



A rededication service for

Trooper Fred Tingle

5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards

11.00 hours Wednesday 25 March 2026
CIWGC Heverlee War Cemetery, Belgium

Service conducted by Reverend David Jeal CF
Chaplain to The Royal Dragoon Guards



Trooper Fred Tingle



Trooper Fred Tingle
30 January 1920 – 19 May 1948

Fred was born in Castleford, Yorkshire in 1920 – a twin brother to Fern, and one of 11 children born to William Tingle, a coal miner. Fred's mother was Annie Hopples – William's second wife.

Fred was a soldier with the 8th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, which had operated since just before the outbreak of war as part of the newly formed Royal Armoured Corps. The Regiment was part of the British Expeditionary Force which was deployed to maintain Europe in a reconnaissance role shortly after the war broke out. When the Germans launched their invasion of the low-countries on 10 May 1940 they forced a retreat of the British forces, and the 8th fought a fierce rearguard action as they made their way back towards Dunkirk – which they reached on 26 May 1940.

Fred was killed in action on the 18 May 1940 during the retreat. His body was initially recovered and buried in Sint Antelinks by local people who documented the items found with him and sent his identification disc to Brussels for recording. Although these same people continued to care for Fred's grave throughout the war, unfortunately, when his body was recovered by the British army in 1948 it proved impossible to reconcile all the records, and he was buried as an unknown soldier.

Recently, research by two Belgian nationals found the key documents which proved that the location that the unknown soldier had been recovered from (Hulgeveldestraat in Sint Antelinks) was identical to the original burial location of a soldier who had been carrying a disc marked

321740 P Tingle, S.D.G

Further research revealed more details of the unknown soldier including a physical description, and information about letters and papers he was carrying which bore addresses in the West Yorkshire area. Ultimately, all of this information taken together, proved that the unnamed grave at Heverlee was that of Trooper Fred Tingle. Today we rededicate his grave accordingly.

Welcome

We gather here today in this place of peace and remembrance to honour Trooper Fred Tingle of the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards — a son, a soldier, and a comrade.

85 years ago, he answered his country's call and served with courage and devotion to duty. Today, we remember his sacrifice, and we give thanks that his name and resting place are now known and honoured once more.

As we stand among the graves of the fallen, we are reminded that the cost of peace is written on this ground. May our hearts be filled with gratitude, our spirits strengthened by remembrance, and our lives inspired by the example of those who gave all for others.

Opening Prayer

Eternal God,
we remember with gratitude all who have given their lives
in the service of others and in the pursuit of peace.
We give thanks for their courage, their devotion to duty,
and their steadfast faith in a better world.

May their sacrifice remind us of the value of freedom
and the responsibility it places upon each of us.
Grant us wisdom and compassion
to work for justice, reconciliation, and peace among all people.

May we honour their memory not only with our words,
but by the way we live our lives —
seeking always what is right,
and serving one another in love and respect.

All: Amen.

Scripture Reading: Romans 8:35-38

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness
or danger or sword?

As it is written:

*"For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."*

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reading: A Soldier's Grave by Francis Lowidge

Then in the hush of midnight, gentle arms
Lifted him slowly down the slopes of death
Lest he should hear again the mad alarms
Of battle, dying moans, and painful breath.

And where the earth was soft for flowers we made
A grave for him that he might better rest,
So, Spring shall come and leave it sweet arrayed,
And there the lark shall turn her dewy nest.

Address:

The Reverend David Joel CP

The Act of Dedication

We now rededicate this grave as the final resting place of
Trooper Fred Tingle, in the name of Christ, who died and rose again.

This place stands as a sign of our remembrance, our thanksgiving,
and our love.

Lord, grant that your servant Fred may rest in peace,
in the sure knowledge that he now abides in your glory,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

The Exhortation

Read by Captain Benjamin Wright, The Royal Dragoon Guards

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.
We will remember them.

Last Post

Played by Musician Thomas Tolstoy-Hardy, The British Army Band Tidworth

Silence

Reveille

Off in the Silly Night – a lament

Played by Lance Corporal Alex Kelly, The Royal Dragoon Guards

Kohima Epitaph

Read by Captain Benjamin Wright, The Royal Dragoon Guards

When you go home tell them of us and say:

‘For your tomorrow, we gave our today’.

Laying of Wreaths

The Collect of The 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards

Read by Captain Benjamin Wright, The Royal Dragoon Guards

O God, our house of defence and our castle, whose blessed son hath taught us that no man having put his hand to the plough and looking back is fit for thy kingdom, strengthen, we pray thee, The 5th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, that we may never, for any hardness of his word, go back and walk no more with him, but like his faithful apostles may choose rather to follow him to death, who hath the words of eternal life, the same thy son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (all)

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven;
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Blessing

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest;
to the Church, The King, the Commonwealth, and all mankind,
peace and unity;
and to us and all his servants, life everlasting.

Go out into the world in peace: be brave and strong;
hold fast to what is good; do not repay evil with evil;
encourage the discouraged, support the weak,
help those who suffer, honour everyone,
and love and serve the Lord with joy,
trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always.
Amen.



The Ministry of Defence, through the Joint Casualty & Compensation Centre, is responsible for the research, identification and burial of all British casualties worldwide.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for the graves, memorials, records and memory of the 1.7 million Commonwealth servicemen and women who died during the two world wars.

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