

GILLESPIE, Duncan Thomas – Corporal WW1 6/2630 – Army: Record No: 0044825



Duncan Thomas Gillespie was born in Timaru on 7th March 1891 and he was the much loved third child of William and Ann (nee Fraser) Gillespie. He had two older siblings, Ida Elizabeth & Hugh Graeme and three younger, Catherine Effie, Robert Fraser and George William. At the time of William and Ann's marriage, William was working as a shepherd at Bluecliffs Station. Later he worked at Mt Peel Station, Kyeburn and Mt Nessing. William was then shepherd/manager of the Upper Waiau Station and it was there that Duncan attended the Upper Waiau Ferry school. In mid 1906 his father William bought a dairy farm in Breezes Road, New Brighton, where he milked cows for the town supply. Duncan finished his schooling at Central New Brighton school, his last attendance was 16/11/1906. On leaving school Duncan was a shepherd and drover in the South Canterbury area, where he could indulge his love of horses and dogs and all things country. At the time of his enlistment he recorded his last residence as c/o his uncle Tom Fraser, at Peel Rd, Peel Forest and he was working as a

shepherd/manager at Ben McLeod for the Ackland Bros of Mt Peel Station.

Duncan's medical check was done in Timaru on 16th February 1915. He was 5ft 11ins in height with grey eyes and brown hair, teeth described as fair. He was 24 years of age on enlistment at Trentham on the 17th of April 1915, (the same day as his brother Robert Fraser GILLESPIE – 6/2631 – Army) he was in the 2nd Company 2nd Battalion (South Canterbury) Canterbury Regiment. He left NZ with the sixth Reinforcements bound for the Middle East. He embarked for France on 7th April 1916 from Egypt. He was appointed Lance Corporal on 29th April 1916. Duncan was wounded at the Battle of the Somme in France 21st September 1916. He was promoted to Corporal in December 1916. He had shrapnel removed from his head, in the Mt Felix hospital, Walton on Thames, London before rejoining his unit on 2nd June 1917. Duncan had a very good voice and he often sang to the troops.



From the left: Robert Fraser Gillespie (brother) Centre: William Gillespie (father) Right: Duncan Thomas Gillespie.

Corporal Duncan Thomas Gillespie was killed in action at the Battle of Messines on 7th June 1917 and is buried at U 2 A 90.10 near machine gun position (near hospice) His name is recorded on the memorial at the entrance to the Neve Eglise war cemetery Belgium. It is believed that 30 men of the 2nd Comp, 2nd Battalion were killed the same night. Duncan is also remembered on the Roll of Honour at the New Brighton Museum (originally at the Central New Brighton School), the Memorial Wall at the Cenotaph, Timaru, and on the Peel Forest war memorial.



This is a photo of myself and my lovely, late, cousin Peter Whitehead, taken at the Neve Eglise cemetery in Belgium in 1990

Although it was called Messines ridge, we were surprised how flat the country is.
Just rolling meadows.

Written by Clare Palliser (great niece)



Duncan and his sisters Ida and Effie all wrote to the Weekly Press and had their letters published. They were living in the Upper Waiau and attending the Waiau Ferry School. Their stories were all about their animals and what was happening on the farm and at school.

CORPORAL D. T. GILLESPIE.

Corporal Duncan Thomas Gillespie (killed in action on June 7), was the eldest son of Mr and Mrs W. Gillespie, Bressa's Road, New Brighton. He was born in Timaru twenty-six years ago, and was educated at the Upper Waimu



Ferry and New Brighton Schools. On leaving school he was engaged in sheep work, and at the time of enlisting was managing the Ben M'Leod Sheep Run, Rangitata Gorge. He left New Zealand with the Sixth Reinforcements, and was wounded in the Somme Battle in September.



The Gillespie Family at Upper Waiau Station

From the left: Duncan Thomas, Ida Elizabeth, Ann holding baby George, nurse/governess Miss Wornall, William with Robert Fraser and Catherine Effie



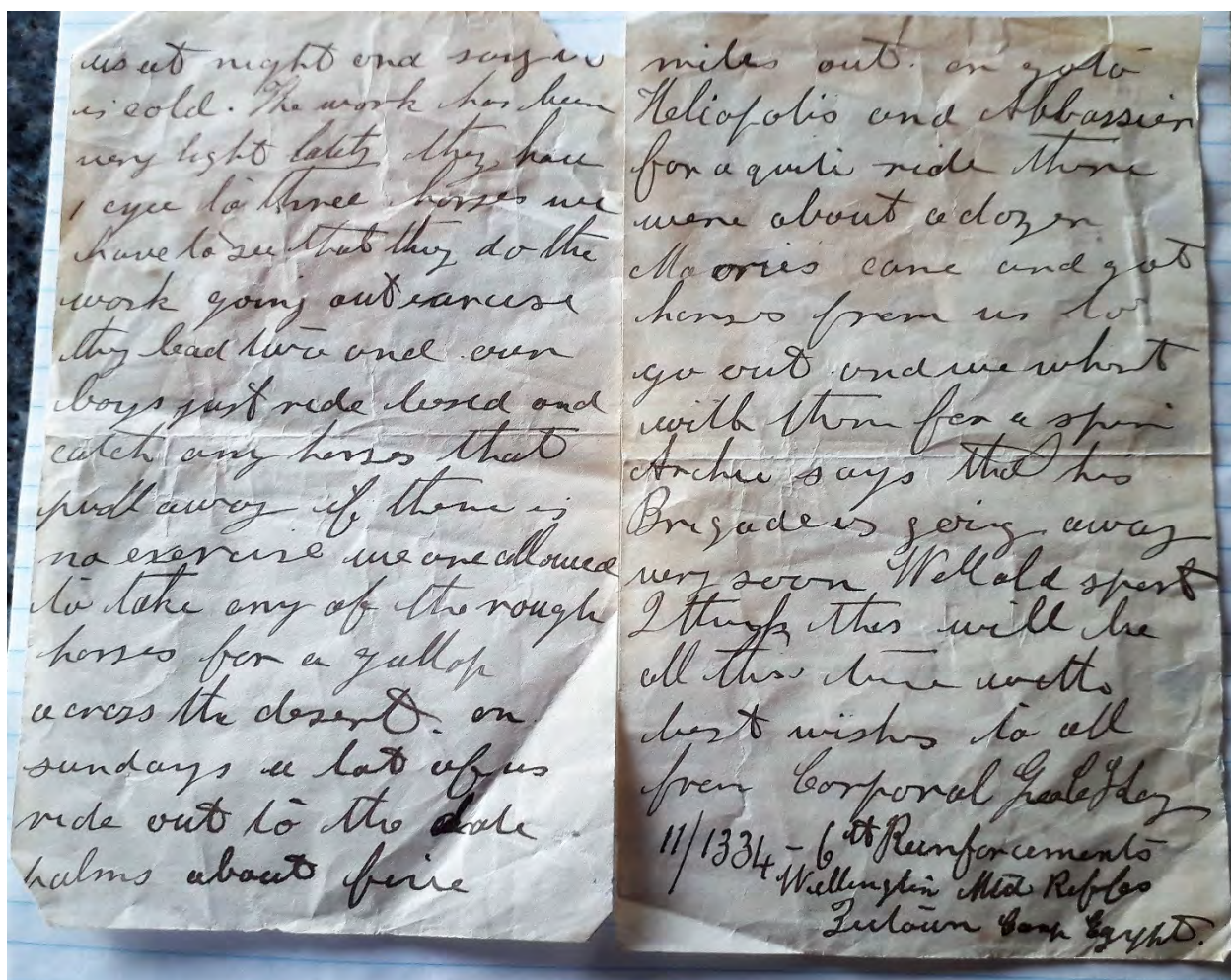
Duncan Thomas Gillespie
on the left – the others
are unknown, but may be
from SC area

Part letter from George Cheviot Kay to Duncan and Robert Gillespie (he was a cousin) died at Gallipoli

First page/pages missing?

Us at night and say it is cold. The work has been very light lately they have 1 eye to three horses we have to see that they do the work going out exercise they lead two and our boys just ride close and catch any horses that pull away if there is no exercise we are allowed to take any of the rough horses for a gallop across the desert. On Sundays a lot of us ride out to the date palms about five miles out and go to Heliopolis and Abbassien for a quiet ride there were about a dozen Maoris came out and got horses from us to go out and we went with them for a spin. Archie says that his brigade is going away very soon. Well old sport I think this will be all this time

With best wishes to all from Corporal Geo C Kay
11/1334 6th Reinforcements Wellington Mid Rifles
Zeitoun Camp Egypt



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11/1334 - 6th Reinforcements
Wellington Mid Rifles
Zeitoun Camp Egypt.

New Zealand War Contingent Association.

I had a letter from George to day and one from Johnson at the Forest. I have never had a letter from George at the Forest for a long time.

"HAEREMAI CLUB,"

April 15th 1914

No. 2 New Zealand General Hospital,

WALTON-ON-THAMES.

My Dear Father the every months I write to

Just a few lines in answer to your letter which I got this morning. I am still in Hospital and getting on all right now will soon be going back to the front worst luck. I had repulse poison in the arm it was very bad for a while. I have been doing a good bit of flying round of late. We went to Windsor castle one day and was shown all through it is a wonderful place and after we had a good look round we had some paper and Princess Mary was among the ladies waiting on us.

New Zealand War Contingent Association.

2

"HAEREMAI CLUB,"

No. 2 New Zealand General Hospital,
WALTON-ON-THAMES.

And then we went and see
all the horses, I didnt think
much of them, I wouldnt have
given Old Jingo that horse I had
for any of them.

And last Sunday I was at
Strompton Court Palace with a
friend of mine I wont say what
sort of a friend, and we had a
look through the Palace and
then went to see the Der in a
big Park. I also was at the
Wonderful Wax works in London
it was the greatest place I ever
was in, I met a ~~Mr~~ M. Lady there
and had quite a good time.

Well Dad I will close With Love
to all at home

From your off son

Bob/Purson xxxxxx

Haeremai Club No 2 New Zealand General Hospital WALTON ON THAMES

April 15th 1917

At top – I had a letter from George today and one from Johnsons at the Forest I have never had a letter from S..... at the Forest for a long time and I have written to them every month Dunc

My Dear Father, just a few lines in answer to your letter which I got this morning. I am still in hospital and getting on alright now will soon be going back to the front worse luck. I had septic poison in the arm it was very bad for a while. I have been doing a good bit of flying round of late. We went to Windsor castle one day and was shown all through it is a wonderful place and after we had a good look round we had some supper and Princess Mary was among the ladies waiting on us. And then we went and saw all the horses, I didn't think much of them, I wouldn't have given old Dingo that horse I had for any of them.

And last Sunday I was at Hampton court palace with a friend of mine, I won't say what sort of a friend, and we had a look through the Palace and then went to see the deer in a big park. I also was at the wonderful wax works in London it was the greatest place I ever was in, I met a lady there and had quite a good time.

Well Dad I will close with love to all at home

From your eff son

Corp / Duncan xxxxxx

Some where in France
May 3

My Dear Mother

Just a line to
let you know that I
have landed back in France
after three months in England,
and I am told you I done
it hard coming back over
land it was nearly as
bad as leaving home.

I didnt get up to see
any people they only
gave me three days leave
so I didnt get time to
go up.

I got my photo taken
in London and they

are very good.
I left them with a
friend of mine and
she is going to send
two or three of them to
you.

I had the time of my
life in the hospital.
People I left the photos
worth were very good
to me. They showed me
everything there was
worth seeing while I was
in hospital, and then
one of them came to
London with me and

shined me all round.
I haven't seen him
yet but will soon
him on a day or two
Well Mother dear I
will love with best
love to all at home
From your aff. son
Dudman
xxxxxx



Somewhere in France

May 3 1917

My Dear Mother, Just a line to let you know that I have landed back in France after 3 months in England, and I can tell you I found it hard coming back over here it was nearly as bad as leaving home.

I didn't get up to see Amy's people they only gave me 3 days leave so I didn't get time to go up.

I got my photo taken in London and they are very good.

I left them with a lady friend of mine and she is going to send two or three to you

I had the time of my life in Blighty the people I left the photos with were very good to me, they showed everything there was worth seeing while I was in hospital and then one of them came to London with me and showed me all round. I haven't seen Bob yet but will see him in a day or two.

Well mother dear I will close with best love to all at home

From your eff son

Duncan xxxx

103
Add to the
my letter the
copy of your
I

No 24. N General Hospital
Walton on Thames

My Dear Father

I received your letter to
day dated January 1st and was
pleased to hear from you, well dad
I don't make out why you haven't
had a letter from me since I
was wounded, as I have written
nearly every week since then
this is the fourth letter I have
written in Hospital.

I am getting all right again
now and will soon be going
back to France, I have had septica
emia again the same as I had in
Egypt, I will never get properly rid
of it out here, a place like
Hotter springs would be the place
plenty of ~~sulphur~~ sulphur baths
and I haven't got much chance
of getting there.

Well Dad I don't think the
war will last much longer
and I can tell you I will be

glad to see the end of it
fighting is not much of a game
after all and I have done my
share.

I was pleased to hear that
George had a good billet and
a very good wage for a place
like that. Were they good dogs
that you bought him so he
would want pretty good dogs for
a place like that. They would
want to be fairly wide working
dogs.

I had a cable from Matha saying
she sent me some money but
I have never heard any thing
of it yet, where did she cable
it to.

I had a letter from Bob the
other day he was well he
hasnt had his leave yet.

Well Dad I will close with
best love to all

From
Duncan H.H.H.

No 2 NZ General Hospital Hospital Walton on Thames (letter to his father William)
Ps address my letters the same as usual Dunc

My Dear Father, I have received your letter today dated January the 4th. Well Dad I can't make out why you haven't had a letter from me since I was wounded, as I have written nearly every week since then this is the 4th letter I have written in hospital.

I am getting alright again now and will soon be going back to France, I have had septic poison again the same as I had in Egypt, I will never get properly rid of it out here, a place like Hanmer Springs would be the place plenty of sulphur baths and I haven't got much chance of getting there.

Well Dad I don't think the war will last much longer and I can tell you I will be glad to see the end of it fighting is not much of a game after all and I have done my share.

I was pleased to hear that George had a good billet and a very good wage for a place like that. Were they good dogs that you bought him as he would want pretty good dogs for a place like that. They would want to be fairly wide working dogs.

I had a cable from Mother saying she sent me some money but I have never heard anything of it yet, where did she cable it to.

I had a letter from Bob the other day he was well he hasn't had his leave yet.

Well Dad I will close with best love to all
From you loving son Duncan xxxxxx

No. 111.

NEW ZEALAND POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

Q

Code: Handed in (Time): Number: Office of Origin:

4/50 2672 Wm

Instructions: Words: 31

TO William Gillespie
Breezes Rd. Aranui

I am directed to convey to
you an expression of
excellencies sincere sympathy
in the sad loss which you
have suffered

Gavin Hamilton

Received at 6.40 P. by G.B.

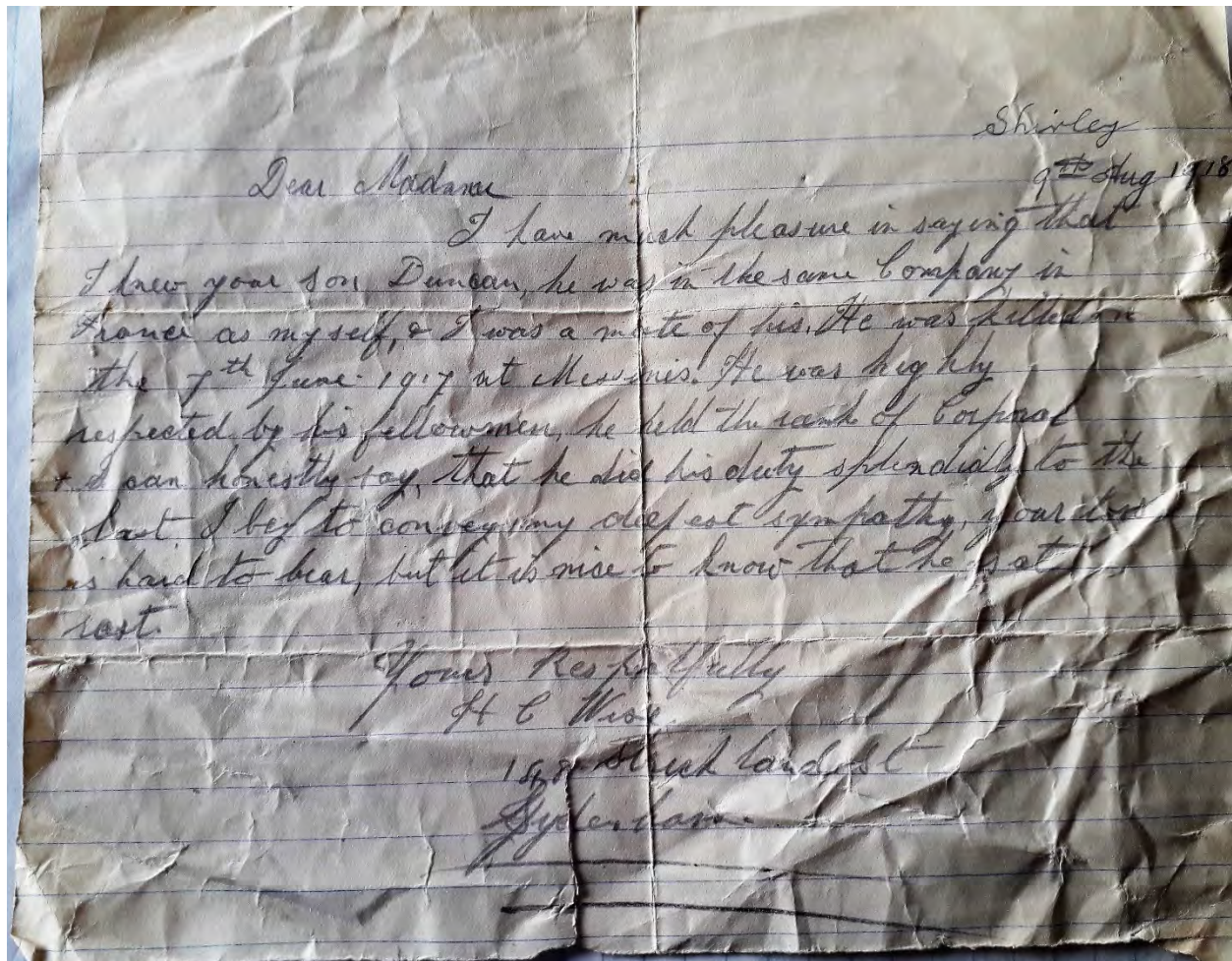
Official Stamp

Printed and Published by the Government Printer, Wellington, N.Z.

TO WILLIAM GILLESPIE BREEZES RD ARANUI

I AM DIRECTED TO CONVEY TO YOU AN EXPRESSION OF EXCELLENCIES SINCERE SYMPATHY IN THE SAD LOSS WHICH YOU HAVE SUFFERED

GAVIN HAMILTON



Shirley ChCh 9th August 1918

Dear Madam,

I have much pleasure in saying that I knew your son Duncan, he was in the same company in France as myself and I was a mate of his.

He was killed on the 7th of June 1917 at Messines

He was highly respected by his fellow men, he held the rank of Corporal and I can honestly say, that he did his duty splendidly to the last.

I beg to convey my deepest sympathy, your loss is hard to bear, but it is nice to know that he is at rest

Yours respectfully

H C Wise

148 Strickland St Sydenham



Duncan T Gillespie (far right back row) at No 2 NZ General Hospital, Walton on Thames.



Last year seven of Duncan Thomas Gillespie's Great nieces and nephews were in Ypres for the 100th anniversary of his death at Messines. From left to right: Bob Gillespie, Hilary Coles, Clare Palliser, Jane Evans, Debbie Whitehead, Bill Lamb and Peter Gillespie. Taken at the memorial in the Neve Eglise Cemetery. Duncan's name surrounded in poppies



The wreaths laid on 7th June 2017 Neve Eglise cemetery Belgium

Last year 2017 myself and three siblings, Peter, Hilary and Bob started walking the Camino on the 1st of April. On the 18th of May we met our sister Jane Evans and cousin Debbie Cowman in Santiago de Compostela. In our hired car we travelled through Portugal and Spain and then on up to Belgium for the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of Messines. Our cousin Bill Lamb and three friends met us in Hooze near Ypres where we all stayed.

6th JUNE 2017 DUNKIRK TO YPRES

Dear all, breakfast and away by 9am. Arrived at hotel Kasteelhof, Hooze at 10.15 and Johan Moors the lovely guy that offered to show us around was waiting in the car park for us. He hopped into the front of our vehicle and gave Bob directions. Before we started he gave us a rough idea of where he would take us. Our hotel was on the front line and for four years it swapped between us and the Germans. There are 2 German bunkers and trenches, plus craters filled with water right by the hotel. There was a chateau behind where the hotel is now and at one stage British officers were living there, but by the end of the war there wasn't even a brick left standing. The oldest part of the hotel is on the site where the Baron's stables were. Thousands of the local people left the area when Germany invaded and went either to France, Spain or England and some never returned. We went to Tynecot had a look through the museum and walked around the cemetery. The gardens are beautiful and I think there are 20 full time gardeners there and 2000 in the Ypres salient.

We saw the Canadian monument called the brooding soldier. We then went to Polygon wood, which used to be a training area for the Belgian army. There is a cafe there so we all had lunch. The proprietor was a hard thing and the cafe has lots of photos and memorabilia. There was also a movie showing, but we were too busy talking. Johan then took us to the Messines cemetery where Duncan is remembered on the big memorial at the gate. He was a Corporal in the Canterbury regiment, and he is somewhere in the battlefield that the cemetery overlooks. (We have since found out that he is buried in a grave with five others in the cemetery) We then went to the NZ Messines memorial not far away, that also looks over the scene of the battle. There are 2 German pillboxes at the bottom of the grounds. All the cemetery and memorial grounds have been given to Commonwealth War Graves Commission and they maintain them beautifully. We then went down the road past the Irish memorial tower. The road was very narrow and went through lovely farm land. We stopped by a paddock and Johan said that was where Lionel (our Mothers uncle Lionel Small) was wounded. He was taken a few kms up the road probably to a dressing station at Plugstreet, and he must have died there on 23rd Feb 1917 and was buried in the Berks cemetery extension, which is only a couple of kms from Duncan over the paddocks. It is a beautiful forest area and there is a memorial with the names of those not found. The gateway has 2 lions called war and peace. War has his teeth bared. Johan took us to the area in the back corner of the cemetery, but we had to wait as our Governor general Patsy Reddy with historian and body guards etc were by his grave. Once they had left we put our poppies down, very emotional, Lionel was only 22 and I don't know, but we may have been his only family members ever to visit. His brother John is at Lone Pine, Gallipoli, but he died 2 years before Lionel. In the cemetery over the road one of the graves had wreaths laid and the boy buried there was only 16. Johan said there were lots of very young boys, the youngest that he knows is only 14. A lot of boys lied about their age and then tried to run away and were shot as deserters, just so sad. We then drove back to Ypres and visited the dressing station where Canadian Dr John McCrae served, he wrote the poem IN FLANDERS FIELDS. The bunkers are all still there that he worked in. He wrote the poem when his best friend was killed, and he later died near Dunkirk of pneumonia. We then went back to the hotel to check in as it was 6pm. Johan said he would meet us at the Menin gate at 7.15. We have beautiful accommodation in the new building. Peter and Bob are downstairs and we four ladies have the Suite upstairs. Cousin

Bill and his three friends are in the old hotel. We met Johan as planned, heaps of people, lots of Kiwis and NZ military from army, navy and air force. Lots of dignitaries arrived including Patsy Reddy. Ceremony was very moving especially the last post. We went to the pub with Johan and he introduced us to Beneditus beer 12%. Bob had a half strength one. I really liked it. We bought a couple of platters to share as none of us had eaten. Ended up having 3 beers quite large and Bob later said the equivalent of 9 beers at home. We had lots of laughs and was sad saying goodbye to Johan at 11.30. I was slightly wobbly on my feet and slept like a log, after a very emotional day.

Love/regards Clare xx p's I'm a day behind, but the boys said it was just as well I didn't write last night

7th June Ypres

Dear all, we had a super breakfast at our hotel, which we found out later, was included in the accommodation price. We drove into Ieper and walked to the square. Just around the corner was a chocolate shop. Peter De Groote's, so we all made a purchase. The huge cloth hall over the road used to be called De Groote market, it was burnt down during the war, but rebuilt. (While at the Peter Jackson display at the National War Museum, I saw a photo of Ypres and there was only one brick chimney standing) We went to the Flanders museum which is housed in the cloth market and was set up in 2007. It is an amazing record of WW1 in Belgium, we were in there for ages, until we got a bit of a hurry up in case we had a parking ticket. We went back to our hotel and at 5pm Bill, Rob, Dave and Jill followed us out to Messines cemetery and we put our poppies by Duncan's name and then attached the laminated copy of Duncan's story and photos to the memorial, which had all the wreaths in front of it. (To attend the dawn service that morning you had to have a ticket, and as well as Patsy Reddy our Governor General, William and Kate were there.) I had with me a stone from Peel Forest which was where Duncan lived and worked when he enlisted. I put it into the paddock where his body has laid since 7th June 1917. I forgot to say yesterday that the site of the cemetery was on German occupied ground and the Allied attack was up towards it. On the day the battle started the British had tunneled and laid massive charges, the biggest noise outside a nuclear explosion. It rattled teacups in Paris and was heard at 10 Downing St., and then the battle began. The main crater is now a swimming hole called Peace Lake. When we left the cemetery we drove to the area of the NZ memorial again. Lots of security and police. We walked down the road to the beautiful grounds, which also overlook the battle field. The memorial itself is a large replica of the one Duncan is remembered on. We were there by around 6.10 and the security guy said we could go in around 6.30. We got great seats in the 5th row from the front right on the center aisle, the 1st 3 rows were for dignitaries. They had heaps of white plastic chairs, which kept blowing over in the wind, some with the domino effect. We thought they would never fill them all, but by 7.30 it was there was standing room only. Our combined forces were there, the same ones as at the Menin gate and the dawn service. The GG and her party arrived. Her bodyguards were easy to pick. I talked to one of the ones that was at the grave near Lionel, and she said the GG was on a private visit to the Berks cemetery. The service was very moving, with singing of national anthems. The forces then did a reenactment of the battle. A prayer, a Maori lament, 'now is the hour' sung in Maori and English. It finished at 8.15 and then we drove back to the square in Ypres and found a restaurant for our last supper with Peter, before he returned to his home in Flims, Switzerland. Back at the hotel we made a coffee and then said our goodbyes to Peter. Bob was taking him to the train station before 6am, while we slept in. Love/regards Clare xx ps I hope you are well on your way Peter x

The following letter was sent to Mrs Ann Gillespie by Sylvia Franklin after Duncan's death

SELBORNE, (HERSHAM ROAD.)
WALTON-ON-THAMES,
SURREY.

7.2.18

My dear Mr. Gillespie .

Nurse Scott from Mount-

Felise called to day asking
me to send any photos I might
have of Your Son. First-
I must tell you I have
written twice to you, sent-
three nice photos of your
dear boy last May he
ask me to write you and
send them, he had them
taken the end of April

2.
When he had his few days
leave - I cannot express
how grieved I am, and
how frightfully sad it all
seems, if only he had not
returned just at that time
when that big push was
on, he was not really fit.
Although he looked so
bony! to me it is just
like a nightmare.

I know the loss of your
son is great. I shall
never forget seeing him

3
off for France on the first
of May at 7.30 A.M. Now
he went just like brave
man as he was, fearing
nothing, so full of hope,
telling me he would soon
be back, it did seem hard
he had to go after he had
been through so much
in this war, it is very
cruel but always the
good seem to be taken first
he was always thinking
~~of~~ of his brother and

hoping all would be well with
him on account of you all and
the baby, how he loved children
Dear Jim Can was at Walton
as you know nearly three
months, so happy, he used
to come to tea nearly every day
or we would arrange outings
I lived with my sister Mrs
Sisher, I was left an orphan
at three years old and she has
brought me up, had Jim Can
been her son she could not have
been kinder to him, he did so appreciate
it - it had interest you to
know we were engaged
and it was just on the
cards we did not get married
on his leave he was always
saying coming in my place

was like being home this was
saying something, for if ever
a boy thought the world of his
home you can do, and
his Great love for you. He
wished his Uncle Tom Hager to
have a photo, I have written your
son in France. I also sent Miss
Brown of Middleborough one.
I am sending you a proof
and a photo, the photo was my
sister's. Next week I am sending
another proof and photo one
that was given to a friend of
mine. I am sending them
like this in case they do not
get to you and I do want you
to have it as I know it would
be fun for you. I wish should
you want more of them let

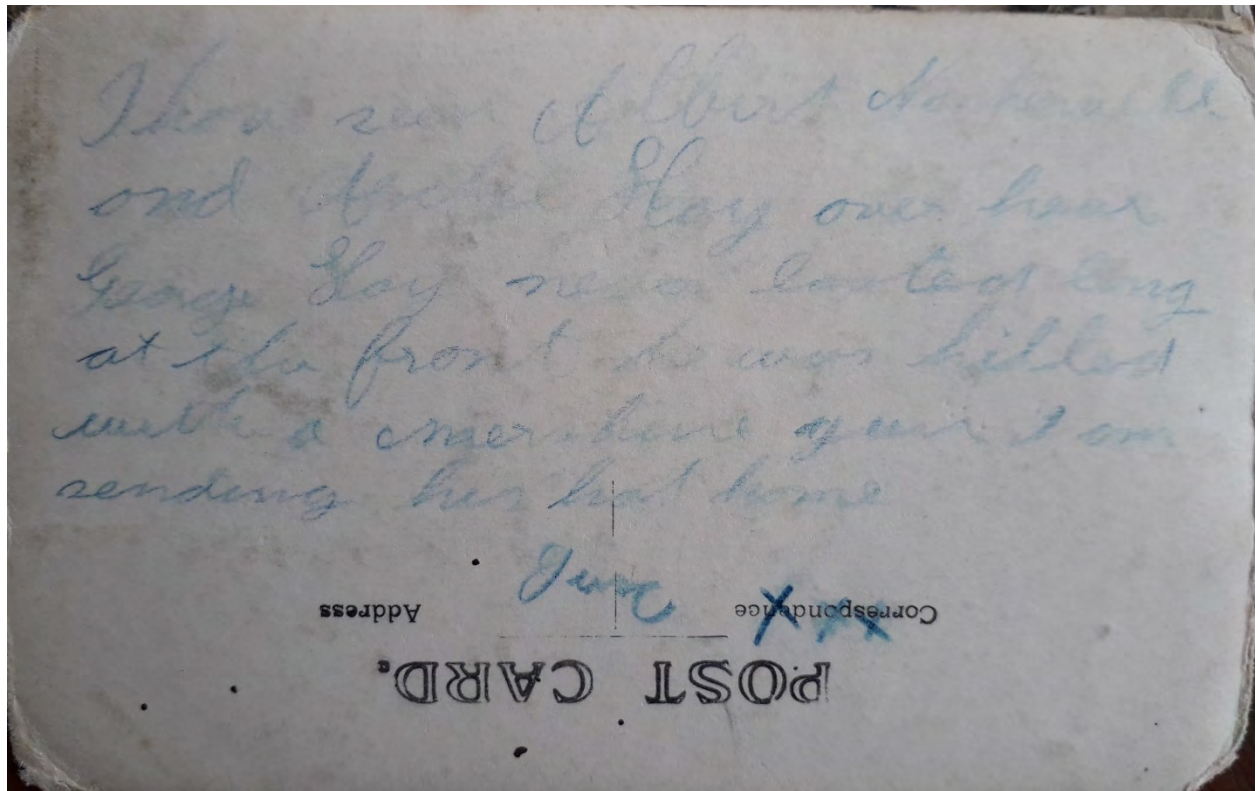
me know. or send your self
to Chesney Ltd. 210 E. 10th
17/- so a pound note to
them would cover every
thing - Any thing you
would like me to send or
do for you please ask
me. please remember
me to your eldest daughter
and do your best to keep
your son George from
this war list. I had hoped
he would not have to
join up. I sincerely
hope your husband

and self are keeping
well. I ~~hope~~ trust
this gets to you

Very sincerely yours
Sybil Franklin

P.S.

This is a photo of my self the
only one I have some day I will
send one, this one I was singing
at a concert for the red cross





The Gillespie house Breezes Road, Christchurch

ne from ^{the} ~~London~~ ^{the} POST CARD

March 29th 1897

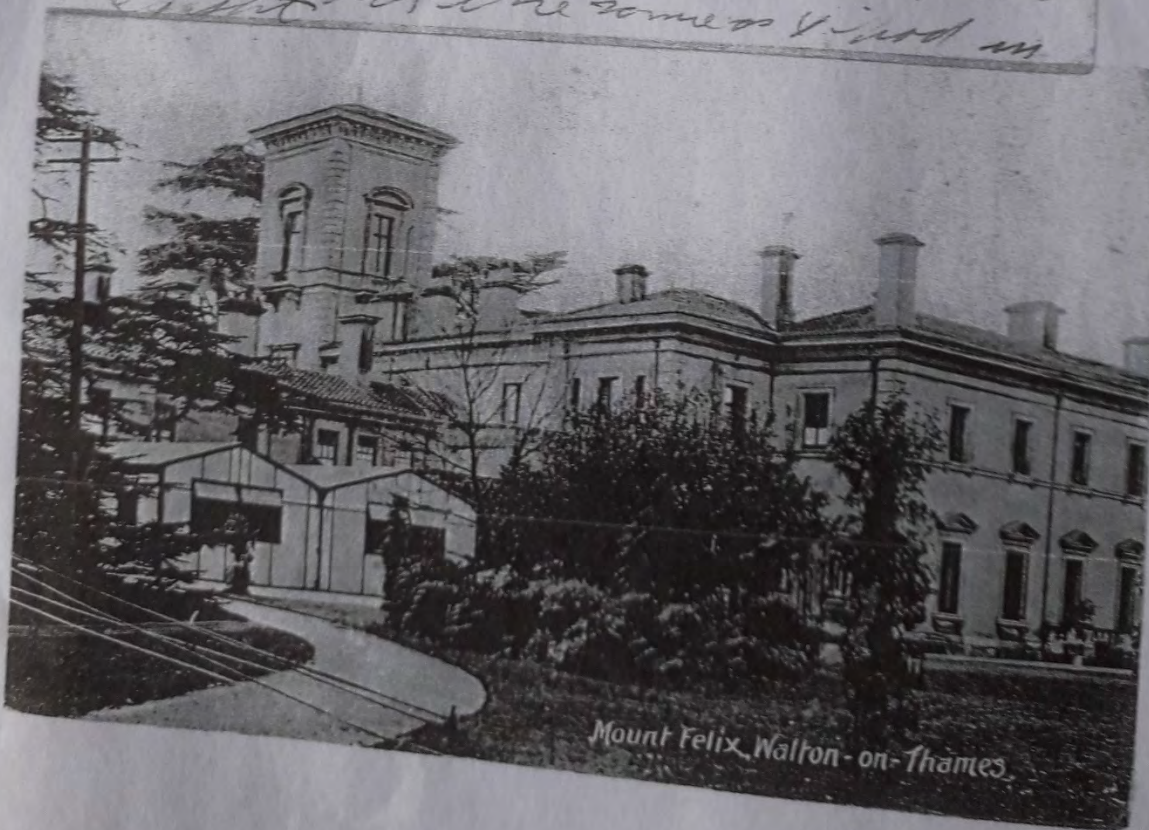
THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN HERE

AFFIX
STAMP.

Printed in
England.

My dear Mother

Just a card to
let you know that I am
getting on all right. This
is a photo of the door N. W. St. R.
that I am in a t is a lovely
place on the Bank of the
of Thames. I have the Septic Poison in
the arm and it is not too
good for the summer I just in





Gillespie Family at Upper Waiau

From left Duncan, his Mother Ann, sister Ida, Father William, sister Effie, Brothers Robert and George



Canterbury Section with Drivers of the New Zealand Machine Gun Corp No 2 Company

X killed 1 wounded



In front of the NZ Memorial at Messines just before the Sunset Ceremony – a windy evening

From left – cousin Debbie Cowman and siblings Clare, Jane, Hilary, Bob and Peter Gillespie

BELOW IS THE PROGRAMME OR THE SUNSET CEREMONY 7TH JUNE 2017 AT THE NZ
MEMORIAL MESSINES



The Sunset Ceremony for the Battle of Messines

The New Zealand Battlefield Memorial, Messines, Belgium

Welcome:

Nicole Jamieson

The arrival of the official party

Kaitiaki

The New Zealand Defence Force Māori Cultural Group escorts the Vice-Regal Party onto the battlefield memorial

Please remain standing for the National Anthems of Belgium and of New Zealand sung by Leading Aircraftsman Barbara Graham

National Anthems:

The National Anthem of the Kingdom of Belgium

O dierbaar België, O heilig land der Vaadren,
Onze ziel en ons hart zijn u gewijd.
Aanvaard ons kracht en bloed van ons afren,
Wees ons doel in arbeid en in strijd.
Bloei, o land, in eendracht niet te breken,
Wees immer uzelf en ongeslacht,
Het woord getrouw: dat g' onbevreesd moogt spreken,
Voor Vorst, voor Vrijheid en voor Recht!
Het woord getrouw, dat g' onbevreesd moogt spreken,
Voor Vorst, voor Vrijheid en voor Recht!
Voor Vorst, voor Vrijheid en voor Recht!
Voor Vorst, voor Vrijheid en voor Recht!

The National Anthem of New Zealand

E Ihouā Atua	God of nations at thy feet
O ngā iwi mātou rā	In the bonds of love we meet
Āia whakarongona	Hear our voices, we entreat,
Me aroha noa	God defend our free land.
Kia hua ko te pai	Guard Pacific's triple star,
Kia tau to atawhai	From the shafts of strife and war.
Manaakitia mai	Make her praises heard afar,
Aotearoa	God Defend New Zealand.

The Ridge

The New Zealand Defence Force tells the story of the Battle of Messines through music and ceremony, narrated by Nicole Jamieson. The Ridge will include the Regimental Colour being marched on, symbolising the soldiers heading to the battlefield. Faint sounds of tunnelling can be heard whilst a nightingale sings. The still of the night is broken by a colossal explosion and the battle begins. After the fighting many soldiers lie dead, the drummers beat a retreat and the Catafalque Guard is mounted. A battlefield prayer is offered for those who have lost their lives.

The Commemoration

The Ode

E kore rātou e kaumatuaia
Pēnei i a tātou kua mahue nei
E kore hoki rātou e ngoikore
Ahakoa pēhea i nga ahuatanga o te wā
I te hekenga atu o te rā
Tae noa ki te aranga mai i te ata
Ka maumahara tonu tātou ki a rātou

Response: Ka maumahara tonu tātou ki a rātou

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

Response: We will remember them

The Last Post

Silence is observed

Poem

Attitudes for a New Zealand Poet II

Men of our islands and blood returning
Broken or whole, can still be reticent;
They do not wear that face we are discerning
As in a mirror momentarily lent,
A glitter that might be pride, an ashy glow,
That could be pity, if the shapes would show.
— Allen Curnow

**The 2nd Canterbury, Marlborough, Nelson
and West Coast Battalion, Royal New Zealand
Infantry Regiment, Regimental Colour
is Marched Out**

Poroporoaki – Traditional Farewell

Waiata – Pō Atarau

Catafalque Guard Dismounts

The Vice-Regal Party departs

New Zealand Defence Force Contingent

Commemorations Director
Sandra McKie

Narrator
Nicole Jamieson

Director of Music
Flight Lieutenant Simon Brew

Vocalist
Leading Aircraftsman Barbara Graham

New Zealand Defence Force Band
Flight Sergeant Grant Myhill
Petty Officer Craig Rhodes
Corporal Byron Newton
Corporal Timothy Cook
Lance Corporal Campbell McKellar
Corporal Reuben Chin
Leading Aircraftsman Toby Pringle
Leading Musician Philip Wiley
Leading Musician Yuan Cheng
Able Musician Oliver Furneaux
Able Musician Monique Vossen

Regimental Colour
Second Lieutenant Nathaniel Nichols-Marcey
Warrant Officer Class 1 Shane McClay
Sergeant Royden Brown
Sergeant David Norgate

Chaplain
Chaplain Class 3 Paul Stanaway

Māori Cultural Group
Warrant Officer Jack Rudolph
Staff Sergeant Mike Te Hau
Sergeant Wai Pacnga
Lance Corporal Vinny Sandys
Corporal Jess Dornbusch
Gunner Elia Fata
Able Steward Hope Timu
Mr Dave Lepou
Mrs Rangit Morunga
Able Communication Warfare Specialist
Taclar Samuel

Catafalque Guard
Sergeant Raymond Taka
Corporal Simon Huia
Corporal Hannah Pride
Lance Bombardier Michael Parker
Gunner Clay Weston
Corporal Joshua Nahi
Trooper Shaked Mitha
Private Thomas Morrison
Lieutenant Lucy Naik

Flag Orderlies
Corporal Tom Sidey
Leading Communication Warfare Specialist
Shayna-Maria Keenan

Ode
Lance Corporal Vinny Sandys
Brigadier Evan Williams



ALL THE FOLLOWING WERE TAKEN ON 6TH & 7TH JUNE – MY CAMERA DATE INCORRECT - CLARE





TOP NZ MEMORIAL BEFORE SUNSET CEREMONY

BELOW A GERMAN PILLBOX IN THE GROUNDS





TOP WAITING FOR THE CEREMONY 7TH JUNE



FIELD ARTILLERY

GUNNER	DRIVER	ALAN
TREGGAR E. I.	BANFIELD W. H.	ENTER L. B.
WHILL R. R.		
ENGINEERS		
SERGEANT	PLANCE CPL	COOK J. W.
GRIFFIN J.	HUNTER A. J.	COOK J. W.
CORPORAL	SAPPER	SECOND TPL
PRESTON E. J.	ALLAN J. M.	BAXTER E. J.



NEVE EGLISE CEMETERY 7TH JUNE TOP DEBBIE COWMAN & MYSELF IN THE SAME SPOT THAT I HAD MY PHOTO TAKEN WITH HER BROTHER PETER WHITEHEAD IN 1990



THE NEVE EGLISE CEMETERY 7TH JUNE TOP PHOTO ALL THE COUSINS AND FRIEND





TOP THE CEREMONY

BOTTOM JANE AND JOHAN SHARE A BELGIAN BEER