



**A Rededication Service for**

**Second Lieutenant Hugh Barr  
35<sup>th</sup> Battalion Machine Gun Corps**

**14:30 hours on Wednesday 26 March 2025  
CWGC Zantvoorde British Cemetery, Belgium**

**Service conducted by The Reverend Paul Robinson CF  
Chaplain to  
4<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment**

**Second Lieutenant Hugh Barr**



Second Lieutenant Hugh Barr was born 14 May 1890 in East Kilbride, Lanarkshire. He was the younger of two children born to William Barr, a cotton merchant, and his wife Mary. He served an apprenticeship with the Guardian Assurance Society, an insurance company, and had worked for them in Glasgow, Bristol and Aberdeen before the war.

On 5 September 1914, shortly after the outbreak of the First World War, Hugh enlisted into The Scottish Horse and was posted to 1/2<sup>nd</sup> Squadron. In January 1915, The Scottish Horse was attached to 63<sup>rd</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Northumberland) Division for work on coastal defences. The Scottish Horse was dismounted and on 17 August 1915, sailed from Devonport onboard HMT Transylvania to the Dardanelles. On 2 September 1915, The Scottish Horse landed at Suvla Bay at Gallipoli. As was typical for many of those who served on the peninsula, Hugh suffered with ill health and disease during his time there. On 10 November 1915 he was promoted to the rank of lance corporal.

On 19 December 1915, The Scottish Horse was evacuated from Gallipoli and arrived in Alexandria in Egypt on 28 December 1915. They were then tasked with assisting in the defence of the Suez Canal. On 1 October 1916, The Scottish Horse was subsumed by The Black Watch and became 13<sup>th</sup> (Scottish Horse) Battalion of that regiment. On 21 October 1916, they moved again to Salonika.

Hugh returned to the United Kingdom on 30 March 1917 to be Commissioned. On 16 November 1917, he was Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Rifle Brigade. He arrived at the Base Depot in Camiers, France, on 27 July 1918. On 10 August 1918, he was posted to 35<sup>th</sup> Battalion Machine Gun Corps and joined them in the field in Belgium the following day.

The War Diaries of 35<sup>th</sup> Battalion Machine Gun Corps show that on 30 September 1918, the day of Second Lieutenant Barr's death, they supported an attack on Werwik. The 106<sup>th</sup> and 105<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigades attacked the city but were held up by a line of trenches and pillboxes north of the railway and suffered heavy casualties. Second Lieutenant Barr was killed whilst going forward under heavy machine gun fire in order to find a position in front of them and to bring up his guns to provide direct fire in support of 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Royal Scots. He was buried on the outskirts of the town. Second Lieutenant Barr was 28 years old.

One of his Officers wrote about him: 'He was a man's man - one of our most popular officers'. He went on to state that 'Second Lieutenant Barr went out on a daring reconnaissance during an attack, and his men state that his bravery and daring astounded everyone, and there is no doubt his action was the means of saving many lives and of helping to restore the situation at a critical period'.

After the war the remains of Second Lieutenant Hugh Barr were recovered and buried in Zantvoorde British Cemetery as an unknown second lieutenant of The Machine Gun Corps. As he was missing, Second Lieutenant Barr was commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial. However, new research has shown that this is in fact his grave and the headstone over the grave has now been replaced. Today we will remember Second Lieutenant Hugh Barr and his grave will be rededicated.

The village of Zantvoorde was the scene of heavy fighting in October 1914 when captured by German forces, and in September 1918 when it was recaptured by Allied forces. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Zantvoorde British Cemetery was only created after the Armistice for the burial of casualties concentrated from the surrounding battlefields and cemeteries. This included Second Lieutenant Hugh Barr, whose previously unidentified grave is being rededicated today.

### **Call to Worship**

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous;  
be strong.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies  
never come to an end; they are new every morning;  
great is his faithfulness.

*All* May the Peace of the Lord be always with you,  
**And also with you.**

### **Bidding Prayer**

We meet this day to remember before God Second  
Lieutenant Hugh Barr who lived and died in the service  
of his country, and to rededicate his grave.

Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we  
cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our  
prayers for your servant Hugh whom we remember this  
day.

*All* Fulfil in him the purpose of your love and bring us, with  
him, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Scripture Reading**

Read by Group Captain John Dickson  
Defence Attaché to Belgium and Luxembourg

#### **Micah Chapter 7 v 7-9 & 18-19 (KJV)**

Therefore I will look unto the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me. Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me. I will bear the indignation of the Lord, because I have sinned against him, until he plead my cause, and execute judgment for me: he will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold his righteousness. Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading**

Read by Captain Andrew Adams

4<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment

### **Romans Chapter 8 v 31-39 (NIV)**

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all - how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died - more than that, who was raised to life - is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**



**Reading**

Read by Roger Steward  
The New Ypres League

**Perhaps**

By Vera Brittain

Perhaps some day the sun will shine again,  
And I shall see that still the skies are blue,  
And feel once more I do not live in vain,  
Although I feel bereft of You.

Perhaps the golden meadows at my feet  
Will make the sunny hours of Spring seem gay  
And I shall find the white May blossoms sweet,  
Though You have passed away.

Perhaps the summer woods will shimmer bright,  
And crimson roses once again be fair,  
And autumn harvest fields a rich delight,  
Although You are not there.

Perhaps some day I shall not shrink in pain  
To see the passing of the dying year,  
And listen to the Christmas songs again  
Although You cannot hear.

But, though kind Time may many joys renew,  
There is one greatest joy I shall not know  
Again, because my heart for loss of You  
Was broken, long ago.

**Address**

### **The Act of Dedication**

So let us now bless and dedicate this grave as the final resting place of the mortal remains of Second Lieutenant Hugh Barr.

O God, whose Son Jesus Christ was laid in a tomb:  
Bless and dedicate, we pray, this grave as the place where the body of your servant Hugh may rest in peace, in the knowledge that he now abides in your glory through the merits of your Son, who is the resurrection and the life; who died and is alive and reigns with you now and for ever.

### **The Exhortation**

Read by Sergeant Liam Cruise-Taylor  
1<sup>st</sup> Battalion The Royal Yorkshire Regiment

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.**

### **The Last Post**

Played by Lance Corporal April Farthing  
The Band of The Royal Yorkshire Regiment

### **Silence**

### **The Reveille**

### **Kohima Epitaph**

Read by Sergeant Liam Cruise-Taylor  
1<sup>st</sup> Battalion The Royal Yorkshire Regiment

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

### **Laying of Wreath**

#### **Prayer**

We give you thanks, O God, for Second Lieutenant Hugh Barr; and for the memories we treasure as a lasting legacy of his service and dedication. In your mercy, look upon his loved ones and all who remember him this day.

Almighty God, through Christ you have given us the hope of glorious resurrection, so that although death comes to us all, yet we rejoice in the promise of eternal life; for to your faithful people life is changed, not taken away, and when our mortal flesh is laid aside, an everlasting dwelling place is made ready for us in heaven. Grant us, therefore, that we may humbly and faithfully serve you in this mortal life and at last bring us to your everlasting Kingdom which you have promised to those who love and serve you.

*All* **Amen.**

### **Prayer for the Armed Forces**

Read by Captain Andrew Adams

4<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment

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,  
the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

Heavenly Father, we share together the blessing of your presence. Give us in this life knowledge of your truth, and in the world to come life everlasting; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; be upon you and remain with you always.

*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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