



WE WILL
REMEMBER
THEM

In 1939, just 21 years since the conclusion of the Great War (1914 – 1918), our Prime Minister Mr. Neville Chamberlain at 11.15am declared war on the German forces who had invaded large sections of Europe. In his broadcast to the nation, Mr Chamberlain spoke of his sadness that "*the long struggle to win peace*" had failed.

He continued: "*I cannot believe that there is anything more or anything different that I could have done and that would have been more successful.*"

By 5pm on the same day the war had commenced.

World War II, a conflict that involved virtually every part of the world during the years 1939 – 45. The principal belligerents were the Axis powers - Germany, Italy and Japan and the Allies - France, Great Britain, the United States, the Soviet Union, and, to a lesser extent China.

The war was in many respects a continuation, after an uneasy 20 year hiatus, of the disputes left unsettled by World War 1. Over 50 million deaths incurred in World War II make it the bloodiest conflict, as well as the largest war, in history.

Like many congregations earlier in the century, McQuiston volunteered many men and women to fight the foes on land, the seas and in the air. 238 names are memorialised in the Vestibule together with some 20 men who paid the supreme sacrifice. Their names are now included in the following pages. A special service was arranged on Sunday, 12 October 1947 to commemorate these services.

The Allied landings at Normandy on 6 June 1944, opened a second front in Europe, and Germany's abortive offensive at the Ardennes in the winter of 1944 – 45 marked the Third Reich's final push in the west. The Red Army advanced from the east and effectively claimed all the territory under its control for the Soviet sphere. The Allied armies converged on Berlin. Hitler committed suicide on 30 April 1945, and the war in Europe ended on 8 May.

The American "Island hopping" campaign had destroyed key Japanese installations throughout the Pacific while allowing bypassed islands to wither on the vine. Hundreds of thousands were killed in fire bombings of Japanese cities, and the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945 knocked Japan out of the war. On 2 September 1945 the war in the Far East was also over.

And here we are some 75 years later simply to commentate the services of the fallen and those who survived. Unfortunately, the passing years have now taken, to the best of my knowledge, all of those who served.

*"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them."*

By Laurence Binyon

THE FALLEN OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Maurice Watt Bell

Lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Son of William and Mary Bell, 205 Woodstock Road. Died on 24 January 1944 aged 28 years at Naples, Italy.

John Crooks

Sergeant (Wireless Operator/Air Gunner) in the RAF Auxiliary Air Force. Son of John and Mary Crooks, 29 Roseberry Road. Died on 11 April 1941 aged 20 years and remembered at Phaleron War Cemetery, Greece.

William Ritchie Findley

Able Seaman in the Royal Navy. HMS Campbeltown. Son of John and Jeanette Findley of Belfast. Died on 28 March 1942 aged 22 years at the raid on Saint Nazaire, France. He is remembered at the Plymouth Naval Memorial, Devon.

Francis Wilson Galbraith

Sergeant in the RAF Volunteer Reserve. Son of Samuel and Sarah R Galbraith, 59 Castlereagh Street. Died on 25 July 1942 aged 27 years and is remembered at Alameim Memorial cemetery, Egypt.

Hugh Gibson

Sergeant (Navigator) in the RAF Volunteer Reserve. Son of Clara E Gibson, 39 Wandsworth Road. Died on 3 May 1943 aged 20 years and is buried at Haarlemmermeer (Hoofddorp) General Cemetery, Netherlands.

William Bunting Graham

Able Seaman in the Merchant Navy. SS Empire Lytton. Son of John and Elizabeth Graham and husband to Olive Graham of Belfast. Died on 9 January 1943 aged 26 years being hit by torpedoes west of the Canary Isles. Is remembered at Tower Hill Memorial, London.

William James Greer

Gunner in the 106th Battery, 28 Lt A A Regiment, Royal Artillery. Husband of Mary Greer. 29 Kingscourt Street. Died on 6 April 1944 and is remembered at Rangoon Memorial Cemetery, Burma.

John Harrison – Trooper in the 7th Queen's Own Hussars, Royal Armoured Corps. Son of Thomas A Harrison and stepson of Margaret Harrison, 264 Ravenhill Avenue. Died on 10 April 1944 aged 27 years and is buried at Staglieno Cemetery, Genoa.

William James Sydney Heap

Aircraftsman 2nd Class (Wireless Operator) RAF Volunteer Reserve. Husband of Margaret Campbell Heap, 40 Glendower Street. Died 12 March 1942 aged 26 years after crashing into a cliff face on the Isle of Man. He is buried at Dundonald Cemetery.

Norman Albert Johnston

Sergeant in the 2nd Battalion, the London Irish Rifles, Royal Ulster Rifles. Son of Henry and Elizabeth Johnston, 46 Woodstock Road. Died 15 March 1945 aged 23 years. He is buried at Faenza War Cemetery, Italy.

Frederick James Keown

Sergeant (Wireless operator/Air Gunner) RAF Volunteer Reserve. Son of Frederick and Margaret Matilda Keown, 131 Cregagh Road. Died on 3 February 1943 aged 22 years as a result of an air crash over Derby. He is buried at Dundonald Cemetery.

Frederick McAlpine

Rifleman 2nd Battalion, Royal Ulster Rifles. Son of Mr & Mrs James McAlpine, 19 Irwin Drive. Died 29 May 1940 aged 19 years. He was part of the British Expeditionary Force heading back to Dunkirk, France. He is buried at Boezinge Churchyard, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Joseph McAvoy

Stoker 2nd Class HMS Penelope, Royal Navy. Son of Edward and Martha McAvoy, 2 Bangor Street, Died on 18 February 1944 aged 19 years after being torpedoed off Naples. He is remembered at Plymouth Naval Memorial, Devon.

Allan McClelland

Guardsman 1st Battalion Irish Guards. Son of Andrew and Annie McClelland, 213 Ravenhill Avenue. Died 20 May 1940 aged 20 years. He is buried at Harstad Cemetery, Norway.

Samuel McCullough

Able Seaman on HMS Olympia, Royal Navy. Son of John and Isabella McCullough, 3 Glenvarlock Street. Died 12 January 1940 aged 22 years. Ship stuck a mine in the Mediterranean and he is remembered at Dundonald Cemetery and at Plymouth Naval Memorial, Devon.

Albert Neilly

Petty Officer/Telegraphist HMS Mahratta, Royal Navy. Son of Joseph B and Martha Neilly, 66 Ogilvie Street. Died on 25 February 1944 aged 37 years as a result of being torpedoed off Norway. He is remembered at Plymouth Naval Memorial, Devon.

John Alexander Porter

5th Engineer Officer, SS Vimeira, Merchant Navy. Son of John and Margaret Porter, 20 Isoline Street. Died 11 August 1942 aged 21 years. Died as a result of his ship being torpedoed in the mid-Atlantic and is remembered at Tower Hill Memorial, London.

George Lascelles Sloan

Guardsman 3rd Battalion Irish Guards. Son of W J and Bessie Sloan, 32 Abetta Park. Died on 3 August 1944 aged 19 years. He is buried at Saint Charles De Percy War Cemetery, Calvados, France.

Harold Sloan

Ordinary Seaman, SS Victoria City, Merchant Navy. Son of Mrs E Sloan, 16 Isthmus Street. Died on 2 December 1940 aged 17 years. His ship was torpedoed off Ireland and is remembered at Tower Hill Memorial, London.

Robert Norman Vaux

Leading Aircraftman, RAF Volunteer Reserve. Son of Harold and Mary Vaux, 23 Orby Grove. Died 15 February 1942. He is buried at Singapore Memorial, Singapore.



The National Anthem

God save our gracious Queen,
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen:
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the Queen.

Thy choicest gifts in store,
On her be pleased to pour;
Long may she reign:
May she defend our laws,
And ever give us cause
To sing with heart and voice
God save the Queen.