

George O'Donel Frederick Thomas
O'Donel
(21/10/1884-16/6/1915)

Peter Mallowney

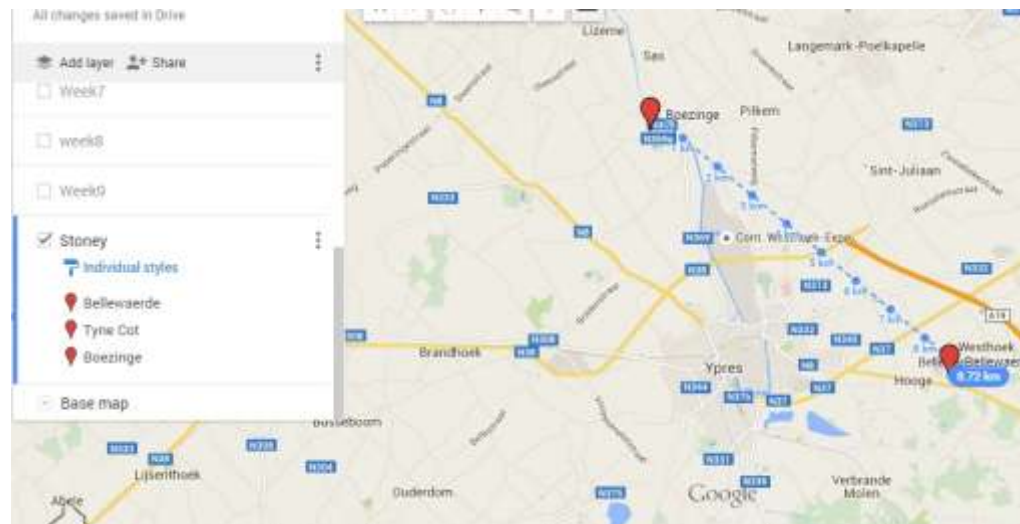
Derrada

14th May 2015



George O'Donel Frederick
Thomas O'Donel
(21/10/1884-16/6/1915)

Thomas Samuel Vesey Stoney was a 2nd Lieutenant in the 1st Bn., Irish Guards, Rosturk Castle, Westport, County Mayo. Killed in Action on 9/10/1917. He was born in August 23rd 1898 and was still at school in Harrow when he enlisted.





NEWPORT HOUSE, CH. MAYO, 4106, V.C.



Portrait of Hugh O'Donel



*Captain George Thomas-O'Donel
Frederick Thomas-O'Donel, Adjutant of
the 4th Battalion Royal Fusiliers, who
was with the battalion in the fire-storm of
11 November 1914.*

GENEALOGY OF THE THOMAS FAMILY

George Thomas of Athlone, gent (late 17th century) was father of:

REV. WALTER THOMAS I, born c. 1674. Archdeacon of Killaloe 1714.

Treasurer of Cashel 1722. He was father of:

REV. GEORGE THOMAS, Treasurer of Cashel 1737-1768. Died March 1768.

Married (1) 1737 Henrietta Warren (died May 1749), by whom he had issue:

REV. EDWYN THOMAS I, born 1767, rector of Ballynacourty, co. Kerry, 1797-1841, died 15 Dec. 1847 aged 81.

Married 1798 Jane, 4th dau. of Robert Reeves of Blessington, co. Clare, by whom he had issue (with 5 other children: Eliza, Mary, Martha, Diana and Walter):

REV. EDWYN THOMAS II, born 1808?, rector of Carlingford 1866-1869, died 15 March 1869. Married Eliza (died 14 June 1885), dau. of John George of Cahore, Co. Wexford (BLGI 1958), by whom he had issue:

Edwyn, born 1851, of Newport House co. Mayo. Married 27 June 1883 Melicent O'Donel (see that family) and changed his name to O'Donel.

from Julian Walton, Dungarvan

Clew Bay Regatta

On Wednesday 31st August, a deputation of the committee of the Clew Bay Regatta met at Newport House to present to George T. O'Donel, Esq., a magnificent silver cup, won by him in the 440 yards swimming contest. The cup which is a large and beautiful one, and a genuine work of art, bore the following inscription:

“Clew Bay Regatta,
Kilmeena 1904.

Patron Rev. J. O'Toole, Kilmeena

Swimming Race, 440 yards, won by George T. O'Donel, Lieut. R.D.
Artillery.”

Western People 03.09.1904

In making the presentation Father O'Toole said:

Dear Mr. O'Donel – As chairman of the Clew Bay Regatta Committee, I have very great pleasure in presenting to you a silver cup for winning the 400 yards swimming contest at Rossmina on the 22nd August. Although only a boy in years you have proved yourself to be a man and I, with the other members of the committee, hope you will be long spared to act the part of an honourable and independent man (applause).

In reply Mr. George O'Donel said – Father O'Toole and gentlemen – I thank you very sincerely for the handsome cup with which you have presented me for winning the swimming race at Clew Bay Regatta. When I started I hardly expected to win, and when I did win I certainly had no idea I should receive such a handsome cup as this for the prize. It is very beautiful indeed, and I esteem it very highly. As I am far better at swimming than at making a speech, I will now ask you come and help me to christen the cup, which will always remind me of you and Rossmina(hear, hear). The deputation were then entertained to a sumptuous luncheon, at which were present – Mr. and Mrs. E.T. O'Donel, and Miss Gibson. The following composed the deputation. Rev. Jeremiah O'Toole, P.P., Kilmeena (chairman); A.K. Jones, Esq., Burrishoole House; E.C. Brabazon, Esq., M.D., Castlebar; Rev J.J. Corcoran, C.C., Newport; A. Gill Esq., M.D. Newport; Henry Sheridan, Esq., Spencer Park, Castlebar.

Administrative County Gloucestershire

The under-mentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the

Civil Parish		Ecclesiastical Parish		County Borough, Municipal Borough, or Urban Sanitary District		Ward of Municipal Borough or of Urban District		Rural District		Parliamentary Borough or Election District		Town or Village or Hamlet				
<u>Cheltenham</u>		<u>St Marys</u>		<u>Cheltenham</u>		<u>Middle Ward</u>				<u>Cheltenham</u>						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
No. of Houses	ROAD, STREET, &c. and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES				Name and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	Sex	Age last Birthday	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, Works, or Firm named	If Working at Home	WHERE BORN	17		
		18	19	20	21									22	23	24
		1	2	3	4											(1) Deaf and dumb (2) Blind (3) Lame (4) Insane or feeble minded
169	22 Imperial Sq	1				Edwin H. Gilmore	Head	M	48				Ireland			
						Melanie G. Gilmore	Wife	M	35				do			
170	23 do	1				Mary Jay	Traveller	F	70				Hereford			
						Arbunella Archer	Head	F	34				Alcester			
						Ellen Tomlinson	Servant	F	34				Gloucestershire			
						Mary G. Mansfield	Servant	F	28				Ireland			
						John Crossfield	Boarder	M	68	Cellar & Sweep			Ireland			
						Gertrude Crossfield	Boarder	F	59				Leamington			
						Joseph Clarke	Servant	M	28	Police			Ireland			
						Mary J. Colwell	Servant	F	39	Nurse			do			



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Cheltenham, England
🕒 Street View - Jul 2014



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College and War Memorial, Cheltenham



My late prints and postcards

1325

Donegal Artillery (The Prince of Wales's).

(Formerly the Prince of Wales's Donegal Artillery Militia.)

(Embodied 2 May 00; disembodied 6 Nov. 00.)

Head Quarters, Letterkenny.

On 6 Nov. 1000.

HONORARY COLONEL.

Jas. Wilfred Visct. Lifford..20 May 96

LT. COLONEL.

Wm. A. G. Saunders-Knox-Gore, late Royal Artillery, Hon. Col. 1 Apr. 01

MAJORS

William Bernard Reed,¹⁷
p.s. South Africa 09 Sept. 00
Sir Harry J. Urquhart
Stewart, Bt. p.s. 3 Apr. 95

CAPTAINS.

George Castriot De Rinzy
(H), *Inspector of Police, British Guiana, Hon. Maj.* 23 June 90
John E. C. James Cochrane,²⁰
DSO. p.s. (I), (II), Hon. Major 23 Dec. 91
Richd. Abercrombie Irvine,⁶⁰
p.s. (I) (II), W. African Frontier Force, with rank of Major 18 May 05
Frederick Hugh Crawford,⁴²
p.s. 24 Feb. 97
Lewis P. Allan,⁴³ *p.s. (I), (A) (I) with Royal Artillery, S. Africa, Hon. Major* 6 June 00
James Workman, Instructor of Artillery, p.s. 12 Jan. 01
James Kerr. p.s. 29 Jun. 02
Howard Milford Binsker, p.s. 18 June 02

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James Kerr. p.s. 29 Jan. 02
Howard Milford Binsker, p.s. 18 June 02
Mervyn Hamden Corsellis, p.s. W. African Frontier Forces 19 May 05

LIEUTENANTS.

G. O'Donnell Fredk. Thomas
O'Donel, p.s. 13 June 03
Aubrey Edmond Pery-Knox-Gore 13 June 03
Edward Humphrey Barton 19 May 05
Noel Dewhurst 19 May 05
Ralph R. Watney 19 May 03
John Mervyn Prower 19 May 05
J. D. Boyd 13 Apr. 00

SECOND LIEUTENANT.

Adj. & Capt. — H. B. Mayne, Capt. Royal Artillery 9 Apr. 04
Qr. Master. — G. Gorman, Qr. M. R. Art., Hon. Lieut. 7 Mar. 00

ARMY ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.

The undermentioned Inspectors of Ordnance Machinery Third Class, and Honorary Lieutenants, to be Inspectors of Ordnance Machinery Second Class, with the honorary rank of Captain, under the provisions of Article 318 and 409 H, Royal Warrant for Pay and Promotion. Dated 19th May, 1906:—

Alfred D. Owen.

James J. Mills.

William J. P. Rodd.

Edwin J. J. Britton. Dated 23rd May, 1906.

12th (*Prince of Wales's Royal*) *Lancers*, Second Lieutenant Victor Louis Callero Manning from 4th Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own (West Yorkshire Regiment), in succession to Lieutenant Sir E. B. F. H. Lacon, Baronet, promoted.

13th *Hussars*, Lieutenant Stephen Owen Robinson, from 5th Battalion, The Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment), and from Honorary Lieutenant in Army, in succession to Lieutenant J. F. R. Vigne, resigned.

A. G. D. DE GRIMAS, seconded.

The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment), Lieutenant George O'Donel Frederick Thomas-O'Donel, from The Donegal (The Prince of Wales's) Royal Garrison Artillery (Militia), in succession to Lieutenant B. A. S. Dyer, seconded.





G. O'D. F. Thomas-O'Donel.

1	Norman Reginald Mc Inaker	Major	45	single	4/Bn Royal Fusiliers	411/70	Middlesex London	000
2	Thomas Raymond Mallock	Major	43	single	"	"	Hants Aldershot	000
3	Howard Lyell Stanley Tom Cole	Captain	36	single	"	"	Denbigh Llangynidr	450
4	Edward Percival Ludwick	Captain	30	single	"	"	Shrops Walsby	000
5	Clare Cuaton Woodale Savile	Captain	29	single	"	"	Barrow-in-Furness Barrow	000
6	Robert Henry Pison	Captain	29	single	"	"	Shropshire Crusford	000
7	Algernon Pauline Alwood	Lieutenant	30	single	"	"	Surrey Wandsworth	000
8	Edward Carr	Lieutenant	25	single	"	"	Middlesex London	000
9	Frederick Ludwick Thomas O'Donel	Lieutenant	26	single	"	"	Dublin Dublin	000
10	James Francis Startist	Lieutenant	23	single	"	"	Middlesex London	000
11	Robert Leslie Irvine Friend	2/Lieut	24	single	"	"	Hants Northdown	490
12	Robert Stephen Cooper	2/Lieut	23	single	"	"	Surrey Chiddingfold	190
13	Kinglake Fitz Butler Jover	2/Lieut	20	single	"	"	Middlesex London	000
14	Maurice James Deane	2/Lieut	21	single	"	"	West York Leeds	699
15	Cyril George Parker	2/Lieut	20	single	"	"	India Ranchi	709
16	John Simpson	2/Lieut	20	single	"	"	Yorkshire Howden	000
17	David Edward Cahill	2/Lieut	20	single	"	"	Manitowish Manitowish	123
18	Cecil James Priest	2/Lieut	23	single	2/Bn Royal Fusiliers	"	Essex Waltham Abbey	110
19	Gordon Hewitt	2/Lieut	22	single	5/Bn Royal Fusiliers	"	Middlesex London	000
20	Phillip Magnay	2/Lieut	25	single	6/Bn Royal Fusiliers	"	Middlesex London	000
21	Clement Frederick Cross	Lieutenant	36	single	4/Bn Royal Fusiliers	"	Dorset Portland	360
22	John Leader	Captain	34	married	1/Bn Bedfordshire Regt	"	India Lucknow	207
23	George Lacey	Pte	30	married	4/Bn Royal Fusiliers	413/100	Middlesex London	000
24	Liddy Layton	Pte	19	single	"	"	Middlesex London	000
25	Ernest Littlewood	Pte	19	single	"	"	Middlesex London	000
26	Walter Love	Pte	19	single	"	"	Middlesex London	000
27	George Martling	Pte	23	single	"	"	Essex Stratford	110
28	Charles Mc Dowell	Pte	23	single	"	"	Anttrim Belfast	650
29	Charles Morton	Pte	20	single	"	"	Middlesex Acton	246
30	Henry Nighbour	Pte			"	"	Middlesex London	000

Total number of persons

Name	Died
Norman Reginald McMahon	11/11/1914
Thomas Raymond Mallock	08/12/1934
Mowbray Lyster Stanley Owen Cole	14/09/1914
Edward Boscawen Frederick	26/10/1959
Clare Ruxton Uvedale Savile	1949
Robert Henry Pison	1964
Algernon Foulkes Atwood	14/09/1914
Edward Carr	
George O'Donel Frederick Thomas O'Donel	16/06/1915
James Francis Harter	01/11/1960
Arthur Leslie Irvine Friend	1961
Robert Stephen Cooper	
Kingslake Fritz Butler Tower	after 1926
Maurice James Dease	23/08/1914
Cyril George Parker	15/04/1968
John Tompson	
David Edward Estill	24/03/1943
Clement Frederick Cross	04/10/1918





Officers of the 4th Battalion Royal Fusiliers, including front row centre Lieutenant Colonel Norman McMahon, and back row right Lieutenant Maurice Dease.





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Timeline of World War I

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Theatres		
Western	Eastern	Italian
Caucasian	Middle Eastern	Balkan
African	Naval	Air
Politics	Asian and Pacific	Gallipoli

Contents
1 1914
2 1915
3 1916
4 1917
5 1918
6 1919
7 1920



Dates	Events
Jun-28	Assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, who was killed in Sarajevo along with his wife Duchess Sophie by Bosnian Serb Gavrilo Princip.
Jul-05	Austria-Hungary seeks German support for a war against Serbia in case of Russian militarism. Germany gives assurances of support.
Jul-23	Austria-Hungary sends an ultimatum to Serbia. The Serbian response is seen as unsatisfactory.
Jul-28	Austria-Hungary declares war on Serbia. Russia mobilizes.
Jul-28	The Netherlands declare neutrality.
Jul-31	Germany warns Russia to stop mobilizing. Russia says mobilization is against Austria-Hungary only.
Aug-01	Germany declares war on Russia.
	Italy declares its neutrality.
	Germany and the Ottoman Empire sign a secret alliance treaty.



Dates	Events
Aug-02	Germany invades Luxembourg.
	Skirmish at Joncherey, first military action on the Western Front
August 2–26	Germany besieges and captures fortified Longwy "the iron gate to Paris" near the Luxembourg border, opening France to mass German invasion
Aug-03	Germany declares war on France. Belgium denies permission for German forces to pass through to the French border.
Aug-04	Germany invades Belgium to outflank the French army.
	Britain protests the violation of Belgian neutrality, guaranteed by a treaty;
	German Chancellor replies that the treaty is just a chiffon de papier (a scrap of paper).
	The United Kingdom declares war on Germany.
	The United States declares neutrality.

Dates	Events
August 4–16	The Germans besiege and then capture the fortresses of Liège, Belgium.
Aug-05	First shot fired by Allied troops – German Steamer SS Pfalz surrenders after being fired on by Fort Nepean, south of Melbourne, Australia
	Montenegro declares war on Austria-Hungary.
	The Ottoman Empire closes the Dardanelles.
Aug-06	Austria-Hungary declares war on Russia.
	Serbia declares war on Germany.
Aug-07	The British Expeditionary Force arrives in France.

WAR DIARY 4th Bn. Royal Fusiliers

- Catalogue Reference
WO/95/1431
- 3rd Division
- 9th Infantry Brigade
- 4th Royal Fusiliers



- <http://www.bramleyway.com/wsc69987443/WDJun1915.html>
- <http://www.bellewaarde1915.co.uk/>



Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Parkhurst 6.10 p.m. Aug 4 th 1914	Mobilization ordered 2 companies Fortress Manning
Parkhurst Aug 5 th 1914	1 st day of Mobilization. 2 officers and 3 NCOs proceeded to HOUNSLOW on conducting duty. 2 Companies Fortress Manning.
Parkhurst Aug 6 th 1914 5.15 a.m. 11 p.m. 9.22 a.m.	2 nd day of Mobilization 384 Reservists joined from Hounslow 2 Companies returned to barracks from Fortress Manning. All horses bought. Establishment complete. 1 officer and 3 NCOs proceeded for conducting duty to Depot.
Parkhurst Aug 7 th 1914 2 a.m.	3 rd day of Mobilization About 340 Reservists arrived from Depot.
Parkhurst Aug 8 th 1914 7 p.m.	Sent 1 Capt. 2 subalterns & 15 NCOs to Depot for new units. About 40 NCOs and men joined from Depot. Alterations had to be made to SAA carts. Reported mobilized 11.50 p.m.

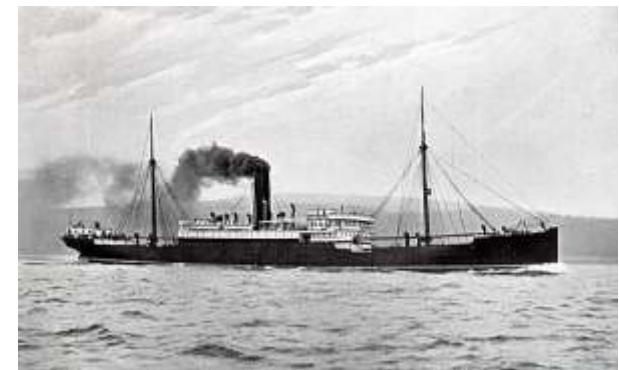




Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Parkhurst Aug 9 th 1914	5 th day of Mobilization Transport inspected by C.O. Reservists drilled by Companies.
Parkhurst Aug 10 th 1914 3. 20 p.m.	Reservists fixed range practices at Details left for FALMOUTH Strength 3 Officers and 234 other ranks. 6 th day of Mobilization. Establishment of Officers reduced.
Parkhurst Aug 11 th 1914 10 a.m.	7 th day of Mobilization. Battalion Drill followed by route march about 9 miles, very hot many casualties among reservists. Sergeant tailor left for Depot
Parkhurst Aug 12 th 1914 7 p.m. 7 p.m.	8 th day of Mobilization 13 Reservists joined from Depot Orders received to embark at COWES on 13 th Aug
Parkhurst Aug 13 th 1914 9 a.m.	Left Parkhurst for SOUTHAMPTON Embarked on MARTABAN Sailed for Havre





Officers of 4th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers
11th August 1914



Week 1

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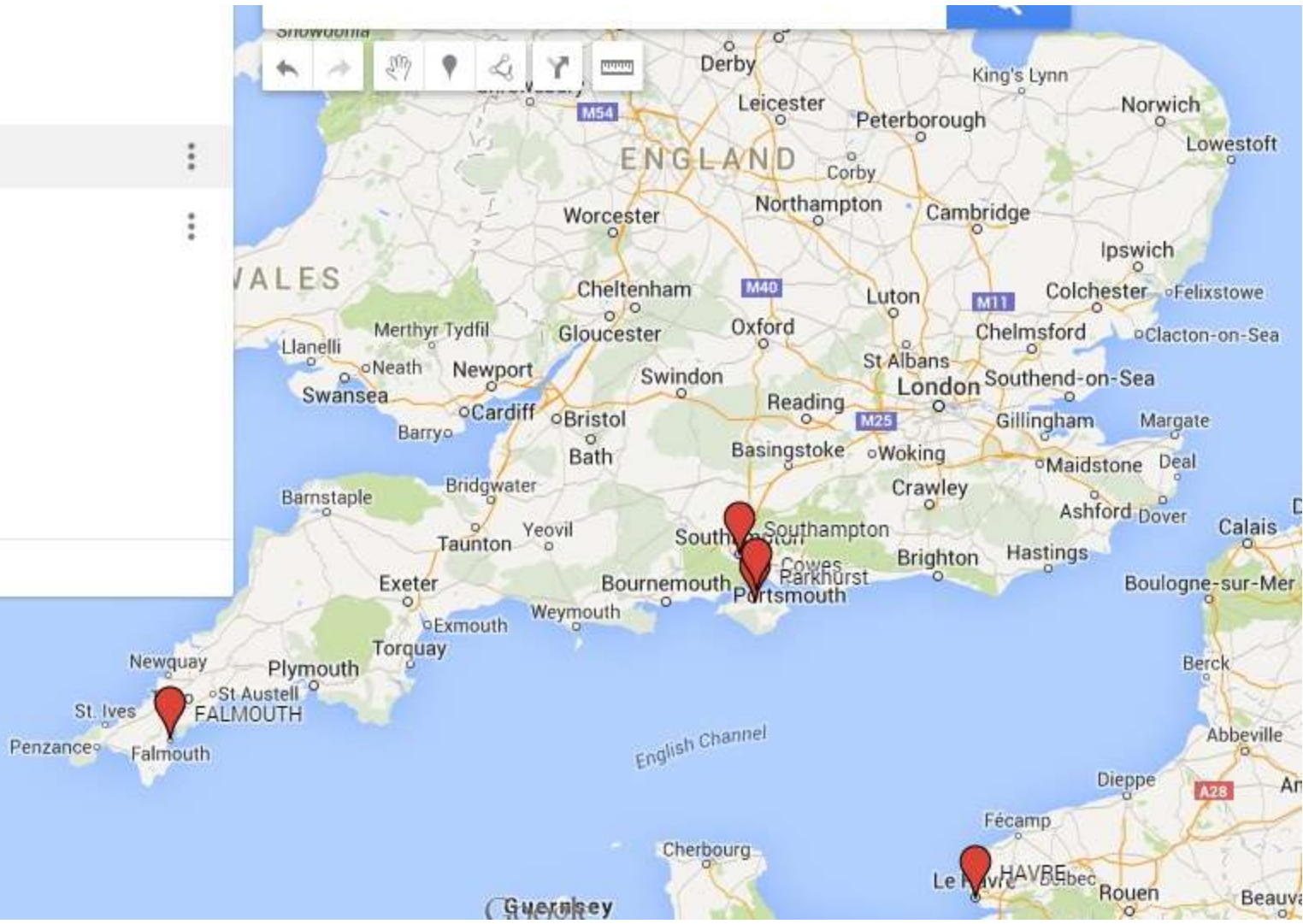
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week1.xlsx

 Individual styles

-  FALMOUTH
-  Cowes
-  Southampton
-  HAVRE
-  Parkhurst

Base map



Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
<p>HAVRE Aug 14th 1914 4 a.m. 8. 20 a.m. 1 p.m. Rest Camp</p>	<p>Arrived at HAVRE Left HAVRE for Rest Camp, about 7 miles away Arrived at Rest Camp. Many men fell out on the march owing to the great heat and the large number of reservists in the Battalion. No extra transport was available for extra rations. Therefore our transport was overloaded.</p>
<p>Rest Camp Aug 15th 1914</p>	<p>Remained in rest Camp. Very wet weather.</p>
<p>HAVRE Aug 16th 1914 11.15 a.m. 12 noon 3.30 p.m.</p>	<p>Entrained for Concentration area at 11.15 a.m. Entrainment completed Train started</p>
<p>Aug 17th 1914 BUSIGNY 6.50 a.m. LANDRECIES 7. 30 a.m. LANDRECIES 9. 30 a.m. NOYELLES 11.30 a.m.</p>	<p>Train arrived Train arrived Left LANDRECIES and marched to NOYELLES about 7 miles. Arrived and were billeted there. 23 men fell out.</p>



The 4th Battalion Royal Fusiliers arrived in Le Havre to a great reception with the locals lining the streets and cheering. They also sang the French national anthem, 'La Marseillaise' and the Royal Fusiliers responded with a popular music hall hit, 'Hold your hands out, naughty boy'.

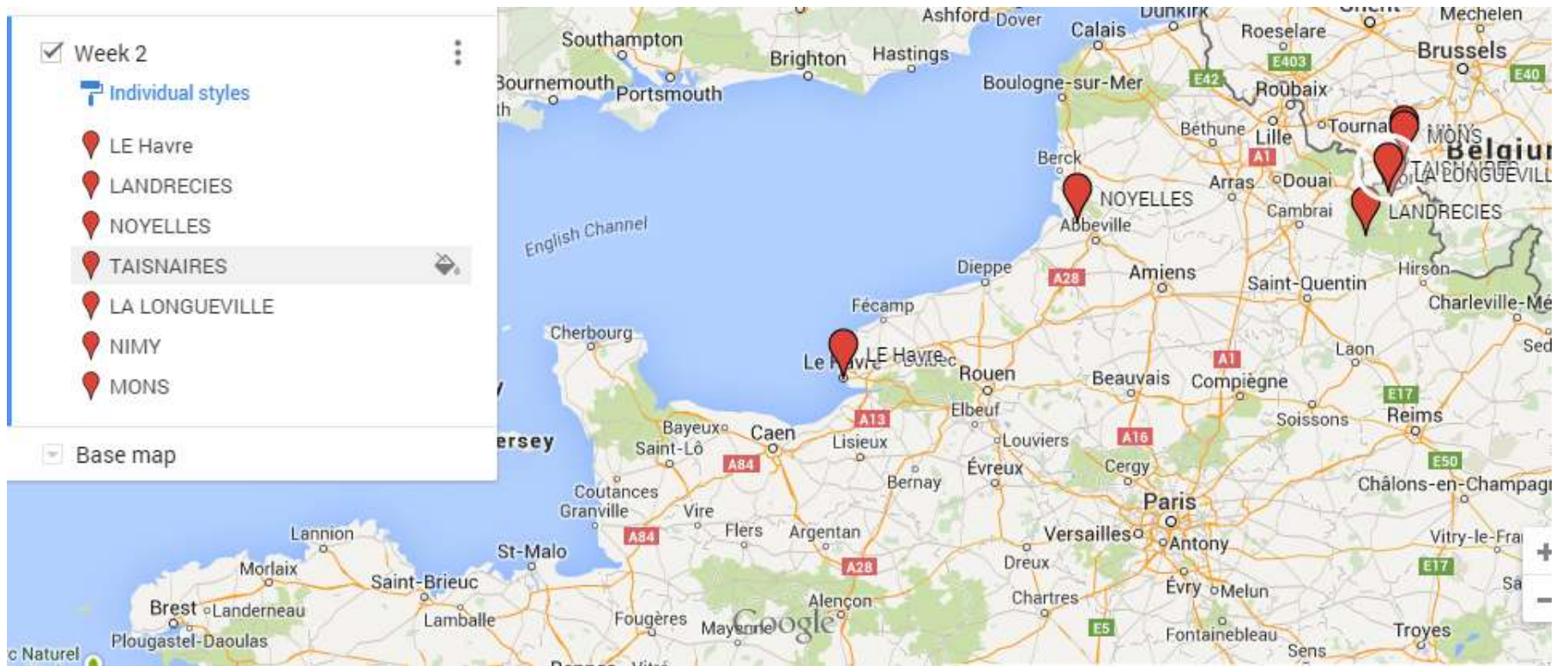
Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
NOYELLES Aug 18 th 1914 11 a.m.	Billeted Battalion Route March about 3 miles. No men fell out. Fine weather.
NOYELLES Aug 19 th 1914	Billeted Brigade Route March about 8 miles, one man fell out.
NOYELLES Aug 20 th 1914 10 a.m. TAISNAIRES 2.15 p.m.	Moved to new billets at TAISNAIRES Brigade Route March about 6 miles . 4 men fell out. 18 men sent sick to LANDRECIES
TAISNAIRES Aug 21 st 1914 5 a.m. LA LONGUEVILLE 10 a.m.	Started as above Arrived after a march of about 10 miles , fine day. Billeted
LA LONGUEVILLE Aug 22 nd 1914 5. 30 a.m. 6 p.m. NIMY just north of MONS	Started. Crossed Belgian Frontier near MALPLAQUET Advance guard. Took up an outpost position guarding crossings over the canal. Had orders to hold on to this position as long as possible. Quiet night.

Week 2

 Individual styles

-  LE Havre
-  LANDRECIES
-  NOYELLES
-  TAISNAIRES
-  LA LONGUEVILLE
-  NIMY
-  MONS

Base map



Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
<p data-bbox="65 191 349 351">Aug 23rd 1914 About 11 a.m. 1.10 p.m.</p> <p data-bbox="65 819 382 1033">1.40 p.m. About 3.30 p.m. About 7 p.m. CIPLEY</p>	<p data-bbox="515 137 1831 291">Still holding outpost position. A certain amount of desultory firing took place in the early morning. We wounded and captured 2 Uhlan Officers.</p> <p data-bbox="515 305 1843 805">The Germans started to attack us seriously with apparently at least four battalions of infantry , also cavalry and artillery. We suffered severely on the bridge over the Canal by rifle and Artillery fire. The machine guns had a particularly trying time . Practically all the detachment including Lieut. L. Dease the machine gun officer were killed or wounded . Lieut. Dease and Pvt. Godley both displayed the most conspicuous gallantry in working the guns after they had been wounded. The guns having finally been disabled by artillery fire had to be abandoned.</p> <p data-bbox="515 819 1103 862">First order to retire was given.</p> <p data-bbox="515 876 1112 919">Final order to retire was given.</p> <p data-bbox="515 933 1846 1205">Successful retirement through MONS accomplished. The battalion carried out the most difficult manoeuvre with the greatest steadiness. The total casualties sustained by the battalion at MONS were about 112 killed or wounded including 7 officers. Most of these casualties had unfortunately to be left behind.</p> <p data-bbox="515 1219 1692 1262">Arrived CIPLEY and bivouacked there until 2 a.m. 24th Aug.</p>



LIEUT. MAURICE JAMES DEACE, 4th Batt. the Royal Fusiliers, though two or three times badly wounded, continued to control the fire of his machine-guns at Mons, on August 23rd. He died of his wounds.



British troops from 4th Royal Fusiliers resting in the square at Mons 22 August 1914, the day before the Battle of Mons



PRIVATE S. F. GODLEY.



Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
<p>CIPLEY Aug 24th 1914 2 a.m. GENLY 10 a.m. BERMERIES 10 30 p.m.</p>	<p>Marched to take up a position just north of CIPLEY in conjunction with 7th Fus Bde. At dawn on 24th Aug the Germans attacked ; not very heavily but we had orders to retire and did so through GENLY about 10 a.m. Marched to BERMERIES in the direction of POTELLE. A great deal of fighting took place between aeroplanes. Our planes apparently put a German Zeppelin out of action.</p>
<p>BERMERIES Aug 25th 1914 About 10 a.m. 6. 15 p.m.</p>	<p>Our battalion brought down a German aeroplane by rifle fire Arrived at INCHY. Billeted 2 Coys on outpost.</p>
<p>INCHY About 6 a.m. Aug 26th 1914 About 9 a.m. 2.30 p.m.</p>	<p>Retired on a position which had already been attacked S.E. of INCHY Suffered slightly from shrapnel fire bursting very accurately into a sunken road in which we took cover as Reserve Battalion. 2 Lt. Sampson was wounded and removed to Field Ambulance. We suffered few other casualties as the Germans did not attack heavily at this point of the line. Received order to retire * and did so in a direction to HARGINCOURT</p>

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Aug 27 th 1914 10 a.m. HARGINCOURT VERMAND 6.30 p.m.	Arrived having marched all night. Arrived and bivouacked having been under arms continuously since Sat 22 nd August.
Aug 28 th 1914 1 a.m. VERMAND	Started and marched continuously through HAM till 6.30 p.m. when we arrived at CRISSOLE and billeted
Aug 29 th 1914 CRISSOLE 1 p.m.	Billeted Ordered out to hold a position covering CRISSOLE. Killed 2 Uhlans about 5 p.m. About 7 p.m. received orders to retire. Retired in a Southerly direction and marched all night through NOYON
Aug 30 th 1914 About 10 a.m.	Halted for some hours. resumed march and arrived at MONTTOIS about 6 p.m. Billeted for night of 30 th 31 st
MONTTOIS 7 a.m. Aug 31 st 1914	Left MONTTOIS marched in a Southerly direction. Very hot. Arrived at VAUCIENNES about 3 p.m. billeted

week 3

 Uniform style


 All items (8)






Base map

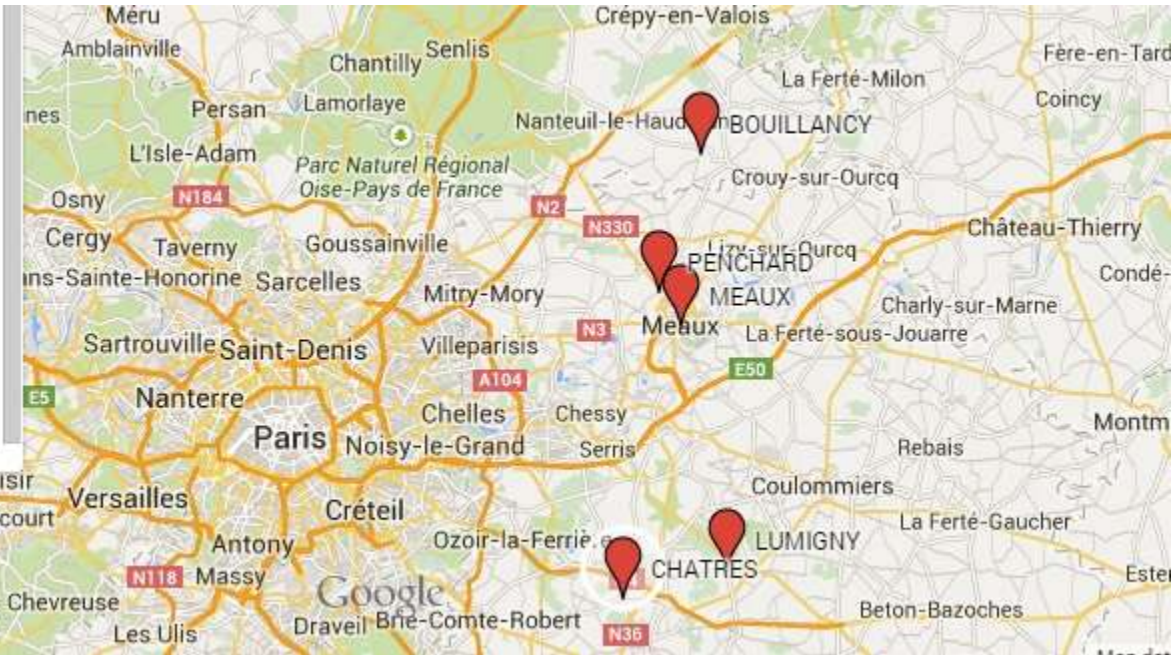


Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
VAUCIENNES Sep 1 st 1914 6.30 a.m 8 p.m.	Left VAUCIENNES. Rear guard Arrived BOUILLANCY after along and very hot march billeted in double billets
BOUILLANCY Sep 2 nd 1914 4.30 a.m	Left BOUILLANCY and marched to PENCHARD arriving about 2 p.m. Billeted. Quiet night.
PENCHARD Sep 3 rd 1914 7 a.m.	Left PENCHARD marched through MEAUX arrived at LE MANS FARM about 4.30 p.m. Billeted.
LE MANS FARM 1.30. p.m. Sep 4 th 1914	Ordered to leave and to take a defensive position South of LA HAUTE MAISON. Ordered to retire from here at 10.30 p.m. Did so marched all night arriving at CHATRES at 7 a.m. Sept 5 th after a long and tiring march.
CHATRES Sep 5 th 1914	1 Officer and 90 1 st reinforcements joined.
CHATRES Sep 6 th 1914 6.30 a.m.	Advance resumed. Advance Guard. Advanced in a Northerly direction. About 10 a.m. halted for some hours. Received orders to advance by LUMIGNY and were informed that enemy was retreating. Arrived LUMIGNY about 8 p.m. Billeted.

Week4

 Individual styles

-  BOUILLANCY
-  PENCHARD
-  MEAUX
-  CHATRES
-  LUMIGNY





Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
LUMIGNY Sep 7 th 1914 12 noon	Left LUMIGNY. Last Bn. in Division. Crowded uncomfortable march owing to not being clear of 2 nd Div. Arrived at LA MARTROY about 7 p.m. Billeded. 2 nd Reinforcements of 1 Officer and 93 men joined.
LA MARTROY Sep 8 th 1914 6 a.m.	Advanced in a Northerly direction. Held up for some hours by enemy at ORLY. Finally dislodged them and continued advance. Arrived at LES FAUCHERES about 8 p.m. Billeded.
LES FAUCHERES Sep 9 th 1914 5 a.m.	Resumed advance crossed R. MARNE unopposed. Met enemy on north side of River. A good deal of fighting took place. Bn. not engaged. Bivouaced at LA LONGUE FERME 2 Coys slept in trenches
LA LONGUE FERME Sep 10 th 1914 5 a.m.	Left LA LONGUE FERME. Advanced northwards in pursuit of enemy. Bn. advance guard. Got in touch with enemy near VEUILLY. Shelled his transport and drove him from his position North of VEUILLY in cooperation with 1 st Corps on our right. Killed and wounded large numbers of enemy who finally surrendered. We had a few casualties including 2 officers seriously and 2 officers slightly wounded. Arrived DAMARD about 4.30 p.m. Billeded
DAMARD Sep 11 th 1914 7.30 a.m.	Left and marched to GRAND ROZOY. Arrived about 1.30 p.m. Billeded. No firing heard for first time for many days.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
<p>GRAND ROZOY Sep 12th 1914 6 a.m.</p>	<p>Left and marched in N. Easterly direction. In touch with enemy on LA VESLE R. at BRAINE. Slight opposition. Our cavalry had skirmish with enemy on northern bank of river. Captured some prisoners at BRENELLE. Very wet afternoon and night.</p>
<p>BRENELLE Sep 13th 1914 8 a.m. 11 p.m. VAILLY</p>	<p>Left billets and marched in a N.W. direction towards VAILLY. A great deal of artillery firing took place all round. The Battalion halted under cover and took no active part. At dusk resumed march on VAILLY and at about 11 p.m. crossed R. by improvised bridge. Crossing completed about 11.30 p.m. then ordered to take up a position covering VAILLY on the heights North of the Village.</p>
<p>Sep 14th 1914</p>	<p>Arrived at position near LA ROUGE MAISON FARM just after midnight. No attack during the night. At dawn which was foggy and very wet the Germans attacked with strong Artillery and Machine Gun support. The battalion held its ground for some time but owing to the Regiment on its right giving away had to retire to a sunken road about 200 yards south of LA ROUGE MAISON. This position we held on to. We had many casualties including 5 officers killed wounded and missing and about 200 other ranks also killed wounded or missing. Night of 14th 15th The enemy made a night attack but we repulsed them with rifles and bayonets.</p>

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Sep 15 th 1914	Holding on to our position in sunken road which we have strongly entrenched and traversed. Enemy shelling us a good deal but we only had two casualties. Very wet night. Night attack by enemy was repulsed by rifle fire.
Sep 16 th 1914	Still holding on to position. All ranks doing splendidly. Still improving our entrenchments. The enemy can be seen at about 200 to 300 yards from our position, also entrenched. A good deal of sniping taking place but we have very few casualties.
Sep 17 th 1914	Still holding on to position. Very wet day. Everyone wet through as we have no cover. The enemy have been shelling the valley south of us and the bridge at VAILLY ever since we came here but have not done much damage. Expected night attack from rumours of inhabitants. Stood to arms all night. No attack.
Sep 18 th 1914	Still holding on to position. Fine day. Quiet but very wet night. Everyone wet through.

O'Donel WW1

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week 3

Week4

Week5

 Individual styles


 ORLY

 VEUILLY

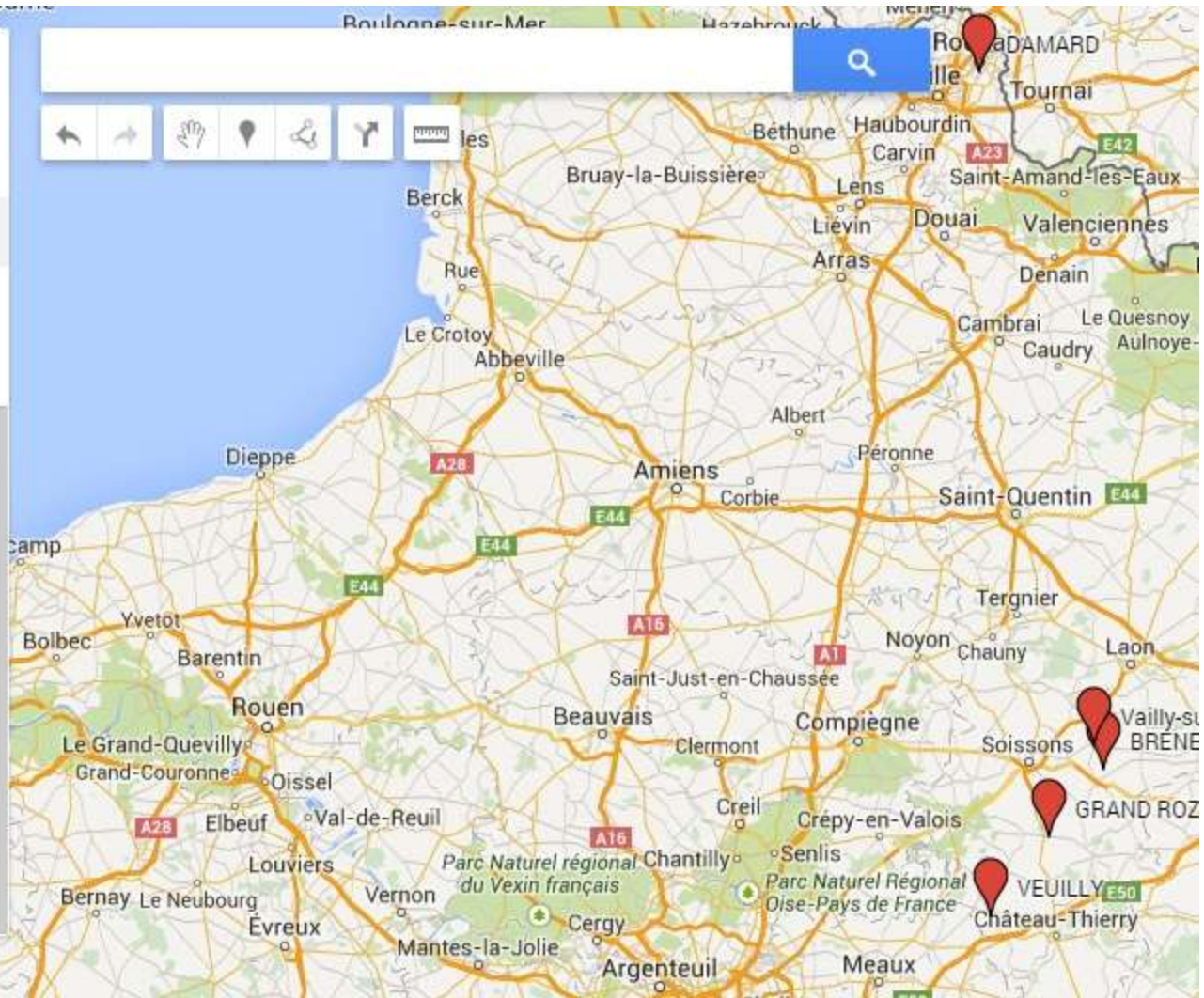
 DAMARD

 GRAND ROZOY

 BRENELLE

 Vailly-sur-Aisne

Base map



Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Sep 19 th 1914	<p>Fine day. Got very severe shelling from enemy commencing about 2.30 p.m. Our own guns hardly replying at all owing to the long range. We had several casualties. Heavy shelling by enemy's artillery at short range continued till about 6 p.m. when it stopped and there was a general advance of the enemy's infantry. They attacked heavily but were repulsed with many casualties by rifle fire. Some of the enemy appeared to get lost in the darkness and there was some confusion amongst them. One prisoner of the 64th Regt. Was captured. Quiet and fine night.</p>
Sep 20 th 1914 5 p.m.	<p>Enemy renewed the attack at dawn but did not press it home. Attack died away after about 2 hours. Enemy still continued to shell us accurately and we had a few casualties. Our guns gave us much more support today than they had done before.</p> <p>Relieved by the Lincolnshire Regiment after having been 7 days in the firing line. Joined by 3rd reinforcements. 1 officer and 92 O. R.</p>
Sep 21 st 1914	<p>About 3 a.m. 2 Regiments of 6th Div moved to MAISON ROUGE position and we retired across the to COURCELLES and billeted there for a much needed rest.</p> <p>Colonel McMahan was complemented by Gen Hamilton Comd 3rd Div and by Gen Shaw Comd 9th Inf Bde on the work done by the battalion during the last week.</p> <p>About 4 p.m. Sir John French visited the Battalion and expressed to men and officers the appreciation of their work the last week</p>

Rouge Maison Salient, The Aisne, Sep 1914

The retreat from Mons took the 4th Battalion through Le Cateau where they were in reserve but suffered some casualties. They crossed the Marne unopposed but sustained more casualties at Veully on 10th Sep. On the 13th They crossed the Aisne via a narrow plank bridge and set themselves up to the left of Rouge Maison Farm to spend a wet night in the open. On the 14th they realised that they were too far forward and the Germans were able to fire on their right flank. Under heavy firing from machine-guns and artillery the enemy attacked and although some positions were held, others were forced to withdraw. Four officers were killed, one wounded, and 200 other ranks were killed or wounded. On the 19th Sep they came under heavy bombardment but a German attack was beaten off and they spent eight nights in the trenches there before they were relieved by the Lincolns. Total casualties for the battle of the Aisne were 5 officers killed and 300 other ranks killed or wounded.



Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
COURCELLES Sep 22 nd 1914	Billeted. Joined by the whole Brigade which now became temporarily Reserve to the Army. Joined by 4 th reinforcements 2 officers and 186 other ranks
Sep 23 rd 1914	Billeted. Resting
Sep 24 th 1914	Billeted. Resting
COURCELLES Sep 25 th 1914 5 p.m. VAILLY 9 p.m.	<p>Left COURCELLES with Lincolnshire Regiment to march through VAILLY to take up a position north of the village held by 8th Inf Bde. Arrived at position on high ground just outside & N.W. of VAILLY and West of our original position at ROUGE MAISON.</p> <p>About 10 p.m. took over position from Royal Irish Regt. Lincolnshire Regt. In position on our left Middlesex on our right.</p> <p>The position is a curious one; very wooded in places with trenches facing in all directions. It is commanded by the enemy and we got severely shelled. It is a difficult position to hold by day as there is no filed of fire.</p> <p>It is a fairly strong position at night as the ground is very difficult for the enemy to attack over. He would probably have to come by the roads which we have strongly barricaded.</p>



O'Donel WW1

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Week 2

week 3

Week4

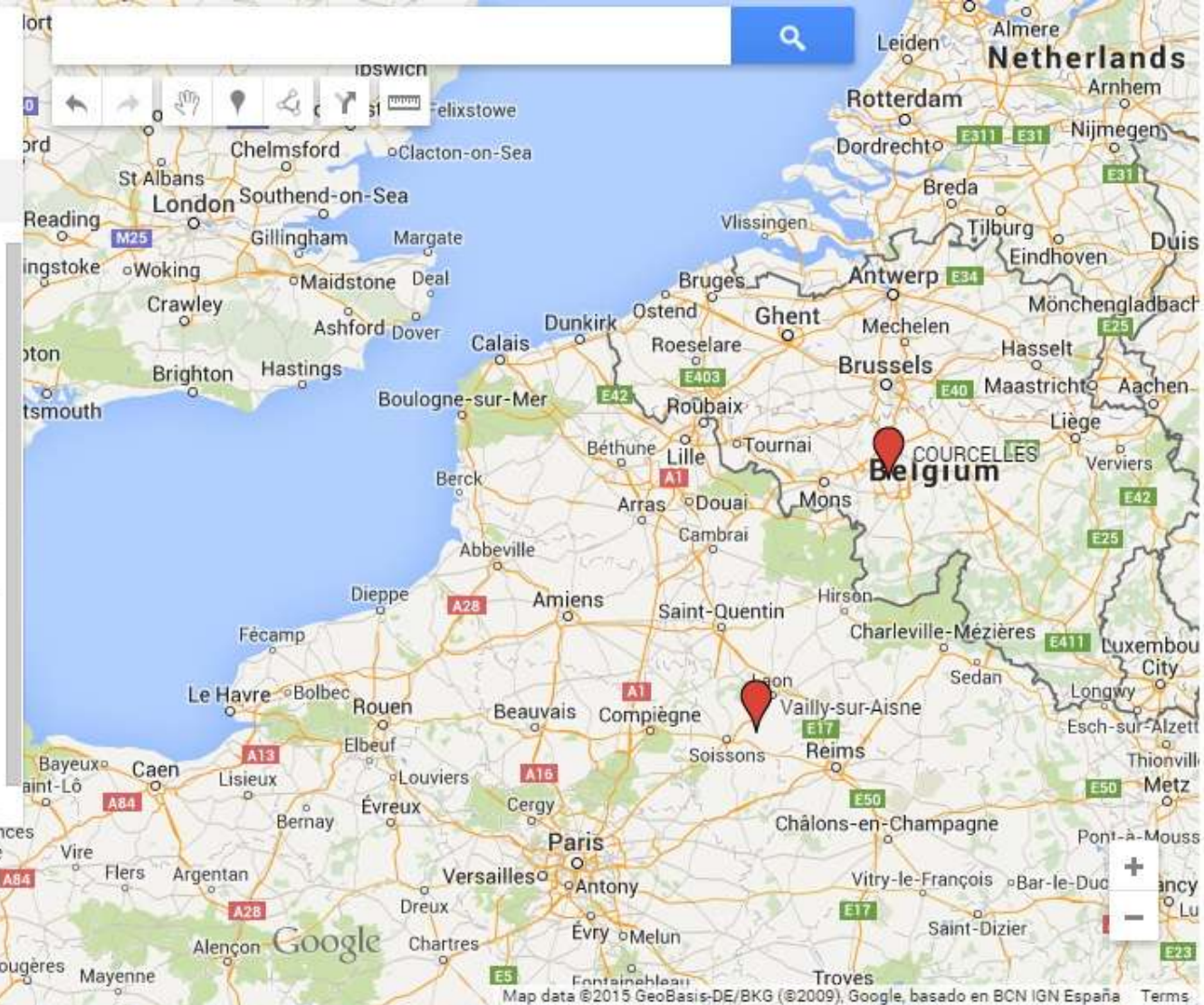
Week5

Week6

Individual styles

COURCELLES

Vailly-sur-Aisne



Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
VAILLY Sep 26 th 1914	In position. Shelled by enemy. No casualties. Joined by remainder of 9 th Bde. Northumberland Fusiliers now on our right instead of the Middlesex Regiment.
Sep 27 th 1914	In position. Shelled mildly by enemy. No casualties. Fine weather.
Sep 28 th 1914	In position and improving it. Making a second line of defence round village by loop holing walls etc. Still being shelled by enemy. A few casualties amongst Lincolnshire Regt. About 10 p.m. a good deal of rifle fire heard on our right in the direction of ROUGE MAISON. Stood to arms for about 1 hour. No attack on our position.
Sep 29 th 1914	In position. Nothing of importance happened. Fine day. Nights getting very cold.
Sep 30 th 1914.	In position. Nothing of importance happened.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Oct 1 st 1914 in position VAILLY	Very fine day. Nothing of importance happened. 5 th Fusiliers and Scots Fusiliers left for unknown destination.
Oct 2 nd 1914 7.30 p.m.	No enemy's fire today. Most of them seem to have gone. 9 th Bde. Relieved by Shropshires and Buffs. Marched for unknown destination in southerly direction. Marched all night through BRAINE arrived at Farm just north of SERVENAY at about 4 a.m.
SERVENAY Oct 3 rd 1914	Billeted for day. Left farm near SERVENAY at 5. 45 p.m. Marched on TROESNES. Arrived about 12. 30 a.m. Beautiful moonlit night. Billeted.
TROESNES Oct 4 th 1914	Billeted at TROESNES. Left about 6 p.m. Marched in Westerly direction through to CREPY-EN-VALOIS. Arrived about 2 a.m. Oct 5 th . Long march fine night. Very severe night marching the last three nights average about 18 miles.
CREPY Oct 5 th 1914	Billeted at CREPY. Left at 6 p.m. Marched to ROBERVAL. Arrived 12 midnight. Billeted.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
ROBERVAL Oct 6 th 1914	Left ROBERVAL at 6.45 a.m. marched to LONGUEIL PONT , crossing R. OISE by pontoon bridge of barges, entrained there 1 p.m. for unknown destination. Arrived at AILLY SUR SOMME about 7 p.m. Remained there all night in train.
Oct 7 th 1914	Detrained at PONT REMY about 12 noon. Marched to BUIGNY ST. MACLOUD arrived about 5 p.m. Billeted with remainder of Bde.
Oct 8 th 1914	Billeted at BUIGNY
Oct 9 th 1914	Left BUIGNY 1.45 a.m. and marched to TOLLEN arrived about 7 a.m. Billeted for day.
Oct 10 th 1914	Left TOLLEN about 1 a.m. marched to HESDIN and from there were taken in French Motor Lorries to SAINS. Total distance about 25 miles. Billeted at SAINS. Joined by 9 officers.
Oct 11 th 1914	Left SAINS about 7.30 a.m. . Marched to point south of canal at RO BCQ billeted.
Oct 12 th 1914	Left billets at 7 a.m. and marched towards VIELLE CHAPELLE. Arrived there about 3 p.m. A certain amount of shelling done by the enemy. 8 th Bde attacked but did not make much progress. 9 th Bde in reserve. About 5 p.m. retired to billets at LE CORNET MALO

O'Donel WW1

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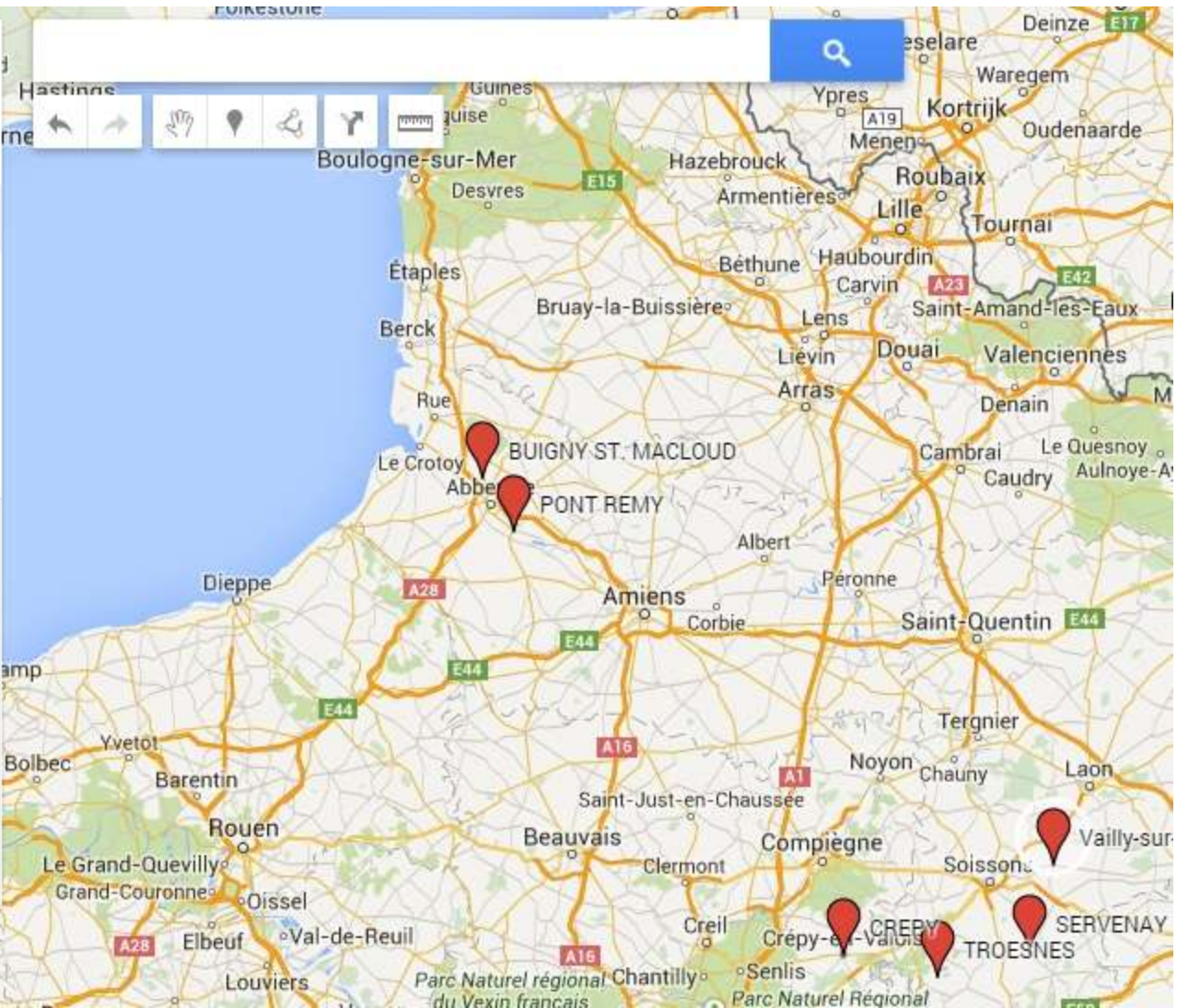
Week6

Week7

Individual styles

- SERVENAY
- TROESNES
- CREPY
- ROBERVAL
- PONT REMY
- BUGNY ST. MACLOUD
- Vailly-sur-Aisne

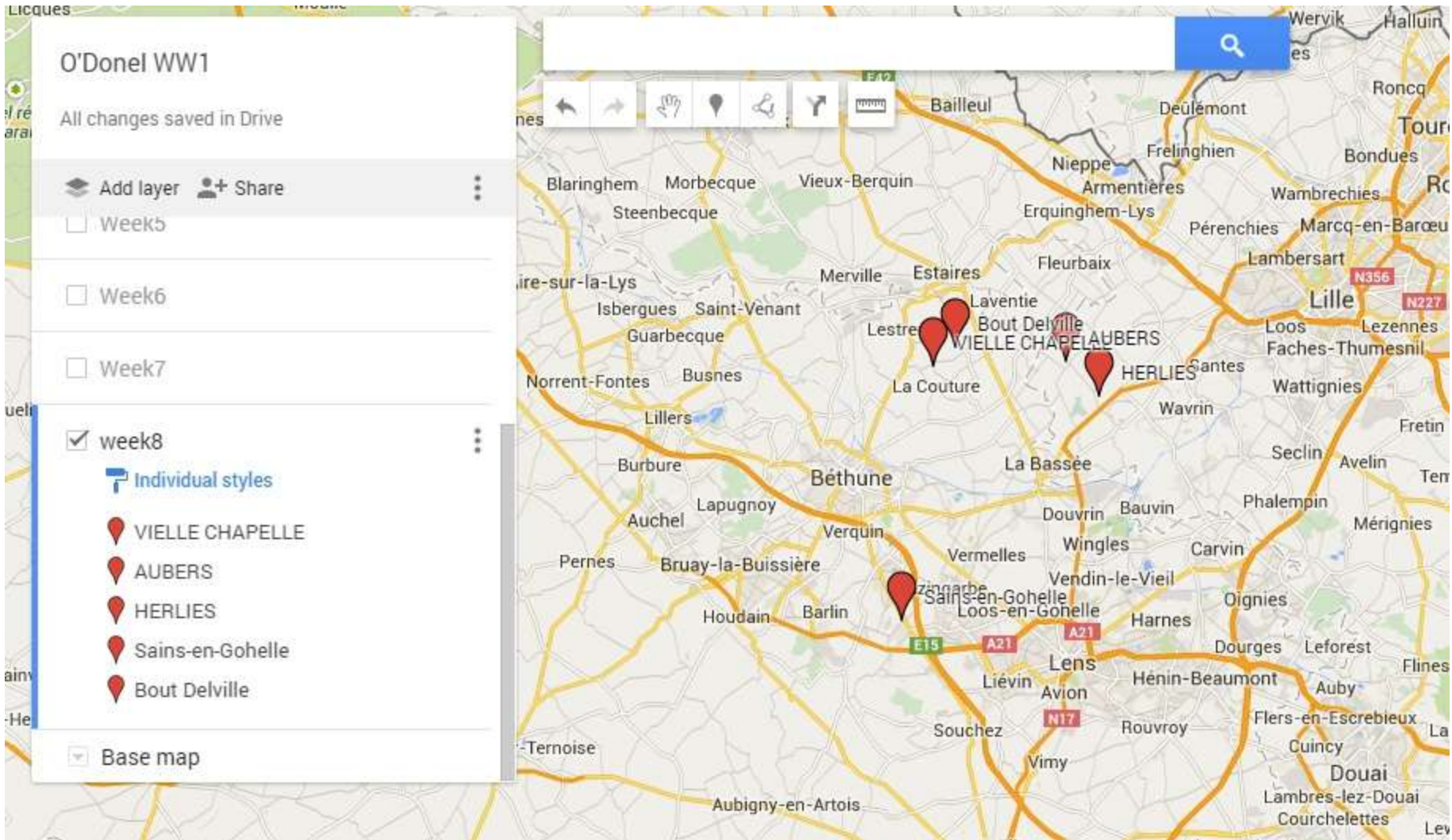
Base map



Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Oct 13 th 1914	Left billets at about 4 a.m. . Marched to VIELLE CHAPELLE. Arrived there about 5 a.m. Bn. in Divisional Reserve. Remained all day. A great deal of fixing and fighting took place along the line BOUT DE VILLE --- LA COUTURE 7 th 8 th and part of 9 th Bde engaged. Also Artillery. Country very flat and close intercepted by dykes. No field of fire or view.
Oct 14 th 1914	Remained all day billeted as Divl Reserve. A good deal of firing eastwards. No news can be obtained. Joined by 5 th reinforcements 2 officers and 174 OR. Gen Hamilton (Coms 3 rd Div) killed by stray shrapnel. About 7 p.m. heavy firing heard to East. Stood to Arms for about 2 hours. Firing died away.
Oct 15 th 1914	Still in same billets. Gen Colin Mackenzie took over command of 3 rd Div. Moved with 5 th Fusiliers at 1 p.m. on BOUT DE VILLE with orders to cooperate with 8 th Bde. On right and advance and take main road running South E. from ESTAIRES. Deployed from BOUT DE VILLE proceeded with little opposition . Occupied this road by about 5 p.m. Entrenched East of road night of 15 th 16 th
Oct 16 th 1914	All quiet. Very foggy morning. In touch with the French on our left. Continued advance on line of RUE DU BOIS which was reached in the afternoon. Very little opposition; reached a line East of AUBERS astride RUE D'ENFER at about 5 p.m. dug ourselves in. Battle outposts night of 16 th 17 th . A few casualties from snipers. Quiet night.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Oct 17 th 1914	Resumed advance at 7 a.m. and occupied AUBERS without opposition about 10 a.m. . Continued advance on HERLIES . Met with opposition from rifle fire. Occupied HERLIES at dusk. About 10 casualties including one officer killed. Battle outposts night of 17 th 18 th .
Oct 18 th 1914	<p>Occupying HERLIES. Shelled a good deal by Germans We are holding loop holed houses and trenches in outskirts of village. 5th Fusiliers are in support in village.</p> <p>About 5 p.m. Scots Fusiliers on our right attacked also 18th Royal Irish on our left. Our artillery gave no support and attack was not successful although the 18th Royal Irish attacked wonderfully well and lost nearly the whole Bn.</p> <p>French attacked at same time on our left and gained some ground. Their artillery is wonderful and gives their infantry tremendous support. During the attack we held HERLIES and had about 40 casualties.</p>
Oct 19 th 1914	Still in HERLIES. Good deal of shelling all day, some casualties. Some firing at night. In the evening the 18 th Royal Irish made a very fine attack on PILLY and took it but suffered very severely.
Oct 20 th 1914	Very heavily shelled all day. Enemy attacked under this support but made very little impression. Many casualties including 3 officers. The was smashed to pieces by heavy shells. Night of 20 th 21 st Retired part of Bn. to Farm just west of HERLIES

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Oct 21 st 1914	Village more heavily shelled than ever. Most of houses broken down. No serious attack by infantry. Many casualties. Night of 21 st 22 nd Very heavy night attack on our right held by 5 th Div. Shelling and rifle fire most of the night. No serious attack on us. Retired whole line to position ½ mile E of AUBERS running through LE PLOUICH & LIGNY LE Gd Entrenched.
Oct 22 nd 1914	In trenches under moderate shell fire no casualties. Night of 22 nd 23 rd Received orders to withdraw to a prepared position about 4 miles W of AUBERS Started 12 midnight.
Oct 24 th 1914	Heavy firing about 1 a.m. Stood to Arms No developments. All coys in billets but with cover trenches in case of shell fire. Ordered out at night to retake trenches evacuated by another Regt. Of 8 th Bde. But found on arrival at position that this had already been done by Middlesex Regt, Spent all night on the move but did nothing. Left 1 Coy out as support to 8 th Bde. This Coy reformed in billets.
Oct 25 th 1914	Ordered out about 12 noon to retake trenches evacuated by a Regt of 7 th Bde. Did so but with several casualties including 3 officers. 2 killed. Remained in recaptured trenches night of 25 th 26 th Very wet.
Oct 26 th 1914	2 Coys returned to billets at dawn. 2 Coys in billets. 2 Coys in firing line with 7 th Bde. Ordered out with 2 Coys about 2 p.m. to support Coys in firing line West of NEUVE CHAPELLE . Found them heavily engaged ; the enemy having occupied some of our trenches. Made a night attack to try and recapture them but failed and had very heavy casualties including 8 officers.



Neuve Chapelle, 25th-27th Oct 1914

The 4th Battalion were given little rest and were ordered to retake lost trenches on the outskirts of Neuve Chapelle. Sir Francis Waller led Z Company in a charge against the enemy, and was mortally wounded. They captured the trenches and the town was cleared of Germans. Y Company and half of Z Company all under the command of Major Mallock remained in the front line while the rest went into billets. On 26th Oct the Germans attacked in the early hours and a fierce engagement took place in which the trenches were defended until most of the Fusiliers had been killed or wounded. The whole battalion was involved as the day wore on and some trenches were lost, but on the following day, the 27th, they were aided by French Alpine troops and almost regained the lost positions, but at a heavy cost in casualties. Major Mallock was severely wounded and the battalion was reduced to 8 officers and 350 other ranks. They were relieved on the night of the 29th Oct and marched to Merris. They were later complimented by General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien:

"I simply cannot find words enough to express my admiration for the way in which your regiment has behaved. All through the campaign up to now they have had the hardest work of any regiment in the brigade, and any work they have had to do they have carried out exceedingly well. In fact, I can say that there is no better regiment in the British Army than the Royal Fusiliers."



Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Oct 27 th 1914	Attacked enemy again in cooperation with remains of 6 Battalion. Very severe fighting. Nearly recaptured trenches but were driven back in the end to a new line of trenches. Heavy casualties including 2 officers. Held on to near trenches for night of 27 th 28 th
Oct 28 th 1914	Only about 8 officers and 350 other ranks left now. Joined by Lts Stapleton, Bretherton and Routley. Quiet day. Some shelling and sniping.
Oct 29 th 1914	Still in same trenches.
Oct 30 th 1914.	Relieved about 1 a.m. by Gourkas. Marched to VIELLE CHAPELLE. Rested for a few hours. Attached to 7 th Bde. And marched to DOULIEU billeted. Joined by 6 th reinforcements about 70 NCOs and men
Oct 31 st 1914	Left DOULIEU 9 a.m. marched to MERRIS billeted.



Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Nov 1 st 1914 MERRIS	Left MERRIS about 1 p.m. marched across BELGIAN Frontier through BAILLEU to LOCRE . Billeted there still under 7 th Bde.
Nov 2 nd 1914 LOCRE	Billeted just North of LOCRE. Heavy firing heard all day to East
Nov 3 rd 1914 LOCRE	Left billets about 12 noon and marched to BAILLEUL. Joined by 3 officers of other Corps. Again with 9 th Bde.
Nov 4 th 1914 BAILLEUL	Billeted at BAILLEUL. Inspected by Sir Horace Smith Dorrien, who complimented Col. McMahon on his own personal work as well as the work of the battalion during the campaign. He said that no battalion in the Army could have done better than the 4 th Bn. Royal Fusiliers. That they were absolutely to be relied on at all times and that it was impossible for him to speak too highly of the 4 th Bn. Royal Fusiliers. He also said that Lt. Col. McMahon had been given a Staff Appointment some days before but that owing to the fact that there would be no one to command the Bn. if he took up the appointment he (Sir Horace) had very reluctantly to ask Sir John French to leave him in command for the present.
Nov 5 th 1914 BAILLEUL	Billeted.

O'Donel WW1

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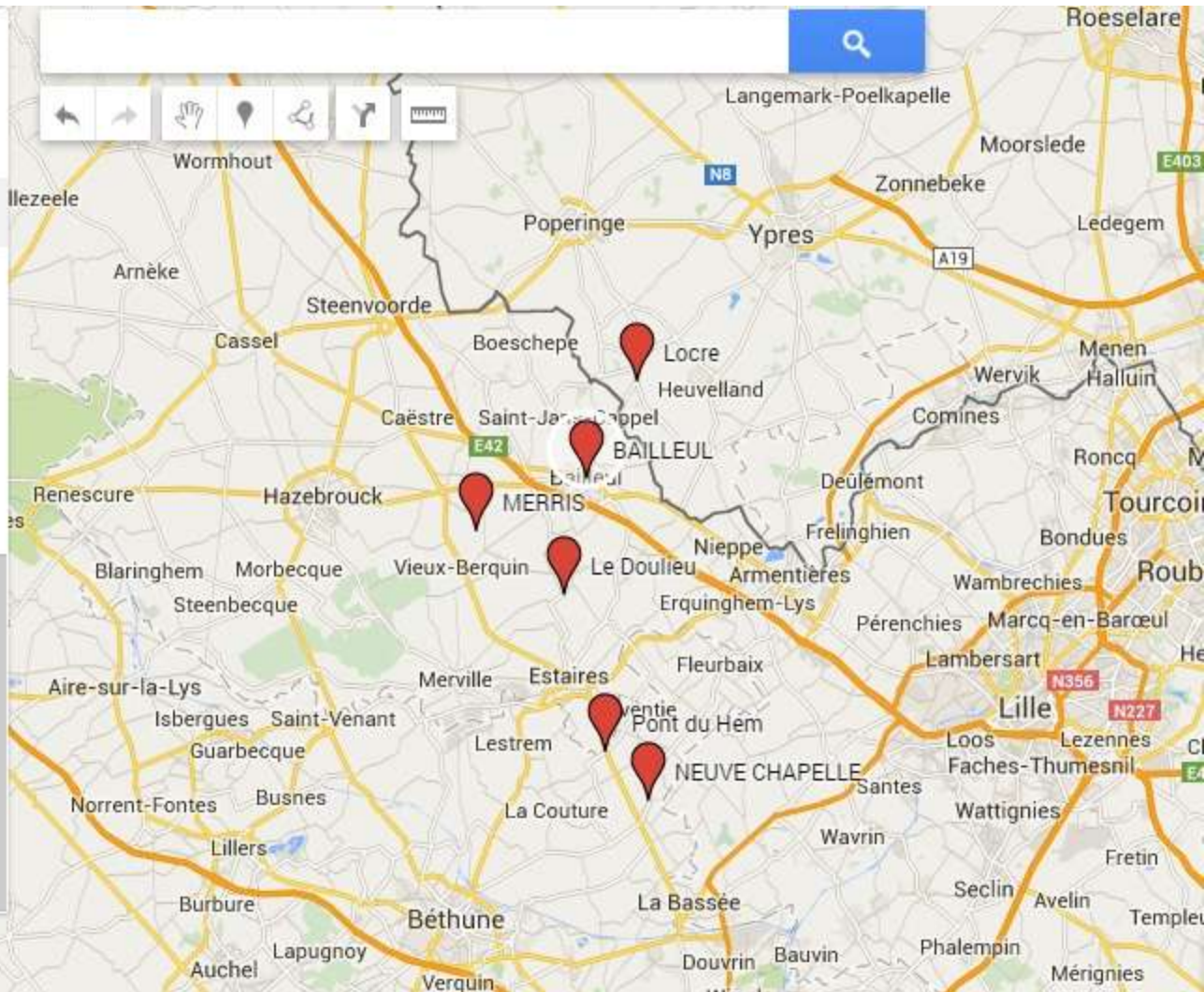
week8

Week9

Individual styles

- NEUVE CHAPELLE
- BAILLEU
- MERRIS
- BAILLEUL
- Locre
- Le Doulieu
- Pont du Hem

Base map





Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien

Commanded the British II Corps at the Battle of Mons, the first major action fought by the BEF, and the Battle of Le Cateau, where he fought a vigorous and successful defensive action contrary to the wishes of the Commander-in-Chief Sir John French, with whom he had had a personality clash dating back some years. In the spring of 1915 he commanded British Second Army at the Second Battle of Ypres. He was relieved of command by French for requesting permission to retreat from the Ypres Salient to a more defensible position.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Nov 6 th 1914	Left BAILLEUL at 10 a.m. and marched to a position about 3 miles East of YPRES and took over trenches from the Cavalry on night of 6 th 7 th
Nov 7 th 1914	In position in trenches. Very heavy shelling al day. Regt. On our left blown out of their trenches, but we held on. Supported in the evening by the West Riding Regt. Night of 7 th 8 th . A lot of sniping all night.
Nov 8 th 1914	Still in trenches. Very heavily shelled all day. Several attacks by enemy on our trenches. All repulsed. One particularly heavy attack on Y Coy at about 6 p.m. was repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. Y Coy under Lt. Stapleton Bretherton charged the enemy who were advancing on our trenches. The Coy drove the enemy away but went too far as Lt Bretherton 2 Lt Jackson and most of the Coy are missing. Joined by 7 th reinforcements Capt de Trafford Lt Ferrier and about 132 other ranks. Many casualties including 62 missing. Night of 8 th 9 th fairly quiet.
Nov 9 th 1914	Foggy morning. Certain amount of shelling all day. No heavy attack on our position but heavy firing on our right. All attacks repulsed all along the line with very heavy losses to the enemy. Still in the same position. Improving it. Weather very damp.
Nov 10 th 1914	Still in same position. Slightly shelled all day a good deal of sniping. Few casualties. Quiet night.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Nov 11 th 1914	Still in same position. Terrible shelling started about 6.30 a.m. and continued for about 2 ½ hours. (This is much the most severe shelling I have seen during the War) Infantry attack followed (it is said by 15 Battalion of the German Imperial Guard) Our line was driven in to a certain extent, but by the help of a very determined and successful counter attack by the Royal Scots Fusiliers and supported by the Royal Sussex Regt. The general line was held. Col McMahan (now Brig General) was killed also all Officers of the Battn. Except Lieut. & Adj. O'Donel and 2 nd Lt MacLean were killed, wounded or missing. At 1 p.m. remainder of battalion very much disorganised and scattered about 50 men altogether collected in the evening. Very wet night good deal of fighting.
Nov 12 th 1914	Collected about 100 men of the battalion all told No Officers. Placed in reserve for the day but had to go up to Firing line in the evening to support Scots Fusiliers and Lincolns. Joined by 28 men from hospital
Nov 13 th 1914	Still in support and heavily shelled in the morning. Very heavily shelled in afternoon . Very wet. Total fighting strength now 2 officers (Lt & Adj G O'Donel and 2 Lt MacLean) & 170 other ranks.
Nov 14 th 1914	Same situation except that we had to retire slightly from our old trenches and take up a new line.
Nov 15 th 1914	Snow and rain still holding on. Everyone wet through and tired out.



**Lieutenant Colonel NR
McMahon DSO**

Lieutenant Colonel Norman Reginald McMahon DSO

Commanding Officer 4th Bn Royal Fusiliers

As Chief Instructor of Musketry, Hythe from 1905 to 1914, Lieut. Colonel McMahon urged that each battalion be equipped with six machine guns, but the Army Council declined for financial reasons.

McMahon was a soldier of rare vision who came from a long family line of fighting men. He was the son of General T W McMahon, who had served in the Crimean War, and had several brothers who had served, or who were still serving when he joined the Royal Fusiliers in 1885. He served in the Burma Campaign of 1886-7, and in the Boer War 1899-1901 was awarded the Distinguished Service Order. He viewed with increasing alarm the German menace of the 1900s. He noted that the Germans, although well equipped with machine guns, had neglected to train their men in musketry. Demonstrating to his instructors the firepower of the SMLE rifle when used by trained men, enabling one man to fire thirty-six rounds in one minute at 300 yards in the prone position, Sgt Instructor Snoxall fired thirty-eight rounds in one minute at 300 yards - a world record at that time for a hand loaded rifle. This was due to the insistence of McMahon that every man in the British Army should be efficient in the use of this weapon, and what would become known as "The Mad Minute". McMahon became known as the Musketry Maniac. He lived just long enough to see his efforts come to fruition when the firepower of the British soldier in the early days of 1914 convinced the Germans that the British had a new type of machine gun. Having been promoted to Brigadier, he was killed in action whilst leading his men at Ypres on 11 November 1914

The morning dawned dull and misty , and about 6.30 a terrible shelling began, Thomas-O'Donel who was in the line, later described it as "Much the most severe I have ever seen." It continued for 2 1/2 hours. The front trenches were knocked to pieces, and many of the men were killed or buried. Then followed the infantry attack by the twelve battalions of the German Guard Division. The Koningin Augusta Gard-Grenadier Regiment Nr. 4, advancing south of the Menin Road, seem to have struck the Royal Fusiliers, and the little band of men received the first assault with the bayonet and hurled it back. Thomas-O'Donel by this time had been wounded, and only one officer of the Fusiliers was still in the front line. The Garde-Greanadiers delivered a second charge. Some of the fusiliers were driven from their trenches, and their appearance in the rear created a panic among the battalion supports , who appear to have been chiefly special reservists, a draft that had arrived on the day before the battle and had not yet been organised into their platoons.



The fighting of the 11th November around Ypres was probably the second most critical day of the entire battle, after 31 October (though on this occasion there was not the same crisis as that day when Gheluvelt was lost). Though the Germans did not break through the British lines, they in fact did penetrate at a number of points, most notably at Nonnen Bosch, and there was certainly the potential to roll the BEF back into the sea. Any and all reserves the British army had were thrown into the front line . Much was made later by British veterans of the size and stature of the Prussian guard units, but they met the same withering fire from the British as other German regiments. The German guards regiments comprised a fusilier battalion, a first and second battalion. The history of Kaiser Franz Grenadier Regiment Nr. 2 (which was met by the 2nd Battalion Duke of Wellington's Regiment that day just north of the Menin Road) states that:

The artillery preparation continued during the early hours of the morning and the assault followed at 9 a.m. The Fusilier battalion overran the enemy's front position without difficulty and penetrated into the wood. As, however, the troops on either flank were not abreast of it, it was surrounded on all sides in the thick undergrowth and suffered heavy losses. Attempts made by the battalion to relieve it did not succeed in passing the enemy's front trench ... in the afternoon the Fusilier battalion had to be regarded as lost.

In fact the Fusilier battalion had suffered casualties amounting to 15 officers and 500 other ranks. A letter survives from a young German guardsman who was present that day in the 3. Grenadier-Regiment zu Fuss (3rd Foot Guard Regiment), the immediately adjacent regiment. The account is full of the usual Teutonic bravado, but is valuable none the less. It reads:

On the 10th [November] our artillery bombarded the English fire trenches. That evening I received the news of [brother] Victor's heroic death, at the same time as the order to go into the attack, at 10am on the morning of the 11th. You may well imagine with what emotions and courage I proceeded. You will have read of the battle, because the English were overwhelmed by this massive attack. There were some sights to see here, like how the rifle butt was used as a weapon; we advanced

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Nov 16 th 1914	Remainder of Bn. taken into Div reserve at HOOGE
Nov 17 th 1914	Still in Div reserve but had to reinforce 15 th Bde in afternoon. Returned to reserve at Dusk.
Nov 18 th 1914	Frosty morning. Still in Divl. Reserve
Nov 19 th 1914	Snowing. Still in Divl. Reserve. Sent out to man trenches to relieve K.O.S.B.s in a position south of HOOGE. Awful night got shelled on the way.
Nov 20 th 1914	Quiet day in trenches. Relieved by the French about 11 p.m. Night of 20 th 21 st marched to WESTOUTRE through and billeted there. Trying march freezing hard. Men's feet very bad after trenches. Discipline of men very bad now owing to lack of officers and NCOs
Nov 21 st 1914	Billeted WESTOUTRE. Joined by reinforcements 4 officers from other regiments and about 300 other ranks nearly all special reservists. Night of 21 st 22 nd joined by Major Hely Hutchinson to take command and Capts Lee Pipon and Magnay
Nov 22 nd 1914	Major Sweny joined. Companies reorganized.

He m. in London, 20 Nov. 1914. Florence Violet (Newlands, co. Wexford), only dau. of George Claud Flood Braddell, of Newlands, co. Wexford, and Luckington, co. Wilts ; s.p

1901 England, Wales & Scotland Census Transcription

In the Village, Luckington, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, England

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Gender	Age
Florence E	Braddell	Wife	Married	Female	40
Florence V	Braddell	Daughter	Single	Female	14
Caroline J	Kirby	Governess	Single	Female	36
Kate	Neal	Servant	Single	Female	19
Amy	Maller	Servant	Single	Female	21
William	Scott	Servant	Single	Male	19



“Ryder Street Chambers,
St. James’ S.W.
10.4.12

“My dear Vi,

I regret that I cannot agree to resume life with you. We are, as you know well, absolutely unsuited and never could be happy together. In your interests therefore quite as much as in my own I must decline to return.

As regards what I ought to do for you financially, this is a matter which had better be discussed between our respective lawyers. You know according to my means my desire would always be to act generously.

Yrs. sincerely,
George

Grand Hotel,
Trafalgar Square
London
5th Dec 1912

Dear Vi,

This letter is to tell you that I am tired of all this fuss and worry – and that to save further annoyance (as I believe I am being watched) I stayed here with a woman last night.

Therefore if you take the proper measures you can get proof of my unfaithfulness

From your husband
George

On the 12th day of January 1914

Courroux F.V. against Courroux G.F.

Referring to the Decree made in this Cause on the 18th day of June 1913 whereby it was decreed that the Marriage had and solemnized on the 2nd day of June 1910 at the parish church of St James Westminster in the County of Middlesex between Florence Violet Courroux (then Braddell spinster) the Petitioner and George Felix Courroux the Respondent be dissolved by reason that since the celebration thereof the said Respondent had been guilty of adultery coupled with desertion of the petitioner he having failed to comply with an order for restitution of conjugal rights dated October 14th 1912 unless sufficient cause be shown to the Court why the said Decree should not be made absolute, within six months from the making thereof – and no such cause having been shown, the Judge on application of the said Petitioner by his final Decree pronounced and declared the said Marriage to be dissolved.

O.H. Hardy.
Registrar.

FIRST MEETINGS AND PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

Debtor's Name	Address.	Description.	Court.	No.	Date of First Meeting.	Hour.	Place.	Date of Public Examination.	Hour.	Place.	Date of Order, if any, for Summary Administration
Courroux, Lieut. G. F.	Lately residing at 13, Gloucester - terrace, South Kensington, in the county of London, but whose present residence the Petitioning Creditors are unable to ascertain, a Member of the New Club, 4, Grafton-street, Piccadilly, London, W.	...	High Court of Justice in Bankruptcy	1557 of 1911	Feb. 5, 1912	12 noon	Bankruptcy-buildings, Carey-street, London	Mar. 6, 1912	11.30 A.M.	Bankruptcy-buildings, Carey-street, London, W.C.	

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Nov 23 rd 1914	Billeted at WESTOUTRE. Training Companies.
Nov 24 th 1914	Billeted at WESTOUTRE. Training Companies.
Nov 25 th 1914	Still billeted at WESTOUTRE and training Companies. Major Sweny left to take over command at South Lancs Regt.
Nov 26 th 1914	Billeted at WESTOUTRE. Training Companies.
Nov 27 th 1914	Left WESTOUTRE 3 p.m. marched to KEMMEL and relieved NORFOLKS in trenches.
Nov 28 th 1914	In trenches. Rather wet. Quiet day.
Nov 29 th 1914	In trenches. Quiet day. Some shelling.
Nov 30 th 1914.	In trenches. Quiet day. Relieved by Gordons night of 30 th 1 st Marched to WESTOUTRE to billets. Many men fell out on the march due to bad feet caused by wet trenches and also due to lack of discipline and NCOs. Up to the present time Bn. has lost about 1900 NCOs and men and over 50 officers, killed wounded missing and sick during this campaign.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Dec 1 st 1914	In billets at WESTOUTRE. Joined by four officers.
Dec 2 nd 1914	In billets at WESTOUTRE. Joined by two officers and about 150 reinforcements.
Dec 3 rd 1914	In billets at WESTOUTRE. Lined road for visit of H.M. The King.
Dec 4 th 1914	In billets at WESTOUTRE.
Dec 5 th 1914	In billets at WESTOUTRE.
Dec 6 th 1914	In billets at WESTOUTRE. Joined by about 147 reinforcements. Moved to trenches at about 3 p.m.. Took over same trenches as before from Middlesex Regiment.
Dec 7 th 1914	In trenches. Very wet day but quiet. Joined by Lt. Marshall from 1 st Bn.
Dec 8 th 1914	Quiet day. Drier.
Dec 9 th 1914	Quiet day. Very wet. Relieved in evening by . Marched to billets at LOCRE. Mens feet very bad from continual wet in the trenches.
Dec 10 th 1914	In billets at LOCRE.



Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Dec 11 th 1914	In billets at LOCRE. Joined by 30 reinforcements and four officers.
Dec 12 th 1914	Took over same trenches as before form at about 5 p.m.
Dec 13 th 1914	In trenches. Quiet day. Dry.
Dec 14 th 1914	Guns of 3 rd 5 th and 4 th Divisions bombarded German positions on our left. Attack followed by 8 th Bde. Some ground was gained but the 8 th Bde. Had many casualties. Quiet day for us in trenches. Night of 13 th 14 th (sic) very heavy rain. All trenches in a very bad state. Men up to their knees in water and much sickness amongst them.
Dec 15 th 1914	Our artillery still shelled enemy. Quiet day otherwise. Relieved by . Marched to billets at WESTOUTRE.
Dec 16 th 1914	In billets at WESTOUTRE.
Dec 17 th 1914	In billets at WESTOUTRE.
Dec 18 th 1914	In billets at WESTOUTRE.
Dec 19 th 1914	In billets at WESTOUTRE. Joined by 2 officers.
Dec 20 th 1914	In billets at WESTOUTRE.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Dec 21 st 1914	Relieved Suffolks in same trenches as before. Quiet night.
Dec 22 nd 1914	In trenches. Snowing.
Dec 23 rd 1914	In trenches.
Dec 24 th 1914	Relieved by WORCESTERS. Capt. C. Boevey killed.
Dec 25 th 1914	In billets at Locre
Dec 26 th 1914	In billets at Locre
Dec 27 th 1914	In billets at Locre
Dec 28 th 1914	In billets at Locre
Dec 29 th 1914	In billets at Locre
Dec 30 th 1914.	In billets at Locre

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Jan 1 st 1915	In trenches quiet day
Jan 2 nd 1915	In trenches quiet day. Improving trenches which were in a very bad state owing to the wet.
Jan 3 rd 1915	In trenches quiet day
Jan 4 th 1915	Relieved by WORCESTERS. Marched to billets Westoutre
Jan 5 th 1915	Moved to billets at Locre
Jan 6 th 1915	In billets at Locre
Jan 7 th 1915	In billets at Locre
Jan 8 th 1915	Marched to Kemmel in Bde reserve
Jan 9 th 1915	In Bde reserve at Kemmel. Lt Col. L. Campbell took over command.
Jan 10 th 1915	In Bde reserve at Kemmel.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Jan 11 th 1915	In Bde reserve at Kemmel.
Jan 12 th 1915	Relieved by 7th Bde Marched to billets at Westoutre
Jan 13 th 1915	In billets at Westoutre
Jan 14 th 1915	In billets at Westoutre
Jan 15 th 1915	In billets at Westoutre
Jan 16 th 1915	Took over trenches from S. Lancs. & H.A.C. extreme right of 3 rd Div. Very bad trenches.
Jan 17 th 1915	In trenches which are very bad. Very wet a lot of snow.
Jan 18 th 1915	In trenches. Enemy shelled heavily to our right rear but did us no harm.
Jan 19 th 1915	In trenches. Foggy day. Lt Col. Campbell sprained his knee while visiting trenches
Jan 20 th 1915	Relieved by . & H.A.C. .Marched to billets in Locre. Great many casualties during this tour owing to sniper. Also great many sick due to wet weather.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Jan 21 st 1915	In billets LOCRE. Lt Col Campbell went sick owing to knee.
Jan 22 nd 1915	In billets LOCRE.
Jan 23 rd 1915	In billets LOCRE formed by 2 officers and about 130 o.r.
Jan 24 th 1915	Relieved S. LANCS & H.A.C. in same trenches as before. Quiet night.
Jan 25 th 1915	Foggy day. Quiet day in trenches.
Jan 26 th 1915	Foggy day. Several casualties from snipers.
Jan 27 th 1915	Quiet day in trenches except we had a good many casualties from snipers. Kaiser's birthday.
Jan 28 th 1915	Relieved by WORCESTERS, H.A.C. & Norfolks. Marched to billets LOCRE
Jan 29 th 1915	In billets LOCRE
Jan 30 th 1915	In billets LOCRE
Jan 31 st 1915	In billets LOCRE

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Feb 1 st 1915	Marched to same trenches as before and took over from and H.A.C.
Feb 2 nd 1915	In trenches quiet day. Very wet.
Feb 3 rd 1915	In trenches quiet day. Very wet.
Feb 4 th 1915	A good deal of shelling. Dressing station hit.
Feb 5 th 1915	Fine day. Relieved by WORCESTERS . Marched to Locre
Feb 6 th 1915	In billets at Locre
Feb 7 th 1915	In billets at Locre
Feb 8 th 1915	In billets at Locre
Feb 9 th 1915	Took over a new line of trenches near Kemmel. Trenches in a bad state.
Feb 10 th 1915	In trenches.
Feb 11 th 1915	In trenches.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Feb 11 th 1915	In trenches.
Feb 12 th 1915	In trenches.
Feb 13 th 1915	In trenches. Very wet day.
Feb 14 th 1915	Relieved by H.A.C. Marched to billets at Locre.
Feb 15 th 1915	In billets at Locre. Ordered to stand to support 5 th Corps. Nothing further happened.
Feb 16 th 1915	In billets at Locre.
Feb 17 th 1915	9th Bde got orders to march to to support 5 th Corps. Arrived about 6 p.m. and went in to barracks there. Night of 17 th – 18 th ordered to move in to position on canal bank about 2 miles south of . Started 4 a.m. in position by dawn. Relieved E. Surrey Regiment and 3 rd Royal Fusiliers. Both regiments in a very bad state.
Feb 18 th 1915	In same position all quiet Relieved in evening by 5 th Fusiliers. Marched to billets in Caraby Bks. Ypres.
Feb 19 th 1915	In Caraby Bks. Ypres.
Feb 20 th 1915	In Caraby Bks. Ypres. 9 th Bde. transferred to 28 th Div to replace 85 th Bde transferred to 3 rd Div. This Bde has only been in the firing line about 10 days but most of the men seem to have gone sick and the rest are demoralised.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Feb 21 st 1915	Marched to new line of trenches south of and took over from Suffolks. Bad wet trenches and quite neglected. Our own dead lying about all over the place. We have buried dozens of them. A lot of German fire in this section. We had several casualties night of 21 st – 22 nd .
Feb 22 nd 1915	Foggy day. Not much shelling. Several casualties from rifle fire.
Feb 23 rd 1915	Relieved by 5 th Fusiliers marched to Kruisstaat just outside to billets in support. Have lost 58 men killed and wounded in last 48 hours.
Feb 24 th 1915	At KRUISSTAAT some shrapnel coming over no casualties.
Feb 25 th 1915	At KRUISSTAAT. Relieved 5 th Fusiliers in same trenches as before in evening.
Feb 26 th 1915	In trenches. All quiet.
Feb 27 th 1915	In trenches. Relieved by 5 th Fusiliers. All quiet. Marched to Rosendale Chateau in support. All quiet.
Feb 28 th 1915	At Rosendale Chateau. All quiet.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Mar 1 st 1915	Relieved 5 th Fusiliers in same trenches as before.
Mar 2 nd 1915	In trenches. Some trenches got shelled but we had few casualties.
Mar 3 rd 1915	Relieved by 5 th Fusiliers. Marched to KRUISSTAAT and billets.
Mar 4 th 1915	9 th Bde relieved by 13 th Bde. Marched to rest area near Ouderdom. Troops accommodated here in huts not rain proof and the whole place is a sea of mud and very uncomfortable. No rest at all for the men.
Mar 5 th 1915	In huts.
Mar 6 th 1915	In huts.
Mar 7 th 1915	In huts.
Mar 8 th 1915	In huts. Visited by Sir Horace Smith Dorrien commanding 5 th Army. He thanked the brigade for having saved the situation at since we arrived there. The brigade we relieved being quite demoralized. Sir Horace said that he had come to the conclusion that the only thing to do as the enemy were getting the upper hand in this sector , was to send up a really good brigade to YPRES and one that could really be relied on. He said “Gentlemen you have restored the situation and I thank you all.”
Mar 9 th 1915	In huts.
Mar 10 th 1915	Marched to to take up a new line of trenches S.E. of Ypres. 2 Coy at in reserve. 2 Coy in support of 5 th Fus.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Mar 11 th 1915	Same position.
Mar 12 th 1915	Relieved 5 th Fus in trenches.
Mar 13 th 1915	In trenches. Quiet day. Lt. Gordon killed.
Mar 14 th 1915	In trenches. Quiet day. Germans attacked St. Eloi at dusk after shelling it heavily. The village was lost by us but retaken next day. This village is not in our sector.
Mar 15 th 1915	½ Bn. At . ½ Bn. In support.
Mar 16 th 1915	Relieved 5 th Fus. in trenches.
Mar 17 th 1915	Quiet day. Capt Hodgson and Lt. Berrill killed.
Mar 18 th 1915	Relieved by 5 th Fusiliers. Marched to YPRES .
Mar 19 th 1915	In YPRES .
Mar 20 th 1915	Relieved 5 th Fusiliers in trenches.
Mar 21 st 1915	In trenches. Relieved by Norfolks. Marched to huts near Ouderdom.
Mar 22 nd 1915	Resting in huts.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Mar 23 rd 1915	Resting in huts.
Mar 24 th 1915	Resting in huts.
Mar 25 th 1915	Resting in huts.
Mar 26 th 1915	Relieved K.O.S.B. in A Sector trenches south of YPRES.
Mar 27 th 1915	In trenches. Very quiet.
Mar 28 th 1915	Relieved by 5 th Fusiliers. Marched to billets at KRUISSTAAT.
Mar 29 th 1915	In KRUISSTAAT.
Mar 30 th 1915	Relieved 5 th Fusiliers in trenches.
Mar 31 st 1915	In trenches. Quiet day.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Apr 1 st 1915	Relieved by 5 th Fusiliers. Marched to Rosendale to billets.
Apr 2 nd 1915	Transferred to 3 rd Div. Marched to Dickebusch billeted.
Apr 3 rd 1915	Took over St. ELOI trenches from Buffs
Apr 4 th 1915	In trenches quiet day.
Apr 5 th 1915	Relieved by 5 th Fusiliers. Marched to Dicke Busch
Apr 6 th 1915	In billets Dickebusch
Apr 7 th 1915	Relieved 5 th Fusiliers in trenches at St. Eloi
Apr 8 th 1915	In trenches quiet day.
Apr 9 th 1915	In trenches quiet day.
Apr 10 th 1915	In trenches quiet day.
Apr 11 th 1915	Relieved by 5 th Fusiliers. Marched to Dicke Busch
Apr 12 th 1915	In huts Dickebusch.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Apr 13 th 1915	In huts Dickebusch.
Apr 14 th 1915	In huts Dickebusch.
Apr 15 th 1915	Relieved 5 th Fusiliers in same trenches
Apr 16 th 1915	In trenches quiet day.
Apr 17 th 1915	On evening 5 th Div on our left attacked German trenches near YPRES took two. Heavy firing all night on our left.
Apr 18 th 1915	Germans counter attacked these trenches unsuccessfully.
Apr 19 th 1915	Relieved by 5 th Fusiliers. Marched to huts Dicke Busch
Apr 20 th 1915	In huts Dickebusch.
Apr 21 st 1915	In huts Dickebusch.
Apr 22 nd 1915	In huts Dickebusch.
Apr 23 rd 1915	In huts. Relieved R. S. F. in trenches. Heavy firing heard north of YPRES .
Apr 24 th 1915	In trenches. Very heavy firing north of YPRES early in the morning. Quiet day.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
Apr 25 th 1915	Heavy firing heard north of . Reports of heavy fighting. Quiet day for us.
Apr 26 th 1915	Heavy firing and shelling north and round all day and all night. Reports of heavy fighting. Quiet for us.
Apr 27 th 1915	Good deal of shelling round . Quiet day for us. Relieved by 5 th Fusiliers marched to huts Dickebusch
Apr 28 th 1915	In huts Dickebusch. Fighting still round .
Apr 29 th 1915	Relieved R.S.F. in trenches. Fighting still round .
Apr 30 th 1915	In trenches. Quiet day. A good deal of shelling all around.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
May 1 st 1915	In Trenches. Quiet day. Very hot.
May 2 nd 1915	Quiet morning. A lot of shelling heard north of . Enemy shelled our trenches a little.
May 3 rd 1915	Quiet day. Relieved by 5 th Fusiliers. Marched to huts DICKEBUSCH
May 4 th 1915	Quiet day in huts. A good deal of shelling round
May 5 th 1915	In huts. Quiet day.
May 6 th 1915	Relieved R.S.F. in same trenches.
May 7 th 1915	Quiet day. In trenches.
May 8 th 1915	Very heavy bombardment heard on our left near . Quiet day for us
May 9 th 1915	Heavy fighting heard North and East of YPRES. Quiet day for us.
May 10 th 1915	Quiet day. Relieved by 5 th Fus. Marched to huts DICKEBUSCH
May 11 th 1915	In huts. Quiet day.
May 12 th 1915	In huts. Very quiet all day. Relieved R.S.F. in trenches.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
May 13 th 1915	In trenches quiet day. Fighting continues round .
May 14 th 1915	In trenches quiet day.
May 15 th 1915	In trenches quiet day.
May 16 th 1915	In trenches quiet day.
May 17 th 1915	In huts. Quiet day..
May 18 th 1915	In huts. Relieved R.S.F. in same trenches.
May 19 th 1915	In trenches quiet day.
May 20 th 1915	In trenches quiet day.
May 21 st 1915	In trenches quiet day.
May 22 nd 1915	Relieved by 5 th Fusiliers Marched to huts near Dickebusch.
May 23 rd 1915	In huts.
May 24 th 1915	In huts near Dickebusch. Very heavy shelling heard near YPRES about 3 a.m. continued till about 11 a.m. Slightly affected by gas although 5 miles from firing line. Eyes very sore. Italy declares war. Relieved R.S.F in trenches.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
May 25 th 1915	In trenches quiet day.
May 26 th 1915	Relieved by K. O. Y. L. I. 13 th Bde. Marched to huts Dickebusch.
May 27 th 1915	In huts. Quiet day.
May 28 th 1915	Relieved E Surrey Regt. 85 th Bde east of near POTIJZE.
May 29 th 1915	Quiet day. Some shelling.
May 30 th 1915	Quiet day. Some shelling.
May 31 st 1915	Relieved by L.I. 18 th Bde. Marched to OUDERDOM huts.
May 25 th 1915	In trenches quiet day.
May 26 th 1915	Relieved by K. O. Y. L. I. 13 th Bde. Marched to huts Dickebusch.
May 27 th 1915	In huts. Quiet day.
May 28 th 1915	Relieved E Surrey Regt. 85 th Bde east of near POTIJZE.
May 29 th 1915	Quiet day. Some shelling.
May 30 th 1915	Quiet day. Some shelling.
May 31 st 1915	Relieved by L.I. 18 th Bde. Marched to OUDERDOM huts.

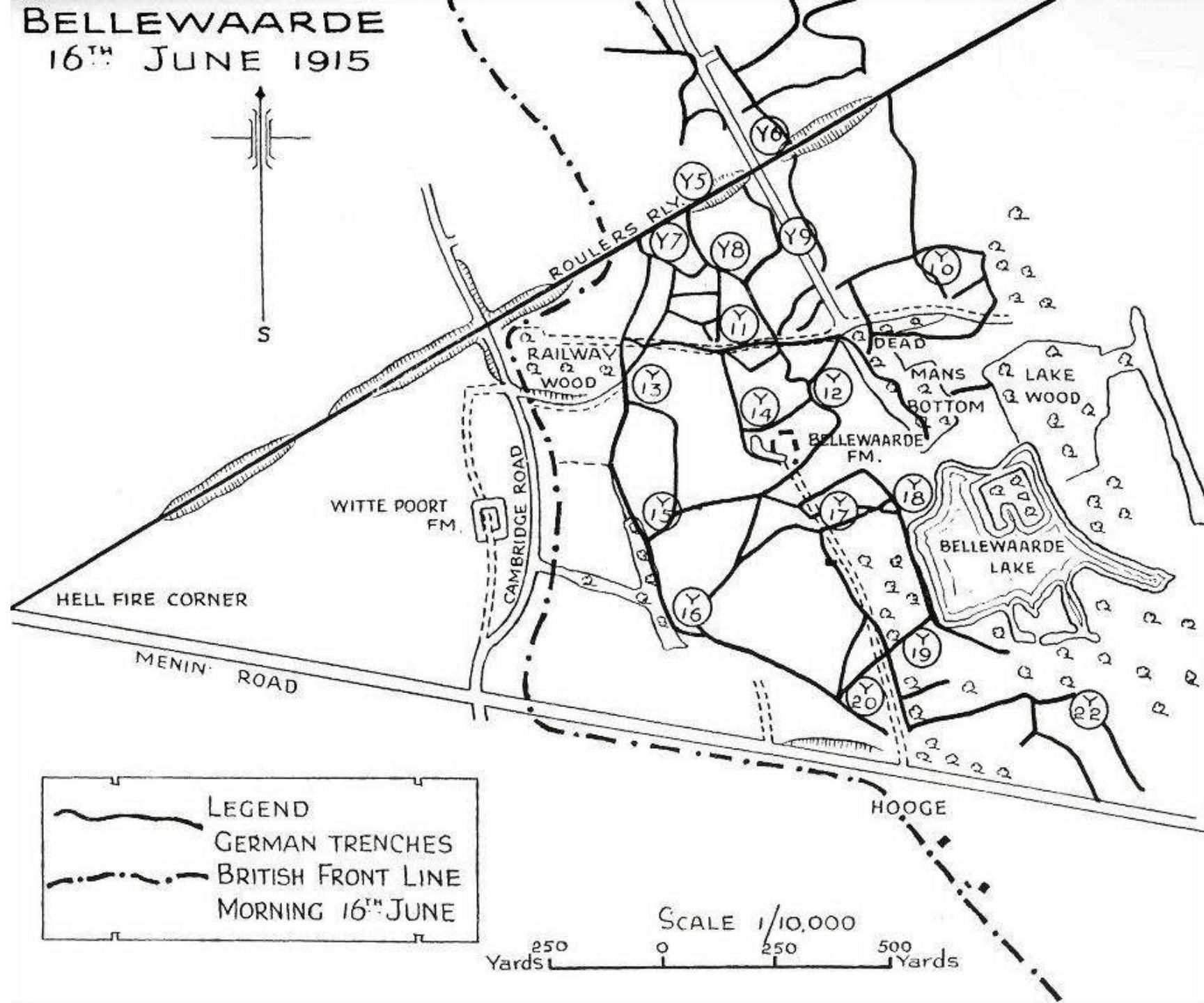
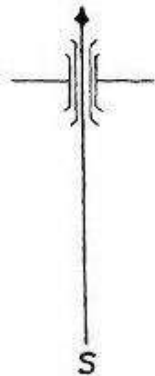
Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
June 1 st 1915	Very quiet day. In huts at OUDERDOM.
June 2 nd 1915	Received three different sets of orders, each cancelled in turn. Finally received instructions to go and keep out the cavalry at a wood IOUAVE WOOD YPRES. Left at 8 p.m. Reached trenches at 1. 30. A.M.3/6 Everything in a state of chaos. Relieving and Relieved regiments all mixed up. X Coy relieved 3 rd D.Gs
June 3 rd 1915	CO has command of the left sector. Palavit is in command of Bn. LINCOLNS under Cos orders made an attack for purpose of taking stables at HOOGE CHATEAU. An easy performance enemy very annoyed with WHIZZBANGS in the corner of wood where HQ were situated.
June 4 th 1915	Quiet day. Certain amount of sniping. Usual dose of Whizz Bangs.
June 5 th 1915	Kept down all day by continuous Whizz Bangs. Had several men wounded by them and also by bullets. Got everything ready for relief. Waited for hours. Relief appears to have gone astray. One cavalry regiment in the sector had to stay in till next night owing to relief not arriving till late. Was relived by the WORCESTERS .
June 6 th 1915	Reached our BIVOUAC about 4 a.m. between VLAMER TINCE and OUDERDOM. Very quiet day. At night the adjoining field was being vigorously shelled. Blasts at 8. 35. P.M. and lasting till nearly 11 P.M.
June 7 th 1915	Very quiet day in Bivouac.
June 8 th 1915	Very warm weather. Company parade. Marched out to our new Bivouac area at 5. 30. P.M.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
June 9 th 1915	Quiet day. Excitement about prospect of leave for officers and men.
June 10 th 1915	Very quiet day. Leave cancelled.
June 11 th 1915	Everything very quiet. Still in bivouac.
June 12 th 1915	<p>Quiet day. Presentation of D.G.M. to 13745 Sgt Greenhill G. 12391 C.S.M. Foster W.G. 4594 Sgt. Davies C. by the Divisional Commander Major General J.A.L. Haldane C.B. D.S.O. who spoke in eulogistic terms about the good work done by the 9th Brigade in the past saying he knew that the Brigade would do the task set them on the following Wednesday and relied on them to carry it to a successful issue.</p> <p>The C.O. and Company Commander afterwards proceeded to make a reconnaissance of the ground to be attacked.</p>
June 13 th 1915	Very quiet day in camp.
June 14 th 1915	Four subalterns and B.G. Officer sent out to make reconnaissance. Lt Rogers shot by sniper. All arrangements made about the attack.

Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
June 15 th 1915	<p>Final operation Orders received about attacking the lines of trenches held by the Germans. The whole Brigade to be employed. The position allotted to the 4th Bn. To be the right of the line. On our left were the Royal Scots Fusiliers (centre) and on the left of them the 5th Fusiliers. The lines of the trenches to be attacked were on the N of the MENIN ROAD about 250m N of Hooze. Battalion marched out at 4 30. P.M. followed by the Lincolns. We halted for a time (45 min) and then marched to assembly trenches which we reached at 11 P.M. Germans kept cross firing the support trenches. Luckily we escaped.</p>

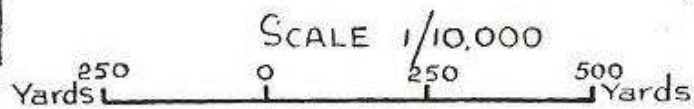
Hour, Date Place	Summary of Events and Information
June 16 th 1915	<p>Our artillery commenced bombardment and shelling GERMAN trenches at 2 50 A.M. and continued with the exception of two short intervals until 4 15 A.M. When our first line jumped off the mark and got through the Germans and into their trench in a marvellous manner. The men were so eager that they went forward a great deal too fast into the second and third German trenches only to be mown down by our own artillery. Having lost a number of officers and men we withdrew and took a lie in a communication trench that Captain de la Deverille had taken up and turned in to a fine trench which was consolidated and held against all counter attack and frontal attack as well as a bomb attack on the right till told to leave the trench after 12 mins. The Brigadier of the 7th Brigade took command at 10 a.m. and ordered the C.O. Major R.G. Hely Hutchinson to go into the wood we had just captured and reorganise the men that remained. This was immediately done. These men were subjected to very heavy shelling all day. Casualties were appalling. The Adjutant Captain G. Thomas O'Donel was killed with his orderlies and operators by a high offensive shell. The heavy shelling that the Germans were subjected to had a most demoralising effect on them. Our men acted splendidly. Their eagerness cost them a number of casualties L Cpl Fetter M.G. stuck to his men all through the day though wounded the M.G. Sgt S.P. Jones also did a lot throughout the day till sent to the Dressing Station to have his wounds dressed. He was wounded early in the day. We lost fifteen officers.</p>

BELLEWAARDE 16TH JUNE 1915



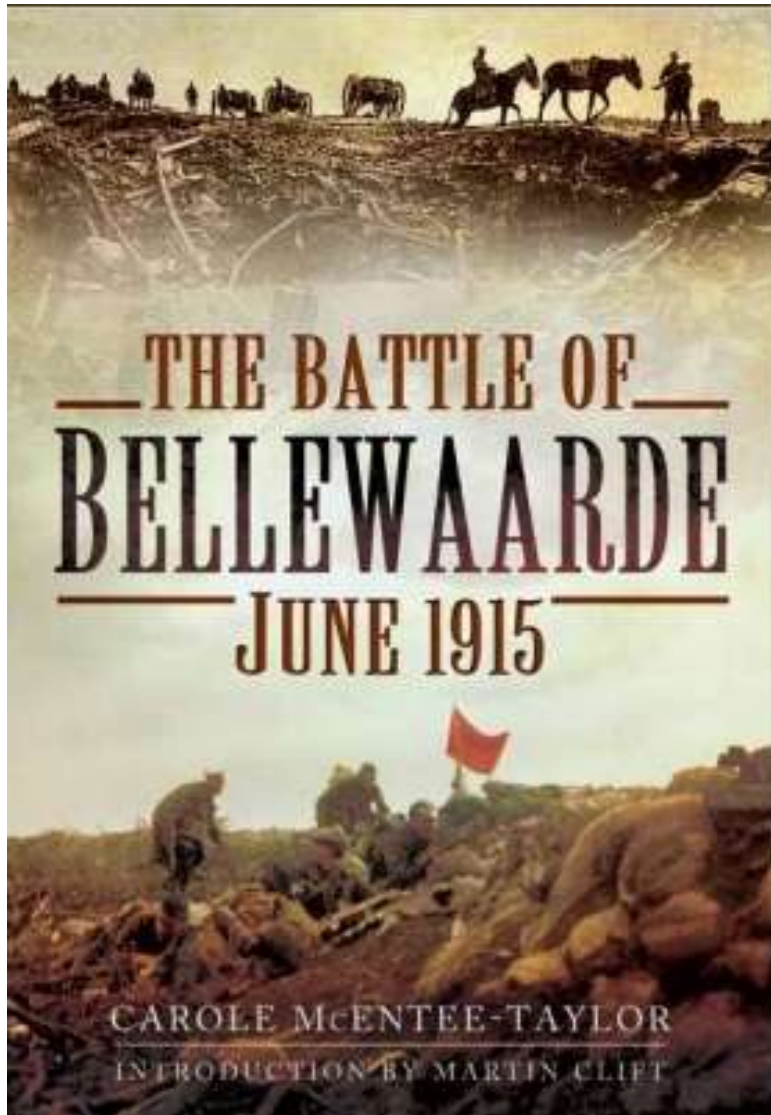
LEGEND

- GERMAN TRENCHES
- BRITISH FRONT LINE MORNING 16TH JUNE



4th Battalion at Bellewarde, 16th June 1915

As one of the battalions in the 9th Brigade of the 3rd Division, the 4th Btn Royal Fusiliers were ordered to straighten the line that had been dented by the German possession of Bellewarde Lake with an attack on the Ridge. They were in position east of Cambridge Road trench at 1.30am on 16th June 1915. The Royal Artillery bombardment was effective in removing the barbed wire and demoralising the Germans so that the capture of their trenches was easier than usual. However the two supporting companies of the battalion advancing on the west bank of the lake advanced too quickly and became victims of our own artillery fire. Major Hely-Hutchinson went into the wood to bring the remaining men back to a communication trench which became subject to enemy counter-attacks until they were ordered to retire. Many acts of bravery were performed by men of the battalion throughout the day, Lance Cpl Filter and Sgt Jones manned machine-guns while wounded, Sgt Smith tended 2 wounded men under fire, Private Beckett was killed while helping a wounded soldier, and Private McGee continued to deliver messages through shell-swept areas, receiving two wounds. At the end of the day the ground gained had been lost to the enemy. Out of 22 officers there were 15 casualties, and out of 820 men, 376 were wounded or killed, victims of gas, shells and bullets. The battalion was now commanded by Captain de la Peverelle.



4th Battalion Royal Fusiliers.

Of the 22 officers and 820 men who had entered the battle, 15 officers and 376 men were casualties; 37 killed, 211 wounded and 202 missing. Those killed included Captain and Adjutant O'Donel, Lieutenants Thornton, Harte, Warde and Rogers, Second Lieutenants Dudley and Bannister. Major Hely Hutchinson was badly wounded and Captain de la Peverelle took over the Battalion. Eventually they retired back to y13-14 where they held the line until the Brigade was relived at 11:00 p.m. After a days rest on 17 June they were visited by General Allenby who told them they had done the finest bit of work in the campaign.



THOMAS-O'DONEL, GEORGE O'DONEL
FREDERICK, M.C., Capt. and
Adjutant, 4th Battn. Royal Fusiliers, only son
of Edwin Thomas-O'Donel, of Newport
House, Newport, co. Mayo, J.P., 1 -L., by his
wife, Mellicent Agnes, dau. of Capt. Richard
Annesley O'Donel ;
b. Dublin, 21 Oct. 1884 ; educ. Cheltenham
College, and abroad ;
joined the Royal Donegal Artillery Militia in
1902 ; gazetted 2nd Lieut, in the 4th Royal
Fusiliers, 23 May, 1900 ; promoted Lieut. 10
April, 1909, and Capt. 20 Nov. 1914 ;
appointed Adjutant, 15 Jan. 1913; went to
France with the Expeditionary Force, 13
Aug. 1914, and was killed in action at
Hooge, near Ypres, 10 June, 1915. Capt.
O'Donel was awarded the Military Cross
(London Gazette, 19 Feb. 1915] ; and was
twice mentioned in Sir John (now Lord)
French's Despatches [London Gazette, 19
Oct. 1914, and 18 Feb. 1915].



Brig.-Gen. McMahon, commanding the Brigade, wrote on 5 Nov. 1914 :

“I think the Battn. has done very well out here, and I hope it will continue to do so. George is going strong and is fitter than when he started, and can claim a very large share in producing such good results as may have been attained ”;



Col. Hely-Hutchinson wrote :

“ I cannot tell you what a shock the whole thing has been to me, we were the closest of friends, we slept together, we fed together, we rode together, and we fought together, and we never had a row for seven months, and the only time we had been separated, George goes and gets killed, and I get off. It is too sad after all the months he had been out and the good work he had done. I myself got a small touch of a shell on the head and have come home for a bit, thank God. as I don't think I could have carried on any longer out there without George and the rest- we lost six killed and nine wounded officers, and I had no heart and was just tired out and so was George, he just went on till In* dropped.”

Major F. R. Mallock :

“ His death is a great loss to his country and the regt.—In* served so gallantly and so well ; there are few of us left who went out with the Battn.. George was the only one of the combatant officers left after the fighting at Ypres. I had a great affection and admiration for him. he did work splendidly right through



Brig.-Gen. Reginald Pinney, formerly commanding 4th Battn. Royal Fusiliers, also wrote to the late Capt. Thomas O'Donel's father:

" I am most distressed for you and his mother at George's death- also for the regt. and the army, for he was fulfilling all the promise he showed when he joined ; seeing his name gave me a special shock, for I had just heard of my getting a division, and had been talking of Staff and had hoped to get. George appointed a G.S.O."

IN
FONDEST MEMORY
OF
GEORGE O'DONEL
FREDERICK THOMAS-O'DONEL
CAPTAIN AND ADJUTANT 4TH BATTALION
ROYAL FUSILIERS,
MILITARY CROSS, MONS STAR, TWICE
MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES,
KILLED IN ACTION AT HOOGE NEAR YEPRES
16TH JUNE 1915, IN HIS 30TH YEAR
ONLY SON OF
EDWIN THOMAS-O'DONEL
AND
MILICENT AGNES THOMAS-O'DONEL
NEWPORT HOUSE, NEWPORT, MAYO.

Killed in Action

Late Captain George T. O'Donel

On Saturday a memorial service for the late Captain George Thomas O'Donel, only son of Mr. E. Thomas O'Donel, D.L., Newport House, who was killed in action at Ypres on the 10th June, while serving with his regiment the Royal Fusiliers, was held in Newport Parish Church and was conducted by Rev. J.A. Lendrum, M.A., Rector, Castlebar. Captain O'Donel was at the front since the commencement of the war, was twice mentioned in despatches by General Sir John French and was awarded the Military Cross. He was one of the most popular officers in his regiment, brave and fearless and his death is deeply regretted by his bereaved widow, father and mother. The Memorial Service was largely attended by friends from Castlebar, Westport, Ballycroy and Newport parish.

The Rev. Mr. Lendrum preached a touching panegyric, and said:-

Connaught Telegraph, 03.07.1915



IN MEMORY
OF
EDWIN THOMAS-O'DONEL
OF NEWPORT HOUSE
WHO DIED 25TH AUGUST 1932
AND OF HIS WIFE
MILLICENT AGNUS THOMAS-O'DONEL
WHO DIED 15TH OCTOBER 1933.

Thomas-O'Donel (Co. Mayo) August 25 1932 (suddenly), Edwin Thomas-O'Donel, of Newport House, Co. Mayo, son of the late Edwin Thomas, Rector of Carlingford, and beloved husband of Milicent Thomas-O'Donel, aged 81. Funeral will take place to-day (Monday) at 2.30 o'clock from Newport House.

Irish Independent 29/8/1932

Mrs. Milicent Agnes O'Donel, widow of the late Mr. E. Thomas O'Donel, died at an advanced age at Newport House, Mayo. She was the last of a historic family. Of common ancestry with the O'Neills, earls of Tyrone, and of the O'Melaghans, Kings of Meath, the family went to Mayo several centuries ago, and possessed large estates. The Barony was created in 1780, lapsing with the death of the 5th holder, Sir George. The deceased, who was the daughter of Capt. Richard Alexander O'Donel, son of Sir Richard, the 4th Baronet, married Mr. Edward Thomas, Barleyhill, Westport, who took her family name, and their only child, Capt. George O'Donel Frederick, was killed in the Great War, leaving a childless widow. The internment took place in the family vault.

Irish Independent 19.10.1933,

Marriages Jun 1922 (>99%)

O'Donel V T Syme [Horsham](#) 2b [772](#)

Marriages Jun 1922 (>99%)

HARDS Emma Maple [Horsham](#) 2b [772](#)
MAPLE Arthur Hards [Horsham](#) 2b [772](#)
B
O'Donel V T Syme [Horsham](#) 2b [772](#)
SYMS David A O'Donel [Horsham](#) 2b [772](#)





IT IS TOO LATE NOW TO RETRIEVE
A FALLEN DREAM,
TOO LATE TO GRIEVE
A NAME UNMADE, BUT NOT TOO LATE
TO THANK THE GODS
FOR WHAT IS GREAT
A KEEN-EDGED SWORD,
A SOLDIER'S HEART
IS GREATER THAN A POET'S ART
AND GREATER THAN A POET'S FAME
A LITTLE GRAVE
THAT HAS NO NAME

FRANCIS LEDWIDGE
5th INNISKILLING FUSILIERS

IN A MATTER OF SECONDS
A HISsing AND SUREEKING
PANDEMONIUM BROKE LOOSE.

THE SKY WAS SPLASHED WITH LIGHT
ROCKETS, GREEN, YELLOW, AND RED,
DARTED IN ALL DIRECTIONS,
AND SIMULTANEOUSLY, A CYCLONE
OF BURSTING SHELLS ENVELOPED US.

J.F.B. O'SULLIVAN
6TH CONNAUGHT RANGERS

AS IT WAS, THE YPRES BATTLEFIELD
JUST REPRESENTED ONE GIGANTIC
SLOUGH OF DESPOND INTO WHICH
FLOUNDERED BATTALIONS,
BRIGADES AND DIVISIONS OF
INFANTRY WITHOUT END,
TO BE SHOT TO PIECES
OR DROWNED, UNTIL AT LAST AND
WITH IMMEASURABLE SLAUGHTER
WE HAD GAINED A FEW MILES
OF
LIQUID MUD.

CHARLES MILLER
2ND INNISKILLING FUSILIERS

SO HERE, WHILE THE MAD GUNS
CURSE OVERHEAD,
AND TIRED MEN SIGH, WITH MUD
FOR COUCH AND FLOOR,
KNOW THAT WE FOOLS, NOW WITH
THE FOOLISH DEAD,
DIED NOT FOR FLAG, NOR KING,
NOR EMPEROR,
BUT FOR A DREAM, BORN
IN A HERDMAN'S SHED,
AND FOR THE SECRET SCRIPTURE
OF THE POOR

TOM KETTLE
9TH ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS

I MEAN
THE SIMPLE SOLDIER MAN,
WHO, WHEN THE GREAT WAR
FIRST BEGAN,
JUST DIED, STONE DEAD
FROM LUMPS OF LEAD
IN MIRE.

WILLIAM ORPEN
OFFICIAL WAR ARTIST

SPENT ALL NIGHT
TRYING TO CONSOLE,
AID AND REMOVE THE WOUNDED

IT WAS GHASTLY TO SEE THEM
LYING THERE IN THE COLD,
CHEERLESS OUTHOUSES,
ON BARE STRETCHERS
WITH NO BLANKETS TO COVER
THEIR FREEZING LIMBS

CHAPLAIN FRANCIS GLEESON
ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS

HOSTILITIES WILL CEASE AT
11.00AM ON THE 11TH DAY
OF THE 11TH MONTH
AFTER THAT TIME
ALL FIRING WILL CEASE.

THIS WAS JOYOUS NEWS
APPROACHING ELEVEN O'CLOCK
IN OUR SECTOR
YOU COULD HAVE HEARD A PIN DROP
WHEN ELEVEN O'CLOCK CAME
THERE WERE LOUD CHEERS.
THE WAR WAS OVER
AS FAR AS WE WERE CONCERNED.

TERENCE POULTER
7TH ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS

I WISH THE SEA WERE NOT SO WIDE
THAT PARTS ME FROM MY LOVE
I WISH THE THINGS MEN DO BELOW
WERE KNOWN TO GOD ABOVE

I WISH THAT I WERE BACK AGAIN
IN THE GLENS OF DONEGAL
THEY'LL CALL ME COWARD IF I RETURN
BUT A HERO IF I FALL

PATRICK MacGILL
LONDON IRISH REGIMENT

SO THE CURTAIN FELL
OVER THAT TORTURED
COUNTRY OF UNMARKED GRAVES
AND UNBURIED FRAGMENTS OF MEN:
MURDER AND MASSACRE:
THE INNOCENT SLAUGHTERED
FOR THE GUILTY:
THE POOR MAN
FOR THE SAKE OF THE GREED
OF THE ALREADY RICH:
THE MAN OF NO AUTHORITY
MADE THE VICTIM OF THE MAN
WHO HAD GATHERED IMPORTANCE,
AND WISHED TO KEEP IT.

DAVID STARRET
9th ROYAL IRISH RIFLES

36th
INFANTRY
DIVISION

32,186

KILLED
WOUNDED
MISSING



16th
INFANTRY
DIVISION

28,398

KILLED
WOUNDED
MISSING



11th
INFANTRY
DIVISION

9,563

KILLED
WOUNDED
MISSING







THOMAS COOMBE, M.C.
CAPTAIN AND ADJUTANT 4TH BATT^{LION} ROYAL FUSILIERS
KILLED IN ACTION BELLEWAARD RIDGE, WESTERN FRONT
1918 - 1919. R.I.P.

ONE AND DEAREST LOVED CHILD OF
EDWIN AND MILDRED THOMAS COOMBE
OF NEWPORT HOUSE, OXFORD.

THIS MONUMENT WAS ERECTED
BY THE
4TH BATTALION ROYAL FUSILIERS



1914 - 1919

DEDICATED TO THE
MEMORY OF
LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN
M^C CRAE, AUTHOR OF THE POEM
"IN FLANDERS' FIELDS", AND
ALL RANKS OF THE ROYAL
CANADIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS
WHO PAID THE SUPREME
SACRIFICE IN THE FIRST
AND SECOND WORLD WARS.

IN FLANDERS' FIELDS

IN FLANDERS' FIELDS THE POPPIES BLOW
BETWEEN THE CROSSES, ROW ON ROW,
THAT MARK OUR PLACE; AND IN THE SKY
THE LARKS, STILL BRAVELY SINGING, FLY
SCARCE HEARD AMID THE GUNS BELOW.

WE ARE THE DEAD. SHORT DAYS AGO
WE LIVED, FELT DAWN, SAW SUNSET GLOW,
LOVED, AND WERE LOVED, AND NOW WE LIE
IN FLANDERS' FIELDS.

TAKE UP OUR QUARREL WITH THE FOE;
TO YOU FROM FAILING HANDS WE THROW
THE TORCH; BE YOURS TO HOLD IT HIGH,
IF YE BREAK FAITH WITH US WHO DIE
WE SHALL NOT SLEEP, THOUGH POPPIES GROW
IN FLANDERS' FIELDS.

MAY 1915

1939 - 1945

A LA MÉMOIRE DU
LIEUTENANT COLONEL
JOHN M^C CRAE AUTEUR DE CE
POÈME, ET À TOUS LES
MEMBRES DU CORPS ROYAL
MÉDICAL DE L'ARMÉE
CANADIENNE QUI SACRIFIÈRENT
LEUR VIE DURANT LES
PREMIÈRE ET DEUXIÈME
GUERRES MONDIALES.



21 Oct. 1884 - 16 Jun. 1915