



A Rededication Service for

**Private James McNeilage McLean**  
10<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gordon Highlanders

Killed in action on 23 September 1915

**CWGC Fosse 7 Military Cemetery (Quality Street),  
France**

Thursday 17 November at 10:15 hours

**Service conducted by  
The Reverend Timothy Clarke-Wood  
Chaplain, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion,  
The Royal Regiment of Scotland**



**Private James McNeilage McLean**  
**1891 – 1915**

James was born in 1891 to Donald and Agnes McLean and was the third oldest of twelve children. He was born, grew up and served his apprenticeship in Old Kilpatrick, where he worked as a shipwright for Napier & Miller. His father was a marine engineer as well, a tradition which continued in the family down to recent generations.

James was living at his grandparent's house in Invergordon when he joined the Gordon Highlanders. At some point, his family moved to nearby Duntocher, where he is commemorated on the local war memorial. James was killed on the 23 September 1915, during the Battle of Loos.

## **The Gathering**

*Chaplain*

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." *John 11:25 & 26*

We have come together to rededicate the final resting place of Private James McNeillage McLean and to honour him this day with family and friends gathered here.

As Christians, we believe that those who die in Christ share eternal life with him. Therefore, in faith and hope we offer our prayers of trust and thanksgiving to God. Facing the certainty of our own death and judgement we yet proclaim that Christ is indeed risen, and that all who believe in him will rise in him.

## **Opening Prayer**

*Chaplain*

Heavenly Father, in your son Jesus Christ you have given us a true faith and sure hope: Strengthen this faith and hope in us all our days, that we may live as those who believe in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to eternal life through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Scripture Reading**

*John 14, 1-6 (King James Version)*

Chaplain

Let not your heart be troubled:

Ye believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

**Scripture Reading**

*Ecclesiastes 3, 1-8 (King James Version)*

To everything there is a season,

And a time to every purpose under the heaven:

A time to be born, and a time to die;

A time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

A time to kill, and a time to heal;

A time to break down, and a time to build up;

A time to weep, and a time to laugh;

A time to mourn, and a time to dance;

A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

A time to get, and a time to lose;

A time to keep, and a time to cast away;

A time to rend, and a time to sew;

A time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

A time to love, and a time to hate;

A time of war, and a time of peace.

## **Poppies**

**By J. B. Salmond**

*Read by Phillip Maclean, great nephew of Private McLean*

No great triumphal march  
For lads like you;  
No pasteboard victory arch,  
No grand review.  
In working raiment brown  
You gave your best;  
Then laid you weary down,  
And took your rest.

But the great kindly earth,  
That hid your face,  
Gave all your triumph birth  
Beside your resting-place.  
The poppy armies blaze  
Red in the holy loam,  
And the lark's music plays  
The victors home.

**Address***Chaplain***The Act of Dedication***Chaplain*

We remember with thanksgiving at God's throne of grace all those who have died during operational service. We remember this day especially Private James McNeilage McLean. Merciful God, you have made us all and given your Son for our redemption. We once again commend our brother to your perfect mercy and wisdom and rededicate his final resting place into your care. For in you alone we put our trust.

**Amen.****The Exhortation**

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.**

## **The Last Post**

## **Silence**

## **Reveille**

## **Kohima Epitaph**

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

## **Laying of Wreaths**

## **A Prayer for the Armed Services**

*Chaplain*

O Lord God, we commend to thy gracious care and keeping the men and women of the Armed Services, especially those now serving in conflicts around the world. We beseech thee to protect them from all danger to body and soul; to give them a loyal, courageous and disciplined spirit; to instil in them the love of justice and liberty, and to grant that they may be called to serve only for the establishment of peace throughout the world; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **The Collect of the Gordon Highlanders**

O Lord Jesus Christ, who didst bid thy disciples watch and pray, give thy sufficient grace to the Gordon Highlanders, that we may ever be watchful for the honour of our fathers, and may ever pray that our faith fail not, but that we may watch in all things and endure afflictions for thy sake, who art with the Father and the Holy Ghost one God world without end.

**Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**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**

*Chaplain*

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Church, The King, the Commonwealth, and all mankind, peace and concord; and to us and all his servants, life everlasting; and may the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, come down upon you and all those whom you love now and always.

**Amen.**

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Fosse 7 Military Cemetery (Quality Street) was begun by French troops in May 1915 and carried on by British units from June 1915 to April 1917. The cemetery takes its name 'Quality Street' from the trench which led into the cemetery. Private McLean was buried here by his comrades, alongside those from the same Battalion who were killed in the nearby front line during September 1915.



ARMY

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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