







To No. H285673 Private F.J. GREEN,

Northumberland Hussars.

Headquarters, Fourth Army,

27th February 1919.

I congratulate you on the gallantry and devotion to duty for which you have been awarded

THE MILITARY MEDAL.

aw luino

Commanding Fourth Army.

198 Juneoud De. clock naral 30. Bear Mr. Trumend. Thate you very much for 7 ms lord most welcome lette « 1 is always so interesting de hear alle sous de ings + trips. aunts always said what a very interesting lette you mote. What a hice tut a time on had in Lundon at Christ mas 1 20 metty at 7000 Say just like a that card. The decorations in London would ve of viens everywhere. & 7 m would enjoy det the parties How do row gr there from Bankton do sow go by wad for Swindow or Whetney? I loved London whele I was them . I saw as much as I could I was slaying in Carlo Court nice " central do Picadelly I even the July a sytence ever come how I meat go + Sen 7. I saw Dr. Do hills - Hongh i was good. what a nice onling to the Pantomine a also rous Dark, Jean Parly was nice, aunty always enjoyed them so much. Tes & Law heard of new Taun! what a wonderful organish all those years I the 4 was a vig change for her do go to go do Canada but looks of her to remember Bamplis church & the windows wer always be a lastery memorial these.



285678

F. g. Green

Twish to thank you on behalf of the whole Regiment both past and present for the splendid service you have rendered in

Nov 5: 1918

This is presented to you as a mark of appreciation from all ranks, for keeping up and adding to the good name of the Regiment.

Dec 15.1

Handley D. Lieut, Col.
XII Royal Lancers.

Commanding Northumberland Hussars.

It is just twelve months since aunity hasted away how time flap by a now Earlis will Sook be here. Tow well be looking forward to Storing , a loudy summer. We have had a very dry Season, the country backly wants rain but the wie have been beautiful this year = & Lave had 5 one lovely ones. I have nearly lity bushes Scattered about . So there is always some thing I Pick. I want for a lovely told s akanoa will a freing one Saturday, a very welly wille scenic sho in the hello aloud 50 miles away. The French , greetes settled there over a one hundred years ago it stell has that influence. Wal Book Cases Wishes to both, Tous very surcesely Brills House

# Commonwealth War Graves Commission

# Information Sheet

#### THE BATTLES AND MEMORIALS OF THE YPRES SALIENT

#### THE BATTLES OF YPRES

In the First Battle of Ypres, in the late autumn of 1914, a relatively small British Expeditionary Force was operating in close proximity to Belgian forces to the north and French to the south, in an allied command structure. Advancing through Ypres, they met a larger force of young and untrained Germans, the Volunteer Reserve Corps, and pushed them back to the Passchendaele Ridge. After attack and counter-attack, notably in Polygon Wood, the Germans were finally driven back and Ypres was saved before winter set in and warfare temporarily ceased. Losses on both sides were considerable.

The events of late 1914 saw a change in the nature of warfare from mobile infantry, with some use of cavalry charges, to full scale trench warfare where defence was the best form of attrition.

The Second Battle of Ypres commenced in April 1915 when the Germans released poison gas against the Allied lines north of the city, this being the first time that the deadly weapon had been used in the war. The fleeing battle-weary troops were replaced by the fresh 1st Canadian Division who steadfastly resisted a second gas attack and stood their ground. However, the force of the first attack had seriously indented the Allied-held Ypres Salient and it was necessary for the British to shorten their lines of defence by withdrawing.

There was little more significant activity on this front until 1917 when, in the Third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele), it fell to the British to divert German attention away from a weakened French front. A first offensive was launched, to dislodge the Germans from the Messines Ridge, and the attack was a complete success. A few weeks later the main assault began and after a long and dogged struggle, often in appalling wet weather, Passchendaele Ridge and village were taken.

The struggle continued in 1918, with early German success, but a final great effort was undertaken by the Allies in September and in mid-October the last shell fell on Ypres and the Fourth Battle ended.

#### THE MEMORIALS

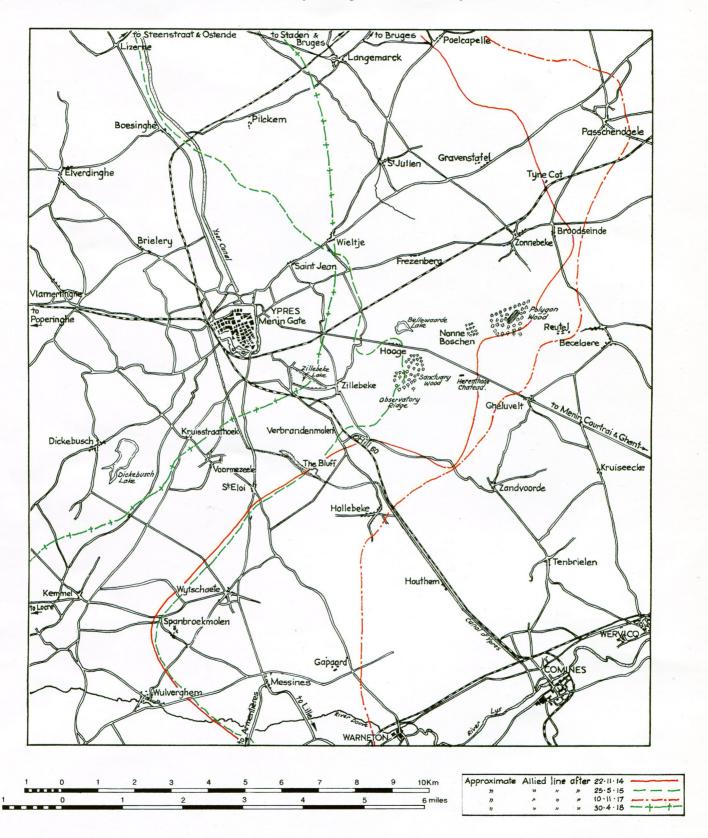
From Langemarck to Messines and from Poperinghe to Dadizeele, there are 137 cemeteries in Belgian Flanders containing the dead of the Commonwealth Forces; and in those cemeteries there are the graves of 40,000 unidentified soldiers. They, and 50,000 others whose graves are not even to that extent known or marked, are the officers and men commemorated by name on four Commission Memorials in Belgium.

The names from all the overseas forces except those of New Zealand and Newfoundland, and the names from the Corps and Regiments of the United Kingdom of those who fell before 16 August 1917 appear on the Menin Gate, Ypres (now known as Ieper). The names from the forces of the United Kingdom from that date, with those of certain New Zealand dead, appear on a Memorial in Tyne Cot Cemetery, Passchendaele. The remaining New Zealand names appear on Memorials in Buttes New British Cemetery, Polygon Wood, Zonnebeke, and Messines Ridge British Cemetery.

A division of the names between several sites was found to be desirable as well as inevitable. The Menin Gate was a natural site for selection; hundreds of thousands of men passed through it to the battlefields of the Ypres Salient, and it represents the deliberate obstinacy with which the British Empire, from 1914 to 1918, refused to surrender a few square miles of Belgian soil. On the other hand there was available at Tyne Cot a large cemetery on the highest part of the West Flanders battlefield, on the site of a German fort, and close to the furthest point reached by British arms in Belgium until nearly the end of the War. It was therefore historically fitting that Tyne Cot should be one of the sites for Memorials, and that a date in the summer of 1917, when the advance to Passchendaele was in progress, should be chosen to divide the British names between Ypres and Passchendaele. The date chosen was the night of 15–16 August, when the Battle of Langemarck began.

#### THE YPRES SALIENT

These Memorials cover the whole period of the War, except the months of August and September 1914; and they serve the area from Langemarck in the north to the northern edge of Ploegsteert Wood, 4 kms south of Messines, which (in its widest sense) is the Ypres Salient. The term has no exact geographical significance. It varied from year to year, as the map shows; but it has in the history of the War the significance of a long series of fierce attacks and defences, with Calais and Boulogne as their bases on the British side and the whole mastery of Belgian soil as their objective.



**Note:** The place names shown in this historical map are as they were known at the time of the First World War. Many are spelled differently today.

#### THE MENIN GATE MEMORIAL, YPRES



Ypres (now known as Ieper) is one of the old towns of Flanders and, eight centuries ago, it was the greatest of them. It decayed through changes in trade and industry, through political troubles, through many sieges and some captures.

By 1914 it was one of the smaller towns of the Belgian Province of West Flanders, joined by canals and railways to the French border and the sea. It stood in flat, intensely cultivated, country; but to the south-west was a low range of hills running from Kemmel westward to Godewaersvelde and rising again at Cassel, and to the north and east were the gradual ascents afterwards known to the British troops as the Pilckem Ridge, the Passchendaele Ridge and the Menin Road Ridge. It was described in 1905 as a dead or phantom town, a cemetery, deserted by industry and trade, but carefully guarding the great buildings erected in its prosperity. The ramparts built by Louis XIV, modernised by the Dutch Government before 1830, and dismantled by the Belgian Government in 1854, remained as wide promenades on the east and south sides. There were two main gateways: the Lille Gate which retained its flanking towers and the gate towards Menin which was only a passage between two ends of wall.

At the Menin Gate there stands today a "Hall of Memory", 36.5 metres long and 20 metres wide, covered in by a coffered half-elliptical arch in a single span. At either end is an archway 9 metres wide and 14.5 metres high, with flat arches on either side of it 3.5 metres wide and nearly 7 metres high. In the centre of the sides are broad staircases, leading up to the ramparts and to loggias running the whole length of the building. The names of over 54,000 officers and men are engraved in Portland stone panels fixed to the inner walls of the Hall, up the sides of the staircases, and inside the loggias. Each of the four straight arches is flanked on either side by an engaged Doric column and surmounted by an entablature. Over the central arches are large panels for the dedicatory inscriptions; and above these panels is a recumbent lion on the east side, and a sarcophagus, with a flag and a wreath, on the side facing the town.

The inscription repeated over the two main arches is:-

# TO THE ARMIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE WHO STOOD HERE FROM 1914 TO 1918 AND TO THOSE OF THEIR DEAD WHO HAVE NO KNOWN GRAVE.

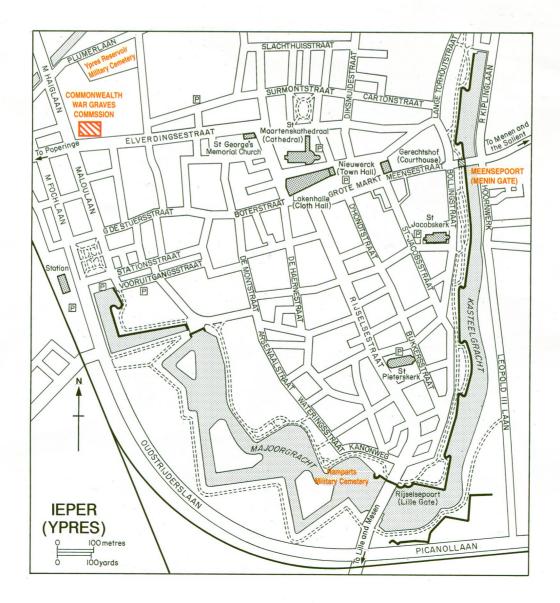
The following words are inscribed over the entrance to the southern staircase leading out of the main hall:-

IN MAIOREM DEI GLORIAM
HERE ARE RECORDED NAMES OF OFFICERS AND
MEN WHO FELL IN YPRES SALIENT BUT TO WHOM
THE FORTUNE OF WAR DENIED THE KNOWN AND
HONOURED BURIAL GIVEN TO THEIR COMRADES
IN DEATH.

Over the entrance to the northern staircase are the words:-

## THEY SHALL RECEIVE A CROWN OF GLORY THAT FADETH NOT AWAY.

The Memorial, built of reinforced concrete faced with Euville stone and red brick, was designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield and unveiled by Field Marshal Plumer in 1927. It is situated on the eastern side of the town, on the road to Menin (Menen) and Courtrai (Kortrijk) and each night at 8 pm the traffic is stopped while members of the local Fire Brigade sound the Last Post in the roadway under the Memorial's arches.



#### THE TYNE COT MEMORIAL

The Tyne Cot Memorial forms the north-eastern boundary of Tyne Cot Cemetery, which is situated between Passchendaele (now known as Passendale) and Zonnebeke. The name "Tyne Cottages" or "Tyne Cotts" was given by the Northumberland Fusiliers to a group of German blockhouses, or pill-boxes, situated near the level crossing on the Passchendaele—Broodseinde road. Three of these blockhouses still stand in the cemetery; the largest, which was captured on 4 October 1917 by the 3rd Australian Division, was chosen as the site for the Cross of Sacrifice by King George V during his pilgrimage to the cemeteries of the Western Front in Belgium and France in 1922. The Tyne Cot Cemetery is now the resting-place of nearly 12,000 soldiers of the Commonwealth Forces, the largest number of burials of any Commonwealth cemetery of either world war. It first came into being in October 1917 when one of the captured pill-boxes was used as an Advanced Dressing Station, resulting in some 350 burials between then and the end of March 1918. The cemetery was much enlarged after the Armistice by the concentration of over 11,500 graves from the battlefields of Passchendaele and Langemarck and from a few small burial grounds. The dates of death cover the four years from October 1914 to September 1918 inclusive. Unnamed graves in the cemetery number nearly 8,400, or seventy percent of the total, and the names of the unidentified soldiers who lie in them are inscribed on the Menin Gate and on the panels of the Memorial which stands to the rear of the cemetery.

The site of the Memorial is on high ground on the western slopes of the Passchendaele Ridge, from which the whole country to the English Channel lies open. It is in the middle of an agricultural district, with widely scattered farms and small villages. It represents the most desperate offensive fighting of the Commonwealth Armies in Belgium, as Ypres represents their most stubborn resistance, and it stands close to the farthest point in Belgium reached by Commonwealth arms in the First World War until the final advance to victory.

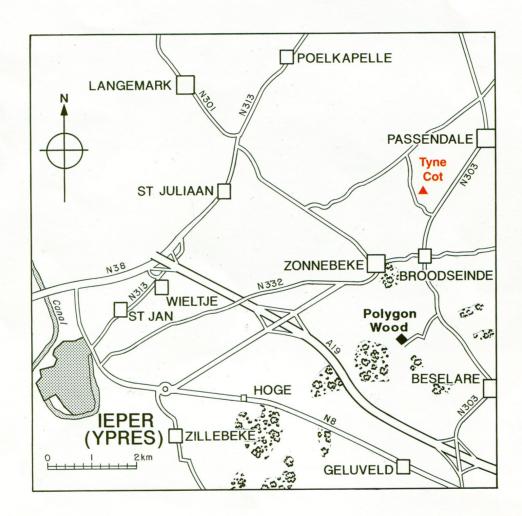
The Memorial, designed by Herbert Baker and with sculpture by F. V. Blundstone, is a semicircular flint wall 4.25 metres high and over 150 metres long, faced with panels of Portland stone on which are carved nearly 35,000 names of those who have no known grave. There are three apses and two rotundas: the central apse forms the New Zealand Memorial and bears the names of nearly 1,200 officers and men who gave their lives in the Battle of Broodseinde and in the Third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele) in October 1917; the other two, as well as the rotundas and the wall itself, carry the names of United Kingdom dead who fell in the Salient between the 15 August 1917, when the Battle of Langemarck began, and the Armistice, in the Third and Fourth Battles of Ypres. Two domed arched pavilions mark the ends of the main wall, each dome being surmounted by a winged female figure with head bowed over a wreath.



A section of the Tyne Cot Memorial, skirting the north-eastern boundary of Tyne Cot Cemetery

The following inscription is carved on the frieze above the panels which contain the names:

1914 – HERE ARE RECORDED THE NAMES OF OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE ARMIES OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE WHO FELL IN YPRES SALIENT, BUT TO WHOM THE FORTUNE OF WAR DENIED THE KNOWN AND HONOURED BURIAL GIVEN TO THEIR COMRADES IN DEATH – 1918



Tyne Cot Cemetery is situated just off the main road from Ieper (Ypres), about 2 kilometres south-west of Passendale, a village 10 kilometres north-east of Ieper on the N303.

**Note:** As mentioned in the historical section of this leaflet, many of the towns and villages shown above now have modern spellings which differ from those featured in the campaign map.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission is responsible for marking and maintaining the graves of members of the forces of Commonwealth countries who died in the two world wars, for building and maintaining memorials to the dead whose graves are unknown and for providing records and registers of these burials and commemorations, totalling 1.7 million and found in most countries throughout the world.

He is

Disembodied

Strike out whichever is inapplicable.

AR 5894 Army Form Z. 21. Transfer to Reserve on Demobilization. CERTIFICATE of\* Disembodiment Demobilization Names in full. Unit and Regiment or Corps from which \*Discharged Transferred to Reserve Enlisted on the ... 3 o forward it in London, S.W.I. (Here state Regiment or Corps to which first appointed) Also served in... nd Res: Cav: Only Regiments or Corps in which the Soldier served since August 4th, 1914, are to be stated. If inapplicable, this space is to be ruled through in ink and initialled. + Medals and Secretary. Decorations awarded during present engagement \*Has served Overseas on Active Service. Has not Medical Category... Q. I envelope to Place of Rejoining in case of emergency Year of birth.../893 Specialist Military qualifications Discharged Transferred to

.. Signature and Rank. Records. (Place) Officer i/c. + The word "Nil" to be inserted when necessary.

in consequence of Demobilization.

applying

You should therefore

IF FOUND, please drop this Certificate in a Post Office letter box. Army Form Z. 11. NOTICE.—"This document is Qovernment property. It is no security whatever for debt, and any Person being in possession of it, either as a pledge or security for debt, or without lawful authority or excuse, is liable under Section 156 (9) of the Army Act to a fine of twenty pounds (£20) or imprisonment for six months, or to both fine and imprisonment." Dispersal Unit Stamp and date of dispersal, Surname (Block letters) Rank Record Office Unit Regt. or An Bay Office Corps I have received an advance of £2. † Address for Pav (Signature of Soldier) The above-named soldier is granted 28 days' furlough Theatre of War or Command from the date stamped hereon pending\* (as far Born in the Year as can be ascertained) which will date from the last day Medical Category of furlough after which date uniform will not be worn Place of rejoining in except upon occasions authorized by Army Orders. case of emergency • If for Final Demobilization insert 1, Disembodiment insert 2, Transfer to Reserve insert 3. Specialist Military Qualification †As this is the address to which pay and discharge documents will be sent unless further notification is received, any change of address must be reported at once to the Record Office and the Pay Office as noted above, otherwise delay in settlement will occur.

This Certificate must be produced when applying for an Unemployed Sailor's and Soldier's Donation Policy or, if demanded, whenever applying for Unemployment benefit.

Office of Issue Policy issued No

This Certificate must be produced when cashing Postal Drafts and Army Money Orders for weekly pay whilst on furlough.

The Postmaster will stamp a ring for each payment made.







P.O. Stamp to be impressed here when Savings Bank Book is issued.



IF FOOND, please drop this Cortificate in a Post Office letter box. Army form L. M. NOTICE "This document is Covernment property, it is no security What her debt, and that In smon of it, sither as a nicker or security for debt, or the country Act to a line of twenty nounds n Book THE COLOURS THE issued 28/1/19 Dispersal Unit Stamp and days of dispersal. Christian Names mailO broos? Regt. or scrioo I have received an advance of £2. and set aseating (Signature of Soldier) The above-named soldier is granted 28 days' furlough to self to esteed! Dominand from the date starwied hereon gending fore in the Ye riogetal Category of furtious after ution date uniform will not be worn Place of rejoining in aresps upon occasions authorized by Army Orders. venegreme to esso "If for Final Descobilisation insert ! Specialist Millibary) Discussion of the Practice of Cualification ta beliase of the address to which or to will be sent unless forther notification is received. TIVU AND STREET THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OF THE STREET ar Ciffe as noted shows, otherwise delay in This Certificate must be produced when applying for an Unemplayed Sailer's and Soldier's Donation Policy of, if demanded, whanever epplying for Unemployaget penetit. Policy issued No. Office of Issue Date Tris Corlingate must be produced when cashing Posial Drafts and Army Money Orders for waste say white on furlough. P.O. Stamp to be impressed here The Perinaster will stemp a ring for each payment made. when Savings Bank Book is issued.

[P.T.O.

### CERTIFICATE OF EMPLOYMENT DURING THE WAR.

(To be completed for, and handed to, each soldier).

A soldier is advised to send a copy rather than the original when corresponding with a prospective employer.

It is particularly important that an apprentice whose apprenticeship has been interrupted by Military Service should have recorded on this form any employment in a trade similar to his own on which he has been engaged during such Military Service.

Regtl. No. 286	6/3	Rank Privato	
Surname GR (block letters)	EEN		
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\*The trade or calling must be filled in by the O.C. Unit from the Appendix to Special Army Order No. 6, of 21st October, 1918 (329 of November, 1918). 4. Military qualifications as shewn in A. B. 64.

5. Special Remarks as to qualifications, work done, or skill acquired during service with the Colours. This is required as a help in finding civil employment,

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controlle their ground beground and the old of the section.

constrained was made and our full contracts were

A way good worker - handy at any the Reliable. an acallent joiner.

> J. Roman Cape oz. 81015.

Soldier's Signature (For identification purposes).

(Rank) Flool

Commanding// Northumberland (Unit)

NOTES.—The object of this certificate is to assist the soldier in obtaining employment on his return to civil life. The form will be completed as soon as possible in accordance with Demobilization Regulations.

> As soon as signed and completed it will be given to the soldier concerned and will remain his property. He should receive it as early as is compatible with making the necessary references in order that he can either send it home or keep it in his possession.

> One form will be issued to each man, and no duplicate can ever be issued.

WAR DIARY of the 1/1st NORTHUMBERLAND HUSSARS.

Reference: WO 95/700 National Archives, Kew.

5 November 1918 : Report by Capt. CFM **Ramsay** MC O/C C Squadron on Operations at OLD MILL DES PRES –

Reconnoitre the OLD MILL DES PRES, and, if possible to seize and hold the river crossing over the RIVER PETITE HELP (HG A.2.7. Sheet 57 ANW). This was necessary to guard the right flank of the 50<sup>th</sup> Division, the 25<sup>th</sup> Division being not so far advanced.

"At 7am I started with Lt **Hawley** and 9 ORs and arrived at the ECLUSE DES ETOQUES at 7.30 am. This was held by the Munster Fusiliers. Led (sic) horses with two ORs were left here, a message being sent back. Lt. **Hawley** was dispatched to get a Lewis Gun from HQ of the Munster Fusiliers. With 6 ORs I advanced to the Mill from the North.

When approaching the Mill, the Notts. and Derby (25th Division) were seen advancing from CATILLON FARM, and a messenger was dispatched to inform them that we were co-operating on their flank. When quite close to the Mill, the Germans were seen holding a position about 80 yards E. of the River PTE. HELPE. I then gave each of my men his objective with orders not to open fire, unless attacked, until I gave the order. On a given signal they all doubled to their positions, while with Capt. JL Robson I searched the buildings and the hedge W. of the Mill. On returning I gave the order to fire. The Germans were completely surprised by the sudden fire, 2 being killed immediately. The answering fire of the Germans was most inaccurate. I then waded across the river, holding the far bank and cutting the wire entanglement. The crossing was taken at 07.50 am. As soon as the Notts and Derbys came up at 08.05am, I proceeded along road towards RUE de LIEUTENANT with one OR and succeeded in causing a German MG to be removed which was firing on the advancing infantry of 25 Division. Lt. Hawley then came up having been unable to procure a MG and mopped up an enemy trench with 1 OR - one German who tried to act treacherously being killed. Identifications from dead Germans were taken, and their defensive positions W of the RUE de LIEUTENANT were located and the information handed over to the OC Notts and Derbys."

Weather dull with much rain.

11 November: Armistice came into operation at 11 am. Very little excitement amongst troops.

23 November: MM awarded to No. H/270714 Pte **Dixon** W, 286573 Pte **Green** FJ, 270098/5 Pte **Anderson** W, C Squadron. CRO 2154 – 18-11-18)

7 December: Visit by the King to Tournai. The Regiment lined the streets.

16 December 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant RJ Hawley awarded MC

26 December Lieutenant the Hon CFM Ramsay awarded bar to MC.

19 January 1919: Parade through Brussels.

At 10.40 with drawn swords we began the march following the 1<sup>st</sup> Life Guards who headed the procession through the capital.



Weather wretchedly cold and snow fell continuously. At midday we reached the Guarde-du-Midi at which place we returned? Swords. Throughout the march and especially at the Royal Palace, the troops were given an enthusiastic reception by the crowds of Belgian people.

These are the handwritten manuscript diaries of the Northumberland Hussars, which are kept in the National Archives in Kew. Unless one could find CRO 2154-18-11-18, I don't think we are going to find out anything more specific about the award. This is because the award of a Military Medal does not come with a citation. However, if, as I suspect, the Military Crosses awarded to Lieutenants Hawley and Ramsey were awarded for the same action then their citations might be useful. Ramsay is described as both Capt. and Lieut. in the diary but as both his initials are given as CFM in both references I'm pretty sure he is the same man.

The citation for 2 Lt Reuben John Hawley describes some actions of his on 4 November and then says: "Next day he showed great discretion in conducting a mopping up party, refusing to be deceived by attempted enemy discretion." London Gazette 3 October 1919. www.gazettes-online.co.uk

I haven't found the citation for Lt Ramsay yet.

O/C = Officer Commanding

OR = Other Rank

MG = Machine Gun

Henry Arthur areen (Harry) 4th Canadian Mounted Rifles Service no. 109362 d. 2-6-16 ypres.

menin Galepanel 30-32

Battle of the River Sambre One of the last battles. fourth Army. 4th 5th and 6th November 1918.

Where ceasefile > Compiègne was agreed North of Paris.

TELEPHONE No 77601/2 OXFORD

RAILWAY:
LITTLEMORE, G.W.RY.
WYCOMBE & THAME BRANCH

All Communications must be addressed:

"SECRETARY TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE"

Our ref: PF/P WJD/MAE

LITTLEMORE HOSPITAL,
LITTLEMORE,
NR. OXFORD.

2nd January, 19.58

Dear Madam,

Confirming my telegram I regret to inform you of the death this morning of your husband, Mr. Frederick Green.

The Hospital notifies the Registrar, Mr. N. F. Spatcher, 23, New Street, Henley-on-Thames, (telephone No. Henley 807) and obtains the certificate of disposal for the officiating Clergyman. Certificates for Friendly Society, Savings Bank, National Insurance, etc., may be obtained from the Registrar upon application.

When you have had time to think about funeral arrangements, perhaps you would be good enough to let me know what is proposed. In order to allow time for any official enquiries which might possibly be necessary, the funeral should not be held before Monday next, 6th January, 1958.

If there is any other point on which I might be able to help, please do not hesitate to write, or call personally, or to telephone (77601, extension 6) during office hours. I would be grateful if you would advise other relatives of the death.

Yours faithfully

M. D. Groves)
Group Secretary

Mrs. E. B. Green, Church View, Bampton, Oxon.