



A Rededication Service for

**Private Frederick Little
9th Battalion The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)**

**14:30 hours Wednesday 6 September 2023
CWGC Raperie British Cemetery, France**

**Service conducted by The Reverend Tim Clarke-Wood CF
Chaplain to 4th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland**

**Déroulement de la Cérémonie présidé par
le Révérend Tim Clarke-Wood CF**

Private Frederick Little

Private Frederick Little was born in Carlisle, Cumbria in 1899 but grew up in Dumfriesshire in Scotland. He was the eldest of seven children born to William Little and his wife Janet. Before enlisting into the Army on 18 April 1917, he worked as a labourer for a fellmonger, producing hides and skins.

Private Little embarked for the Western Front on 31 March 1918, initially serving with 12th Battalion The Highland Light Infantry. He transferred to 9th Battalion The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) on 25 April 1918. On 1 August 1918, the battalion was located near Villemontoire. They attacked but came under heavy enemy machine gun fire only managing to advance 100 yards from their initial jumping off positions. Private Little was wounded. Having had his wounds dressed, he was killed by a shell. He was just 19 years old.

The location of Private Little's grave was lost and as he was missing, he was commemorated on the Soissons Memorial to the missing. However, new research has located his grave in Raperie British Cemetery. Today we will remember Private Little and his grave will be rededicated.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Raperie British Cemetery was made after the Armistice when the graves of over 600 casualties killed in and around Villemontoire were brought in from the battlefield and several smaller cemeteries. Among them was one now confirmed as being that of Private Frederick Little.

Private Frederick Little est né à Carlisle, Cumbria, en 1899, mais il a grandi dans Dumfriesshire en Écosse. Il était l'aîné des sept enfants nés à William Little et sa femme Janet. Avant de s'engager dans l'armée le 18 avril 1917, il travaillait à la production de cuirs et de peaux.

Private Little s'embarque pour le Front Occidental le 31 mars, 1918 et il a servi initialement avec 12^e Bataillon du Highland Light Infantry. Il a été transféré à 9^e Bataillon du Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) le 24 avril, 1918. Le 1 août, 1918, le bataillon était situé près de Villemontoire. Ils ont attaqué mais ont essuyé des tirs nourris de mitrailleuses et n'ont réussi à avancer que de 100 mètres par rapport à leur position de départ. Private Little a été blessé. Après avoir fait panser ses blessures, il a été tué par un obus. Il n'avait que 19 ans.

Le tombeau du Private Little a été perdu. Son nom est ainsi commémoré sur le monument commémoratif des disparus à Soissons. Cependant, la nouvelle recherche a permis le site de son dernier repos d'être identifié. Aujourd'hui nous nous souviendrons de Private Little et sa tombe sera consacrée une nouvelle fois.

The Gathering

Appel à Adoration

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, he gave us new birth into a living hope, the hope of an inheritance, reserved in heaven for you, which nothing can destroy or spoil or wither.

We meet in the presence of God, who holds the keys of life and death. We meet to remember the life of Private Frederick Little, who died so many years ago. We meet to give thanks, to forgive and to look forward. We meet to rededicate the grave of Private Frederick Little and commit ourselves to God, whose son, Jesus, has passed through death before us.

All **Amen.**

Opening Prayer

Prière

Loving God, who brought us to birth, help us to live as those who are prepared for death. Enable us to hear your message of death overcome and life renewed, that as we face the mystery of death we may see the light of eternity. We remember with thanksgiving those who lived and died in the service of our country; and to ask for God's help and blessing that we may be worthy of their sacrifice each day of our life.

All **Amen.**

Scripture Reading*Lecture des Écritures Saintes*

Read by a Representative of the British Embassy Paris

1 Peter Chapter 1 v 3-9 (NRSV)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Reading*Lecture de l'Évangile*

Read by Lieutenant Harry Eaton

4th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland**John Chapter 11 v 17-26 (NRSV)**

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.

Reading

Lecture

Read by Staff Sergeant Jade Mitchinson

202 (Midlands) Field Hospital, Royal Army Medical Corps

Will you Forget?

By David Mackie

Will you forget? When all the fight is done,
And victory is won, Will you forget?
The soldiers in their pride,
Who freely fought and died,
Will you forget?

Will you forget? When war gives up his lease,
To gentle-spoken Peace, Will you forget?
The heroes in their graves?
That you might have been slaves,
Will you forget?

Will you forget? The widow and her brood?
Oh, Heavens, if you should – Will you forget?
The blinded and the lamed,
The broken and the maimed,
Will you forget?

Will you forget? Like those in other wars,
The soldier and the scars – Will you forget?
When times are safe and soft,
My God! I wonder oft,
Will you forget?

Address

Allocution

The Act of Dedication

L'Acte de Dédicace

We remember with thanksgiving at God's throne of grace all those who have died during operational service. We remember this day especially Private Frederick Little. 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.

The Exhortation

L'Exhortation

Read by Warrant Officer Class 2 Adam Gregory
256 (City of London) Field Hospital, Royal Army Medical Corps

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

Sonnerie aux Morts

Played by Drummer Adam Grant
4th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland

The Silence

Flowers of the Forest

Played by Piper Fearghas Russell

4th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland

The Reveille

Kohima Epitaph

L'Épitaphe de Kohima

Read by Warrant Officer Class 2 Adam Gregory

256 (City of London) Field Hospital, Royal Army Medical Corps

When you go home tell them of us and say:

'For your tomorrow, we gave our today.'

Laying of Wreaths

Dépôts des Gerbes

Prayer

Prière

Eternal God, we pray for ourselves as we pray for Frederick Little. We stand where earth and heaven meet, where life is brought to death, and death is made the gate to glory. Deliver us from fear and doubt, from despair and unbelief, and bring us to the light of your presence. Grant us that peace which the world cannot give, so that we with Frederick Little may trust in you and find our life in you. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ, our Saviour in life and death, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

The Collect of The Royal Scots

Récitation du Royal Scots

Read by Lieutenant Harry Eaton

4th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland

O Lord Jesus Christ, who art the first and the last, grant,
we pray thee, that, as thou hast promised to be with us
even unto the end of the world, so may The Royal Scots
be the first to follow thee and the last to forsake thee,
who art with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God,
world without end.

All **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Prière du Seigneur

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

Séparation et Dernière Bénédiction

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to world, peace; and to us and all the faithful, life everlasting; and the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be with us now and forever.

All **Amen.**

Amazing Grace

Played by Piper Fearghas Russell

4th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland



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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