This week in 1939 a formation of 10 Bristol Blenheim bombers attacked the German fleet anchored at Wilhelmshaven. Five of the planes were lost.

In today's Roll of Honour

The heroism of Inniskilling Fusilier Jospeh Quinn in 1916 is inspirational. He rescued two officers under heavy shell fire and made four separate journeys into No Man’s Land to rescue men. This day in 1918 was also a tough one for Irish infanteers.
William Bell from Doagh was an all round sportsman playing football with Ballyclare Comrades and hockey for Ulster. By the age of 22 Granville Wilson, a young Belfast RAF officer educated at Methody and Queen’s, had been decorated three times for his service with Bomber Command. This is the anniversary of their deaths over Germany.

On this Day – September 6

1914

First battle of the Marne begins, French and British forces prevent German advance on Paris (till the 12th Sept).

1917

British detachments are pressed back near Frezenberg (Ypres).

1918

The Germans in full retreat from the Somme.

1939

Britain suspended its obligations to control the naval arms race imposed by the 1936 London Naval Treaty as the country re-armed and rebuilt the Royal Navy for action in WW2

1940

Page 2
Corvette HMS Godetia sank after colliding with merchant vessel SS Marsa off Rathlin Island, Co. Antrim. Launched in May 1940, she had been in commission for under two months. 33 of her crew lost their lives.

1943 1 RlRF in Patti, Sicily
Some reinforcements: Lt Franklyn-Vaile and Lieut JCG Glennie joined... Lawrie and John would travel with the Faughs to the mainland of Italy at the end of the month... thence into battle at Termoli

06/09/1944 - 06/09/2021

After the only interruption in its long tradition (due to WW II), the daily Last Post was resumed at the Menin Gate on Wednesday 6 September 1944. Today, 77 years later, the Last Post Association continues to remember the fallen each and every day.

Roll of Honour – September 6

Representing their comrades who died on this day

1915

+McNALLY, John
Royal Irish Fusiliers.7th Btn. Private. 23553. Died
06/09/1915. Age 30. Son of John and Harriet McNally of Derry, Coalisland, He worked as a cotton drawer-in. He
enlisted in Coalisland. He was originally with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers (20307) but was transferred to the 7th Battalion of the Royal Irish Fusiliers. Quarry Cemetery, Montauban, Somme, France. Dungannon WM.

1916

+GILMORE, Joseph

+KANE, Samuel

+McMULLAN, J

+PORTER, Joseph
Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Serjeant. 22850. Died 06/09/1916. Age 20. Prior to the war he worked in a brick works. Enlisted in Belfast. Born about 1896 in Fivemiletown. By 1911 his father had died and the family was living in Stranmillis, Belfast. Youngest son of Samuel and Isabella Porter. Brother of Miss May Porter, of Brockhaugh, Tempo,
Co. Fermanagh. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France.
Fivemiletown WM

+QUINN, Joseph

Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 8th Bn. Corporal. 27242. M.M.
Died 06/09/1916. On 15/07/1916 Private Quinn under heavy fire rescued two officers and single-handedly carried in four wounded soldiers to safety, requiring four separate journeys over a 200 yard stretch of No Man’s Land. He was awarded the MM and promoted to Corporal. He had served throughout the South African War with the Irish Fusiliers. He had almost completed nine years in the reserve when war broke out. He was living with his wife Teresa and two sons in Washinton Row, Dungannon. He was working as a labourer in a spinning mill. Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Dungannon WM

+REID, Robert


+WILLIAMS, James Alfred

Royal Irish Rifles, 3rd Bn. attd. 7th Bn. Second Lieutenant. Died 06/09/1916. Age 18. Foyle College, Londonderry. Medical Student at Edinburgh University. Initially he had enlisted with the Royal Scots and was in Dublin during the Easter Rising. He was one of four brothers serving, two also with the Rifles and one in the Royal Inniskillings Fusiliers. His brother Charles Beasley Williams, 20, was killed in
August 1915. He was serving with 2nd Rifles and had been a divinity student at Trinity College, Dublin. Youngest son of James A. Williams, of "The Willows," Northland Rd., Londonderry. Theipval Memorial, Somme, France.

1917

+MORGAN, Victor Harold

King's (Liverpool Regiment), 1st Bn. attd. 1st/5th Bn. Lancashire Fusiliers. Lieutenant. Died 06/09/1917. Aged 22. Born Belfast 1895. Son of the late Charles James George and Sarah Morgan, 32 Lothair Avenue, Duncairn, Belfast. Member of the Congregationalist church. Tyne Cot Memorial, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. QUB WM

1918

+ADAMS, Joseph


+ANDREWS, Matthew

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Bn. Rifleman. 9162. Died 06/09/1918. Born in Lisburn, he enlisted at Belfast. Wulverghem-Lindenhoek Road, Military Cemetery, Belgium

+BLOXSOM, Ernest

Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd. Bn. Rifleman. 17285. Died 06/09/1918. Husband to Georgina Bloxsom, 1 City Street,
Belfast. Messines Ridge British Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium

+CROTHERS, David


+FERGUSON, Thomas


+IRELAND, John

Devonshire Regiment. Private. 79880. Died 06/09/1918. Age 18. Dundonald, St Elizabeth’s C of I Churchyard

+McKEE, Hugh

Royal Irish Regiment, 8th Btn. formerly 13th Btn. Sergeant. 3475. Died of wounds whilst a prisoner of war in German hands, at the Chief Dressing Station, Vertingham, France, on 06/09/1918. Son of Charlotte McKee, of Saul-street, Downpatrick, Co. Down, and the late Hugh McKee. He was a member of Loyal Orange Lodge 1464. New Irish Farm Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.
+PATTERSON, Aubrey
Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Btn. Rifleman. 10523. Died 06/09/1918. Age 18. Son of Robert Patterson, of 5, Ambleside St., Belfast. Ploegsteert Memorial, Belgium

+SCOTT, John

+SMYTH, Robert

+UPRICHARD, JOSEPH
Royal Irish Rifles, 2nd Bn. Rifleman. 75. Died 06/09/1918. Age 33. He enlisted at Belfast. Son of William and Jane Uprichard, of Moira; husband of Margaret Uprichard, of 24, Templemore St., Belfast. Ploegsteert Memorial, Belgium. St. John's Church of Ireland WM, Moira

1940

+BELL, William
Comrades and hockey for Parkview Hockey Club. Parkview won the Intermediate and Junior Cups in 1936-1937. He also played hockey twice for Ulster’s junior team and was a member of Doagh Cricket Club. He flew in Handley Page Hampden planes with Bomber Command and began taking part in regular night time raids in May 1940. His log book showed 5 operations between 15/05/1940 and 26/05/1940 with training flights between.

On 27th May 1940, William received a promotion to Temporary Sergeant. On 02/09/1940, Sergeant Bell joined the crew of Pilot Officer Taunton in Handley Page Hampden P2087 KM-M for a raid on Stuttgart, Germany. They flew from RAF Waddington, Lincolnshire. Only 4 days later on 06/09/1940, William died while taking part in a raid with the same crew in the same plane. Pilot Officer Vollmer was the Navigator and Sergeant Bracegirdle of the Royal New Zealand Air Force was an Air Gunner. The target on this raid was Krefeld. With the target bombed, Taunton’s crew turned for home but came under attack from anti-aircraft fire.

A shell struck the Hampden setting the starboard engine and wing on fire. As the crew began to bale out, the plane spun out of control before an explosion blew Vollmer from the craft. Pilot Officer Taunton also successfully evacuated the plane. Bracegirdle died alongside Bell as the plane came down near Munster, Germany. An unknown German Officer returned Sergeant Bell’s watch, ring, and ID tags. In a letter to William’s parents, he mentioned there were no marks on the airman’s body. Son of Samuel and Esther Bell, of 1 Mill Row, Doagh. Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany
+McNAMEE, Francis

Royal Irish Fusiliers, 1st Btn. Fusilier. 980075. Died 06/09/1940 as a result of an accident in Battle, Sussex. Age 20. McNamee was in the reserves when called up at the outbreak of WW2. He had fought during the Dunkirk evacuation. Son of James McNamee and Mary Jane McNamee of 16 Sugarhouse Lane, Londonderry. Rye Cemetery, Sussex.

1943

+BELSHAW, Arthur Ernest


1944

+TWEEDIE, James Taylor

Royal Amoured Corps, North Irish Horse. Trooper. 7902799. Died 06/09/1944. Age 37. Enlisted at Fivemiletown, Co. Tyrone in December 1939. James’ wife received an airgraph from the Right Honourable Lord O’Neill of the North Irish Horse. He expressed his sympathy and said he was nearby when Trooper Tweedie died instantly. He added: “I remember well when Mr. Montgomery brought your husband along from Fivemiletown to join the regiment. Ever since, he has been a most loyal, painstaking, and hard-working member of the North Irish Horse. His death will be mourned by many in the regiment and since he was with me on many occasions when I commanded ‘A’ Squadron, I feel his loss
very much.” Son of Joseph Tweedie and Elizabeth "Lizzie" Jane Tweedie of 15 Quality Hill, Mullahead, Co. Armagh. Husband to Annie Tweedie (née Little) of 10 Queen Street, Portadown, Co. Armagh. The couple had a young daughter called Wendy. Annie’s brother Corporal Albert Little fell at Anzio. Gradara War Cemetery, Pesaro, Italy. Portadown War Memorial

+WILSON, Granville


Awarded DSO for action as pilot of an aircraft which was detailed to attack Hanover by night in September 1943. “On the run up to the target, the bomber was hit by anti-aircraft fire. Four members of the crew were wounded, and much essential equipment was rendered unserviceable. In spite of this, Flying Officer Wilson resolutely held to his course, enabling Flight Sergeant Porteous to execute a successful bombing attack. On leaving the target, the bomber was intercepted by a fighter which attacked with great persistence. Nevertheless, Flying Officer Wilson succeeded in evading the fighter, being greatly assisted by Flight Sergeant Mulholland who kept his captain fully informed of the attacker's movements. On the return flight, Flight Sergeant Porteous assumed the duties of navigator and executed his task with skill. These members of aircraft crew displayed great courage, skill and tenacity in the most trying circumstances.”

On 06/09/1944, he was pilot of a Lancaster PB466 of No.7 Squadron which took part in what was to be the last raid on
Emden, Germany. 105 Halifaxes and 76 Lancasters took off that day. They were escorted by Spitfires and American Mustangs. They encountered moderate flak. The operation almost destroyed Emden with a loss of nearly 80% of the buildings of the town. PB466 was hit by flak over the target area, killing the pilot, navigator and bomb aimer almost instantly. The aircraft crashed near Bansmeer 6km east of the town centre. This was the last Bomber Command raid of the war on Emden.


Born Belfast, 1921. Son of Samuel and Sarah Wilson, of Belfast. Educated at Methodist College, Belfast and Queens University. Sage War Cemetery, Niedersachsen, Germany. Belmont Presbyterian Church, Belfast, RH. QUB RH

1946

+HANNA, Robert
ROBB, Campbell Galway

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

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