



Bringing alive the dry pages of history

Blot on the (Battlefield) landscape

It seems Battlefields under threat are common news items these days. With erosion caused by road building in Gallipoli, Canal widening on the Canal Du Nord and now the latest blot on the landscape; wind turbines on the Somme. A “green” project to generate electricity from wind turbines is under way on the Le Transloy—Morval Ridge at the eastern end of the Somme battlefields.

France is keen to have more wind farms and the one in question may include 5 windturbines each 150 metres high. The area is already dominated by the A1 and A2 Autoroutes which join at Morval. No actual Commonwealth cemeteries are threatened but understandably there is concern at the project. Supporters have insisted there is minimal “footprint” impact but others point out that the



associated infrastructure, cabling etc will undoubtedly “unearth” history. The area was assaulted as part of Haigs continuing autumn offensive by IVth Army in October 1916 to roll the Germans back and off the Transloy ridge.

Left— Gunners move up toward the ridge 1916.

VC— Sgt Harry Cator 9th April 1917

Having been married only one day, Norwich born Cator joined up in 1914 with the East Surrey Regiment. Awarded the MM in July 1916 he declined a commission but was promoted to Sergeant. When he saw his platoon getting cut down near Monchy on 9th April 1917 Cator and another man charged forward. His comrade was killed but Cator continued, picking up and firing a Lewis Gun as he went. Reaching the hostile trench he used enfilade fire and killed an entire German Machine Gun team and its Officer. He then helped drive out 100 Prisoners and captured another 4 Machine Guns. Cator served in the Second War Home Guard and in the TA. He died in 1966.



2009 Tour Schedule

19/23 July **Walking Wipers**
new walks for 2009
26/30 July **Walking Cambrai**
9/13 Aug **Redcoats to Khaki**
6/10 Sept **Somme Strolls II**
20/25 Sept **Gallipoli II**
11/16 Oct **The Road to Rome**
Battle Vision Photography
Tours—More details coming soon, watch for dates in October or email us direct for more.

These selected units wear this honour with pride

Bremen, April 1945 –13/18 Hussars, Somerset LI, Royal Tank Regiment, Manchester Regt, Highland Light Infantry, Royal Ulster Rifles, Royal Lincolnshire Regt, 4/7 Dragoon Guards, Wiltshire Regt, South Lancashire Regt.



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