



MALABAR 1921-22

GEORGIUS V KAISAR I-HIND



# The 40-10



## LEINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

The Journal of The Association of The Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians)

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# LEINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

## E D I T O R I A L

New Year is traditionally a time of hope and renewal when we look forward to the coming year with determination and confidence. This year with all its uncertainties and seemingly endless bad news it is difficult to do so. All of us, both individuals and organisations, have had to adapt to new and ever changing circumstances and learn to meet new challenges. I am pleased to tell you that although all of our usual set piece events for 2020 had to be canceled individual members and small groups have managed to continue with a range of activities some of which are detailed in the following pages. It is greatly to the credit of all involved that they have carried on with the mission of the Association despite the difficulties.

The Committee have put together an outline programme of activities for 2021 which is included in this journal. It is impossible to predict how many of these we will be able to deliver, not only do we have the complication of different regulations applying in different parts of the United Kingdom but we have the added complication of operating across two different countries. However the Committee have put together a plan to carry on our usual activities and where necessary and possible to adapt these to meet prevailing circumstances. Despite the lack of opportunity to meet we are determined to maintain contact with members via 40/10, our website and our flourishing social media platform.

We are pleased to inform you that Sir Anthony Weldon Bt. has agreed to become President of the Association in succession to the late Maj-Gen The O'Morchoe. Sir Anthony has been a member of the Association for a number of years and most recently was responsible for re-organising the website. We have asked Sir Anthony to introduce himself to members with a piece later in this journal.

Finally the Committee would like to thank all our members for their continued support. We look forward to being able to meet you again, hopefully in the not far distant future. In the meantime please stay safe and keep well.

*Ian Lowe*

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### Front cover

Late Victorian officer's waist belt buckle.

### Back cover

Indian General Service Medal with Malabar Clasp.  
Awarded to 717781 Pte. Hubert Naughton,  
1st Battalion. About 320 of these medals were  
awarded to Leinsters.

## A message from our President, Sir Anthony Weldon Bt.



The name of the Leinster Regiment is one that resonates through various strands of my family's history and so it is considerable pride, but also not a little humility, that I find myself as President of your Association.

Firstly, I am very aware that I walk in the shadow of a distinguished predecessor - Major General David Creagh, The O'Morchoe. As our first President he worked extensively on our behalf in both Britain and Ireland. I would like to take this opportunity pay my respects and I will try to follow his fine example of leadership.

If the Leinster Regiment Association is anything it is a family - commemorating our forebears and keeping alive their names and memories as well as acknowledging their individual and collective feats-of-arms.

The Leinsters were as distinguished a regiment as any in the British Army can be. Whilst Irish men and women from all corners of the island of Ireland continue to serve in the Forces it is sad that the name Leinster is no longer active on any Army List - but it is far from forgotten.

For this, I would like to thank the current Leinster family and particularly those who volunteer their services to the Association. I publicly acknowledge each of you - a team geographically spread out but all with the same intent of ensuring the Association thrives and grows. It is invidious to pick out specific names, but thanks must go to the Chairman - my cousin Mark Weldon - and the Secretary David Ball. There are many others - I am sorry you are too many to name individually. We would not be what we are without you.

These difficult times restrict our normal activities, but the Committee is nothing if not resourceful and will continue to organise events for our Members both in Ireland and the UK as and when it can. It is important that we maintain regular contact with Members and our 40-10 Journal is such an excellent way of doing this.

I hope that that we can collectively build our membership through friendships across the Irish Sea and beyond so, as we approach the centenary of our disbandment, we can reflect and replicate the unique *esprit de corps* of the Leinster Regiment. It is an honour to be your President.

*Ich Dien*  
January 2021

## Introducing our new President

Although the new Leinster Regiment Association President - Sir Anthony Weldon - has spent most of his adult life in Britain his roots lie very firmly in Ireland.

The original Weldon family home was just outside Athy, Co. Kildare, and it was there that his father Tommy (the middle of three brothers) was brought up. Anthony's grandfather, Sir Anthony (the 6th Baronet - somewhat confusingly, for quite a few generations, the eldest Weldon son has been called Anthony) was a distinguished Leinster - ADC to FM The Viscount Wolseley, fought in the Boer War, held various appointments including State Steward of Ireland under the Viceroy of Ireland - Lord Aberdeen, and commanded the 4th Battalion until he died in 1917.

Anthony was born in Belfast in 1947 and spent his very early years at his mother's home Croghan near Boyle in Co. Roscommon. Even after his parents moved fully to England, the family would return to Connacht every year for their long summer holidays. By then his Weldon uncle Anthony (7th Baronet) had moved from Kildare and bought a house in Co. Donegal, so the north west was added to the family's Irish itinerary.

Anthony went almost straight from Sherborne School into the Irish Guards (the Micks). His extended Short Service Commission was a mixture of active service (Aden), ceremonial public duties (UK) and overseas training (Canada and Cyprus). He has always kept in close contact with the Irish Guards and retains an interest in military history.

After the army Anthony worked in sales, marketing and PR and split his time between London and Co. Donegal. His father Tommy inherited the baronetcy from his eldest brother in 1971, and when he died in 1979 Anthony became the 9th baronet.

In 1993 he was bitten by the publishing bug and self-published a successful business guide to handling job change (*Breakthrough*). This led to working with other authors and publishing further books such as biographies, business histories, travel writing, general information, and entertaining gift books.

In the early 2000s Anthony found time to also work in the charity sector for VIRSA which promoted and encouraged community owned village shops. Under his directorship VIRSA successfully merged with the UK based Plunkett Foundation (whose origins lay in Ireland during the 1920s and the founding of co-operative creameries).

Anthony co-authored *Numeroids*, a compendium of fascinating numbers, and then collated an anthology of military speeches *Words of War*. More recently he originated and co-authored *The Drum Horse in the Fountain & Other Tales of Heroes and Rogues in the Guards*. He continues to actively publish other books and more recently he has added fiction to his publishing company's repertoire.

Anthony has two married daughters (Alice and Oonagh) and four grandchildren. He lives in London with Lucinda, but they spend a certain amount of time in Galicia - north west Spain - where they have a much-loved restored farmhouse.

## Secretary's report

A very Happy New Year to you all!

We are still in very strange times so I hope this edition finds you all in strong health and coping with local or government restrictions wherever you may be. Sadly we still can't make firm plans but the committee as you will see have made plans and issued a possible calendar of events. Please God we will hopefully soon find ourselves getting back to normality now the vaccine operations are being rolled out across the world.

The new website is up and running now and I hope you enjoy the new format, plenty to look at and the member's area is an added bonus for us all. My long awaited return home has now happened, although still

settling in I was delighted to spend the very surreal Christmas and New Year in the comfort of my home. My mother, or as some of you may know her as "the Duchess" has asked me to thank those members and friends who have sent her their regards and best wishes on her returning coming home, for her wellbeing and for the festive season. A very special thank you to the members and their families who sent her flowers, she appreciated it very much. The membership is keeping strong and steady and we hope this continues and the Facebook page looks to be working very well, with much input coming from members of the association whether it is helping those to research relatives or just answering a question about the regiment's postings

around the world or service in the Great War.

The association managed to attend or organise acts of remembrance across Ireland and the United Kingdom, even though COVID measures had to be adhered to. I must thank the committee of the Combined Irish Regiments Association who, with the Leinster association's support, dressed and arranged the regimental plot at The Royal British Legion's Field of Remembrance held in the grounds of Westminster Abbey.

So now let's hope that we can meet or gather sometime soon? In the meantime stay safe and take care.

*Ich Dien*

*David Ball*

Hon. Secretary/Vice President

## Private Philip Hynes - A Long Way from Tipperary



Piper "Chic" Mackie and Bugler John Leigh honour the memory of Philip Hynes.

During our memorable visit to Ledegem in 2018, there were many, many highlights. For me, there was a very personal one and that was our stop at Birr Cross Roads Cemetery, close to Ypres, to visit the grave of Private Philip Hynes who died on 15 August 1915. Philip's people were from the same small, rural part of North Tipperary that I am and I felt I had reached the end of a personal journey when I stood at his grave,

surrounded by comrades from the Leinster Regiment Association and listening to the strains of the Last Post played by Piper "Chic" Mackie and Bugler John Leigh, who had accompanied our little group to Ledegem.

I first came across the story of Philip Hynes when browsing a book "The Tipperary War Dead - A History of the Casualties of the First World War" by Tom & Ruth Burnell in 2013. (With the permission of

the Burnells, I was able to document the Great War dead of our parish by compiling relevant extracts from their book for publication in a local history journal for the Silvermines Historical Society in November 2013.)

In 2014, the following year, when the results of the “Decades of Centenaries” All-Island (Ireland) History Competition were announced, there was surprise and delight in our locality that the overall winning entry by Sixth Class (students c.12 year olds) in Scoil Choilmcille, a Primary School in Termon, Co. Donegal, was about Private Philip Hynes.

The Decade of Centenaries was initiated by the Irish Government in 2012 with a focus on the many significant centenaries occurring over the ten year period 2013–2023. The Centenaries Programme complements the on-going programme of annual State commemorations with special commemorative events on the centenary of key historical events. Important events commemorated to date include the Centenary of the Ulster Covenant, the foundation of the Irish Volunteers, the Home Rule and Land Bills, the 1913 Lockout, the 1916 Rising and many anniversaries relating to the Great War, including the Gallipoli landings, the Somme offensive, the battle of Messines Ridge and the end of the war; the suffrage movement, the first sitting of Dáil Eireann (Irish parliament) and the Struggle for Independence. Also of note are themes around the Literary Revival, the role of women, the struggle for workers’ rights along with many other key events and themes of the period. The aim of the State centenary commemoration programme for the years from 2021 – 2023 is to ensure that this complex period in our history, including the Struggle for Independence, the Civil War, the Foundation of the State and Partition, is remembered appropriately, proportionately, respectfully and with sensitivity. A specific key objective of the initiative is to promote a deeper understanding of the significant events that took place during this period and recognise that the shared historical experience of those years gave rise to very different narratives and memories.

The Schools History Competition was a jointly funded initiative of the Department of Education and Skills in Ireland and the Department of Education in Northern Ireland. The competition invited primary and post-primary students from schools across the island of Ireland to examine the impact of a particular event or person in their locality in the course of the revolutionary decade of 1912–1922. Out of the 182 projects received, twelve winners were selected, from which an overall winner was chosen – this project, entitled “It’s a long way to Tipperary – The Mystery of the Medal”, told the

story of a World War 1 medal (the 1914-1915 Star) discovered in Donegal by Benny Gallagher, a Park Ranger in Glenveagh National Park. The medal was passed onto Christy Gillespie, a teacher at Scoil Choilmcille. The Sixth Class students immediately began to research the history of the medal which, once it was cleaned, revealed the inscription “4048, P. Hynes, Leinster Regiment”. Not only did the students manage to find who the medal belonged to, but, through the internet, they tracked down his great-grand nephew, also Philip Hynes, in Nenagh, Co. Tipperary. The family believe the medal was given by his mother to his nephew, Philip Hynes Jr., who hid out in Donegal during the Irish Civil War, and that he had lost the medal there.

Private Philip Hynes is described as “my best bomb thrower” by his commanding officer, Captain Louis Daly. Grenadiers and Bombers were the usual British Army term for the same thing – bomb throwers. Early in the Great War, the official title of Bomber was “Grenadier” but by mid war this had been supplanted by the title “Bomber”. Captain Daly was the officer who wrote to Philip Hynes’s mother to inform her of his death. Daly’s diary entries for 14 & 15 August give a vivid description of the intensity of action at Hooze crater over these days. Whilst he does not give any details of how Philip Hynes was killed, he mentions him by name in a brief description of the burial service – the final entry in his diary for Sunday, 15 August reads “I then followed the company down & was complimented by the C.O. On my works & the steadiness of my men. Then before I went I buried some of my men, Hynes among the number, while Fr. Moloney officiated most impressively.” Captain Louis Daly subsequently became the brigade Major for the 151st Brigade and finished the war recovering from being torpedoed on SS Leinster in October 1918.

Philip Hynes also had two brothers, Edward and Patrick, who fought in the Great War. Edward, who is believed to have been a transport driver, was injured, badly affected through a gassing and was sent home. Apparently, he never really recovered and he died aged 41 in a Dublin Hospital in 1921. Patrick also survived the war. So, of the three brothers, one was killed, one badly injured and one survived in the longer term.

A copy of Philip’s, where he leaves his property and effects to his mother, is posted on the “Soldiers Wills” section of the National Archives of Ireland website. The Army provided several alternative ways of making a will, including forms in the Soldiers’ service book and separate pre-printed Will forms. Soldiers were encouraged to make wills because, in the event of their

death, it simplified the settling of their affairs, but it was not obligatory. Each soldier was issued with a pocket service book (measuring 14cm x 9cm) called “The Small Book”. This book provided information for the soldier such as Army regulations and a record of his training. This also included pages on which the soldier could make his will.)

In addition to the 1914-1915 Star found in Donegal, Private Hynes was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. The location of these medals is not known.

The last words are left to the final sentence of a report from the Limerick Leader & Tipperary Star, September 1915 “Private Hynes was only 33 years, and was a fine specimen of a Tipperary soldier, bold, brave and cool in the face of the enemy, and was the chief support of his widowed mother”.

It was a long held ambition of mine to visit Philip’s grave. I can’t think of anything more appropriate than to stand by his grave to the strains of “It’s a long way to Tipperary” played by Piper “Chic” and Bugler John, in tribute to Philip’s Tipperary roots, and to be accompanied by colleagues in the LRA who were part of that little ceremony.

## Acknowledgements

This article would not have been possible without the researches of Tom & Ruth Burrell, Holycross, Co. Tipperary in “The Tipperary War Dead - A History of the Casualties of the First World War”, and the Trojan efforts of the pupils of Sixth Class, Scoil Choilmcille, Termon, Co. Donegal, and their teacher, Christy Gillespie.

*HYNES, Philip. Rank Private. Regiment Leinster Regiment. Unit 2nd Bn. Age at Death 33. Date of Death 15 August 1915. Service No. 4084. Born in Ballywilliam in Tipperary and enlisted in Nenagh. Killed in action.*

*Supplementary Information - Son of P. and Margaret Hynes of Capparoo, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary. Philip was the third son of a Crimean veteran and was at the taking of Armentieres on 18&19 October 1914. His brother, who also served with him and fought side by side in many bloody engagements, was seriously wounded but survived the war.*

*This is an extract of a letter sent by Captain Daly, 2nd Bn Leinster Regt states “As regards Private Hynes, he was killed instantly by a shell at Hooge, and he was*

*buried at the Battalion Dressing Station on the right of the Menin Road, about a mile before you reach Hooge. Father Maloney buried him in my presence and that of about 10 men of the Company. A cross has been put over his grave, and the grave registration people will keep a record for his people. He was a very fine soldier, and it was a great grief to me and to B Company to lose him. You can tell his mother so, and how much I sympathise with her. He was my best bomb thrower, and would have been mentioned in dispatches if only opportunity had come his way. Dated 26 November 1915.” Grave or Memorial Reference III.C.20. Cemetery Birr Cross Roads Cemetery in Belgium.*

*(Extract from “The Tipperary War Dead - A History of the Casualties of the First World War” by Tom & Ruth Burnell, Holycross, Co. Tipperary).*

*Mary Kennedy*



Headstone of Private Philip Hynes  
(courtesy of Christy Gillespie, Scoil Choilmcille, Termon, Co. Donegal).





Memorial to 37th Division at Monchy le Preux.

In the late summer of the extraordinary year that was 2020 Judith and I were lucky enough to be able to spend a couple of weeks in Lower Normandy, not far from Bayeux. As part of our journey home we decided to spend a few days getting better acquainted with the area around Arras as our more usual destination of Ypres was effectively out of bounds. We had visited Arras a couple of times before and marked it down as worth a return visit but had never quite got around to it. It is unusual to be able to tell of something good coming out of the problems of 2020 but I can report that we were glad that we ended up in Arras. What follows is not particularly Leinster related but I hope that it will encourage you to look more closely at this neglected part of the Western Front.

Most travellers whistle past Arras on the A26 motorway on their way to Paris or further south, their

passengers might spot the great Canadian memorial on Vimy Ridge just north of the city or some of the small Commonwealth war cemeteries that border the motorway. Most of us have heard of the Battle of Arras but few know much about it. There are several reasons for this. Fought in April and May of 1917 it was of relatively short duration, lasting just 39 days, and tends to be overshadowed by Messines and 3rd Ypres later that year. The Canadian capture of Vimy Ridge during the opening stages of the battle is often better remembered than the remainder of the campaign. From an Irish perspective there was little involvement by Irish units with the exception of 2/Leinsters in support of the Canadians and later a gallant but futile attack involving 1/Royal Irish Fusiliers. The strategic imperative for the operation was to support the French Nivelle offensive further south on the Aisne. When the latter failed dismally Haig was obliged to prolong the Arras offensive to relieve pressure on his allies. In truth Haig had reservations about the Arras attack from the start as he regarded it as a distraction from his long planned offensive that would become 3rd Ypres. Yet the Battle of Arras which officially lasted from the 9th April to the 4th May 1917 claimed more British and Commonwealth casualties per day than either the Somme or 3rd Ypres. The statistics are telling, the duration of each battle in days is shown in parenthesis, the Somme, (141 days) 2,943, 3rd Ypres, (105 days) 2,323, Arras, (39 days), 4,076. A further testament to the ferocity of the fighting is that there are more than 130 Commonwealth cemeteries dotted around the fields and villages of the region. By the standards of the time Arras had some success in tactical and strategic terms. The Germans were pushed back from some tactically important locations such as at Vimy, lines of communication were cleared and a lodgement was made in their new Hindenburg line, significant tactical features were secured and pressure was drawn off the French army which was near collapse. A further less obvious result of the battle was the continuing evolution of better tactics for dealing with the strong defensive positions constructed by the Germans. This was particularly true of the use of artillery and the development of the creeping barrage. The methods used at Arras represented a step forward from those used at the Somme and were to be further refined at Messines and Ypres.

It is tempting to compare the towns of Arras and Ypres, there are striking similarities. They are of a similar size and are important regional hubs with their origins as ancient trading centres. Their style of

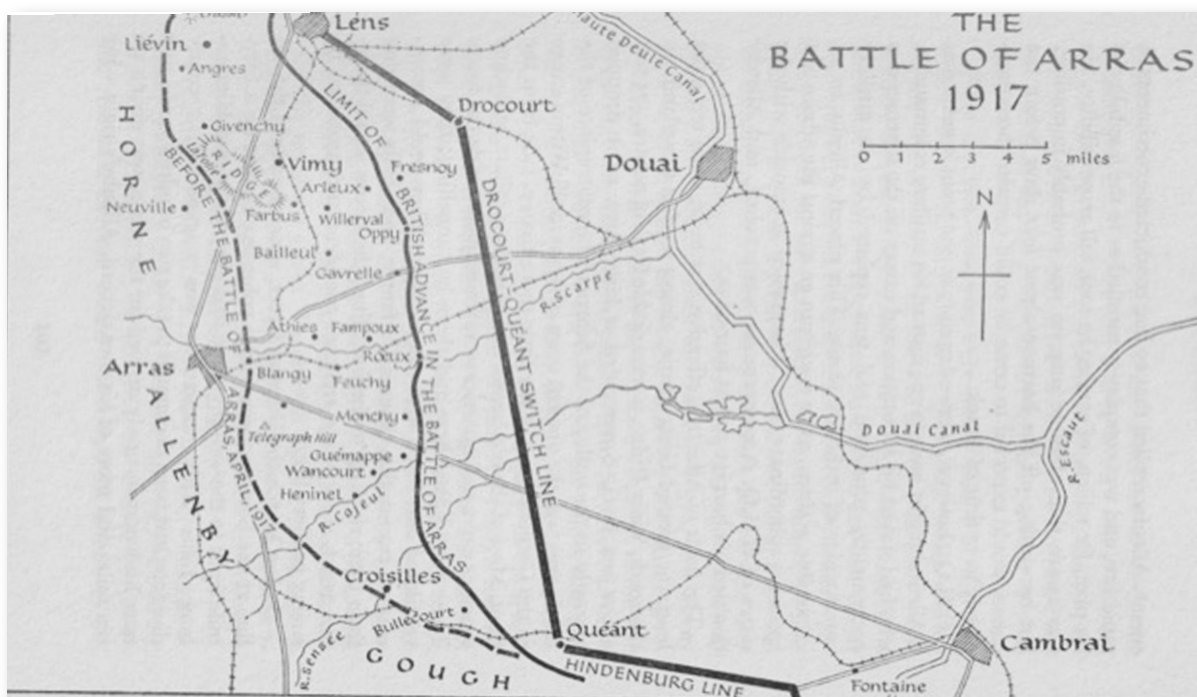
architecture is very similar with elaborate town halls dominating large squares surrounded by buildings with stepped gables in the Flemish style. Arras even has its own equivalent to the Menin Road, the 23 mile almost dead straight Roman road to Cambrai that cuts through the battlefield. Arras and the surrounding area is unusual in that it is built on chalk and is easy to mine and quarry. In consequence an extensive network of caves and tunnels have been carved out beneath the city over the centuries. These enabled large numbers of troops to be safely sheltered and moved under cover right up to the front line. Some sections of these tunnels are open to the public, notably at Vimy Ridge and in Arras itself. One of these complexes has been turned into a carpark under the main town square. In more recent times two motorways cut across the battlefield, the A26 and the A1. The A26 just north of Arras runs through the line of attack followed by 2/Leinsters on the 12th April 1917 with their starting position now under a service area lorry park and their objective on the other side of the motorway. The A1 which intersects with the A26 a little north-east of Arras closely follows the front line reached by the end of the battle but unfortunately the junction of the two roads is at one of the most important tactical features gained during the battle. Travelling along the D939 towards Cambrai it is easy to turn left or right (always having an eye on the thundering traffic) to visit the small villages that were the scene of some of the most bitter fighting on the Western Front, Neuville-Vitassie, Monchy-le-Preux, Roeux, Bullecourt and numerous others. Most will have memorials to the units that fought there. Monchy has a fine caribou memorial to the Royal Newfoundland Regiment similar to the one on the Somme while

Bullecourt pays homage to the hundreds of Australian infantry who died trying to capture the village. All these places are laced together with numerous small cemeteries. The main memorial to the missing of Arras is located in the town, it also serves as a memorial to the missing of the RFC/RAF. There is another memorial on the D939 at Vis-en-Artois remembering the missing of the battles of late 1918. The countryside is the same sort of rolling downs that occurs further south in the Somme country and will be recognised by anyone familiar with Kent and Sussex. The villages are mainly small agricultural based communities while the larger towns often have a post-industrial air.

Arras itself, while not as busy as Ypres, has an extensive selection of hotels, bars, restaurants and shops likely to suit all tastes and pockets. It is also a good base for exploring some of the less popular parts of the Western Front, such as the area north of Bapaume or the area around Douai running up to Loos and La Bassée. For the more committed military history buff you can follow in the steps of the “Arras counterattack” of the 21st May 1940 when the tanks of 4 & 7 RTR supported by the Durham Light Infantry crashed into the flank of Rommel’s 7th Panzer Division temporarily bringing the German advance towards the coast to a halt. The church yards of the south suburban villages of Arras are dotted with reminders of this action that bought vital time for the BEF.

So please the next time you are planning a trip to the Western Front please think of Arras and give it a try - you won’t be disappointed!

*Ian Lowe*



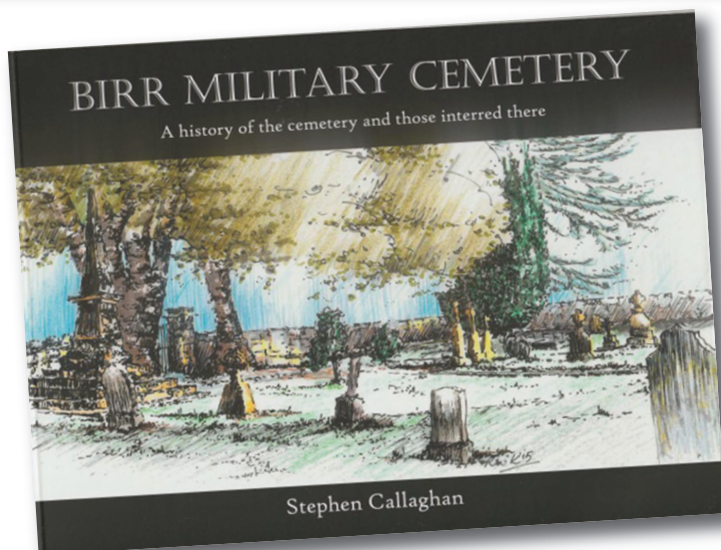
Battle of Arras, April and May 1917.

## Birr Military Cemetery by Stephen Callaghan

This book is a meticulously and handsomely produced labour of love by LRA member Stephen Callaghan. It records in detail the 292 identified burials in Birr Military Cemetery together with information relating to the memorial plaques in St Brendan's Church (C of I) and the Leinster's South African War memorial located in the cemetery.

For those who do not know the cemetery it is located just outside the walls of the barracks in the village of Crinkill on the outskirts of Birr. It was in use between the years 1853 and when the barracks was closed in 1922. During that time it served as the burial ground for soldiers and members of their families from all over these islands who died while stationed at the barracks. The burials include a number from The Leinster Regiment and its antecedents. The precise number of burials is unknown but is likely to be in excess of the 292 recorded in this book. In 1925 the Leinster Regiment South African War memorial was moved from within the barracks to its present position just inside the cemetery gates. For many years the cemetery was neglected and badly overgrown and its reclamation became a personal project of the late Mr Sean Cooke, an early member of the LRA, who lived nearby and to whom the book is dedicated. With the help of volunteers and the local primary school the cemetery has been transformed into a green space managed in such a way as to encourage nature to flourish while respecting its original purpose. This book fills a significant gap in the recording of Birr's local history and also gives us an insight into past lives and living conditions of an extinct community.

The book, running to 240 pages, is in landscape format and is extensively illustrated by colour photographs taken by Stephen. These have been augmented by period illustrations of the barracks and a handsome modern drawing of the cemetery viewed from inside the grounds. The text includes a brief history of the barracks and the now demolished Garrison Church including the story of its much travelled bell. There is a chapter devoted to the story of the South African War Memorial and the controversy surrounding it together with biographical details of those named on it. A further chapter describes and illustrates the memorial plaques inside St Brendan's (C of I) Church in Birr including biographical details. There are useful sections that describe and explain the architectural details of the individual memorials including where it is known who the stone masons were and a glossary of the sometimes archaic medical terms associated with the deceased. Finally there is an index of names of those recorded in the text.



Each of the surviving 52 memorials is given a double page spread including in most cases a transcription of the inscription, a photograph and description of the memorial and a brief biography of the person concerned. In a few cases photographs of the the named people are included. The remaining known burials are recorded alphabetically and include as much biographical and other detail as can be traced. Typically these will include date and place of birth with information relating to their military service and often the circumstances of their death. Sometimes these are accompanied with press reports of the funeral or perhaps the coroners inquest into the death. The most poignant are those relating to children of which there are a large number. These remind us of the (to modern readers) shockingly high mortality rate among young children at the time despite living in what would have been, by contemporary standards, reasonable conditions. It all adds up to a fascinating insight into the vanished world of the Victorian soldier and the community of the barracks.

Stephen Callaghan was born in and lives in Dublin but formed an early interest in Birr and its history including the barracks through family connections and spending holidays in the area. Previous projects instigated by him include the excavation of the practice trenches dug in the 14 acre field adjoining the barracks and the restoration of the Studholme Cross previously described in this journal. The author has done an excellent job of assembling and presenting from multiple primary sources the information contained in this book which deserves a place on the bookshelves of anyone with an interest in Crinkill/Birr barracks and The Leinster Regiment. The book is published by Offaly County Council (Heritage Office) and is available to purchase on line from [offalyhistory.com](http://offalyhistory.com) or the bookshop.ie at €20. The ISBN is 978-1-9163287-2-3.

## The Leinsters and the Christmas Truce of 1914



British and German officers and men meet during the Christmas truce.

The story of the Christmas truce of 1914 has become one of the staples of the popular perception of the Great War. The popular story is that soldiers on both sides spontaneously stopped fighting on Christmas Day 1914 and in the words of the song were prepared 'to give peace a chance'. It was an opportunity for common sense and humanity to assert itself and stop the steam-

roller of war grinding on out of control destroying all before it. The reason that it did not succeed was that peace did not suit the agenda of the politicians, senior officers and what we'd now term the 'establishment' and that in consequence the truce was ended and steps taken to ensure such a thing never happened again. Like most myths, close examination of the facts show that while it

contains a grain of truth the story is more complicated. In this article we will look at what happened to 2/Leinsters during this period and show how it mirrors the wider experience.

Let us start by trying to put the “truce” into a wider context in the history of warfare. Truces either formal or informal have taken place in most conflicts for a number of reasons, through sheer exhaustion, each side has fought themselves to a standstill and a pause takes place while the combatants tend their wounded, recover the dead and generally gather their strength for the next round. These may be formally arranged or not, much being left to the discretion of local commanders. Sometimes physical and climatic conditions are so extreme that the continuance of hostilities becomes impractical – we shall see how this applied in 1914. Long periods of inactivity and the close proximity of the enemy can produce a “live and let live” attitude as happened in some of the southern areas of the Western Front throughout the Great War. This type of arrangement was certainly frowned on by senior officers and was specifically the subject of an order from General Smith-Dorrien commanding II Corps in whose area many of the best recorded truce incidents occurred. As early as the 2nd December 1914 he was writing in his private diary:

*“Weird stories come in from the trenches about fraternising with the Germans”*

and three days later he issued II Corps Document G.507. This document considers the how a live and let live attitude may develop and opposing armies may sink into a “*Military lethargy*”. The paper concludes:

*“Friendly intercourse with the enemy, unofficial armistices (e.g. we won’t fire if you don’t etc) and the exchange of tobacco and other comforts, however tempting and occasionally amusing they may be, are absolutely forbidden”.*

This is an interesting document as it shows that unofficial truces or understandings were taking place as early as the beginning of December, it also shows a human side to Smith-Dorrien, a man who, like most Great War generals, rarely gets a good press.

2/Leinsters had arrived in France in mid September 1914 and took part in the marching, manoeuvring and fighting that eventually ended in the establishment of the Western Front in early November. At this time 2/Leinsters and the rest of 17 Brigade assumed responsibility for a stretch of the line just east of Armentiers, between the Armentiers to Lille road and

the hamlet of L’Epinette, a distance of half a mile. The right half of this sector was held alternatively by 1/Royal Fusiliers and 3/Rifle Brigade while the left half was held by 1/North Staff’s and 2/Leinsters. The line was held with 3 companies forward and one in reserve, the German trenches were between 200 and 500 yards away.

At this stage the trench system had yet to evolve into the fairly sophisticated arrangements of later in the war. They were rarely sited to best advantage often being positioned where mobile warfare had petered out a month or so before. They were likely to be fairly shallow with poor protection offered by parapets and pados. On this part of the front they were often very wet with rudimentary drainage arrangements, in some places it was impossible to dig trenches on account of the high water table and breastworks had to be constructed instead. The Regimental historian, writing as a man with extensive frontline experience, gives us a flavour of what life was like,

*“The conditions of trench life at the time were of extreme misery; parts of the trenches were continuously under water the unceasing labour of trying to keep the trenches from falling in had begun to tell upon all ranks; there was the never ceasing sniping on the part of the enemy; while the verminous condition of the men was sapping their health. The misery of those December days of 1914, with cold, wet, mud and lice was perhaps never equalled throughout the war”*

So we begin to see how a number of circumstances when put together might produce conditions conducive to an unofficial truce. A period of intensive fighting followed by relative inactivity with the enemy in fairly close proximity. More recently a series of local attacks had been launched by the British on the II Corps front commencing on the 14th December. The British reluctantly undertook these actions after much arm-twisting to support similar efforts by the French. Without exception they proved to be costly failures and now barely register even in the most detailed account of the period. For example on the 18th December a Lt Heinekey of 2/Queens records that his battalion in action nearby at Ploegsteert Wood lost 83 officers and men while their neighbours 2/Warwicks lost 400. On the 20th December he wrote to his mother:

*“The next morning a most extraordinary thing happened ..... Some Germans came out and held up their hands and began to take in some of our wounded and so we ourselves immediately got out of the trenches and began bringing in our wounded also. The Germans then beckoned us and a lot of us went over and talked to them and they helped us to bury our*

*dead. This lasted the whole morning and I talked to several of them and I must say that they seemed extraordinarily fine men .....*"

These factors combined with the traditional ethos of Christmas with its message of peace and hope together with the absence from home and family made some sort of pause in hostilities almost inevitable.

However all was not sweetness and light, a Lieutenant of the South Staff's was sniped from a neighbouring sector and two 2/Lieutenants and seven stretcher bearers of the Queen's were taken prisoner after they strayed too close to the German positions. These incidents illustrate the limits and dangers of fraternising with the enemy - it was very localised and there were unwritten rules to be observed.

A final element in creating the right environment for a truce was a change in the weather starting on Christmas Eve. It became very cold and started to snow resulting in the ground becoming frozen and therefore relatively easy to move around on; a factor to remember when we come to consider the so called football matches.

Having considered the background let us now turn to the specific experiences of 2/Leinsters. We previously mentioned that they were in the line near Armentiers and we are fortunate in having a detailed regimental history, war diary and an unpublished diary to draw on. All three sources tend to agree with each other in all-important respects.

The first indication that anything unusual might happen seems to have occurred at around 8pm on Christmas Eve when the sergeant-major of C Coy interrupted the officers dinner to report that the Germans had hoisted 'Chinese' lanterns over their trenches which had been promptly shot down by the Leinsters. The Germans then started to call over from their trenches asking for a cease fire. As the officers went to investigate, they could hear singing from the German trench. After a brief consultation with the other officers Capt Markes commanding C Coy decided that,

*'all haphazard sniping could cease, but that fire was to be opened at once upon any German seen approaching our lines.*

And so the night of Christmas Eve passed peacefully but not idly. There was a hard frost and one can imagine that it was one of those crisp clear winter nights with the pyrotechnics of the front adding to the display of stars. The opportunity was taken to set working parties busy

repairing and improving the trenches. On Christmas morning stand to occurred as usual just before dawn. Later as B Coy were digging a new trench, a party of Germans appeared in no mans land with shovels and started burying some of their own dead that were lying near the battalion's wire. Soon some Leinsters were helping them and this contact developed into the exchange of seasonal greetings and souvenirs. Apparently a brisk trade was done exchanging Christmas puddings for brandy. One wonders who got the better of that bargain! The Germans opposite B and C Coys were from 139th Saxon Regiment and apparently many could speak English having worked in London before the war in restaurants and shops. The Regimental history records that the Germans believed that there was a war going on between Ireland and England (16 months before Easter 1916) and this must be a reflection of how the home rule crisis dominated domestic British news throughout most of early 1914. This misconception was corrected by showing the Germans two-day-old Irish newspapers, something that would be difficult to produce today never mind in the middle of a war. The battalion war diary is worth quoting in full for this day as it both summarises events and gives us an insight into contemporary attitudes,

*Dec. 25th L'EpINETTE. [Christmas Day] Without previous arrangement, but apparently by mutual consent, this has become a day of peace. No shots have been fired on our right or centre, but on the left there has been a little hostile sniping. Our men have been digging outside in front of their trenches whilst the Germans have buried some dead that lay between the two lines. Later, some consultations between the two sides took place in the open, both officers and men of each side being concerned. The enemy opposite us are the 139th Saxon Regt., and consist largely of Landwehr and young soldiers. They appeared more numerous in the trenches than we are, and an Artillery officer and some artillery privates were with them. For the most part the men are small but of good physique and remarkably content and confident of victory.*

Some of the other descriptions of the Germans were less complimentary and probably tell us more about contemporary prejudices than anything else. This is how an officer in the neighbouring 3/Rifle Brigade described Germans from the same unit; the officers were 'smartly turned out and clean' but says that the majority of the soldiers were 'fat sheep-headed little swine with the most diabolic Teuton expression imaginable'. Not much peace and goodwill towards all men in that case.

The fraternisation seems to have come to an end at about 1pm when both sides returned to their respective

trenches to have dinner, the Germans playing the mess call on their bugles. Throughout the war Saxon units had the reputation of being the most easy going of the German units and the most ready to adopt a live and let live attitude on their front.

A different atmosphere seems to have prevailed on D Coy's front, under the command of Capt. Frederick Heneker, here the war went on much as usual. It is worth digressing slightly at this point to talk about Fredrick Heneker and indeed his brother William who also served in the Leinsters. They came from an Anglo-Canadian family and were commissioned into the 1st Battalion on the strength of its Canadian connections. Frederick was killed on the 1st July 1916 commanding 20/Northumberland Fusiliers (Tyneside Scottish) while his brother went on to have a distinguished career becoming Major General Sir William Heneker, commanded British troops in Poland after the war and wrote the volume of the Official History of the war devoted to transportation. An unpublished diary source has provided us with a description of the day from a slightly different perspective. It confirms that it was a bright cold night, that there was a deal of sniping from the German trenches and that the Germans played bugle calls including British ones to the amusement of our troops. In the morning the men were issued with tinned plumb pudding and then it describes a "curious incident". We are told that the Leinster's B and C Coy's together with the neighbouring Rifle Brigade and North Staff's units left their trenches to meet the Germans in no mans land. It is estimated that there were between 300 and 400 of them and that the RB's and North Staff's played football with the Germans. The source goes on to say that on D Coy's part of the line "things were much sterner" with sniping occurring throughout the day resulting in two dead and three wounded. The difference in attitude is attributed to the fact that the troops opposite them were Prussians rather than the rather more easygoing Saxons.

The only definite Leinster fatality on the 25th December that I have been able to trace is Private Jeremiah Harrington from Kenmare although two Leinsters died of wounds on the 2nd January, Corporal William Rowe from Drogheda and Private James Carroll from Port Laois. We cannot be sure that these men were injured on Christmas Day but given that the battalion came out of the line on 26th December it is possible.

It is a central part of the Christmas Truce story that the opposing sides came out and played football. A feature of most of these stories is that they tend to be second hand and occurred in another battalion's area. The reference above is the only first hand account of

anything of the sort taking place that we have found but it is not altogether corroborated by the Rifle Brigade source referring to the same battalion that we previously quoted saying unpleasant things about the Germans. This source does not refer to football actually being played but does say that in shouted exchanges on Christmas Eve the Germans called out:

*'Ve vill play ze football wid you tomorrow'* [sic.]

There are various reports of similar exchanges from up and down the line arranging games for the following day or even for the New Year but little evidence for anything resembling an organised match taking place. There may well have been incidents of a bit of a kick around taking place; it's a fairly natural thing for any random group of young men coming together to do. The frozen ground would have provided a suitable surface although the churned up nature of no man's land and the detritus of war would have imposed practical limitations on what was possible. The reality is that although balls or tin cans may have been kicked around what ever happened was well short of a match. Most of the exchanges took place in No Man's Land and involved the swopping of tobacco - English cigarettes for German cigars, English plumb puddings and tinned rations for German alcohol etc. There are a very few corroborated accounts of either side being allowed into or even particularly near the other sides trenches. There are a few stories of individuals stumbling into the wrong trench in a drunken stupor. Where this happened the miscreant was usually pointed in the direction of home and sent on his way. Both sides took the opportunity to collect and bury their dead generally taking care not to or being allowed to stray too close to the enemy's positions although the opportunity was taken to do a little discreet reconnaissance and intelligence gathering. The fraternisation seems to have come to an end at around dusk or when meal times were called.

In the great majority of cases the initiative for a cease-fire seems to have come from the German side, although some German sources credit the English for starting it. The different national traditions for celebrating Christmas undoubtedly played a part in this; Christmas Eve being traditionally the big celebration in much of continental Europe.

Elsewhere on the Western Front there were 67 other deaths that day, some of which will have occurred in hospitals as a result of wounds. However, 9 men of the Coldstream Guards were killed in action at Cunchy a short distance south of Armentiers and 5 men of the

Gloucester's died in the same general area. So clearly the truce operated on a very localised basis.

There were attempts to extend the truce into the New Year, the initiative seeming to come from the German side. The Rifle Brigade source quoted above says of the period after Christmas;

*'it has been an extraordinary week - the big guns shelling away at one another far over our heads, day after day, but never a shot near our trenches. The understanding was only in the infantry. So we have really had a weeks armistice!'*

The regimental history goes further. On New Years night 2/Leinsters went back into the line at the Rue de Bois which they found to be peaceful but very wet. The Germans (a Saxon unit again) were only about 30 yards from the British front line and both sides set about making life more comfortable for themselves, according to the regimental history this extended to the Germans lending the Leinsters mallets to knock stakes in with. Finally to quote the history;

*'Generals and brass hats fumed in their chateaux in the rear and peremptory orders were hurled at us to recommence trench warfare. Their position was rather like that of patrons of cock fighting who had found their own and opponents birds foregathering in friendship instead of getting busy with their spurs. Could anything be more exasperating to a true sportsman?'*

Even then the Saxons sent word across the lines to say that they would not fire if the Leinsters did likewise. This did not impress Capt. Heneker, to whom the approach had been made, described as *'not a man to be moved from his duty'* and after warning shots were fired the normal business of warfare was resumed.

The following day, Boxing Day, saw a gradual resumption of normal business although there seems to have been a fairly relaxed atmosphere over much of the line. The Leinsters had come out of the line and so were not involved in what happened over the succeeding days. However on the 10th of January when they went back up the line they received orders to open fire on Germans who were carrying out work on their trenches in daylight. The War Diary grumbles that this order prevented the Leinsters from doing the same. In general terms there was what might be best described as a "holiday mood" that lasted into the New Year and in some cases well beyond although the fine cold weather broke on the 27th and miserable rain returned. In quiet parts of the line south of the Leinster's area there are fairly reliable reports of "understandings" persisting

through to Easter three months later. These were very much the exception. As units were rotated in and out of the line so whatever relationships may have been formed over no man's land came to a natural end. In addition higher and more remote command put their foot down and issued orders forbidding fraternisation.

It is interesting to compare the percentage of units in each Corps area that participated in the truce. Working from north to south it has been calculated as follows, it's a fairly crude calculations based on the number of battalions, batteries etc allocated to each Corps but I think it gives a general understanding and perhaps even an insight into the leadership styles of the Corps commanders.

I Corps (Smith-Dorrien) 17%

II Corps (Pulteney) - including 2/Leinsters - 56%

III Corps (Rawlinson) 52%

I Corps (Haig) Nil!

There was never a repetition of the Christmas 1914 events and the following year strict instructions were issued forbidding fraternisation although some limited contacts were made.

In conclusion we can say that for a variety of reasons, some of them very practical there was an extensive de facto cease-fire over a wide area, but that this was on a very localised basis, the experience of the Leinsters is a perfect example. In many cases these cease-fires were the continuance of a trend that had been developing for some weeks and that a combination of trench conditions, weather, the spirit and nature of Christmas lead to a temporary cessation of hostilities. In the great majority of cases the initiative seems to have come from the German side and was sanctioned by local commanders at battalion level on both sides. More senior levels of command were not as indulgent and the further up the command chain and away from the actual front you go the less tolerant the attitude becomes.

Whatever the inclinations of some of the troops on both sides it is clearly fanciful to think that soldiers on either side would have spontaneously put down their arms and gone home. Too much blood had already been spilt for that but it has provided one of those enduring myths and might have been of history.

Ian Lowe



## Leinster Regiment Graves

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission records 2177 Leinster Regiment casualties throughout World War 1.

Of these 83 are buried in Britain while a further 112 are buried on the island of Ireland. The first of these was Private H. Whyte who died in Dublin on 13th August 1914 and is buried in Birr Military Cemetery. The CWGC records don't indicate which battalion he was attached to at the time, but it seems likely that he was based in Crinkill Barracks, Birr.

The last Leinster buried in Ireland was Private P. Keane who died on 15th August 1920 and is buried in Grangegorman Military Cemetery in Dublin. Grangegorman was the burial place of 19 Leinster

soldiers, the remainder being buried in a variety of cemeteries, large and small across the country.

Twelve Leinster Regiment soldiers are commemorated in Cork Military Cemetery Park, as the 3rd Battalion for the most part was based in Cork. However, there are no marked graves. The cemetery was very badly vandalised over many years with headstones of all types smashed or defaced. In recent years the CWGC erected a new memorial wall which lists by name, rank, regiment and date of death, the soldiers buried in the park.

Over the past six years, members of the Leinster Regiment Association have volunteered to visit the graves, around the time of the 100th Anniversary of their deaths. Of the 112 graves all but a handful have



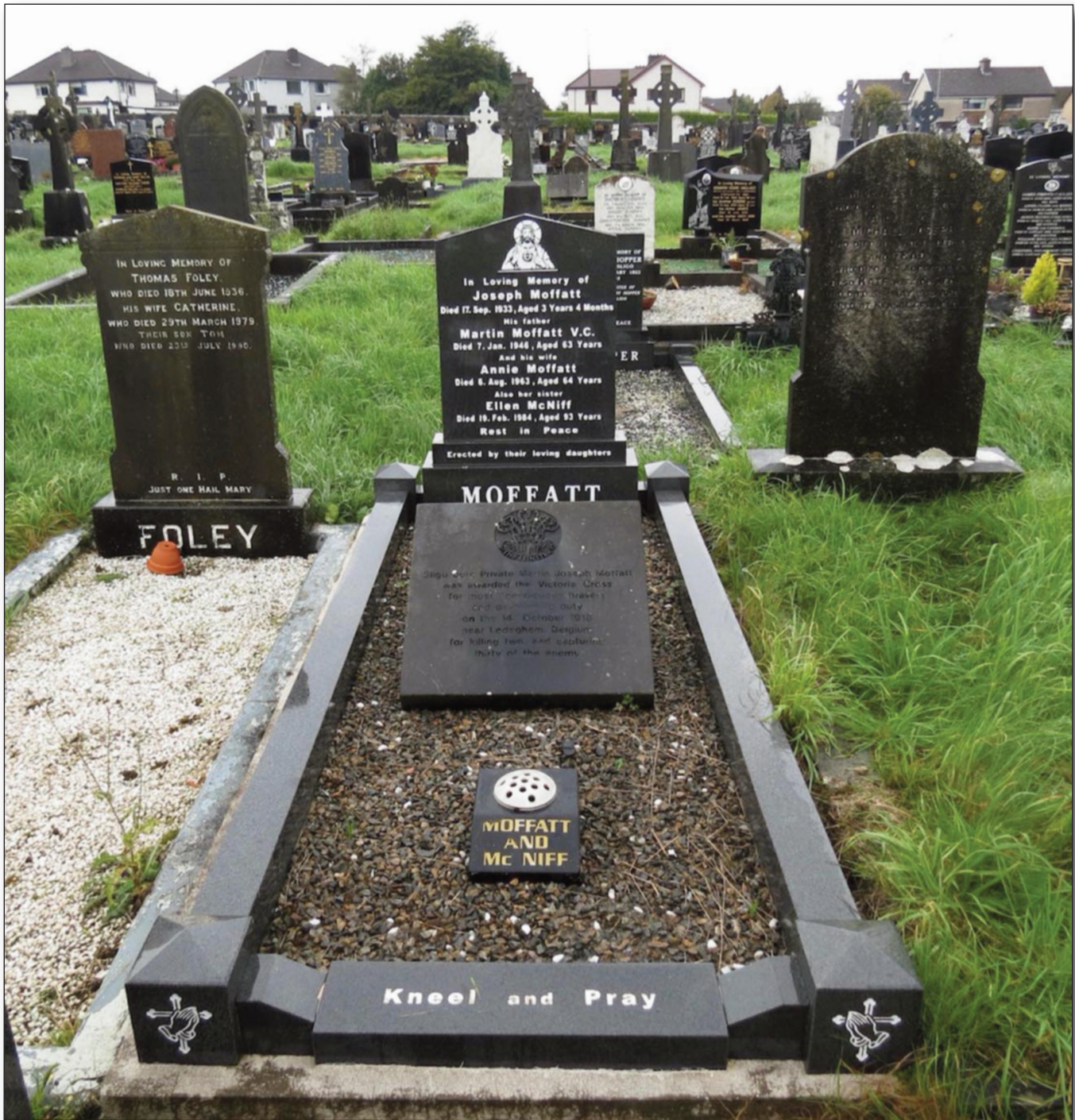
Grangegorman Military Cemetery



Cork Military Cemetery Park Memorial



The grave of Col. Sir Anthony Weldon CVO, DSO.  
St. Johns Old Cemetery, Athy.



Grave of Martin Moffatt VC who died in a boating accident on 7th January 1946. He is buried in his family plot in Sligo cemetery, but with the VC commemoration contained in a separate tablet on the grave.

been visited. The remainder could not be located, in spite of the locations contained on the CWGC website. The volunteers had been placing little poppy crosses on the graves, but over the past year or so, small Leinster Regiment Celtic crosses have also been placed on the graves.

The graves of those buried in larger cemeteries in town or city locations are, for the most part, well cared for. Some graves in remote locations do not appear to get the same attention. A number of the graves are still visited by family members as evidenced by recent flowers and other remembrance items on the graves.

While the majority of the graves have regular CWGC headstones, some soldiers are buried in their family plots without the familiar headstone making them difficult to spot in a crowded cemetery.

**The Association is very grateful to all of our members who braved all sorts of weather, including snow, to locate and visit these graves over the past six years.**

*Denis Kirby*

## News from Birr

One of the quiet success stories of our activities in Ireland has been the slow but steady accumulation of Leinster Regiment and Birr related artefacts and their

deposit in the safekeeping of our friends in Birr Library. These items have been donated from family sources and in some cases have been recovered during the



Derek Coulter and Junior O'Callaghan with the plan of Crinkill Barracks.



Tony Hayden and Paul Barber with the memorial plaque.



Tony Hayden, Joe Kinane (Birr Library) and Derek Coulter with the presentations.

excavation of the area joining the barracks at Crinkill. If you have anything that you think might be of interest and is looking for a good home please get in touch with one of the committee. The latest handover took place

in October 2020 and included a plan of the barracks at Crinkill and a plaque containing the names of the citizens of Birr who lost their lives during the Great War.

*Tony Hayden and Paul Barber*

## Dates for your diary 2021

In these uncertain times it is very difficult to plan very far ahead. The following are the events that we would like to hold during the year, what is actually possible remains to be seen. We will keep you informed via the website and our Facebook page as the situation develops. Please do not commit to any travel arrangements until we are absolutely certain that a particular event can go ahead. If you are in any doubt please contact one of the committee.

12th June 11.00hrs. Lecture, Civil Service Club, Whitehall, London. Subject to be confirmed.  
12.30hrs. Annual Members Lunch, Civil Service Club, London.  
13th June Annual CIROCA Parade & Wreath Laying, Whitehall, London.

10th July RBL(RoI) Festival of Remembrance, Islandbridge, Dublin.  
11th July National Day of Commemoration, Dublin. Venue to be Confirmed.

6th August 17.00hrs AGM of the Association. To be held in Birr. Venue to be confirmed.  
7th August 11.00hrs Lecture in Birr. Subject and venue to be confirmed.  
12.30hrs Wreath Laying at regimental memorial, Crinkill.  
13.15hrs Lunch, The Thatch, Crinkill.  
Possible visit to other Leinster Regiment related sites in the area.

11th November. Opening of the Fields of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey, London.  
14th November Armistice Sunday. Attendance at local events in UK and Ireland. Details to be agreed.

# At War with the 16th Irish Division 1914 - 1918: The Staniforth Letters

by J H M Staniforth, edited by Prof. Richard S Grayson

This is not a new book, it was originally published in 2012 and despite being already fairly well known I have no hesitation in bringing it to our members attention as the author, John (known as Max) Staniforth served as an officer in the 7th Leinsters. It is a collection of letters written to his parents on a weekly basis and paint a remarkably vivid picture of life in France and Flanders during the war. They were rescued from an attic by the author who transcribed and tried to publish them during the 1970's. They have been edited and published in their present form by Prof. Richard Grayson.

Max Staniforth was the son of a Yorkshire doctor, with maternal family connections to Co Cavan. He was educated at Charterhouse and was an undergraduate at Christ's Church, Oxford when war broke out. He first joined the Connaught Rangers in the ranks but was swiftly singled out for a commission and transferred to the 7th Leinsters then forming and training at Kilworth Camp near Fermoy. The early letters give us a graphic picture of barrack life at the time and how this young man from a totally different world fitted into that of Connaught farmhands and shop boys. He became battalion signals officer, a hazardous job but one based in the relative comfort of battalion HQ. His descriptions of front line action are vivid and compelling and he rarely resorts, as others in a similar position as apt, to lapsing into "cod Orish" when quoting the dialogue of those around him. His descriptions of the battalion's part in the Battle of the Somme are particularly memorable. As previously noted most of his time is

spent in battalion HQ and from time to time he covers other HQ jobs such as Quarter Master and Adjutant and gives us a detailed description of the responsibilities and duties of these necessary but often overlooked functions. To the reader looking for accounts of the big occasions his letters are frustrating as he misses most of them through being on leave, ill or on some detached service. Even so we are treated to entertaining descriptions of supervising the movement of drafts of men from base to the front and other apparently humdrum but essential tasks. Towards the end of the war he was gassed and vividly describes his journey through the casualty evacuation system and subsequent treatment. While stationed at Portsmouth he met his future wife and there are touching descriptions of the lady to his parents.

After the war Max Staniforth returned to university and thereafter led a varied life before becoming a country clergyman, he died in 1985.

The Leinster Regiment is already lucky to have in Frank Hitchcock and Oliver Barnett, two first class diarists and letter writers, to these we should add Max Staniforth. Prof. Grayson prefaces each chapter with some notes giving context to what is to follow, these are well judged and welcome.

"At War with the 16th Irish Division" is published by the Imperial War Museum and is available as an electronic edition. ISBN 9781783032112.

## Quartermaster's Stores

The following are available to purchase by mail order. Please email or post your order to Ian Lowe at: marfordms@icloud.com or at 42 Woodridge Avenue, Marford, Wrexham, LL12 8SS. Prices include 2nd class postage to UK & Irish addresses. Payment can be made by cheque drawn on a UK or Irish bank and sent to the address shown above. All items are subject to availability.

	£	€
Blazer Badge.	15	18
Cap Badge. (Reproduction)	5	6
Lapel Pin Badge. (Suitable as a tie pin or Ladies brooch)	10	12

Ladies Scarf in Regimental colours. (Square 30" x 30", Polyester)	12	15
Regimental Tie. (Silk)	15	18
Poppy Lapel Badge with Regimental Crest. (New)	15	18

*These are a special one off purchase and cannot be repeated so there is a strictly limited number available.*



# ASSOCIATION NEWS

## Mr David George

It is with regret that we have to inform you of the death, after a period of ill health, of David George. David was a longstanding member of the Association, he originally joined with his wife Pat who was from Ireland and had connections to the Leinster Regiment. After Pat's death David continued his membership and with his friend Ralph Gould was a regular supporter of Association and CIROCA functions and trips. David was a keen target shooter who competed at Bisley and was something of an expert on service rifles. We extend our sympathy to David's family and friends.

## Welcome

We would like to welcome Honor Duncan McCulloch and Paul McAuley to the Association. Both Honor and Paul live in Ireland and have family connections to the Regiment.

Honor's maternal uncle was Lt. Alexander Duncan MC, originally commissioned into the 3rd Battalion, Leinster Regiment and subsequently served in the 2nd. He is included in the well known photograph from 1921 of the Colour Party at Colchester Barracks. After disbandment he joined the Welch Regiment rising to command the 1st Battalion. He saw service during the Second World War and became a POW in Crete. His medals are in the Welch Regiment Museum in Cardiff.

Paul's great-grandfather was 4827 Pte. Peter McAuley who enlisted in the 5th Battalion prior to the outbreak of war. He was subsequently posted to the 2nd Battalion and saw plenty of action. He was wounded three times, at Hooge (1915), Ypres (1915) and Guillermont (1916). He was posted back to Ireland in 1917 and in 1918 was transferred to the Labour Corps before being discharged from the army in October 1918.

We welcome Honor and Paul to the Association and we hope that they enjoy and benefit from their membership.

## Our Facebook Page

While some of us may have reservations about the benefits of social media few can question that it has a role to play in modern communications and the Association's Facebook page is a good example. At the moment there are about 600 members of the Leinster Regiment Association group with more joining almost every day. Ours is a lively site used for the exchange of information and news and it is rare for a group member to post a question without getting at least one helpful reply. Great credit and thanks must go to David Ball who runs the site together with a couple of moderators who help to maintain standards. Thanks is also due to all those who contribute to the posts and patiently reply to the many questions posed. There is often considerable research needed to answer these queries, often for little thanks or acknowledgement from the enquirer.

Members of the Facebook page are not necessarily paid up members, there are about three times as many Facebook "members" as there are paid up members of the Association and we would really like to convert as many of these Facebook visitors into full membership as possible. Please encourage anybody that you come in contact with through Facebook to join the Association thereby benefiting from membership through access to the journal, website and our other activities. We should all be Recruiting Sergeants for the Leinsters!

# LEINSTER REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

## The Committee and Post Holders January 2021

<b>President</b>	Sir Anthony Weldon Bt
<b>Vice-Presidents</b>	Mr David Ball Commandant Michael McGoona

## The Officers and Members of the General Committee

<b>Chairman</b>	Lt-Col Mark Weldon	markweldon@live.co.uk
<b>Vice-Chairman (Ireland)</b>	Mr Denis Kirby	denis@dpk.ie
<b>Vice-Chairman (GB)</b>	Sir Anthony Weldon Bt	Anthony.weldon@bene-factum.co.uk
<b>Association Treasurer</b>	Mr Ian Lowe	ianlowe@marfordms1.demon.co.uk
<b>Association Secretary</b>	Mr David Ball	theleinsters.4010@gmail.com
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Mr Robert Templeman	bob.templeman@btinternet.com

## Officers of the Ireland Committee

<b>Chairman</b>	Mr Denis Kirby	denis@dpk.ie
<b>Members</b>	Mr Ray Hayden *	ray.hayden@anglewise.co.uk
	Mr Ken Geary *	kengeary@gmail.com
	Mr Tony Hayden	tony.hayden195@gmail.com
	Mr Larry Yourell	larryjpyourell@gmail.com
	Mr Junior O'Callaghan	juniorocallaghan@gmail.com
	Mr Derek Coulter	derekcoulter@eircom.net
	Mr Chris Brummell	chrisbrummell@gmail.com

\* Also members of the General Committee.

### Appeal to Members

May we remind you that all annual subscriptions become due on the 1st January, this currently stands at £20 for UK residents and €25 for Irish residents. If you have already paid your subscription, thank you, if you have not may we respectfully remind you that it is now due. Cheques in either currency may be sent to the Treasurer, Ian Lowe, 42 Woodridge Avenue, Marford, Wrexham, LL12 8SS.

Many of you pay by standing order and direct debit which is greatly appreciated and simplifies the job of the Treasurer and Membership Secretary. If you would like to switch to this sort of arrangement please contact us as above.

You will have noticed that the running of the Association falls on a very small number of people some of who are fulfilling more than one role. This is an appeal to members to come forward as volunteers to help run your association and secure the future of what we aspire to do. The tasks are not onerous and the satisfaction of doing something worthwhile is considerable! If you are interested in becoming more involved with the running of the Association please contact Mark Weldon or David Ball in the first instance.

*Opinions expressed by contributors to this journal are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Association*

### Thanks

The editorial team would like to thank all those who have contributed towards producing this journal, without your assistance it would not happen. A special thanks to Laetitia Barnes of Afterhours Artwork for turning a collection of articles and other material into a coherent publication.

We urgently need more material for future editions of 40-10 so can we please ask you to get writing and tell us the story of why you are a member of the Association. Every one of our members has a story to tell!

Design & artwork by Laetitia Barnes 01580 714015 art@afterhours.myzen.co.uk