

The Quickfirer!



Bringing alive the dry pages of history

Tyne Cot Visitors centre opens



Redesigned access, parking and Toilets are all part of the new Centre which nestles at the rear of the Tyne Cot memorial. As you walk down the approach path speakers whisper the names of men who are commemorated

within the cemetery walls. With a purpose built viewing gallery, orientation maps, contemporary photographs and battle-field artifacts the centre enhances a visit to Tyne Cot whilst not detracting from the awe inspiring original designs of Herbert Baker. Timed to coincide with the 90th anniversary of the Third Battle of Ypres, Battle Honours groups will be visiting the newly opened site in our July and October tours.

This month in History – June

On Land – The Messines Ridge Offensive starts on the 9th June 1917 with the detonation of 21 mines beneath the German lines after a length preparatory bombardment. The thoroughly planned and well executed battle saw the successful capture of the Ridge, essential for the launch of any major operations in the nearby Ypres Salient. Less than a year since the 1st July 1916 the BEF alongside Australian, Canadian & New Zealand forces were able to demonstrate the lessons learnt on the Somme and General Plumers new “Bite & Hold” tactics. With all objectives taken it also marked the first occasion on the western front of defensive casualties exceeding attacking with the allies losses of 17,000 set against German figures of 25,000

VC– Stan Hollis, a 32 year old Company Sergeant Major with the 6th Green Howards who was awarded the only VC of D-Day, 6/6/44. When he saw machine gun fire coming from a hidden pillbox near *Gold Beach* he ran into the attack and single handedly knocked it out by Sten gun fire and grenades. He then took around 20 prisoners. Hollis died in 1972 aged 59 and is buried in his home town Middlesbrough



The following units wear this honour with pride

Villers-Bocage June 1944 Westminster Dragoons, 24th Lancers, County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters) The Queens, Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry, The Rifle Brigade, Durham Light Infantry, Dorset Regiment.



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Battle Honours Polo T-Shirts.

Still available ! Available in Blue and Red and all at £16.95 .



Clive boarding the fast jet to Canakkale for our Gallipoli tour, cutting journey time from 6 hours to 35 minutes

2007 Tour Schedules.

Somme Winter Walks 15-19

Sept. This unique tour focuses on the overlooked Autumn and winter battles around Flers, Guedecourt Ancre valley & Warlencourt that brought the Somme battles to a cold wintry end. £375

Walking Gallipoli £815

Walking the Beach heads, Gully ravine, Suvla Bay & Anzac. 23rd –28 September Only 2 places left.

Verdun 14-18 Oct

The fascinating and moving battle-field, Forts Vaux and Douaumont ,Trench of bayonets £399

Wipers 19-23 July £375

and also the 90th anniversary tour on 1-5th October, Spaces still available.

High Altitude—Italy

26th July—2 August, war in the Alps 1917-18 £975

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