Always Remember...



Thomas C Graves

Private Thomas Collard Graves was born on the 24th April 1889 in Hawkhill, Dundee and settled in Govan with his family.

Thomas was in the 9th (Glasgow Highland) Battalion of the Highland Light Infantry and was killed on the 13th April 1918 at Neuve Eglise in "The Battle of Bailleul" which was part of the Lys Offensive.

Thomas was the son of William Graves and Caroline Lovell and was survived by his father who was living at 23 Yorkhill Street, Glasgow and his wife Janet Scott and two baby daughters Catherine and Evelyn who were living at 132 King Street, Govan (now Kintra Street). Thomas' widow Janet remarried in 1925.

Thomas C Graves was awarded the **Military Medal** (M.M.) a Level 3 Gallantry Award, it was awarded for gallantry and devotion to duty when under fire in battle on land. He was also awarded the 2 campaign medals; British War Medal and Victory Medal and is remembered on Panel 9 of the Ploegsteert Memorial in Belgium.



Military Medal
"For Bravery in
the Field"

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- Company Sergeant Henry Todd a native of Govan was with the 9th Battalion of the Australian Infantry when he was killed on 11 August 1918 in France. Henry was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (D.C.M.)
- Sergeant M. McIver the son of Malcolm and Catherine McIver of 5 Shandon Street, Govan was with the 3rd Battalion of the Cameron Highlanders, he died on 11th January 1920 as a result of his wounds. Sergeant McIver was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (D.C.M.) with Bar.
- Lieutenant Colonel Gavin Laurie Wilson of 78 Copland Road Govan was with the 1st/8th Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, he died on 16th February 1919. Gavin was awarded the Distinguished Service Order (D.S.O.), Military Cross (M.C.). Lieutenant Colonel Gavin Laurie Wilson was also awarded the highest decoration in France, Légion d'Honneur (Chevalier) and also the Croix de Guerre (Cross of War) with Palm.
- Sergeant George Battison Smith was born in Govan and was an Assistant Librarian at Glasgow University, he was with the 9th Battalion Cameronians (Scottish Rifle) when he was killed in Belgium on 19th October 1918. Sergeant Battison was awarded the Military Medal (M.M.).
- **Private James Griffin** of 5 Hamilton Street, Govan was with the 15th Battalion of the Highland Light Infantry when he was killed in France on 30th August 1918. Private Griffin was awarded the **Military Cross** (M.C.).
- Private Donald McConochie Grossart a native of Govan was with the 2nd Battalion Royal Scots when he was killed in France on 24th May 1918. Private Grossart was awarded the Military Medal (M.M.).

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Sergeant Charles Douglas Collins was manager of Peark's Stores, Morrison Street, Govan. (now Burleigh Street).

During the Great War Sergeant Collins was with the 3rd Battery of the Royal Field Artillery, he was awarded the **Distinguished Conduct Medal** (D.C.M.) for conspicuous gallantry when in charge of battery telephonists. During the attack he repaired the lines under heavy shell fire. He has invariably exhibited great bravery and ability in the performance of his duty at the "*Action of Bois Grenier*" which was a diversionary attack coinciding with the Battle of Loos.

Earlier in the war Sergeant Collins was **Mentioned in Despatches** for bravery shown at "*The Battle of Neuve Chapelle*" which was the first large scale organised attack undertaken by the British army during the war. Charles was also awarded the British War Medal, Victory Medal and 1914 Star for his time spent on the Western Front.

Sergeant Collins also saw action in Africa at the second Boer War with the 76th Battery Royal Field Artillery and was awarded Queen's South Africa Medal with 3 clasps in 1902.

Charles who died in Govan in 1925 lived with his wife and family at 2 Carmichael Street, Govan.

Sergeant Collins' medals; Distinguished Conduct Medal, Queen's South Africa Medal, 1914 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal (*all shown left*) were recently sold at a London auction for £950.