

The Quickfirer!



Bringing alive the dry pages of history

Her Majesty Visits the Salient



As part of the 90th commemorations of the Passchendaele offensive, the Queen & The Duke of Edinburgh attended a ceremony at Tynecot Cemetery to remember the fallen and open the new visitors centre at the site. This very public display of remembrance was

welcomed by all and heralded the beginning of a series of events in the Salient from now until November. Whilst the Royals did not on this occasion travel with Battle Honours (despite a local Victoria pick up on most tours!) our 90th Anniversary tour to Ypres between 1-5 October 2007 will include visits to Tynecot and attendance at a burial service for 5 Australian soldiers in Polygon Wood CWGC following

This month in History – August

On Land – On the 27 August 1914 dawn broke over the crossroads at La Chapeau Rouge where the men of the 2 Munster's were dug in covering the retreat of Haig's I Corps. Over the next 12 hours this small band of men led superbly by Major Charrier would hold back 9 German Regiments. When finally cut off and surrounded 3 attempts to break out by bayonet charges took place before Charrier fell alongside the last remaining gun. At 21:00 hours just 240 men, ammo exhausted, commanded by Lt Gower finally succumbed to the German onslaught. German casualties from the days fight numbered 1500. The orchard they made their last stand in is today the cemetery in which their comrades lie, Etreux, one of the finest entries in annals of British military history!

VC– Lt Col Bertram Best-Dunkley 2/5th Lancashire Fusiliers



31 July 1917—Wielje, Ypres For leading his men under fire from close range when disorganized and personally assaulting enemy positions, his leadership ensured the Brigade objectives were carried, despite being severely wounded he later rallied his Battalion seeing off an enemy counter attack before finally being evacuated to Mendingham CCS where passed away 5 August 1917.

The following units wear this honour with pride

Advance to Florence 1944— The Life Guards, 17/21st Lancers, The Royal Fusiliers, The Rifle Brigade, Royal Tank Regiment, Welsh Guards, The Black Watch, Tower Hamlet Rifles, QORWK & Somerset Light Infantry

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Battle Honours Polo T-Shirts.



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

Julian & Tom Willis at the grave of his uncle who fell in August 1917 on the Ypres Salient Visited on a recent tour.

2007 Tour Place Update

Somme Winter Walks 15-19 Sept. This tour focuses on the Autumn and winter battles around Flers, Guedecourt Ancre valley & Warlencourt that brought the Somme battles to a cold wintry end. £375 *1 place left*

Walking Gallipoli £815 Walking the Beach heads, Gully ravine, Suvla Bay & of course Anzac. 23rd –28 September *2 places left*

Verdun 14-18th Oct a unique chance to walk this incredible battlefield, an in depth quality look at the Verdun campaign £399 *4 places left*

Wipers the 90th anniversary tour walking Polygon wood, Poelcapelle, Langemark and Passendaele. 1st-5th October £375 *5 places left* £375

2008 Schedule will be out this November



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