

# SAGGART

## 15176 Cpl. John Nolan

49th Battery, 40th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery

Killed in Action 12th October 1917 age 22



Three Royal Field Artillery Officers in their shelter near Langemarck, two days before John Nolan was killed. 10th October 1917. IWM Collection Q 6051



Awarded "The Military Medal" FRANCE	
Surname	Nolan
Christian Name	John
Rank	Cpl.
Corps	49th Bty R.F.A.
Regimental Number	15176
Date of Gazette	18 July 1917
Registered Paper	68/2/22 Number 19251
68/Gen. (14.270) (M.S. 307)	WAR OFFICE 2000 417 (2001) W. & Co. 117211

Military Medal for Gallantry (left)  
Cpl. Nolan's award card (above)

John Nolan was born in Saggart. He enlisted in Dublin at the very start of the war and was sent to France on the 17th of August 1914 as part of the Royal Field Artillery. On the 18th of June 1917, he was mentioned in the London Gazette as having earned the Military Medal for Bravery. His actions to earn the award are unfortunately unrecorded.

He was killed in action on the 12th of October 1917.

His body was never recovered and as a result he is remembered on the Tyne Cot Memorial.

His effects were sent to his wife, Florence Emily and his children.

WAR DIARY				Army Form C. 2118
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY				
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			We have retired slightly from VIENNA COPSE, to conform with the Brigade on an flank. The position of our front line is vague.	
			SOS sent up at 6.0 pm, 6.45 pm, and 9.45 pm.	
	10 <sup>th</sup>		Quiet night, except for some shelling of battery positions in D. 26 d. 66 <sup>th</sup> Division in line relieved by 3 <sup>rd</sup> Australian Division.	
	11 <sup>th</sup>		Hostile artillery activity above normal. Battery positions in D 26 shelled throughout the day. Capt LEE of 29 <sup>th</sup> Battery killed. Attack will be resumed tomorrow.	
	12 <sup>th</sup>	5.25	Attack commences. Enemy put down a fairly heavy barrage about half an hour before zero and was apparently expecting our attack.	
		5.10	We are reported to be in the RED LINE and in the BLUE LINE.	

WAR DIARY				Army Form C. 2118
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY				
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
			at 10.30 am, but the position is not at all clear.	
			It appears that we reached the RED LINE to time, but were late in reaching the BLUE LINE while the division on our left never got to the BLUE LINE. The enemy then able to bring heavy machine gun fire to bear from the flanks and we were forced to retire slowly back to the original jumping off line.	
			SOS signals sent up at 5.30 pm and 6.10 pm, but apparently no attack.	
	12 <sup>th</sup>		Hostile artillery considerably above normal. Variety of the battery was shelled with 8" from 11.0 am to 2.30 pm and with 5.9 from 3.45 pm to 4.55 pm, causing 12 casualties.	

Royal Field Artillery War Diary for the day Cpl. Nolan was killed.

Campaign: 1914		(A) Where decoration was earned.	(B) Present situation.
Name	Corps	Rank	Reg. No.
(A) NOLAN	1st Recpt. R.F.A.	Cpl.	15176
(B) John	MM.	Cpl.	

Roll on which included (if any)	MEDAL	ROLL	PAGE
	VICTORY	REN 128 B	568
	BRITISH	do	do
	14 STAR	R.F.A. 47	17

Action taken

Class 2/3057

QUALIFYING DATE: 17.8.14.

John Nolan's Medal Index Card showing his entitlement to the 1914 Star and bar, British War Medal and Victory Medal. Note the date he was sent into action - the 17th of August 1914 - only two weeks after war was declared.



Date	Name	Rank	Reg. No.	Effects
17/10/17	Nolan	Cpl.	15176	19 10 -

Entry from the Register of Soldiers' Effects showing John Nolan's wife's entitlement.