TYNE COT CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL

On 4 October 1917, Australian soldiers stormed the heavily defended German trenches and bunkers on the ridge below the village of Passchendaele. In the weeks that followed the fighting raged on nearby and medics established an aid post in the largest of the bunkers here. Those who succumbed to their injuries were buried near the bunker entrance. This handful of disordered graves forms the heart of today’s Tyne Cot Cemetery.

After the war the battlefields were searched and thousands of bodies were recovered. Over the next three years more and more servicemen were buried in Tyne Cot and the cemetery grew in scale. Today, this is the largest CWGC cemetery in the world.

The cemetery and Memorial to the Missing were designed by Sir Herbert Baker and John Truelove. The memorial takes the form of a flint wall with ornate shelter buildings, topped with angels. Three German bunkers are incorporated into the cemetery design.

The cemetery register, plan and visitors’ book can be found at the cemetery entrance. The memorial register can be found in the northern shelter building.

Total number of graves: 11,968

Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial: 34,936

- New Zealand: 1,165
- United Kingdom: 33,771

Force nationalities in the cemetery

- German: 8,968
- South African: 1,009
- New Zealand: 1,373
- Canadian: 520
- Australian: 494
- United Kingdom: 94

For more information please scan here.
**FATHER AND SON**

The 4th Battalion, King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry enjoyed an unusual father and son team. In command was Lieutenant Colonel Harry Moorhouse, with his son, Captain Ronald Moorhouse, serving under him. On 9 October 1917, Ronald was badly wounded in action and was brought to the battalion's HQ. His father rushed out to fetch his son medical aid but was shot and killed by a sniper. Neither father nor son have a known grave – they are commemorated together on panel 108 of the Tyne Cot Memorial.

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**HIGHLIGHTS**

1. From the parking lot, walk around the cemetery on the right-hand side on the path. When you are at the main entrance at the true front of the cemetery, take in the view through the entrance feature.

   The symmetrical architectural elements from this point are remarkable – notice how the Cross of Sacrifice is perfectly in the middle of the entrance arch. If we look at the materials used for the entrance building and the border wall, we can see a design using knapped flint, a traditional English style in places where flint is abundant.

2. Head towards the blockhouse on the right-hand side. While you're approaching, look at how many graves have no name.

   Approximately 7 out of 10 graves in Tyne Cot Cemetery contain servicemen whose names are unknown. This reflects a reality of post-war battlefield clearance when personal identification was often impossible.

3. Walk around the blockhouse and take the path uphill between the headstones.

   The German blockhouses are witnesses in the landscape of the cemetery, testifying that this ground was once a battlefield. The Germans fortified the high ground between Ypres and Passchendaele with concrete and three examples are here, one of them part of the stone viewing platform around the Cross of Sacrifice.

   Head uphill through the cemetery to the plot just behind the Cross of Sacrifice. Notice how these headstones are in a more scattered pattern.

   This group of burials were the nucleus for this cemetery. The large blockhouse now underneath the Cross of Sacrifice was turned into an advanced dressing station after its capture by Australian troops. Casualties were treated in here and buried next to it if they died of their wounds.

4. Continue to the Tyne Cot Memorial.

   As plans for the Menin Gate Memorial progressed it became clear that it could not hold all the names of the missing of more than four years of war in the Salient. The Tyne Cot Memorial was built to bear the names of those British and New Zealand men who fell from mid-August 1917 until the end of the war.

   In the area
   - Nearby is the New Zealand Memorial at 's Gravenstafel Spur & Passchendaele New British Cemetery. In the town of Passendale itself one can find the Crest Farm Passchendaele Canadian Memorial and the Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917 with a life size simulation of dugouts and trenches. Families with children will enjoy the museum tour with Maurice the rat!

   - Westtoer bike routes nearby
     - The Legacy
     - Vredesfietsroute
     - Frontroute 14-18

   - Step free access

   - Lots of parking

   - Seats present in cemetery