB) (CJ)

A.34
Mortlake (St Mary Magdalen)
Roman Catholic Church Churchyard. 
Surrey.

St Mary Magdalen Roman Catholic Church
Mortlake is a Roman Catholic church in North Worple Way, Mortlake, in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. The cemetery contains war graves of four service personnel of World War I.

Death of Clare Officer.

Lieut. Colonel John O’Brien Minogue, C.M.G., West Yorkshire Regiment, died on October 6th, at 9 Berkeley Square, London. Born in 1861, he entered the Army in May, 1886, and received his majority in March, 1895. He first saw active service with the Burmese Expedition in 1886-89, being mentioned in despatches and receiving the medal with two clasps. In 1899-90 he took part in the Chin-Luchai Expedition, and was mentioned in despatches and awarded the clasp. He held the Star for the Ashanti Expedition, 1900-02, and in 1903-04. He served as D.A.A.G. in Tibet, being present at the action at Niani, the operations at and around Gyantse, and the march to Lhasa. He was mentioned in despatches, and received the medal with clasp. In 1908 he took part in the operations in the Mohmand country, including the engagement of Maita (medal with clasp). Colonel Minogue, who retired in October, 1909, was appointed to the command of a battalion of the West Yorkshire Regiment in March, 1915. He was a native of the Scariff district.

Clare Journal Oct 1916
Second Lieutenant James Mitchell

2nd Lt James Mitchell: Cappa Kilrush, killed in action 26th April 1916 age 34, Royal Flying Corps, (18th Squadron), G/M in France. Son of James and Ellen Mitchell, Cappa, Kilrush. (TB)

Bruay Communal Cemetery Extension
Bruay-la-Buissiere
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France. Plot: A. 10.

There are now 412 Commonwealth burials of the First World War in the extension.

By the time of the first major air actions at the first Battle of the Somme, July 1916, there were 27 Squadrons with 421 aircraft plus a further 216 in depots. These made up four brigades, which worked with the four British armies.
Corporal Cornelius Moloney/Maloney

**Cornelius Moloney:** Born in Feakle, killed in action 14th March 1915 age 32 near Armetieres, Leinster Regiment 2nd Bn 3592, 6th Div, G/M in Houplines France. Son of Pat and Kate Moloney, Carheen, Flagmount Co Clare. (TB)

**Ferme Buterne Military Cemetery, Houplines Departement du Nord Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France**
Plot: A. 21.

In March 1915 the 6th Division was in Armetieres (very near Houplines where Cornelius Moloney is buried). There was a minor operation by the North Staffordshire Regiment on the 12th March 1915, resulting in the inclusion in their line of the unsavoury Epinette Salient, which was near Armentieres.

Photos – Keir McNamara

This cemetery was used from January to October 1915, chiefly by the 6th Division. It contains 129 Commonwealth burials, two of which are unidentified.


Sergeant James Edward Moloney

James Edward Moloney: Born in Ennis, lived in New Zealand, killed in action 8th Aug 1915 age 22, in the Battle of Sari Bair, Auckland Mounted Rifles New Zealand Expeditionary Force (NZEF) 13/555, G/M in Turkey. (TB) Son of Edmond and Catherine Moloney, Mill Street Sixmilebridge. He embarked with the NZEF on the 16th Oct 1914 in Auckland on board the Star of India or Waimana for Suez Egypt. (DOB 5/5/1885) He was an Engineer when he enlisted into the Auckland Mounted Rifles.

Chunuk Bair Cemetery CWGC - Anzac.
Gallipoli
Canakkale, Turkey
Final resting place unknown. Name listed on the Memorial at Panel 1.

Chunuk Bair was one of the main objectives in the Battle of Sari Bair, fought 6-10 August 1915. The attack was to be carried out by the New Zealand Infantry Brigade with the New Zealand Mounted Rifles designated to clear the foothills. The Wellington Infantry reached the summit, and were later joined by men of the Auckland Infantry and Mounted Rifles. These troops, after repulsing incessant Turkish attacks, were reinforced and relieved on the evening of 9 August. The following morning, the position was taken by a determined and overwhelming counter-attack. The loss of Chunuk Bair marked the end of the effort to reach the central foothills of the peninsula. CHUNUK BAIR CEMETERY (632 Commonwealth servicemen) was made after the Armistice on the site where the Turks had buried some of those Commonwealth soldiers who were killed on 6-8 August.
John Molony/Moloney: Born and lived in Kildysart, killed in action 21st March 1918 age 21, at St Emilie during the German Offensive, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 6792, G/M in France. Son of Simon and Katie Molony, Derrylea, Kildysart. (TB)

Sainte Emilie Valley Cemetery,
Villers-Faucon
Villers-Faucon
Departement de la Somme
Picardie, France
Plot: IV. A. 5.

‘The Germans had 192 Divisions on the Western Front.....On the 21st March at St Emilie.. at 5pm the enemy attacked in great force, but got no farther than the wire, on which he left many dead. Successive attacks in massed formation continued every half hour till 9pm, when the enemy fell back exausted....’

Villers-Faucon was captured on 27 March 1917, lost on 22 March 1918, and retaken on 7 September 1918. On the site of this cemetery at the Armistice, there were three large graves of Commonwealth soldiers buried by the Germans, which now form part of Plot I. A large proportion of these concentrated graves were those of soldiers of the 16th (Irish) Division who died in March 1918.
Private John Moloney

*John Moloney:* Born and lived in Kilrush, killed in action 1\(^{st}\) May 1915 age 33 in Gallipoli, Royal Munster Fusiliers 1\(^{st}\) Bn 6346, G/M in Turkey. Husband of Johannah Moloney, Crofton Street, Kilrush. (TB)

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On the night of 1 May 1915 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 (1\(^{st}\) RMF) 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 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.

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. The memorial bears more than 21,000 names.

‘On May 1\(^{st}\) 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 1\(^{st}\) 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.’
Company Quartermaster Sergeant John Moloney

**John Moloney**: Lived and enlisted in Liverpool, died 4\textsuperscript{th} Feb 1917 in India, Rifle Brigade 23\textsuperscript{rd} Bn T/205316 G/M in Pakistan. Son of Andrew and Mary Moloney, Ennis.\textit{(TB)}

**Karachi 1914-1918 War Memorial**
Karachi
Sindh, Pakistan

The Rifle Brigade 23\textsuperscript{rd} (North Western) Battalion was posted to India on garrison duties in 1916. In India, men unfit for frontline duties in regiments about to leave India for war zones, were transferred into Garrison Battalions already serving in India. Very little has been written about the Garrison Battalions of World War I in post-war regimental histories. Battalions were disbanded within days of returning from service overseas and their four or five year existence was apparently regarded as of little consequence in regimental history.
Private John Moloney

John Moloney: Born in Clonlara, killed in action 9th Sept 1916 on the Somme, in the Battle of Ginchy, Royal Dublin Fusiliers 8th Bn 20351, (16th Div), G/M in Thiepval France. (TB)

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

‘. The 8th Battalion (200 strong).... on the 9th September moved towards Ginchy.... The Battalion was in the right attack which was launched about 4.45pm....the enemy trenches... were strongly held by five machine-guns. In consequence a frontal attack was impossible... a number of the men succeeded in penetrating the enemy trench, the remainder were only able to advance about one hundred yards; there were many casualties.... Casualties: Killed 1 officer; wounded 4 officers, other ranks 76.’

The 8th Battalion was inflicted to heavy casualties and was unable to bury its dead. The other battalions of the 48th Brigade of the 16th (Irish) Division captured Ginchy (1st Royal Munster Fusiliers, the 7th Royal Irish Rifles and the 8th and 9th Royal Dublin Fusiliers).

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.
Seaman Martin Moloney

Martin Moloney: Lived in Quilty, died 25th Jan 1917 age 40, Royal Navy Reserve Unit HMS Laurentic 5237B, G/M in England. He perished at sea after the HMS Laurentic sank after striking two mines west of Donegal with the loss of 354 lives. There were only 121 survivors. He had been awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal before he died. Son of Martin and Ellen Moloney (nee Brown). Husband of Bridget Moloney, Quilty West. Their son Michael Moloney died in April 1916. See below. Their other son Martin Moloney (Pro Treaty) was a member of the Cruise Hotel garrison in Limerick and was proceeding to William Street Barracks on 20th July 1922 when he was shot by a sniper during the Civil War.

Plymouth Naval Memorial
Plymouth
Plymouth Unitary Authority
Devon, England
Plot: 23

The SS Laurentic was a British ocean liner of the White Star Line. She was converted to an armed merchant cruiser at the onset of World War I, and sank after striking two mines north of Ireland on 25 January 1917, with the loss of 354 lives. She was carrying about 43 tons of gold ingots at the time of her loss, and as of 2016, 22 bars of gold are yet to be recovered.
Private Michael Moloney

Michael Moloney: Born in Quilty, killed in action 27th April 1916 age 18, during the Battle of Hulluch, 27–29 April, (during the Easter Rising in Ireland). Royal Iniskilling Fusiliers 7th Bn 26452, 16th (Irish) Division. G/M in France. Formerly with the Royal Munster Fusiliers. Son of Martin and Bridget Moloney Quilty West. (TB) His father Martin (Royal Navy Reserve Unit) died in Jan 1917. See above.

Philosophe British Cemetery
Mazingarbe
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: I. C. 11. The cemetery was started in August 1915. In 1916 it was taken over by the 16th (Irish) Division, who held the Loos Salient at the time, and many of their dead were brought back to the cemetery from the front line. There are now 1,996 Commonwealth burials of the First World War in the cemetery.

Battle of Hulluch 27–29 April: Just before dawn on 27 April, the 16th Division was subjected to a cloud gas attack near Hulluch. The gas cloud and artillery bombardment were followed by raiding parties, which made temporary lodgements in the British lines. The German gas was of sufficient concentration to penetrate the British PH gas helmets and the 16th Division was unjustly blamed for poor gas discipline. It was put out that the gas helmets of the division were of inferior manufacture, to allay doubts as to the effectiveness of the helmet. On 27 April the 16th Division had lost 442 men.
Private Patrick Moloney

Patrick Moloney: Born in Co Tipperary, killed in action 26th Oct 1915 age 23, Royal Irish Regiment 2nd Bn 4856, 4th Division. G/M in France. Son of John and Bridget Moloney Kildysart Co Clare.

From the outbreak of the war to the summer of 1915, this part of the front was held by French troops, who began the military cemetery in June 1915. It continued to be used by Commonwealth field ambulances and fighting units. The cemetery now contains 528 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

Photos – Keir McNamara
Patrick Moloney: Born and lived in Kilrush, killed in action 24\textsuperscript{th} August 1916 on the Somme, Royal Munster Fusiliers 2\textsuperscript{nd} Bn 4921, (1\textsuperscript{st} Div), G/M in Thiepval France. (TB)

On 24\textsuperscript{th} August 1916, orders were received by the 2\textsuperscript{nd} Battalion that an attack was to be made on the 400 yards of the old German trench still remaining in enemy hands. The effort was doomed to failure from the start. It is said that another Commanding Officer had declined to deliver the attack. The artillery preparations was misdirected and inaccurately delivered; the outer sectors of the objective were to have been blown in by trench mortars, which completely failed; the attack was ordered by daylight and as a consequence of faulty preparations the enemy was completely unshaken. At 7 a.m. the assault was delivered and the Germans immediately opened a heavy fire from concealed machine-gun emplacements and held up the attack. (Pat McNamara Parteen)

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.
Private Peter Moloney

Peter Moloney: Lived in Cloughleigh Ennis, killed in action 12th March 1916 age 21 in Loos, Machine Gun Corps 3rd Company 19414, 1st Div, (Formerly with the 2nd RMF), G/M in Grenay (which is very close to Loos) in France. (TB) Brother of Garry who served and survived the war. Son of John and Alice Moloney Cloughleigh.

Maroc British Cemetery
Grenay
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: I. D. 1.

The cemetery was begun by French troops in August 1915, but it was first used as a Commonwealth cemetery in January 1916. During the greater part of the war it was a front-line cemetery used by fighting units and field ambulances, and protected from German observation by a slight rise in the ground. Maroc British Cemetery now contains 1,379 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War.

The 1st Division stayed in the Loos sector until early 1916, launching a diversionary attack on the Double Crassier on 30th June.
Gunner Simon Moloney

Simon Moloney: Born and lived in Kilrush, died 3rd Aug 1916 in Mesopotamia, Royal Garrison Artillery 2nd Bn 57579, G/M in Iraq. Son of Mrs Susan Moloney Grace Street Kilrush. (TB) He was possibly with the 13th (Western) Division, which as the strongest unit available, became the spearhead the Tigris Corps' attempt to relieve the Kut garrison beginning on 6 April 1916. They spent the rest of the spring, summer, and early fall of 1916 recovering from the fighting, and preparing for further operations to capture Baghdad.

Basra War Cemetery
Al Basrah
Basra, Iraq
Plot: VI. N. 5.

During the First World War, Basra was occupied by the 6th (Poona) Division in November 1914, from which date the town became the base of the Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force. A number of cemeteries were used by the MEF in and around Basra; Makina Masul Old Cemetery was used from December 1914 to October 1916 and the Makina Masul New Extension was begun alongside the old cemetery in August 1917. These two sites, enlarged later when more than 1,000 graves were brought in from other burial grounds, now form Basra War Cemetery.

‘A cemetery in Iraq that contains the graves of thousands of British servicemen who died in the two World Wars has been completely destroyed. The graveyard in Basra has been left without a single one of its 4,000 headstones still standing after repeated vandalism and looting in the years since the fall of Saddam Hussein. Among the items missing from it are the both the Cross of Remembrance and the bronze plaques from the Wall of Remembrance, which carries the names of the fallen. While some of the gravestones have simply crumbled in Basra fierce heat, and some removed by a local caretaker for safekeeping, others are thought to have been stolen by looters and sold for use as building materials.’ Nov 2013
Company Sergeant Major Tom Moloney MM

Tom Moloney/Maloney: Born in Ogonnelloe, killed in action 2nd Sept 1918 age 26, Royal Irish Regiment 7th Bn 5608, 30th Div, G/M in Belgium. He won the Military Medal. Son of Mr and Mrs Pat Moloney New Chapel, Ogonnellooe Co Clare. (TB)

Wulverghem-Lindenhoek Road Military Cemetery
Heuvelland
Arrondissement Ieper
West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium
Plot: V. E. 19.

Wulverghem-Lindenhoek Road Military Cemetery was begun in December 1914. It was used until June 1917, and again in September and October 1918. There are now 1,010 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery.

The 7th (South Irish Horse) Battalion, Royal Irish Regiment was formed in France, from the dismounted 1st and 2nd South Irish Horse on the 1st of September 1917. In 1918 they were in action during the Final Advance in Flanders (17 October – 11 November 1918). The hardest-fought of the final offensive actions, where the First, Third and Fourth Armies exploited their success in breaking the Hindenburg Line by pushing on across the Rivers Selle and Sambre, recapturing Valenciennes and finally in liberating Mons.
Captain Bertram Weldon Molony: Born in 1888 in Kiltannon Tulla Co Clare, killed in action 28th Feb 1915 age 26, East Lancashire Regiment 1st Bn, G/M Belgium. Bertram joined the army in 1911 and was made a Captain in Nov 1914. He came from the well know Molony family from Kiltannon, Tulla who had substantial lands in Tulla, Feakle and beyond. Son of Weldon Charles and Eleanor A Molony.

Lancashire Cottage Cemetery
Comines-Warneton
Arrondissement de Mouscron

Following service on the Aisne in September 1914, the 4th Division moved to Flanders in the sector on the French/Belgian border north-east of Armentières (very close to where Capt Molony is buried). Here it stayed until the Spring of 1915, some units of the division taking part in the Christmas Truce, when it moved up to the battlefield north-east of Ypres to fight at St Julian, and the Frezenberg Ridge during Second Ypres. This fighting all but wiped out the division, and many of those who had survived the battles of 1914 were killed or wounded here.
Rifleman Charles Frederick Molony

Charles Frederick Molony: Born in Dublin lived in Ennis, killed in action 5th March 1916 age 24, King’s Royal Rifle Corps, D Company 8th Bn R/15572, 14th (Light) Division, G/M in France. Son of Patrick Considine JP and Mrs J W M Molony (nee Molyneux) Rathgar Dublin. (TB)

Cabaret Rouge British Cemetery Souchez Departement du Pas-de-Calais Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France Plot: XVII. L. 29.

Today the cemetery contains over 7,650 burials.

The 8th (Service) Battalion landed at Boulogne-sur-Mer as part of the 41st Brigade in the 14th (Light) Division in August 1914 for service on the Western Front, and saw action the Second Battle of Ypres in May 1915, the Battle of Delville Wood in July 1916 and the Battle of Flers–Courcelette in September 1916.

Caberet Rouge was a small, red-bricked, red-tiled café that stood close to this site in the early days of the First World War. The café was destroyed by shellfire in March 1915 but it gave its unusual name to this sector and to a communication trench that led troops up the front-line. Commonwealth soldiers began burying their fallen comrades here in March 1916.
Lt Lancelot Alexander Montgomery: Grandson of John Lecky Phelps of Waterpark, Clonlara. Elder son of Major General Robert Arundel Kerr Montgomery C.B. DSO and Annie his wife. He was torpedoed on HMS Good Hope, Flagship of Rear Admiral Sir Christopher Craddock, which sank with all hands in the Battle of Coronel, South Pacific, Nov 1\textsuperscript{st} All Saints Day 1914. Born at Meernt April 2\textsuperscript{nd} 1888.’ (Kiltenanlea Parish Church Clonlara) He is also remembered on a Memorial in the Kiltenanlea Parish Church Clonlara.

The HMS Monmouth and HMS Good Hope participated in the Battle of Coronel off the coast of Chile on 1 November 1914. Early in the battle, a shell from SMS Gneisenau penetrated the armour of the forward gun turret of HMS Monmouth. When it was clear that Monmouth was out of action, Gneisenau shifted fire to HMS Good Hope. A short while later, drifting and on fire, Monmouth was attacked by the newly arrived light cruiser SMS Nürnberg.

Monmouth and Good Hope both sank with a combined loss of 1,570 lives. There were no survivors from either ship.
Lance Corporal Thomas Moody: Born and lived in Waterpark Ennis, died at Derby War Hospital 7th Nov 1917 age 25, Irish Guards 2nd Bn 10156. He is buried in Drumcliff Cemetery, Grave no. 60, on the East side of the old ground. Son of William and Frances Moody Waterpark. (TB) He is also remembered on a Memorial in St Columba’s Church in Ennis.

Lance Corporal Thomas Moody was wounded in the abdomen on the 9th Oct 1917 at the Battle of Poelcapelle (part of the 3rd Battle of Ypres also known as Passchendale). He was admitted to the hospital on 19th Oct 1917. He subsequently died from his wounds at Derby War Hospital Warrington at 5.45am on 27th Nov 1917. His mother Frances travelled to Warrington where she nursed him and brought his body home to Ennis to be buried in the family burial plot at Drumcliffe on the 30th Nov 1917. (Larry Brennan) The Battle of Poelcappelle (9th Oct 1917) was a defensive success for the German army, although costly to both sides. The weather and ground conditions put severe strain on all the infantry involved and led to many wounded being stranded on the battlefield.

THESE CHOIR STALLS WERE ERECTED IN THE MEMORY OF THE MEN OF THIS PARISH WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE GREAT WAR 1914-1918

Capt. R.H. CULLINAN RMF
Capt THOS. MOODY IRISH GUARDS
Lieut. J.F.C. FOGERTY R.E.
Pte. PATK. MULCAHY R.A.M.C.
Lieut. G.W. MAUNSELL
Pte. E.A. NIGHTINGALE HANTS.RGT

Cockhill Cemetery  
Buncrana  
County Donegal,  
Ireland

There is no record of a HMS Helgoland!!

C Moore  
Deck Hand RNR 3193  
HMS Helgoland  
9 Jun 1917 Age 28  
Until the Day Dawns  
His Loving Wife and Family
Able Seaman William Moran

William Moran: Born on Scattery Island lived in Cappa, died 6th Oct 1914 age 39 on the battleship HMS Majestic off Gallipoli, Royal Navy 181311, G/M in England. Husband of Annie Moran of Cappa.(TB) (Drowned KM) He had 5 children (CC) Son of Patrick and Margaret Hannah Moran Scattery Island. Grave No 42 on Scattery Island says ‘In memory of Sinon Moran, Cappa, died at sea Oct 6th 1914 aged 37 years, his wife Anne died Dec 23rd 1954 aged 72.’ Same date as above.

John Moran born 27/01/1885 (brother of William) died on board SS Empire Mallory (ON 168684) in the Indian Ocean on the 5th May 1945 and Siney Moran born c 1912 (Son of William) was lost when HMS Orchis was mined in the English Channel on the 21st August 1944.

At the time of William’s death (6th Oct 1914), the Majestic was accompanying the First Canadian Troop Convoy. It was later torpedoed (27th May 1915) by U-21 off the Gallipoli Peninsula with the loss of 49 men. The photo shows the battleship’s final moments.(TB)

After the First World War, an appropriate way had to be found of commemorating those members of the Royal Navy who had no known grave. It was recommended that the three manning ports in Great Britain - Chatham, Plymouth and Portsmouth - should each have an identical memorial of unmistakable naval form, an obelisk, to commemorate the seamen of the Royal Navy who sailed from that port. Plymouth Naval Memorial commemorates 7,251 sailors of the First World War.
Private Martin Morgan

Martin Morgan: Born in Ennis lived in Sixmilebridge, killed in action 23rd Nov 1914, in The Defence of Festubert 23-24th November, Connaught Rangers 1st Bn 5230, G/M in France. (TB)

Browns Road Military Cemetery Festubert
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: VIII. H. 14.

Brown’s Road Cemetery now contains 1,071 burials and commemorations of the First World War.

On September 26, 1914 the 1st battalion of the Connaught Rangers arrived at the Port of Marseilles having left the port of Karachi on the Indian subcontinent a month before. In 1914 they took part in The First Battle of Messines in October 1914 and The Defence of Festubert 23-24th November 1914. This was an engagement early in the First World War when Indian and British battalions of the 7th (Meerut) Division, Indian Army defended the village of Festubert against a German attack.

On 23rd November, the German Infantry Regiment 112 captured 800 yards (730 m) of trench east of Festubert in the Indian Corps area. The lost trench was recaptured but there were many casualties. It is notable for being one of the first actions in the war in which an attack was made against a prepared defensive position, thus foreshadowing the years of trench warfare which were to come. The British and Indian regiments that took part were awarded the battle honour Festubert 1914.
Private James Moroney

James Moroney: Born in Derrynaveigh Oatfield, Sixmilebridge, died 16th Aug 1918 in Egypt, Leinster Regiment 1st Bn 8220, 10th Div, G/M in Egypt. His brother was Michael and his sister was Margaret. (TB) Alexandria was an important hospital centre during later operations in Egypt and Palestine and the port was much used by hospital ships and troop transports bringing reinforcements and carrying the sick and wounded out of the theatres of war. There are now 1,700 First World War burials in the cemetery.

Alexandria (Hadra) War Cemetery
Alexandria
Al Iskandariyah, Egypt
Plot: C. 88.

The 10th division moved to Egypt in September 1917 where it joined General Chetwode's XX Corps. The occupation of the Jordan Valley by the Egyptian Expeditionary Force (EEF) began in February 1918 during the Sinai and Palestine Campaign of World War I. Despite the difficult climate and the unhealthy environment of the Jordan Valley, General Edmund Allenby decided that, to ensure the strength of the EEF's front line it was necessary to extend the line which stretched from the Mediterranean, across the Judean Hills to the Dead Sea to protect his right flank. From May onwards an increasing numbers of soldiers were struck down by malaria. For the wounded and sick the trip to base hospital in Cairo 300 miles (480 km) away was a long and difficult one during which it was necessary for them to negotiate many stages.
Private James Sonny Moroney (Joseph Kennedy)

James (Sonny) Moroney (Joseph Kennedy): Lived in Mill Street, Ennis, died 3rd Jan 1919. Royal Munster Fusiliers 1st Bn 8084. Fifth son of Charles Moroney Mill St Ennis. (TB) G/M in France.

‘We see by our obituary columns today that Private James (Sonny) Moroney RMF, died as a victim of Hun brutality, at Rouen Hospital, France on Friday last. He was taken prisoner at the opening of the big German Push, on March 22 (1918), and was kept a prisoner in Germany until the armistice. He was released on Nov 29th (1918), but was so prostrated from bad treatment and starvation, that he had to be sent to a hospital at once in France, being unable to travel home, and never rallied. He had been badly wounded in August 1917, but recovered and rejoined his regiment.’ From the Sat Record Jan 1919.


During the First World War, Commonwealth camps and hospitals were stationed on the southern outskirts of Rouen. A number of the dead from these hospitals were buried in other cemeteries, but the great majority were taken to the city cemetery of St. Sever. In September 1916, it was found necessary to begin an extension, where the last burial took place in April 1920. The Cemetery Extension contains 8346 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.
Sergeant Martin Moroney

**Martin Moroney**: Born and lived in Main Street, Miltown Malbay, killed in action 27th July 1916 age 20 at the Somme, in Battle of Delville Wood (14 July – 15 Sept 1916). Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) 99th Company 12070 (2nd Div), G/M in Thiepval France. Only son of Martin and Bridget Moroney General Merchants, Main Street, Miltown Malbay. (TB)

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**Thiepval Memorial**
Thiepval
Departement de la Somme
Picardie, France
Plot: Pier and Face 5 C and 12 C.

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**Aug 1916 Clare Journal**

**Another Brave Clareman Killed in Action.**

Our Miltown Malbay correspondent wires — The sad intelligence has reached here, by the mid-day mail, from his company’s officer, that Sergeant Martin Moroney, the only child of Mr and Mrs Martin Moroney, General Merchant, Main Street Miltown-Malbay, was killed while bravely leading his men. The greatest sympathy of the town and people is extended to the sorrowing parents on the death of their only son.

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**The Battle of Delville Wood (14 July – 15 Sept 1916)** was an operation to secure the British right flank, while the centre advanced to capture the higher lying areas of High Wood and Pozières. After the Battle of Albert the offensive had evolved to the capture of fortified villages, woods, and other terrain that offered observation for artillery fire, jumping-off points for more attacks, and other tactical advantages. The mutually costly fighting at Delville Wood eventually secured the British right flank and marked the Western Front début of the South African 1st Infantry Brigade (incorporating a Southern Rhodesian contingent), which held the wood from 15–20 July. When relieved the brigade had lost 2,536 men, similar to the casualties of many brigades on 1 July.

**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.

Photo – Keir McNamara
Lance Sergeant John Morris

**John Morris**: Kilmihil, killed in action 4th May 1916 age 21 at Hulluch, Royal Munster Fusiliers 8th Bn 5797, G/M in France. He was in the RIC in Kilmihil and originally from Kerry. (TB) ‘The Battalion ... moved into the line on the night of April 29th 1916, and had a very difficult time burying the dead, in shell holes at night, a task that took some days.’

Philosophe British Cemetery

Mazingarbe

Departement du Pas-de-Calais

Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France   Plot: I. A. 5.

The cemetery was started in August 1915. In 1916 it was taken over by the 16th (Irish) Division, who held the Loos Salient at the time, and many of their dead were brought back to the cemetery from the front line. There are now 1,996 Commonwealth burials of the First World War in the cemetery.
Patrick Morrissey: Born in Kilkee, died July 18th (16th on Headstone) 1918 age 23, in the famous old 69th Regiment, 165th US Infantry (42nd Div). He was killed in The Aisne-Marne Operation in 1918. Son of Pat and Julia Morrissey, Kilkee. G/M Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery. (TB) He is remembered on the Memorial Stone in the grounds of Kilkee Catholic Church. Born in Co Clare about 1895. Lived in New York City. He was aged 22 when he enlisted on the 27th June 1917 into the 69th Infantry H Company 90881. Served overseas from Oct 1917 until his death, and fought at Rouge-Bouquet, Aucirvillers, Baccarat, Authrive and Champagne. (New York, Abstracts of National Guard Service in WWI, 1917-1919)

The Aisne-Marne Operation (18 July – 6 August 1918) was the last major German offensive on the Western Front. The attack failed when an Allied counterattack by French and American forces, including several hundred tanks, inflicted severe casualties.

Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery and Memorial
Romagne-sous-Montfaucon
Departement de la Meuse
Lorraine, France.
Plot E Row 2 Grave 8

‘Mr Pat Morrissey, the ever popular Guard on the South Clare Railway, has received the sad intelligence of the death of his son, Pat, aged 23, who was killed at the second battle of the Marne, on July 18th. Young Morrissey who was a teacher in the Catholic Protectory Schools, Bronx, New York, was a member of Company H of the 165th Infantry (the famous old 69th Regiment) and enlisted in the outfit at the outbreak of the war. Visitors and residents alike extend their sympathy to his father in the loss of his gallant son.’ Sat Record 1919. (TB)
Staff Sergeant Walter George Morrissey

Walter George Morrissey/Morrissey: Born in Ennis lived in Sheffield, died 4th May 1916 age 34 in India (possibly from Cholera), Connaught Rangers 1st Bn 5358, G/M in Basra Iraq. Attached to the Indian Ordnance Department. Husband of Louisa Mary Morrissey Matlock, Derbyshire. Son of Timothy and Rachael Morrissey. (TB)

On January 10, 1916 the 1st Connaught Rangers, having left the Western Front, disembarked at Basra and were transported up the Tigris River to Kut. Various attempts to reach the trapped British force at Kut met with failure throughout the early months of 1916. Losses among the relieving forces were high as they tired to vain to break through the Turkish lines. Finally on April 28, 1916 short of food and water the garrison at Kut surrendered. Throughout the summer of 1916 the ranks of the Connaught Rangers facing the Turkish lines at Kut were decimated by a cholera epidemic, which claimed many lives.

The Basra Memorial commemorates more than 40,500 members of the Commonwealth forces who died in the operations in Mesopotamia from the Autumn of 1914 to the end of August 1921 and whose graves are not known.
Private Albert Muir

Albert Muir: Lived in Killaloe, killed in action 16th Sept 1916 at the Somme, in the Battle of Flers–Courcette, 15–22 September. Irish Guards 2nd Bn 6481, G/M in Thiepval France. (TB)

The Battle of Flers–Courcette was a battle within the Franco-British Somme Offensive which took place in the summer and autumn of 1916. Launched on 15 September 1916 the battle went on for one week. Flers–Courcette began with the objective of cutting a hole in the German line by using massed artillery and infantry attacks. This hole would then be exploited with the use of cavalry. It was the third and final general offensive mounted by the British Army during the Battle of the Somme. By its conclusion on 22 September, the strategic objective of a breakthrough had not been achieved; however tactical gains were made in the capture of the villages of Courcette, Martinpuich and Flers. In some places, the front lines were advanced by over 2,500 yards (2,300 m) by the Allied attacks.

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.
William A Muir: Born in Ballycoyne (Ballyconry-Ballyvaughan) Co Clare, lived in Leeds, died of wounds 12th April 1917 age 40, Royal Irish Regiment 6th Bn 9864, 16th Irish Div. G/M in France. (TB)

Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension .
Bailleul
Departement du Nord. Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: III. B. 83.

After the Somme in 1916, both the 16th (Irish) and 36th (Ulster) Divisions became part of General Sir Herbert Charles Onslow Plumer’s Second Army. The winter of 1916/17 around the villages of Loker and Dranouter in western Flanders, where the Irish soldiers were based, was appalling. Initially many of the soldiers had to live in tents because there were not enough billets for all the troops. During the months of March, April and May both divisions underwent a period of intense training in preparation for the attack on Wijtschate. The days of marching men towards well-defended German machine-gun positions, as had happened at the Somme, were over. When the men were not training, they assisted in the massive infrastructural work that was undertaken prior to the attack on Wijtschate. New roads were built; light gauge railway lines were laid from the reserve areas near the front line to bring supplies up and carry the wounded back. They also conducted raids on the German lines to gain intelligence. The one feature of this battle that stands out above others on the Western Front prior to June 1917 was the amount of training, planning and preparation insisted on by General Plumer and his staff.
Private Patrick Mulcahy

Patrick Mulcahy: Born and lived in Bindon St Ennis, died of wounds 10th Oct 1917 age 20, Royal Army Medical Corps 108th Field Ambulance, G/M in France. (TB) He is also remembered on a Memorial in St Columba’s in Ennis. Son of Maurice Michael (Sexton of St Columba’s Church Bindon St) and Mary Isabella Mulcahy. His father was aboard the SS Ocean when it was torpedoed off the Dardanelles. He survived the War.

Ruyaulcourt Military Cemetery
Ruyaulcourt
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France
Plot: F. 3.

Private Mulcahy Killed in Action.

His friends in Ennis have just received an intimation of the death in action of Private Pat Mulcahy, son of Mr M Mulcahy, R.N. (of Plymouth), late Sexton at the Ennis Parish Church.

Capt. Res., R.A.M.C., writing to the bereaved mother, says—“He was up at an advanced dressing station with me, and was in a trench which was blown in. His comrade was killed, and both were buried. Your son was dug out and brought to the station, and we fixed him up, and sent him to the casualty clearing station, where he passed away... He was one of our best. His cheerful quiet and ever optimistic manner won him the regard and esteem of all... He has fallen in the great and glorious cause of Right and Justice.”

Lt. Col. Fawcett writes—“It is proposed to place a brass tablet in your Parish Church to the memory of your son.

Matron Barrett, of the Dressing Station, also sent a tribute to his memory; and Rev. T. H. Abraham has made a touching reference to him in the Church.

Mr. Mulcahy, son, was called up in the Naval Reserve at the opening of the war, and he was on board the Ocean when she was torpedoed in the Dardanelles. He is now on duty in England.”

Nov 1917 Sat Record

The 108th Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps served with 36th (Ulster) Division. In 1917 they were in action at The Battle of Messines, capturing Wytschaete and in the The Battle of Langemarck during the Third Battles of Ypres and the The Cambrai Operations where the Division captured Bourlon Wood.
Patrick Mulcahy

Born in Newmarket Co Clare lived in Co Offaly, died of fever 12th Aug 1917 age 33 in Quetta, Pakistan (in India during WW1), South Lancashire Regiment 1st Bn 6887, 2nd Quetta Brigade, 4th Quetta Div. G/M in India. He had 5 other brothers who served and survived the war. These were Stephen, John, Peter, Daniel and Michael, all sons of John Mulcahy Pound Street, Birr, Offaly. (TB)

India Gate New Delhi
Delhi Capital Territory, India. Panel 44.

There are 13,300 Commonwealth servicemen commemorated by name on the memorial.

The South Lancashire Regiment 1st Battalion spent the war on garrison duty in Quetta, Baluchistan, on the North-West Frontier, as part of the 4th Quetta Division. It held posts at Chaman, Fort Sandeman, Jacobabad, Loralei, Manorah, Hyderabad and others. The Division was under orders of Southern Army. Typical of all Indian Army formations, it contained a mixture of British and Indian units. The Division was partly mobilised on several occasions during the war.
Sergeant Thomas Muldoon MM


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

His Military Medal was not added to his name at Thiepval.

‘The attack on Ginchy which had previously repelled the attacks of five divisions, was carried out by the 56th Division on the right and the 16th on the left - the 16th Division attack being carried out by the 47th Brigade on the right, and the 48th on the left... When the Battalion left the trenches at zero for the attack on Ginchy (Sept 9th) only 8 officers and under 400 men remained out of the original strength who had marched into Bernafay Wood... CSM Harris wheeled the left of his company and charged, driving the enemy out... on continuing the advance, he found the enemy strongly entrenched, so dug in opposite them, and with the assistance of one machine gun, held his position until relieved... The Battalion marched back to Carnoy on the 10th. Strength after the attack, 5 officers, 305 other ranks.’ (History of the Royal Munster Fusiliers 1861 to 1922. Captain S Mc Cance)

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.
Gunner Michael Mullins

Michael Mullins: Born and lived in Enagh, Sixmilebridge, died 1st July 1918 age 27 in Egypt (possibly of illness), Royal Garrison Artillery 246th Siege Battery 159378, G/M in Egypt. Son of Edmond and Margaret Mullins, Enagh, Belvoir, Sixmilebridge. (TB)

Kantara War Memorial Cemetery, El-Qantarah el-Sharqiyya, Al Isma’iliyah, Egypt. Plot: C. 173.

Kantara developed into a major base and hospital centre. The cemetery was begun in February 1916 for burials from the various hospitals, and now contains 1,562 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

The Royal Garrison Artillery 246th Siege Battery landed in Mesopotamia on the 23rd May 1917. Siege Batteries RGA were equipped with heavy howitzers, sending large calibre high explosive shells in high trajectory, plunging fire.

Like Gallipoli, conditions in Mesopotamia defy description. Extremes of temperature (120 degrees F was common); arid desert and regular flooding; flies, mosquitoes and other vermin: all led to appalling levels of sickness and death through disease. Under these incredible conditions, units fell short of officers and men, and all too often the reinforcements were half-trained and ill-equipped. Medical arrangements were quite shocking, with wounded men spending up to two weeks on boats before reaching any kind of hospital. These factors, contributed to high casualty rates. Kantara, Egypt, developed into a major base and hospital centre and the cemetery was begun in February 1916 for burials from the various hospitals, continuing in use until late 1920.
Private Jack Mulqueen

Jack Mulqueen: Born in Kilfenora, killed in action 15th Sept 1916, in the Battle of Flers–Courcelette, 15–22 Sept at the Somme, Irish Guards 1st Bn 8565 (Guards Div), G/M in France. Son of Mrs Harry Mulqueen, Kilfenora. (TB)

Delville Wood Cemetery Longueval
Departement de la Somme
Picardie, France.
Plot: XVI. D. 6.

The Battle of Flers–Courcelette was a battle within the Franco-British Somme Offensive which took place in the summer and autumn of 1916. Launched on 15 September 1916 the battle went on for one week. By its conclusion on 22 September, the strategic objective of a breakthrough had not been achieved. In some places, the front lines were advanced by over 2,500 yards (2,300 m) by the Allied attacks. The 1st and 2nd Irish Guards had very heavy losses in this Battle.

Photos – Keir McNamara

DELVILLE WOOD CEMETERY was made after the Armistice, when graves were brought in from a few small cemeteries and isolated sites, and from the battlefields. Almost all of the burials date from July, August and September 1916. There are now 5,523 burials and commemorations of the First World War in this cemetery.
Private Patrick Mungovan

**Patrick Mungovan**: Born 18/9/1881 in Co Clare, lived in Canada, died 27th Sept 1918 age 36, in the Battle of Canal du Nord (Sept 27 – Oct 1 1918) Canadian Infantry, 46th Bn (Saskatchewan Regiment) 466539, G/M in France. Second son of Mr D Mungovan Mill Street Ennis. (TB) He was a Labourer when he enlisted in July 1915. (Library and Archives Canada)

The 46th Battalion (South Saskatchewan) was part of the 10th Infantry Brigade, 4th Canadian Division in France and Flanders until the end of the war. It fought in the **Battle of Canal du Nord** (Sept 27 – Oct 1 1918), which took place in the Nord-Pas-de-Calais region of France, along an incomplete portion of the Canal du Nord and on the outskirts of Cambrai. To avoid the risk of having extensive German reserves massed against a single Allied attack, the assault along the Canal du Nord was undertaken as part of a number of closely sequenced Allied attacks at separate points along the Western Front. The battle penetrated a majority of the defenses of the Hindenburg Line and allowed the next attack (the Battle of Cambrai (1918)) to complete the penetration and begin the advance beyond the Hindenburg Line. There are now over 250, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site.
Private William Murchie

William Murchie: Born in Glasgow, killed in action 15th Sept 1914 age 25, the First Battle of the Aisne (13 – 28 Sept 1914), Black Watch (Royal Highlanders) 1st Bn 984. His wife was Ellen Murchie from Sixmilebridge (TB) (PMcN)

La Ferte-sous-Jouarre Memorial
La Ferte-sous-Jouarre
Departement de Seine-et-Marne
Île-de-France, France
Name listed on the Memorial

The 1st Battalion landed at Le Havre as part of the 1st Brigade in the 1st Division in August 1914 for service on the Western Front. It saw action in the First Battle of the Aisne (13 – 28 Sept 1914) was the Allied follow-up offensive against the right wing of the German First and Second Army as they retreated after the First Battle of the Marne earlier in September 1914.

The La Ferté-sous-Jouarre Memorial commemorates 3,740 officers and men of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) who fell at the battles of Mons, Le Cateau, the Marne and the Aisne between the end of August and early October 1914 and have no known graves.
Private 1st Class James Murnane

Private James Murnane: Lived in Stonehall, Newmarket on Fergus, died of wounds 15 October 1918 after being shot on the 11 October, during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive (Sept 26-Nov 11, 1918). Company C 165 Infantry Regiment US Army. G/M in the American Cemetery in Romagne, France. Grand Uncle of John Quinlivan. (Keir McNamara)

Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery and Memorial Romagne-sous-Montfaucon Departement de la Meuse Lorraine, France

Private 1st Class James Murnane: He was aged 31 when he enlisted in the US Army 165 Infantry 89672 in Oct 1917. He lived in Brooklyn New York. He served overseas from October 1917 and was killed in action at Hill 212 on the 15th October 1918. He also fought at Luneville, Bacarat, Ourcq and Champagne. His next of kin was Patrick Murnane who lived with him at 656 Carroll Street, Brooklyn.

The Meuse-Argonne Offensive: 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.
Private James Murphy (Served as James Clarke)

James Murphy (served as James Clarke): Born in Ennis lived on Old Mill Street Ennis, killed in action 14th May 1915 age 29, in the Second Battle of Ypres (22 April – 25 May 1915), Leinster Regiment 1st Bn 7208, 27th Div, G/M in Ypres (Menin Gate) Belgium. Husband of Mrs. Annie Murphy (nee Sullivan) Old Mill St Ennis. (TB)

Panel 44. Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial Ypres (Ieper), Arrondissement Ieper West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

The Memorial now bears the names of more than 54,000 officers and men whose graves are not known.

Second Battle of Ypres (22 April – 25 May 1915): The 1st Battalion arrived at Ypres on 2 April 1915. Hill 60 was captured by the British. Ypres suffered heavy casualties when the Germans shelled the town. The Germans launched their offensive on 22 April, and the British were forced to retreat. The battalion was heavily involved in the preparation of the new line. On 5 May they were gassed. The Germans took back Hill 60. Further Fighting. On 11 May they were called to recapture a trench lost by a Highland battalion. The Germans were forced to retreat. The position couldn't be held owing to heavy German machine gun and artillery fire. Over 500 causalities were sustained, at least 83 were killed. The battalion won the honour 'Ypres 1915'. By the end of the battle the Ypres salient was compressed, with Ypres closer to the line. The city, bombarded by artillery fire, was demolished, with recorded British losses of 59,275 casualties.

The Second Battle of Ypres when the Germans released poison gas into the Allied lines north of Ypres. This was the first time gas had been used by either side and the violence of the attack forced an Allied withdrawal and a shortening of the line of defence.
Corporal John J Murphy

**Corporal John Joseph Murphy**: Aildavour, Connolly, Co. Clare. Co D, 307th Infantry US Army 1705328 (77th Div). **Killed in action 24th June 1918** in France, in the **Battle of Belleau Wood**. His body was returned to Ireland in 1922 for burial in Old Kilmaley Graveyard. (Paddy Waldron) His father was John Murphy, Aildavour, Connolly, Co Clare. He departed New York on the 7th April 1918.

**SAD HOMECOMING**: His body was returned to Ireland on the S.S. Millwater on May 21st 1922, during the Civil War, and was subsequently buried in the Old Kilmaley Graveyard. He is buried next to Staff Captain Joseph McMahon IRA who died in the War of Independence and Lieut. Peadar McInerney (Anti Treaty) who died in the Civil War. Three casualties from the three Wars that shaped this Country.

*In loving memory of John James Murphy, Aildavour, Connolly, who died 24th June, 1918, aged 26 years.*

**Old Kilmaley Graveyard**
Kilmaley Co Clare [Grave No. 143]

*Battle of Belleau Wood June 6-26th 1918*: The American 7th Infantry Regiment, 4th Marine Brigade and the Engineers of the 2nd and 3rd Infantry Divisions support the French Army by their successful capture and defense of Belleau Wood. **Casualties**: 8,400. (1 Clareman died)
P. J. Murphy: Mahonburg, Inch. Died 13th Oct 1918, Canadian Infantry (Central Ontario Regiment) 20th Bn 3031945. G/M :IV. F. 48. Bucquoy Road Cemetery, Ficheux. His two brothers also served in WW1. Jack lost a hand and became a postman in Ennistymon. Mick was wounded and returned to live in Wood Quay. (Keir McNamara)

Bucquoy Road Cemetery, Ficheux
Ficheux
Departement du Pas-de-Calais
Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France Plot: IV. F. 48.

By the date of the Armistice, this Cemetery contained 1,166 burials but was increased to 1,901.

On 10-12 October 1918, the 20th Battalion found itself exploiting bridgeheads across the Canal de l’Escaut. In 42 hours of almost incessant fighting there were casualties of 11 officers and 319 other ranks. It was here that Lt W.L. Algie won his Victoria Cross.

No Canadian unit of the First World War has a prouder record of service. The 20th Battalion won a total of 18 Battle Honours and 398 decorations and awards, including two Victoria Crosses. During the entire war, on no occasion was the battalion ever driven out of its trenches by the enemy, nor did any company, platoon, or section ever flee the battlefield.

**Clare Casualties.**

The following casualties appear in the latest published list:—

**KILLED.**

John Garraby, Lahinch, Royal Irish Regt.  
W. J. Murphy, Clare, Irish Guards.

**WOUNDED.**

Corp. M. Burke, Clare Castle, R.M.F.  
P. Garvey, Feakle,  
M. Riordon, Kilmallock,  
M. White, Ennistymon,  
J Moloney, Newmarket-on-Fergus, do.

Private Garraby was son to Mr. John Garraby, a well-known and popular resident of Lahinch, and proprietor of a boarding house on the Promenade. He was a fine young fellow, and there is general sympathy with his parents.

**Clare Journal Oct 1916**

**Battle of Flers–Courcelette, 15–22 September**

The Battle of Flers–Courcelette was the third and final general offensive mounted by the British Army, which attacked an intermediate line and the German third line to take Morval, Lesboeufs and Gueudecourt, which was combined with a French attack on Fréjicourt and Rancourt to encircle Combles and a supporting attack on the south bank of the Somme. The strategic objective of a breakthrough was not achieved but the tactical gains were considerable, the front line being advanced by 2,500–3,500 yards (2,300–3,200 m) and many casualties were inflicted on the German defenders. The battle was the début of the Canadian Corps, New Zealand Division and tanks of the Heavy Branch of the Machine Gun Corps on the Somme.

The 1st and 2nd Irish Guards had very heavy losses in this Battle.
Private Murphy (Grave/Memorial Unknown)


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.
Private Alfred Murray

Alfred Murray: Born in Co Clare enlisted in Norwich, killed in action 19th July 1916 at the Somme, in the Battle of Delville Wood (14 July – 15 Sept 1916), Norfolk Regiment 8th Bn 13091, (18th Eastern Division) G/M in France. (TB)

The Battle of Delville Wood (14 July – 15 Sept 1916) was an operation to secure the British right flank, while the centre advanced to capture the higher lying areas of High Wood and Pozières. After the Battle of Albert the offensive had evolved to the capture of fortified villages, woods, and other terrain that offered observation for artillery fire, jumping-off points for more attacks, and other tactical advantages. The mutually costly fighting at Delville Wood eventually secured the British right flank and marked the Western Front début of the South African 1st Infantry Brigade (incorporating a Southern Rhodesian contingent), which held the wood from 15–20 July.

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.

Ripon Cemetery
Ripon
Harrogate Borough
North Yorkshire, England

During the First World War, Ripon Military Hospital contained 670 beds, and served the military camps at Ripon. Ripon Cemetery contains 122 scattered burials from this period.

In September 1915 the East Yorkshire Regiment 11th Bn was training in South Camp, Ripon. Ripon Camp in North Yorkshire was a vast First World War training camp, accommodating 30,000 troops. It was situated to the south west of the city.

A military hospital with 670 beds stood opposite the turning to Studley Roger and is today the site of a memorial. An estimated 350,000 men passed through Ripon Camp during the course of the Great war.

Will you please note that any articles of personal property now in your possession belonging to the late J.J. Murray, should be despatched to:

Mr. W. Murray
Kilrush

Any medals granted in the above that are now in your possession, or that may hereafter come you should be forwarded to:

On Uniform Interests

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Rifleman Michael Joseph Murray

Michael Joseph Murray: Born in Ennis lived in 1 Harmony Row, Ennis, died 4th Dec 1915 age 16, Royal Irish Rifles 3rd Bn 8998. He is buried in Glasnevin Cemetery. His name is also recorded on the Glasnevin Cemetery War Memorial. (TB) (CJ)

1914-1918 War Memorial.

IN MEMORY of the officers, n.c.o’s, and men who served and died during the Great War and are buried in this cemetery and whose names are here recorded

THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR EVERMORE

South FC 36.
Glasnevin Cemetery. Dublin

He was struck with a brush handle by a Corporal James Anderson for not obeying an order and subsequently died. A Court decided that it was an accident and the accused Corporal was discharged.

Son of Michael Murray, of Harmony Row, Ennis. His father was an Organist & Professor of Music. He married Margaret Mary Murray. Michael was the second eldest of their 4 children.
Captain Edward Graham Mylne

Edward Graham Mylne: Born in Bombay. Died of wounds 12th June 1915 age 32, Irish Guards 1st Bn, 2nd Div. G/M in France. He died of wounds received on May 13 in No. 11 Red Cross Hospital, Rouen. He was Mentioned in Despatches. Former District Inspector with the RIC in Sixmilebridge. (TB)

He was the eldest son of the Right Rev. L. G. Mylne, Rector of Alvechurch, Worcestershire, formerly Bishop of Bombay. He ran for Oxford against Cambridge in the 100 Yards in 1905. In the same year he received an appointment in the Royal Irish Constabulary, in which he served with distinction, obtaining special good service pay and other honours.

A. 1. 5.
St. Sever Cemetery,
Rouen Seine-maritime. France.
Almost all of the hospitals at Rouen remained there for practically the whole of the war.

In May 1915, the 1st Irish Guards took part in the Battle of Festubert, though did not see much action.

The Battle of Festubert (15–25 May 1915) was an attack by the British army in the Artois region of France on the western front during World War I.

The 2nd Division lost 5,445 casualties.