

# Seagoe Parish Magazine.

AUGUST, 1915.

## AT THE FRONT.

The following is an Alphabetical List, revised and enlarged, of the Names of Men from Seagoe Parish who are at present Fighting at the Front, or who have taken part in the fighting line at some time or other since the War began.

Henry Adair, 1st Batt. R.I.F.

*William Henry Armstrong, 1st Batt. R.I.F., killed in the trenches, Friday, March 12th, 1915.*

John Brown, R.I.F., injured.

Robert Brown, R.I.F. severely wounded at Dickebusch, Flanders.

William Jas. Brown, R.G.A., wounded, Oct., 1914.

Robt. Callison, Irish Guards, wounded, Oct., 1914.

*Thomas Cordner, R.I.F., killed in action November 9th, 1914.*

U. Cordner, R.F.A., wounded.

Nathaniel Dawkins, Lance Corporal, Irish Guards and Leinster Regiment, formerly of Edenderry R.I.C.

Isaac Donaldson, A.S.C., wounded.

Thomas Flannigan, Canadian Contingent.

Richd Flannigan, Canadians, severely wounded, 1915

George Fox, R.I.F., wounded.

Thomas Freeburn, R.I.F.

Willoughby Frazer, R.I.F., formerly of Edenderry.

R. Gibson, R.I.R., severely wounded, October, 1914.

Samuel Gillespie, R.I.F.

John Girvan, R.I.F.

David Gracey, Highland Light Infantry.

*James Gracey, R.I.F., died of wounds at Hazebrock, on April 14th, 1915.*

Joseph Gracey, R.I.F.

Samuel Gracey, Canadian Contingent.

David Gregston, Highland Light Infantry.

Robert Hara, A.S.C.

Thomas Hara, R.F.A.

Wm. Hewitt, R.I.F.

Harry Kane, H.M.S. Rinaldo, wounded October,

James Kane, R.I.R., wounded at Fromelles, May 9th, 1914.

James Lamb, R.I.F.

John J. Liggett, R.F.A.

Thomas Liggett, R.I.R.

James Liggett, Scottish Rifles.

*Joseph Malcomson, R.I.R., killed in action, June, 1915.*

*William Malcomson, R.I.F., killed in action, May, 1915.*

Robert Malcomson, R.I.R.

Edward Miller, I.G., wounded, May, 1915.

*Thomas Mighton, R.I.F., killed in action May, 1915.*

John Milligan, I.G., wounded, October, 1915.

William Milligan, R.I.F.

Thomas Milligan, R.F.A.

Wm. James McNeill, R.I.F., severely wounded at St. Julien, April, 1915.

Joseph McAnally, Canadians, taken prisoner May, 1915.

David McCord, R.I.F. wounded.

Robert Porter, Naval Division, Dardanelles.

Thomas Porter, "Benbow" Batt. Naval Division, Dardanelles, wounded.

George Preston, Lance Corporal, R.I.F., wounded and prisoner, September, 1914, interned at Doeberitz Camp, Berlin.

Robert Rainey, R.I.R.

Samuel Rainey, R.I.F.

Alfred Richardson, Canadians.

Hugh Koney, R.I.F., wounded and prisoner, May, 1915, interned in Münster, West Germany.

Wm. Russell, R.I.F., wounded Oct., 1914.

George Steenson, R.G.A.

Walter Vaughan, N.I.H.

Isaac Walker, N.I.H.

*George Whiteside, Scots Greys, reported killed in action, October, 1914.*

Wm. James Whiteside, R.I.F., severely wounded April, 1915.

James Wells, R.I.F., gassed.

**VISITORS FROM THE FRONT.****PRIVATE JOHN GIRVAN, R.I.F.**

Among the names of Seagoe men who have come prominently before us during the war, that of **Private John Girvan**, Royal Irish Fusiliers, takes a leading place. He obtained a brief holiday to revisit his home last month. He was in the Trenches in Flanders on the evening of Sunday, July 4th, and arrived in Seagoe on Tuesday, July 6th. He left here on Friday evening, July 9th, and was back in the fighting line on Sunday, July 11th. This was a very brief holiday, but for a soldier who has been 11 months and 5 days on active service, even such a short break in his strenuous life must be refreshing. Private Girvan arrived in full fighting kit, with the dust of the Trenches still clinging to him. He made a picturesque picture in Tarson, with his rifle, bandolier, trench-axe and water-bottle. Everyone was glad to see him and he had many a stirring tale to tell of the battlefields of Flanders. He has fortunately escaped wounds and "has not had five minutes sickness" since the war began. He has been through eight battles, and has constantly been on duty in the Trenches. Private Girvan has been most thoughtful in writing home particulars about the men of the Parish who are at the front. He has, alas! witnessed the death and wounding of several of our Seagoe lads, and has, without delay, written home particulars to the anxious relatives. Unlike many who take part in this war his quickness of observation and retentive memory have enabled him to see the situation at a glance, and to record his impressions in writing. We pray that the Protecting Care which has preserved him from harm so far, may still shield him in the days to come.

We hope in our next issue of the Magazine to insert his photograph in fighting kit taken by Messrs. Moffett, photographers, during his recent visit to the Parish.

**TROOPER ALEXANDER FINNEY, C.M.P.**

Another distinguished Seagoe Soldier, who has been visiting his home in Edenderry during the past month, is **Trooper Alexander Finney**, of the Cape Mounted Police. son of Mrs. Finney, of Bridge Street. Trooper Finney though quite young has seen more service than most men of his years. He was a Private in the 13th Hussars when the Boer war broke out in 1899, and was at once ordered with his Regiment to the front. He served right through the war, and at its close remained in South Africa, joining the Cape Mounted Police as a Trooper. Ere long he again volunteered for active service in suppressing the Rebellion which broke out in Zulu-land. He was then appointed to a responsible post in the South African Prison Service, and in that capacity travelled over all parts of South Africa, and as far north as Uganda in Central Africa. When Maritz began his rebellion on the outbreak of the present war, he volunteered again for active service, and under the leadership of a distinguished Dutch General, went

through a trying campaign. When the Rebellion was suppressed he volunteered at once for service in Europe, and managed to snatch a few days holiday in the interval between his campaigns. Trooper Finney wears already three medals, two for the Boer War, and one for the Zulu Rebellion. If, as we trust, he emerges safely from the present great war he will carry at least two more medals. We congratulate Trooper Finney on the services he has rendered on so many fields to King and Country, and Seagoe Parish is to be congratulated, (and especially Edenderry) on having produced a soldier so keen and capable.

**Private James Kane**, of James Street, returned home for a few days rest last month. He was severely wounded in the engagement at Fromelles, in France, on May 9th. The Germans had made a counter attack on the Fusiliers' Trench, and the men had to mount the parapets in order to withstand the attack. It was just at this moment that Private Kane was shot through the shoulder. Fortunately the wound was not dangerous, and after five weeks' treatment in hospital it has quite healed. Private Kane's brother, seaman Harry Kane, of H.M.S. Rinaldo, was wounded by a shell last October during the bombardment by the British Fleet off the Belgian Coast.

Other visitors who arrived during the past month were **Private Richard Flannigan**, and **Sergeant Major David Bright**, both of Princess Patricia's famous Canadian Regiment. Private Flannigan was very severely wounded in the shoulder, arm and hip. The Germans attacked them in overwhelming numbers and Private Flannigan was hurled back into the trench by a lump of earth dislodged by a bursting shell, which also caused his wound. Only four men of his section survived the fight, all the rest were killed. We are glad to know that he is making a good recovery from his wounds.

**Sergeant-Major David Bright** has seen many a tough fight, but has been fortunate in escaping injury. He spent some days in Edenderry last month and his many friends were delighted to see him once again.

Another soldier, who has been home on a short holiday from the trenches, in France, is **Lce.-Corpl. Hewitt**, of Bridge Street, Edenderry. He is a signaller of the 2nd Battalion R.I.F. He was stationed at Quetta, in India, when war broke out. He proceeded with his regiment to France in December last, and has been in active service at the front ever since. He has had some thrilling experiences. On one occasion a bullet struck the handle of his bayonet, and on another occasion his rifle was struck. He has returned again to France, and we hope that when the war is over he will come back safe and sound to Edenderry.

**Private Jas. Tedford**, R.I.F., is at present home in Carrickblackler Road. He was seriously wounded in the ankle, and has been in hospital for some time past. He hopes to return soon to active service.

**Private Thos. Milligan**, R.F.A., of Joseph Street, Edenderry, is at present at home from the front. He was called to France shortly after the outbreak of war. He has been three weeks in hospital suffering from nerve-shock, but is now almost quite well again. We wish him a speedy recovery, and hope that when the cannon ceases to roar he will return in safety to Joseph Street.

### Brothers Killed in Action.

Two members of the same family from this Parish have been killed in action. Private William Malcomson, 1st Batt. Royal Irish Rifles was killed in Flanders in May, and another brother, Joseph, was killed in the fighting near Hooze, Flanders, on Wednesday, June 16th. A third brother, Robert, is also at the front. We express deep and sincere sympathy with Mrs. Malcomson, who has thus been doubly bereaved. And yet, while we mourn the loss of these brave men we cannot forget what a noble and glorious sacrifice they have made.

### 9th Battalion Motor Ambulance.

GLADLEIGH,  
SEAFORD, SUSSEX,  
JULY 25, 1915.

DEAR MR. BLOOMER,

I am writing to you in Mr. Archer's absence to acknowledge the receipt of £13 from Miss Isobel Atkinson, the result of a stall at the Seagoe Sunday School Treat. Would you please convey my most hearty thanks to the committee who so kindly ran the stall, and my best congratulations on their very successful effort. This sum will be added to the Fund for the 2nd Motor Ambulance for the 9th Battalion Royal Irish Fusiliers, which I believe is already in a fair way to completion,

Yours sincerely, EVA BLACKER.

CULLREAGH, DONAGHADEE,  
JUNE 15, 1915.

DEAR MR. BLOOMER,

I was so pleased to get your letter enclosing the £2 from the Seagoe Men's Bible Class. Indeed they have done well, giving £1 10s to the Red Cross as well.

Please tell them how grateful I am for their generous contribution,

Yours sincerely, EVA BLACKER.

### Offertories for July.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Sundays—Mornings,	£8	6	9
Evenings, ...	1	16	2
Week Evenings	0	5	10

£10 8 9

The above includes £4 8s 4d for Armagh Protestant Orphan Society, and 17s 10d for the Lord Kennis-killen Memorial Orphan Fund.

### ITEMS.

Miss M. Dickson, of Drumnagoon, has obtained a post as nurse in the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast.

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The men in the Camp at Seaford write home in the best of spirits. Their address is South Camp, Seaford, Sussex.

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The Fusilier Regiments were originally foot soldiers who were armed with a lighter musket than the ordinary. Afterwards such regiments were ranked as *corps d'elite*, or corps of a special and higher class of men. The 5th, 7th, 20th, 21st, 23rd, 27th, 87th, 101st and 102nd Regiments of Foot were ranked as Fusiliers.

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The Rector, who is having a holiday in England, hopes to visit the men in Camp at Seaford, Sussex, before his return home.

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We congratulate the Rev. James Bloomer, B.A., Curate of Cookstown, brother of Rev. Geo. Bloomer, on his appointment to the Parish of Kildress, in the Diocese of Armagh.

### A Sad Accident.

A very sad accident occurred on the Gilford Road, on Saturday Evening, July 10th, whereby Harry Wilson, of Ballymacrandle, lost his life. He had been engaged from early morning in carting coal from the town to Blacker's Mill, and was on his last journey for the day when his horse, suddenly startled by the crack of his whip, tried to bolt. In endeavouring to check him Harry Wilson fell and was severely crushed. He was brought home in the ambulance, and lingered in great pain for a few hours, until death released him. He was very popular with every one, and his early death has caused much regret. To his wife and mother, and relatives we offer our deep sympathy. The funeral took place to Seagoe on Tuesday, July 13th, and was very largely attended.

### Congratulations.

We offer our hearty congratulations to Lieutenant R. T. Montgomery on his recent promotions to a Commission in the 9th Batt. Royal Irish Fusiliers. We know how keenly and efficiently Lieut. Montgomery carries out any work in which he is engaged, and his success in the army is the natural result of the success which he had already won in civil life.

### The Day Schools.

Seagoe National School will (D.V.) re-open after the Summer holidays on Monday, August 9th, at 9-30 a.m. A punctual attendance of all the pupils is requested.

**PARISH REGISTER FOR JULY.**

**Baptisms.**

"He shall gather the Lambs with His arm."

*Baptised on July 3rd, 1915.*

**Spence**—Carrol, son of Carrol and Margaret Spence, Red Row.

*Sponsors*—Margaret Spence, Elizabeth Flavelle.

**Hara**—Sarah Rose Jane, daughter of James and Sarah Hara, Drumnagoon.

*Sponsors*—Maria Watson, Sarah Hara.

**Freeburn**—Margaret, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Ann Freeburn, Bright Street.

*Sponsors*—Margaret Rainey, Elizabeth A. Freeburn.

**Walker**—Emma, daughter of John and Letitia Walker, Drumnagoon.

*Sponsors*—Sarah Mary Porter, Letitia Walker.

**McCabe**—Dinah, daughter of Thomas and Mary McCabe, Red Row.

*Sponsors*—Jane Ruddell, Mary McCabe.

**Hara**—Samuel, son of William John and Margaret Hara, Glasgow.

*Sponsors*—Amelia M'Cormick, Margaret Hara.

**Boyce**—Dorothy Lydia, daughter of James and Sarah Boyce, Bocombra.

*Sponsors*—Maria Sweetin, Sarah Boyce.

**Magennis**—John, son of Thomas Edward and Maria Adelaide Letitia Magennis, Breagh.

*Sponsors*—Thos. E. Magennis, Mary A. L. Magennis.

**Burials.**

"My flesh also shall rest in hope."

**McDowell**—July 12th, John M'Dowell, of Levaghery. Aged 63 years.

**Gilliland**—July 12th, at Donacloney, Elizabeth Gilliland, of Edenderry. Aged 10 weeks.

**Wilson**—July 13th, Henry Wilson, of Ballymacranicle. Aged 45 years.

**Holmes**—July 14th, Miriam Holmes, of Killicomain. Aged 23 years.

**KILLED IN ACTION.**

"For King and Country."

**Sinnamon**—July 1st, in France, Private Henry Sinnamon, 3rd Batt. R.I.F., of Florence Court, Portadown.

We regret to announce the death of Miriam Holmes who passed to her eternal rest on Sunday, July 11th. She had been in weak health for some time, and the end was not unexpected. She had been a diligent teacher in Seagoe Sunday School for some time, and was also a regular worshipper in the Parish Church, and a Communicant. It is sad to record the death of one so young, but she leaves behind her a bright example of christian effort and service. We sympathise very sincerely with Mr. and Mrs. Holmes, and their family in this fresh affliction which has befallen them. The burden is heavy to bear, but the message of God's

word is certain, as it is comforting—"Cast thy burden upon the Lord and He shall sustain thee."

We greatly regret to record the death of John McDowell, of Levaghery, which occurred on Saturday, July 10th, quite suddenly after a short illness. He was well and widely known in Seagoe Parish, and much respected by all who knew him. His work in the care and upkeep of the roads in this neighbourhood was always done with care and efficiency, and in his dealings with those who came in contact with him, his geniality and kindly manner gained him many friends. We condole with his relatives, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McDowell and family in their bereavement.

**Church Attendance Cards.**

EDENDERRY SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Third Rank—25, 30. Hannah Johnston 26, Minnie Crawford 26, Sam Magee 26, Edward Crawford 26.

Fourth Rank—20, 25. Maggie Rainey 21, May Hinds 24, Charlotte Allen 23, Emily Cox 23, Annie Johnston 21, David Rainey 22, Willie Cox 22.

CARNE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Third Rank—25, 30. Willie Coulter 26, W. J. Costello 26, Andrew Costello 26.

Fourth Rank—20, 25. Maggie Simpson 24, Hannah Caddell 24.

SEAGOE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

1st Rank—35, 39. Mary Best 39, Isabella Best 39, Mary J. Atkinson 39, Maggie Mathers 35.  
Second Rank—30, 35. Lizzie Patton 32.

**Old Seagoe Notes.**

**Change of the Calendar in Seagoe 1752.**—The change of the Calendar in 1752 created much excitement here as well as elsewhere. The way in which it was done was this—the day following September 2nd, 1752, was counted as September 14th, so that eleven days were cancelled or dropped out of the calendar. People complained that they had been deprived of 11 days of their life. In Seagoe Registers there are traces of the uncertainty of the Calendar at that time. The entries for the first three months of the years 1700-1747 are entered in this form 174 $\frac{2}{3}$ , etc. This was due to uncertainty as to the date on which each New Year began. No entries of Baptisms, Marriages, or Deaths are recorded in the Registers for the date September 2nd to September 14th, 1752, but there is the record of a Baptism on September 15th of that year. The uncertainty as to the beginning of each year seems strange to us who are accustomed to regard January 1st as New Year's Day, but up to the year 1752, March 25th was regarded as the first day of the New Year, and it took some time before people became accustomed to January 1st as New Year's Day.

*See Will July 1915 issue.*