PORTADOWN’S NAVAL RECORD

Over seventy men from the Portadown area served in the First World War. Nine died in service. Their service reflects the principal actions and misfortunes.
of the war. Some saw service in the Dardanelles, on land in Europe and at Jutland.

Robert John Porter serving with the Royal Naval Division took part in the first landing at Suvla Bay. Alfred Cowdy from Loughgall who had qualified as a Master Mariner at 23 years of age, was in command of his ship when it ran the gauntlet of fire at Suvla to get lighters ashore. (See Brave Report 14).

Ruric Waring of Waringstown was in HMS Hawke when it was sunk with the largest loss of Northern Irish life on any naval vessel in the war (See Brave Report 4 ). John Stratton was killed when HMS Natal exploded at her moorings in Cromarty Firth.

John Campbell served in HMS Collingwood with the future King George VI in a gun turret during the Battle of Jutland. (See Brave Report 38).

Two men from the area served in both World Wars. R Gibson from Waringstown served with the RM Light Infantry. He enlisted in Belfast, 31/08/1915. He was discharged on the termination of his second period of engagement in August 1937, and was re-mobilised in September 1939. He served throughout the Second World War.

Henry Kane, a signaller spent the First War at sea. He was at Jutland in the destroyer HMS Attack. In 1918, Signalman Harry Kane was in the destroyer HMS Phoenix when she was torpedoed by the Austrian U-27. After the war, he sailed on the destroyer HMS Vanoc to support the Baltic States in the Russian Civil War. Upon
his discharge from the Royal Navy in 1920, he immediately joined the Royal Fleet Reserve. For the next two decades he led a land-based life but spent one week per year at sea as part of Reserve service. He was called up in July 1939. He died on a raft off Ushant after the sinking of the Q ship on which he was serving.

Twenty-six men from the area served in World War II. Six of them died in service. As in the First World War, their service reflects the major actions and developments in naval warfare.
Harry Glendinning served in the Fleet Air Arm, flying off carriers as well as airstrips, and on occasions he was chosen to be pilot for Lady Mountbatten.

Billy Cooke, a wireless operator, served throughout the D Day landings including Omaha and Sword beaches. (See Brave Report 35).

Alfred Empson, was only 19 years old when he was killed in HMS Glorious on 08/06/1940.

Arthur Hamilton died on 19/12/194 when HMS Neptune. was in pursuit of an Italian convoy north of Tripoli, Libya. The ship struck a mine and while trying to escape a minefield hit two more.

George Fox from Tandragee was serving in HM Submarine Sterlet off southern Norway in Skagerrak when she was sunk by depth charges from German anti-submarine vessels, or possibly mined in mid-April 1940.

Albert Kirkpatrick was more fortunate. He was in HMS Spartan when it was sunk in the Anzio operations on 29/01/1944. He met his future wife when he was stationed at HMS Sea Eagle at Ebrington, Londonderry. They settled in the city and he was a member of St Columb’s Cathedral. He loved animals and never came to the Cathedral on a Sunday without an encounter with Widor, the aptly named Deanery dog. When the Cathedral bells started ringing Widor would bolt across the cathedral grounds to take up station by the gates and wait on his weekly treat from Albert.
PORTADOWN & DISTRICT
WORLD WAR I ROLL OF HONOUR

ADAMS, David
RN. HMS Roxburgh, Drumcree, Portadown

AITCHESON, Joseph Robert

AITCHESON, Joseph Robert
RN. Park Road. Son of Cherrie Ann. First Portadown - PCI RH

AITCHESON, William J
RN. HMS Carnarvon. Portadown

ARNOLD, John Wesley

BAILEY, Henry
RN. 223470. HMS New Zealand. Garvaghy Lane, Portadown

+BAILEY, Samuel McCutcheon

Northern Ireland - Service in the Royal Navy - In Remembrance
BAIRD, William
RN. AB. Tandragee - PCI RH

BATCHelor, C R
RMLI. Sergeant. Burnbrae Ave., Portadown

BAXTER, Reginald

BELL, Charles D
RN. Surgeon. Millicent Terrace, Portadown. First Portadown - PCI RH

BLAIR, JG
RN. HMS Caribbean. Park Rd., Portadown

BREEN, Thomas
RN. Portadown

BRENNAN, Herbert Wright
RN. Midshipman. 3156. Loughgall, Portadown

CALLAGHAN, E
RN. Stoker. HMS Emperor of India. Portadown

CAMPBELL, John
RN. AB. Gunner. Served in HMS Collingwood as a boy, a gunner, an as an instructor when she was demoted to a gunnery training ship. He was in A turret, Maintop Division at Jutland and served with Prince Albert (King George VI) in the same gun crew 1913 - 1916. The Prince was known as Mr. Johnston and was second - in - command of the turret. After Jutland the future king was transferred to HMS Queen Elizabeth. His
Majesty came to Belfast in July 1937 during his Coronation visit and John Campbell, then Chief Heath Inspector of Portadown, was introduced, the King said, 'Hullo Campbell, I haven't seen you for a long time..." His Majesty then promptly halted the proceedings for 5 minutes in front of a cheering, singing crowd of 150,000 loyal subjects, brass bands and a coterie of Ulster dignitaries, to speak to his old gun crew mate about their times together and share memories of their experiences, inform him of the illness of their former captain, James C Ley (later HMS Canada), and recall the whereabouts of old ship mates in the Collingwood. The King remembered Turret Commander W E C Tait who "made cocoa as usual for me and the gun crew during the battle." The Portadown News carried a front page photograph of the King and his former crew member with the headline, “Ulster Jutland Hero meets the King”. A framed copy hung in the Ulster Museum for over twenty years. An earlier report stated, “Johnny Campbell, AB of HMS Collingwood has been home on a flying visit. He relates how the guns of the ship were trained on the German battleships when they shelled Scarborough, and the fate which would have befallen them but for the fog”.- Portadown Times 13/02/1915. Moyallen, Portadown

CASSIDY, George
RN. Stoker. HMS Erin. Son of Patrick and Elizabeth Cassidy, Portadown

CLARKE, W
RM. Private. HMS Colossus. Parkmount, Portadown. Armagh Road - PCI RH

COWDY, Alfred W
RNR. Lt. Commander. Had been in the merchant service and was a master mariner by the age of 23. He had left the sea and
taken a position at the family linen firm Anthony Cowdy and Sons, Greeenhall, Loughgall. (Portadown News 17/07/1915). “Commander Cowdy R.N.R. was one of those who ran the Gauntlet of fire at Sulva Bay, To him was entrusted the landing of men in his steamer and the towing of lighters as near the shore as possible. During this operation he was under fire all the time and his vessel was constantly hit.” (Armagh Guardian 04/11/1915). Son of Anthony Cowdy, Greenhall.

**CRAWFORD, Nicholas James**
RN. Seaman. HMS Revenge. HMS Rigorous. Son of Joseph (dec’d) and Anna Crawford., Portadown. “Nicholas Crawford, a bluejacket on HMS Cordelia, visited his mother in Portadown during the weekend. He was at the destruction of a German cruiser which took shelter in a river, and he came in touch with some Turks, who had marks on their bodies inflicted with whips by Germans.” (Portadown Times 10/04/1915).

**EMERSON, Charles Ernest**

**FLEMING, James**
RN. Seaman. HMS Lion. Seagoe Parish. Portadown

**FRY, James**
RMLI. HMS Hampshire. Son of Henry and Isabella Fry, Carleton St., Portadown

**GATES, John**
RNAS. Son of John and Mary Ann Gates, Portadown. Brother of Sinclair below.
GATES, Sinclair
RNAS. Son of John and Mary Ann Gates, Portadown. Brother of John above.

GIBSON, R

GRACEY, Joseph
RN. Engineer. Mourneview St., Portadown

GRACEY, Malcolm
RN. HMS Peel Castle. Son of Hugh and Eliza Jane Gracey. Two brothers, Robert (see below) and William Henry served during the war. William Henry was lost in the war 21/10/1916. Shillington St., Portadown

GRACEY, Robert
RN. Artificer. HMS Etonia. Son of Hugh and Eliza Jane Gracey. Two brothers, Malcolm (see above) and William Henry served during the war. William Henry was lost in the war 21/10/1916. Shillington St., Portadown

+GRIMASON, George
RN. Seaman. HMS Illustrious. Died of illness 09/10/1915. Husband to Ada. Son of John and Mary Grimason. Portadown News reported 16/10/1915 that a few weeks previously he had attended his father’s funeral in Portadown, and that he had contacted a fever when returning to duty…“Not many months
ago his brother John was killed in action”. (Portadown News 16/10/1915). Carleton St., Portadown. Scathe Road cemetery, Grimsby. Portadown RH

**HALL, Samuel Arthur**  
RN. Boy Artificer. Son of Samuel David Brown and Margaret Hall, Edward St., Portadown.

**HALL, William John**  
RN. Son of Margaret and Samuel David Brown Hall, Edward St., Portadown.

**HART, Robert J**  
RN. Wounded. Hampton Terr., Portadown

**HASTINGS, William**  
RN. Portadown

**HAZELTON, George**  
RNVR. Lieutenant Commander. MiD, May 1918. Son of Minnie Hazleton, Woodhouse St., Portadown

**HEANEY, Thomas James**  

**HEWITT, William J**  
RNAS Observer. Had previously served in France with Royal Irish Fusiliers. Reported 12/1917 that he was a PoW having previously been reported as missing. Clounagh, Portadown.
HOBSON, George
RMLI. HMS Essex. Formerly known as Mahon. Portadown.

HOLLAND, Victor
RN. Son of William Robert and Sarah Holland, Sarah St., Portadown.

+HOLMES, David

HOLMES, Richard
RN. Seaman. 18552. HMS Vulcan. Son of William John and Sarah Jane Holmes, Ormonde St., Portadown. Brother of David above.

HORNE,
RN. Seaman. Listed as wounded. Portadown

+HUNTER, William James Graham
RNPS. Stoker. LT/KX 108031. Died 01/02/1941. HM Trawler Bervie Braes - was completed on 28 December 1917 and taken over by the Admiralty in March 1940. Husband of Emma Hunter. Falmouth Cemetery, Cornwall. Portadown WM

HUTCHINSON, Robert William
RN. Artificer. Son of Robert and Sarah Jane Hutchinson, Union St., Portadown

KANE, Henry
RN. Signalman. He spent the entirety of World War I at sea. A boy bluejacket on HMS Rinaldo, he was wounded on cheek and leg by shellfire while his ship was in action off Belgian Coast
(Portadown News 01/11/1914). He participated in the Battle of Jutland in the destroyer HMS Attack. In 1918, Signalman Harry Kane was in the destroyer HMS Phoenix when she was torpedoed by the Austrian U-27. After the war, he sailed on the destroyer HMS Vanoc to support the Baltic States in the Russian Civil War. Upon his discharge from the Royal Navy in 1920, he immediately joined the Royal Fleet Reserve. For the next two decades he led a land-based life but spent one week per year at sea as part of Reserve service. He was called up in July 1939, and when the war began was serving on the destroyer HMS Eclipse guarding the convoy traffic off the Western Approaches. In 1940, at the special request of his former commander on the Eclipse, he joined the Q ship HMS Cape Howe. SS Cape Howe was purchased by Lyle Shipping Company on 07/02/1934, being originally built in 1930. On 15/09/1939 she was taken over by the Royal Navy, converted into an anti-submarine "Q" ship and renamed Prunella (pendant X.02). This was his last ship, as he met his end when she was torpedoed and sunk off the South-West Approaches with heavy loss of life on 21/06/1940 by Günter Kuhnke in U-28. He made it to a life raft but succumbed to his injuries. Thirteen men survived on a raft, picked up on 27th June 150 miles off Ushant (48 47 N, 7 59 w). Edenderry LOL 322. Son of William Henry and Margaret Kane, Portadown. Husband to Sarah Kane, Railway St., Portadown. Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 39. St Mark’s Portadown WM. Portadown WM

KANE, James S
Signaller. Jutland. Also served World War II. Portadown.

LENNON, Thomas John
+LOGAN, Harry
RNVR. Second Officer. Portadown News 31/03/1917 stated that he had been reported missing. Son of David Logan, Hanover St., Portadown. St Mark’s Church, Portadown. Portadown WM

MAGOWAN,
RN. Engineer. Edenderry, Portadown

+MARKS, Alfred E

MASON, Albert
RN. Son of Thomas John and Margaret Mason, Atkinson’s Ave., Portadown

McCLURE, David
RN. Armourer. HMS Newcastle. Son of John and Mary McClure, Castle St., Portadown

McGIRR, John

MOORE, Alexander
Seaman. HMS Havelock. Belfast. Waringstown - PCI RH

PALMER, John
RN. Armourer. HMS Canada. Portadown

PALMER, John
RN. Armourer. HMS Canada. Portadown

Northern Ireland - Service in the Royal Navy - In Remembrance
PORTER, Robert John
RND. Howe Battalion. “Robert John Porter, of HMS Victory, leaves Portadown this weekend, after a few days well-earned rest. He is at present serving in the Howe Batt. RNR, which did such gallant work on the occasion of the first landing at the Dardanelles” - Portadown News 06/11/1915. Son of Richard and Martha Porter, Kernan, Seagoe, Portadown. Brother of Thomas below.

PORTER, Thomas

+ROBB, John Hamilton

ROBINSON, Victor
RN. Wireless operator. HMS Tiger. Grandson of Richard and Sarah Robinson, Portadown

SANDS, Valentine
RN. Artificer. Seagoe Parish, Portadown

SERGEANT, William Henry
RN. AB. Edenderry. First Portadown - PCI RH

SIMPSON, George
RN. Husband to Suzanne. Sons Jim and Leslie served in RN in World War II. Portadown.
STITT, Michael  
RN. Portadown

+STRATTON, John W F  

TAYLOR, Herbert  
RN. HMS Digby. Son of Ernest and Hannah Taylor, Woodhouse St., Portadown

TEMPLETON, Norman R  
RN. Son of May Templeton, Montague St., Portadown

TREVOR, Charles  
RMLI. Son of James and Anne Trevor, Ballynagowan, Portadown

TROTTER, Richard  
RMLI. Artificer. Husband to Elizabeth, Park Rd., Portadown. A son, Charles JR, served with RIF during the war.

TROTTER, William  
RN. 237267. B 31/01/1890 Tandragee. Enlisted 31/01/1908. Served throughout the war.

TURKINGTON, Albert  
RN. Son of Thomas and Rebecca Turkington, Park Rd., Portadown
WARING, Ruric Henry
Lieut-Commander. H.M.S. Hawke. Ruric Waring was the second son of Thomas and Fanny Waring. Ruric's father had been a Colonel in the army, before serving as a Member of Parliament for West Down for a number of years. Ruric's brother, Holt, served in the North Irish Horse in the Great War and was killed in action on 15/4/1918. He held the rank of Major and was attached to the 12th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles. Ruric's brother-in-law Lieutenant Samuel B. Combe (North Irish Horse) was also killed in action on 01/10/1914.

Ruric was born on 16/8/1879 and was educated at Stubbington House. He joined the Royal Navy in 1893 and became a midshipman in 1895, drafted to H.M.S. Britannia. He was raised to a sublieutenancy in 1899 and was promoted lieutenant after eighteen months' service for meritorious examinations. In 1910, after seventeen years service, he retired on half-pay owing to ill-health, with the rank of Lieutenant Commander and was placed on the naval reserve list. In 1914, on the recommendation of the Admiralty, Ruric was about to accept an appointment in the Chinese Navy when war was declared. In the intervening years, he helped in the military drilling of the local men of the Ulster Volunteer Force and was a Company commander in the 2nd Battalion West Down Regiment. He was also Vice-President of Waringstown Cricket Club.

In August 1914, with the outbreak of war, Ruric regained his former rank of Lieutenant Commander and joined H.M.S. Hawke at Queenstown, where he awaited further orders to set sail. The 'Hawke', on 20/9/1911, had collided with the White Star Liner 'Olympic', the sister ship of the Titanic. In the Admiralty trial which followed, H.M.S. Hawke and its crew were declared free from blame, owing to the theory proposed that the large water displacement caused by the Olympic had
drawn H.M.S. Hawke from her course. By August 1914, the Hawke was ready for action and was to take part in various British naval operations in the North Sea, patrolling the coast against the attrition of the German navy. On 15/10/1914, the British cruiser H.M.S. Hawke was torpedoed by the German submarine U-9 in the northern waters of the North Sea and sank in a few minutes. H.M.S. Theseus, accompanying the Hawke, was not harmed in the attack. Captain Hugh RE.T. Williams, commanding the Hawke, twenty six officers and five hundred men were lost with the ship. Only four officers and around sixty men were saved. It was hoped for a time that, owing to his previous malady, Ruric had gone on sick leave, but this proved totally groundless when the official telegram expressing sympathy arrived from the King. Further intimation from the Admiralty announced that it was feared Lt Waring was amongst those who had lost their lives; this was received by his brother Holt in October 1914. Ruric Waring is commemorated on Panel 1 of the Chatham Naval Memorial. Ruric Waring died, aged just 37. Waringstown during World War 1 by Leslie Elliott & David Stevenson. Son of Thomas and Fanny Waring, Waringstown. Lurgan WM.

**WATSON, Thomas Henry**  
RN. HMS Colossus. Son of Thomas Henry and Elizabeth Mary Watson, Park Road, Portadown. A brother, Herbert, was killed in the war, serving with 11 Highland Light Infantry.

**WEIR, John**  
RN. HMS Indefatigable. Drumcree, Portadown

**WRIGHT, George**  
RN. HMS Benbow. Cedar Terr., Portadown
+WRIGHT, Norman
HMS Majestic took part in the Dardanelles campaign from 24/02/1915. She was torpedoed and sunk 27/05/1915. Son of Robert and Bella Wright, Hockley, Richill, Co. Armagh. Brother of Squadron Sergeant Major Wm. Wright DCM. Mullinsilla, Portadown. Portadown Express 04/06/1915 and Portadown News 05/06/1915.

PORTADOWN & DISTRICT
WORLD WAR II ROLL OF HONOUR

ARCHER, MT
St. Mark’s Portadown.

ATKINSON John Gerald Thomas Dawson

+ATTWELL, Gerald

+BERRY, Joseph
RM. Marine. PO/X 4370. HMS Barham. Died 25/11/1941. Age 22. Barham was taking part in an operation against an Italian convoy to Lybia. U-331 eluded the destroyer screen and fired three torpedoes at Barham. All were hits. One of the ship’s magazines exploded. Barham sunk almost immediately. Of the crew of 1,312 there were only 452 survivors. Joseph Berry was
among the survivors who later died. Son of Mr. and Mrs. George Berry, Tullylish. Portadown. Portsmouth Naval Memorial, Panel 58. Gilford WM. Lurgan WM

**CLENDINNING, Henry George**
RN. FAA. Lieutenant Commander (A). 386306. The War interrupted his studies in civil engineering at QUB. He volunteered to join the Fleet Air Arm. He was sent to Kingston, Ontario to train as a pilot. He flew a variety of single and twin engined aeroplanes in his career, sometimes off aircraft carriers. Later in the war he was chosen to be Lady Mountbatten's pilot on a number of occasions. From RNVR to be Lieutenant from 01/09/1947 with seniority from 05/03/1943 (London Gazette27/01/1948). Post-war on the death of his father he returned to run the family business of Clendinning Bros Richhill until his retirement in 1982. He continued to fly with the Scottish Air Division until 1957. Harry had flown with the Squadron to Malta where Joan was working for four years as a Radar Wren in air traffic control. They married in Scotland before returning to set up home at Mahon House in Portadown. Harry had a fruitful career as a pilot and featured in the book “Murricane's Men”, flying in Canada and Europe, and taking part in the Queen's Coronation where he flew in formation over Windsor. He played rugby for Portadown College and was a member of the town's first fifteen rugby squad. Harry continued to sail twice a week at Lough Neagh Sailing Club where he was a founder member and three times past Commodore. In Tarbet Harry was runner-up in his Rover series class in 1995 and was class winner and points winner in West Highland Week in 1996. He was delighted to receive the prize for oldest skipper and collected this award at many regattas. He was a Rector’s Church Warden both in St Mark's Portadown and St Mark's Armagh. Vice President of the British Legion and in the years before his death took the salute at Remembrance Day parades

*Northern Ireland - Service in the Royal Navy - In Remembrance*
in Armagh and at the Sixtieth Anniversary Parade in Tandragee.
Portadown College. BSc QUB 1940

+COLE, Norman

COOKE, Wiliam
RN. Wireless operator. William ‘Billy’ Cooke was a wireless operator in the Royal Navy. He enlisted aged just 17 in June 1943. He served in the D - Day landings, South East Asia, and Pacific. In the D - Day landings his vessel had been part of a flotilla of 12, ferrying heavy equipment and 20 men to the Normandy coast. They crossed amid bad weather and under cover of darkness, but he recalled that when they arrived it had been “chaos”. “Between big ships firing and aircraft, I didn’t know what was going on. I was just sitting there with my earphones on me,” he said.

They then waited off the coast, although the boat became inoperable, took on water and began to drift, necessitating it being towed back into position. His most vivid memories were seeing dead bodies floating on the sea. “Utter chaos and mayhem,” he recalled. At one point during the deployment he looked over the edge, and recalled “lots of dead bodies lying about, and floating about too”. The craft, damaged on its first crossing, had to be towed back to ‘Blighty’, but he then took part in no fewer than seven crossing to Omaha and Sword Beaches after repairs had been carried out.

He was awarded the Croix de Guerre in 2014 when the French government recognised the surviving veterans.

Northern Ireland - Service in the Royal Navy - In Remembrance
After D-Day, Billy was sent for duty to the Far East and the British Pacific Fleet, returning to the UK in November 1945. He was demobbed in March 1946. Prior to joining the Navy, he had worked for a short time “on the railways” as a clerk at Newry GNR station. After his wartime service, he took up a post as school attendance officer with the then County Armagh Education Committee. By the time he retired, he had been promoted to Chief Attendance Officer with the Southern Education and Library Board. Billy Cooke was educated at his home village school, Newtownhamilton Public Elementary, after which he went to Newry ‘Tech’. He married a local woman - he and Mrs Bertha Cooke were wed at Clarkesbridge Presbyterian Church, three miles from Newtown, in 1954.

The greatest tragedy in their lives was in September 1975 when Mrs Cooke’s father James McKee and her brother Ronnie were among the four victims murdered by the IRA in the Tullyvallen Orange Hall massacre. “We never got over it,” said Mrs Cooke. “We just had to learn to live with it.” Billy Cooke followed many fulfilling pursuits, not least music. He had a fine, melodic Irish tenor voice and sang in the former Richhill Male Voice Choir, then Portadown Male Voice Choir. He also sang in church choirs, earlier in Newtownhamilton and laterally in Tandragee Presbyterian Church Choir. They moved to Tandragee in 1981 and to Mullavilly six years later. He was an all-round musician – he could play the violin, cornet, trombone, piano and harp, and had been a member of Tullyvallen Silver Band, and a member of the Orange Lodge at Tullyvallen. Billy also loved the football scene, being a keen supporter of Portadown and Arsenal. He made the occasional trip to see the Gunners in their Highbury days. Arsenal’s unbeaten season when they won the league (2003-04) was especially pleasing for Billy. He was a great conservationist, and thoroughly enjoyed gardening – from flowers to shrubs to vegetables.
Born in Newtownhamilton, the 89 year old was resident in Mullavilly, Co. Armagh at the time of his death in June 2015. Following a service at Tandragee Presbyterian Church, interment was at Newtownhamilton Presbyterian Churchyard. He remained a keen member of the Royal Navy Association and of Gilford Royal British Legion until his death. He had been to the 40th, 50th, and 60th anniversary commemorations of the D-Day landings in Normandy. (Portadown Times 24/06/2015, News Letter 18/07/2015).

**CRAIG, James**  
Stoker. St Mark’s Parish Church, Portadown WM. Portadown WM

**+EMPSON, Alfred Walter**  
RN. AB. D/JX 150039. Died 08/06/1940. Age 19. HMS Glorious. Son of Alfred Walter and Sarah Epson, Portadown. Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 37

**+FOX, George**  
RN. Stoker 1. Class. D/KX 87377. Died 27/04/1940. Age 29. HM Submarine Sterlet (Lt Cdr G H S Haward), mid-April 1940, Western Europe, off southern Norway in Skagerrak (c58.00N, 11.00E) - by depth charges from German anti-submarine vessels, or possibly mined. Sailed on 8th April for Skagerrak patrol during German invasion of Norway, loss details are still uncertain. On the 12th attacked a convoy unsuccessfully, and on the 14th torpedoed German gunnery training ship ‘Brummer’ off Jutland, where she sank next day. She may have been sunk in the counter-attack by the escort. Other possibilities include depth-charged by minesweeper ‘M. 75’ on the 17th or 18th, by anti-submarine trawlers ‘UJ.125’, ‘UJ.126’ and ‘UJ.128’ on the 18th, or mined in a field laid on the 8th. All 41 crew lost (Norwegian Campaign patrol)
Son of William and Elizabeth Fox, Tandragee. Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 41

**GIBSON, R**

**GREEVES, John Edward Brian**

**+HAMILTON, Albert**
RN. Able Seaman. D/SSX 26639. Date of Death: 19/12/1941. Age: 34. HMS Neptune. Neptune was in pursuit of an Italian convoy north of Tripoli, Libya on 19/12/1941. The ship struck a mine and while trying to escape a minefield hit two more. A fourth mine exploded. Neptune turned over and sank. Only one man survived of the crew of 764. Son of Annie Hamilton, Portadown. Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 47. St Mark’s Parish Church, Portadown WM

**HAMILTON, George**
RN. Portadown College. Dentist in Banbridge.

**HANLON, George**
RN. Served in a number of theatres of operations including Arctic convoys. LOL 9 Clounagh, Portadown.

*Northern Ireland - Service in the Royal Navy - In Remembrance*
HILL, Jonathan John McLeavy

+HUNTER, William James Graham
RNPS. Stoker. LT/KX 108031. Died 01/02/1941. HM Trawler Bervie Braes - was completed on 28/12/1917 and taken over by the Admiralty in March 1940. Husband of Emma Hunter. Falmouth Cemetery, Cornwall. Portadown WM

+KANE, Henry
RN. Signalman. He spent the entirety of World War I at sea and participated in the Battle of Jutland on the destroyer HMS Attack. In 1918, Signalman Harry Kane was in the destroyer HMS Phoenix when she was torpedoed by the Austrian U-27. After the war, he sailed on the destroyer HMS Vanoc to support the Baltic States in the Russian Civil War. Upon his discharge from the Royal Navy in 1920, he immediately joined the Royal Fleet Reserve. For the next two decades he led a land-based life but spent one week per year at sea as part of Reserve service. He was called up in July 1939, and when the war began was serving on the destroyer HMS Eclipse guarding the convoy traffic off the Western Approaches. In 1940, at the special request of his former commander on the Eclipse, he joined the Q ship HMS Cape Howe. SS Cape Howe was purchased by Lyle Shipping Company on 07/02/1934, being originally built in 1930. On 15/09/1939 she was taken over by the Royal Navy, converted into an anti-submarine "Q" ship and renamed Prunella (pendant X.02). This was his last ship, as he met his end when she was torpedoed and sunk off the South-West Approaches with heavy loss of life on 21/06/1940 by Günter Kuhnke in U-28. He made it to a life raft but succumbed to his injuries. Thirteen men survived on a raft, picked up on 27th June 150 miles off Ushant (48 47 N, 7 59 w). Edenderry LOL

Northern Ireland - Service in the Royal Navy - In Remembrance
322. Son of William Henry and Margaret Kane, Portadown. Husband to Sarah Kane, Portadown. Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 39. St Mark’s Portadown WM. Portadown WM

KIRKPATRICK, Albert
Born Armagh, he attended St Mark’s Parish School. His family moved to Portadown. He joined the RN on his 16th. birthday and began training on the Isle of Man. His pay was a shilling a week. He was in HMS Spartan when it was sunk in the Anzio operations on 29/01/1944. Whilst at HMS Sea Eagle at Ebrington, Londonderry, he met Isobel, later to be his wife, at a dance. Theirs was the first marriage to be solemnised by Rev. Charles Willoughby as curate of St Columb’s Cathedral. Mr Willoughby was later to be rector of All Saints’ Church, Clooney, which has strong RNA links, and he was also Archdeacon of Derry. After his service with the RN, Albert worked for the GPO (now BT), until his retirement. He was a Past President of the Apprentice Boys of Derry No Surrender Parent Club, Past Master of LOL 1912 and for over fifty years a member of RBP No 237. He loved animals and never came to the Cathedral on a Sunday without an encounter with Widor, the aptly named Deanery dog. When the Cathedral bells started ringing Widor would bolt across the cathedral grounds to take up station by the gates and wait on his weekly treat from Albert. Father to Pat, Marilyn and Augusta. Died 05/02/2011. Based on an appreciation in St Columb’s Cathedral magazine, March 2011.

MacLeod, James
RN. Seagoe Parish, Portadown
MARTIN, William
RN. Twenty five years service including WW2 and Korea. Originally from Londonderry. Omagh Royal School. Falsified age to join HMS Ganges Shore School, Plymouth. Served in the Mediterranean, Malta and North Africa. After service settled with his wife Mina in Portadown. In time became a civil servant. Dedicated member of local RBL branch whose support for him in his final ten years illness was acknowledged by his family. Traditional RBL funeral to Seagoe cemetery. Portadown Times 04/10/2011.

MITCHELL, Clifford
RN. Seagoe Parish, Portadown

SLOAN, Wolsey Cornwall

THORNTON, Walter Reavell

WHITESIDE, David G
RN. Served 5 years during war. Lived Portadown. Engineer with BT. Migrated to Glastonbury, CT., USA. Husband to Margaret. Born 1917. Died 30/09/2003, Age 86. Buried Manchester, CT.

+WHITLA, James
RN. Seaman. HMS Ajax. Son of William Henry and Annie Whitla, Castle Avenue, Portadown

Northern Ireland - Service in the Royal Navy - In Remembrance
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Richard Edgar - A Call to Arms : Portadown in the Great War, Brett Hannam - Mullavilly, Portrait of an Ulster Parish, Leslie Elliott & David Stevenson - Waringstown during World War 1. IMR - Irish Memorial Roll, CWGC - Commonwealth War Graves Commission, St Columb’s Cathedral magazine, Presbyterian Church Roll of Honour, Queen’s University Book of Remembrance, Campbell College Register, Portadown Times, Belfast Telegraph.

HELP REQUESTED
Please send names of Ex RN/RM/WRNS who served in either of the world wars. Further details also appreciated.

CIRCULATION - Please share ‘Brave Report’ with your former service colleagues - and we will post direct to them if they simply send an e-mail to: huston.mckelvey@btinternet.com, placing Brave Report in the message bar, and give their name and former arm of service, and if they are members of the RNA or RBL, having knowledge of their branch would be appreciated. There are specific areas where we need information from!

PUBLICATION NOTES
Please note all the material in Brave Report is copyright.

Brave Report is collated and published by The Very Rev. Dr Houston McKelvey, OBE QVRM TD.

Dr McKelvey served as chaplain for 29 years with 102/105 (Ulster & Scottish) Regiment, Royal Artillery TA; for 20 years as Chaplain to the RBL - Northern Ireland Area, and for a period as chaplain to the Belfast Branch of the Burma Star Association. He was involved in the life of HMS Caroline and HMS

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Hibernia. He was appointed an Honorary Chaplain to the RNR. He is a Past President of QUB Combined Services Club.