

Herbert Rowe: My Great-Great Grandfather

Herbert Rowe, my Great, Great Grandfather was born on the 23 of July 1883 in Staines, Middlesex, UK. He joined the British Army on the 21 January 1901 when he was just 18 and a half years old. He met my Great, Great Grandmother, Hannah Collins from Cork City in Blarney, Co. Cork and they got married in 1905. At the time, he was stationed in Collins Barracks' in Cork City and they lived there after they got married. They had their first child in 1913, named Margaret. But she died from a health problem when she was just ten years old in 1923. My Great Grandmother, Catherine (known as Kitty) was born in 1921 and she only died in 2014 when she was almost 94 years old. I remember her very well.

My Great Great Grandfather, Herbert (Bert) fought in World War One in France for England. During the War when he was fighting my Great Great Grandmother lived on the Army Base in Aldershot in England. Bert was in trenches that were 1-2 meters wide and 3 meters deep. Altogether there was 25000 miles long of trenches that were known as the Western Front in World War One that were laid end to end. It was estimated that there was about 2,490km of trench lines dug during that War. Two Hundred Thousand Irish people fought in WW1 and 49000 Irish died in WWI.

But my Great Great Grandfather survived the War. After WW1 ended and he returned home, he went on to Russia. He fought there and got injured but he went to a hospital in Russia and he got better. He was discharged from the Army and he died on the 25 of September 1960.

I am attaching a few photographs of Bert in his uniform and also some of the cards that he sent to my Great Great Grandmother when he was stationed in France at the time of the War. My Grandmother and Grand Uncles and Aunts still own some of his Army memorabilia and my Great Grandmother minded them all her life. A few years ago there was an Exhibition of WW1 memorabilia and my Grand Uncle brought

all the information to Trinity College in Dublin where it was recorded.

**By John Kearney, Ballylinch, Baltimore
Told by Madeline Ring**

February 2017



Herbert seated front left



Post card cover and back

CARTE POSTALE

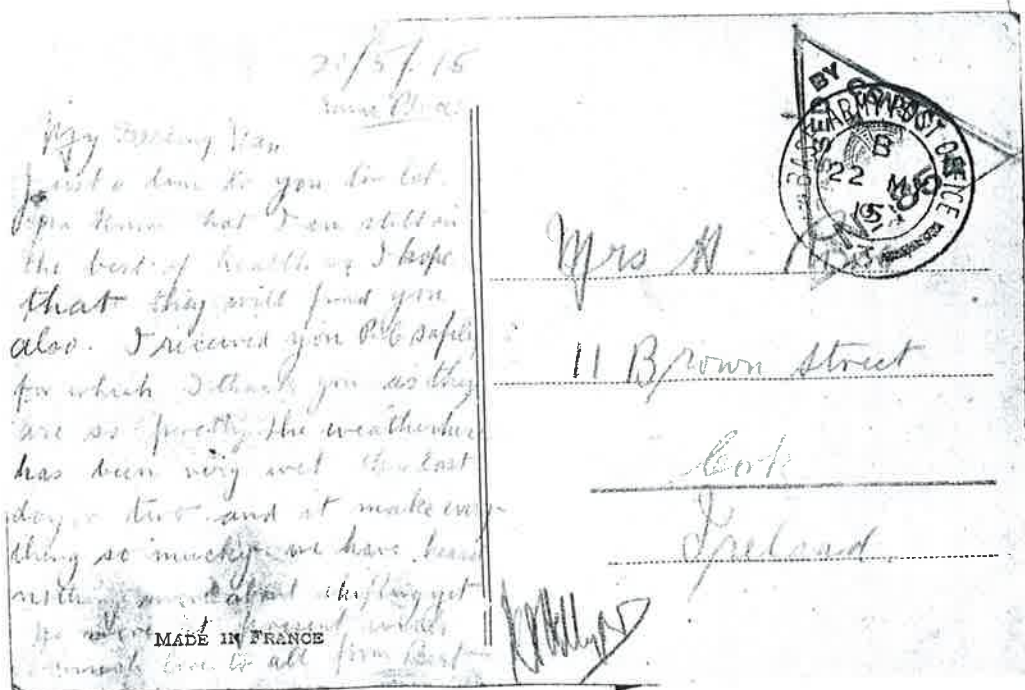
*Tous les pays étrangers n'acceptent pas la correspondance au recto
(Se renseigner à la poste)*

<p style="text-align: center;"><small>Partie réservée à la correspondance.</small></p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;">From Zaidela to Madgie with love XXXXXXXXXX</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><small>Adresse du destinataire.</small></p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em;">Miss Madgie Pine 1135mm Street London</p>
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E. La Baloy, imp.-édit., 127, Boulevard de Sébastopol



Postcard front and back.



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