

George Collin

George was born in Burnmouth 1st October 1877, the son of George Collin and Janet Kerr. He was a fisherman. At midnight on the 3rd of June 1912 George fell overboard from the fishing boat "Swiftsure" twelve miles off the coast of Burnmouth. It was a dark night with heavy seas. Undeterred by this his crewmate James Martin plunged in after him and got him back on board. James Martin, Burnmouth Jimmy, was George's brother-in-law. He was married to George's sister Helen Collin. Jimmy received a bronze medal from The Royal Humane Society for "his heroic rescue".

George Collin served with the Highland Light Infantry during the First World War. He was killed in Palestine and is buried in Ramleh (now Ramla) War Cemetery. The cemetery was begun by medical units. Ambulances and casualty clearing stations were posted there from December 1917. The cemetery contains 3,300 Commonwealth graves from the First World War. It seems that George would have been one of the first to be buried there because he died on the 1st of December 1917.

Name: COLLIN

Initials: G

Nationality: United Kingdom

Rank: Private

Regiment/Service: Highland Light Infantry

Unit Text: 1st/5th Bn.

Age: 31

Date of Death: 01/12/1917

Service No: 200417

Additional information: Son of Mrs. G. Collin, of 38, Cowdrait, Burnmouth, Ayton, Berwickshire.

Casualty Type: Commonwealth War Dead



George's name is on the Ayton War Memorial and on the family gravestone in Ayton Cemetery.