



A Burial Service for

**Two Unknown Commonwealth Soldiers
Killed During the Great War**

**11:00 hours on Wednesday 3 June 2026
CWGC Tyne Cot Cemetery, Belgium**

**Service conducted by the Reverend Mark Henderson OJF
Chaplain to 22nd Regiment Royal Artillery**

The remains of these two soldiers were found buried in a shell hole during work at the side of Theorienstraat, Zonnebeke. Various artefacts were found with the remains including an Australian rising sun badge, a Cameron Highlanders shoulder title and various items of artillery equipment, including a belt marked 300 RFA. Based on the artefacts found it was believed that one of these men may have belonged to 300th Brigade Royal Field Artillery which was located at the find site between 8 and 13 October 1917. Having moved further up the line towards Passchendaele, the find location remained on the medical evacuation chain used for casualties of 300th Brigade until 27 October 1917. As yet neither of these men have been identified, despite DNA testing being carried out for most of the potential candidates from 300th Brigade. Today they will be laid to rest with military honours in Tyne Cot Cemetery alongside their comrades and their sacrifice will be honoured. Work will continue to try to identify these men.

Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery in the world, is now the resting place of 12,000 servicemen who lost their lives during the First World War. The Cross of Sacrifice stands on a German pillbox captured by the 3rd Australian Division on 4 October 1917. After the Armistice, graves were brought in from small burial grounds and the surrounding battlefields. The casualties being laid to rest today were both recovered from these former battlefields.

Call to Worship

Jesus said... "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die, and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. ...

John 11 v 25,26

Bidding Prayer

God our heavenly father, today we remember before you our unknown comrades whom we bury today. We are thankful they are known unto you.

As we give thanks for their lives, their service, and their sacrifice we commit their bodies to be buried. We rejoice that they like us are more than a mind in a body rather they like us are those created in your image God with an eternal soul.

God of all consolation, we ask you to comfort all who mourn and grieve the loss of a loved one today. May they know your peace, comfort and hope through faith in you.

All Answer.

Scripture Reading

**Read by a Representative of the British Embassy
Brussels**

Ecclesiastes Chapter 3 v 1-11 (NIV)

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to hear and a time to respond,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

**All This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Read by Lieutenant Colonel Tony Richardson MBE
Commanding Officer 1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery

John Chapter 14 v 1-6 (NIV)

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going."

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Reading

Read by Regimental Sergeant Major Christopher Webber
1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery

Will You Forget - By David Mackie

Will you forget?
When all the fight is done,
And victory is won,
Will you forget?
The soldiers in their pride,
Who freely fought and died,
Will you forget?

Will you forget?
When war gives up his blood,
To gentle-spoken Peace,
Will you forget
The heroes in their graves?
That you might have been slaves,
Will you forget?

Will you forget?
The widow and her brood?
Oh, Heavens, if you should –
Will you forget?
The blinded and the lame,
The broken and the maimed,
Will you forget?

Will you forget?
Like those in other wars,
The soldier and the scars –
Will you forget?
When times are safe and soft,
My God! I wonder oft,
Will you forget?

Address

The Committal

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalm 46 v 1

Lord, we thank you for the life and sacrifice of these unknown soldiers. They are an example to us all, how to live and die well. We now commit their bodies to be buried: earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life of all who trust in Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

The Exhortation

Read by

Warrant Officer Class 2 Alexander Salasca-Hughes
1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery

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.

All **We will remember them.**

Last Post

Played by Gunner Guilherme Ross-Russell Figueiredo
The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery

Silence

Reveille

Kohima Epitaph

Read by a Member of the Garter Party

When you go home tell them of us and say:
‘For your tomorrow, we gave our today.’

Laying of Wreaths

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we have sought to honour our departed comrades by reflecting upon their great personal sacrifice for the freedom of others. Thank you for them. As we reflect upon their sacrifice we ask that we may never forget your great sacrifice for us. Grant us the peace of faith and the joy of your eternal hope.

All Amen.

Prayer for the Armed Forces

Read by Sergeant Tennessee Ross

1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery

Almighty God, stretch forth your mighty arm to strengthen and protect the armed forces: grant that meeting danger with courage and all occasions with discipline and loyalty, they may truly serve the cause of justice and peace: to the honour of your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God, let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

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

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all now and forever more.

All **Amen.**



The Ministry of Defence, through the Joint Casualty and Compassionate 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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