

We visited the battlefields of Ypres in Flanders and the Somme in northern France where I made these drawings.

The First World War or the Great War was a global war that began in Europe in July 1914 and continued until 11 November 1918.

More than 70 million military personnel, including 60 million Europeans, were mobilised in one of the largest wars in history.

Over nine million combatants and seven million civilians died as a result of the war.

As I write this, in November 2016, the memorials here and elsewhere serve to remind us all of the conflict.

Those of us so fortunate to have actually been to Flanders and the Somme are forever changed.

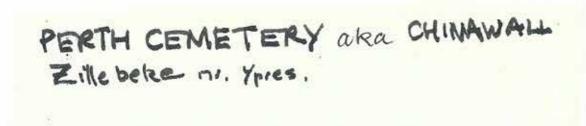
The Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing is a war memorial in Ypres, Belgium,.

It is dedicated to the British and Commonwealth soldiers who were killed in the Ypres Salient of World War I and whose graves are unknown.

Since 1927, every evening at 8pm, buglers from the local fire brigade close the road, which passes through the memorial, and sound the "Last Post".

The evening we were there it was jam-packed, people arrive at 7:30 to get a good spot to stand silently.

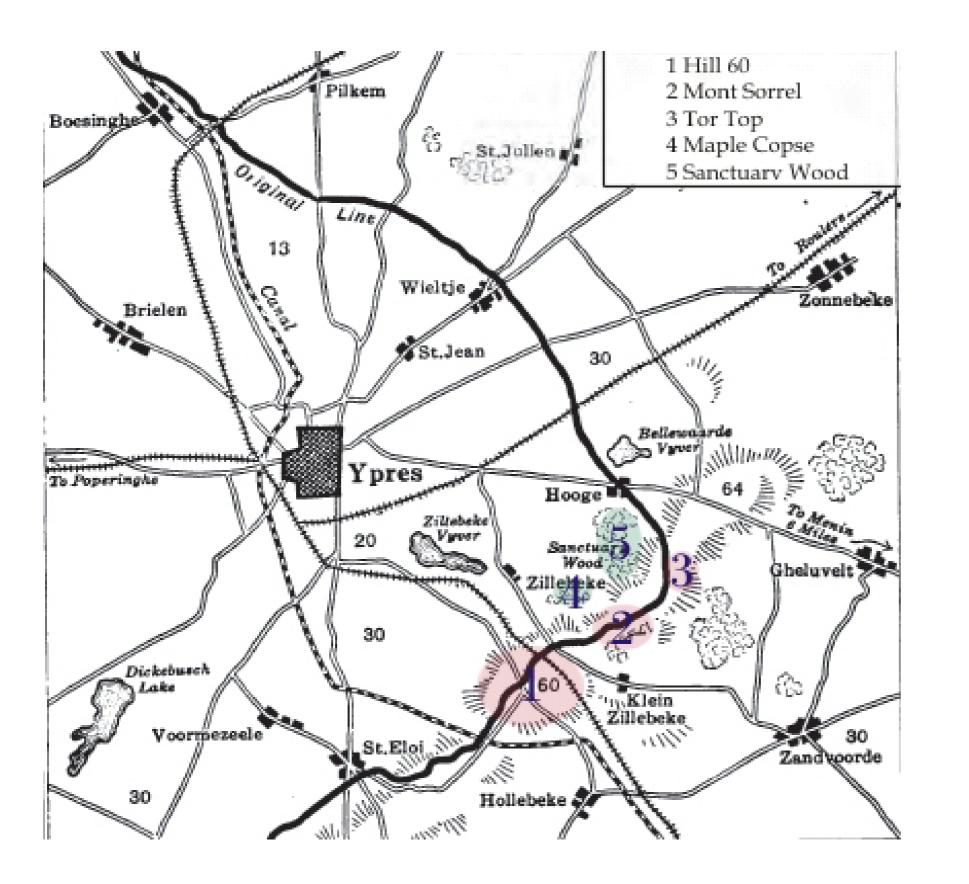




Bird arnog and occasional traffic tollingty ... nearly 12 noon and the it will sage church bell trings in the



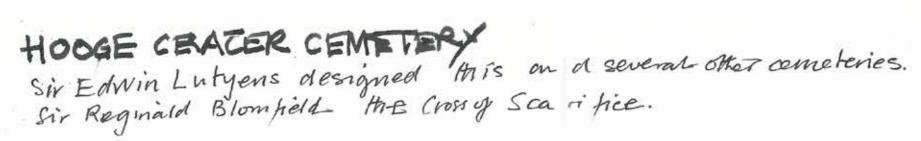




# HOOGE CRATER MUSEUM

Hooge means 'high' in Flemish
Hooge museum café a treasure trove of
Great war memoratilia. Open 10-18:00
Except Mondays)







# Perth Cemetery and the China Wall

This was our first stopping place in Flanders. A front line cemetery, it was called Perth (as the predecessors of the 2nd Scottish Rifles were from Perth) and China Wall (from the communication trench known as the Great Wall of China).

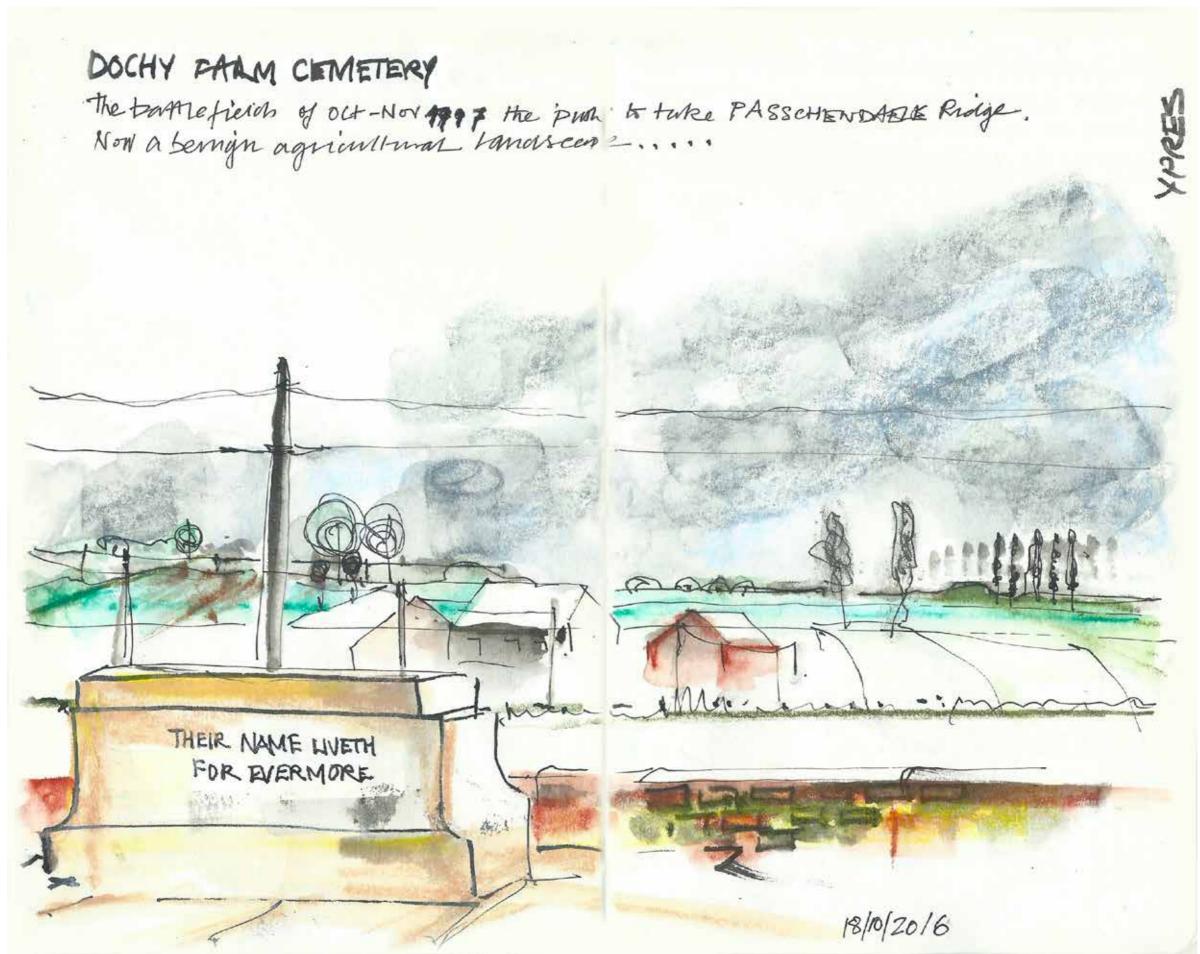
#### Hill 60

The Battle of Hill 60 took place near Ypres in the spring of 1915. The Germans had captured it in November 1914, during the First Battle of Ypres. Originally it was a spoil heap made from the diggings of a cutting for the Ypres–Comines railway. Throughout the war, for both sides, it was sought-after observation point towards Ypres.

#### Hooge Crater Museum

Originally a small church, which dates from the 1920's, now is home the excellent museum. It was built across the road from Hooge Crater Cemetery in commemoration of the scores of soldiers killed here in the area during the conflict. The museum is a treasure trove of artefacts from both sides.

Hooge Crater Cemetery is named after a mine crater blown nearby in 1915 and located near the centre of Hooge; It is opposite the Hooge Crater Museum and separated from it by the notorious Menin Road.





# Dochy Farm

The cemetery contains 1439 burials of which 305 are Australian. The Australian 3rd Division moved from here in the Battle of Broodseinde Ridge on 4 October 1917. They crossed the road and worked towards Broodseinde, which we can see on the skyline towards Passchendaele.

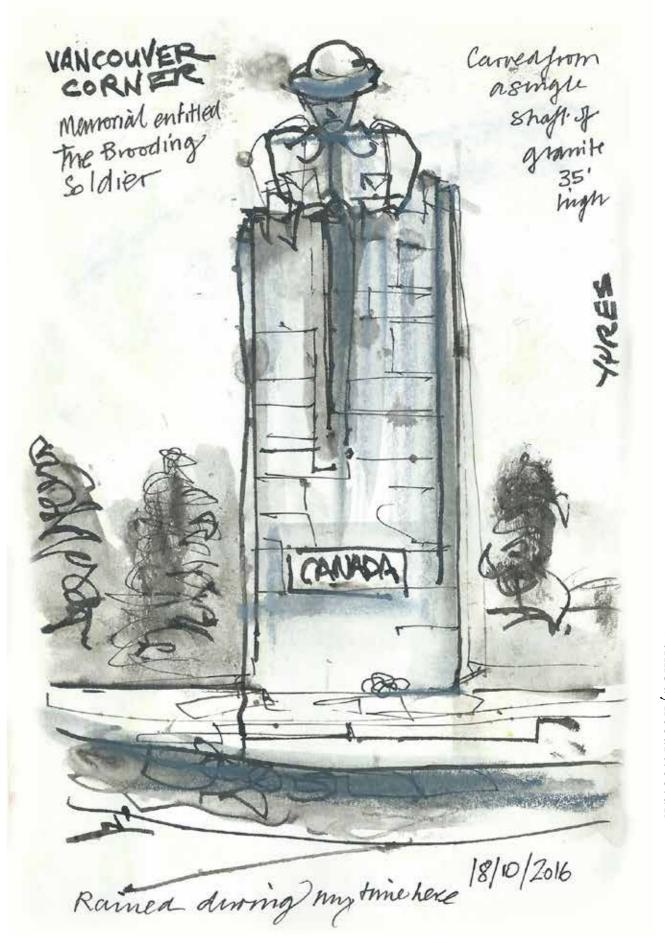
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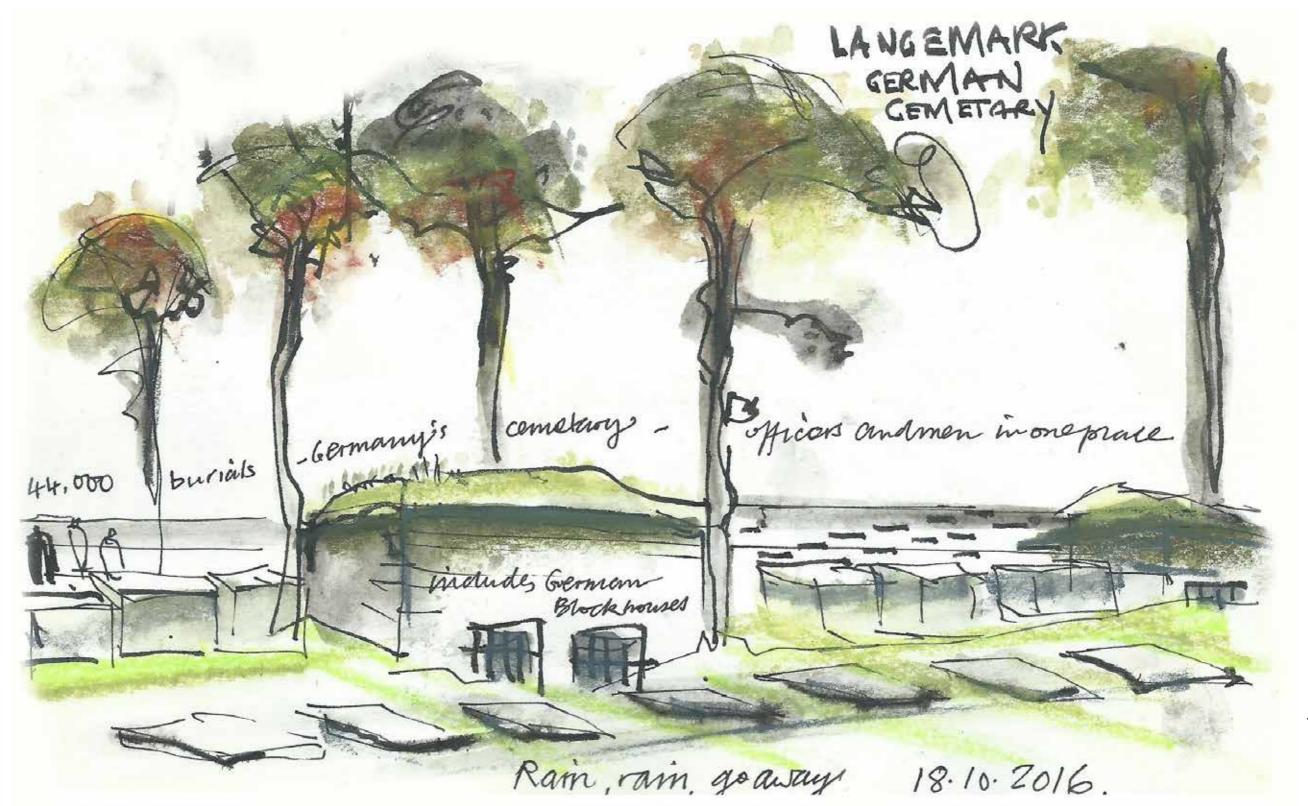
# Tyne Cot

The name "Tyne Cot" is said to come from the Northumberland Fusiliers, seeing a resemblance between the many German concrete pillboxes on this place and typical Tyneside workers' cottages. The Cross of Sacrifice, that marks many CWGC cemeteries, was built on top of a pillbox in the centre of Tyne Cot.

The Sanctuary Wood Museum is a peculiar collection of WW1 relics, located near the Canadian Hill 62 Memorial and the Sanctuary Wood Cemetery. Immediately behind it are a well-preserved section of the British trench lines, surrounded by clearly visible shell holes and upright rods for the barbed wire.

Vancouver Corner
The memorial, known as "The Brooding
Soldier", commemorates the Canadian
1st Division in action on 22nd to 24th
April 1915. During those next few days
the Canadians were involved in fierce
fighting, losing some 2,000 casualties killed, wounded or missing.
This place was especially arresting in the
wind and rain as I made the drawing.





Langemark Cemetery

The German war cemetery of Langemark has more than 44,000 soldiers are buried here. There is a mass grave, which contains 24,917 soldiers of whom 7,977 remain unknown. The names of those known are inscribed on the surrounding basalt blocks, row upon row.

Again the weather matches the resonance of this unhappy tribute.

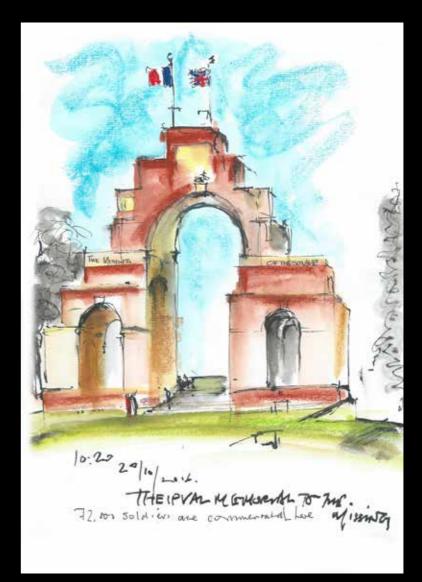


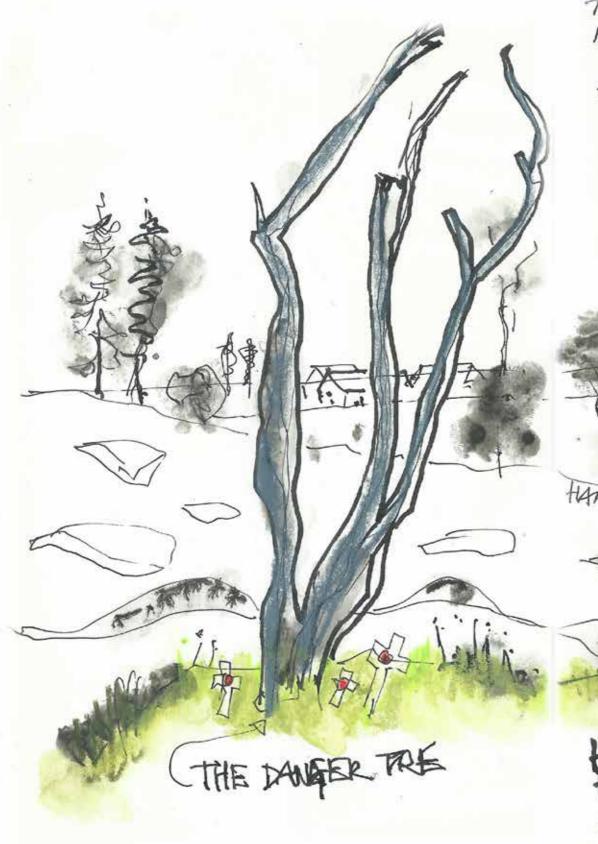


The Somme
The Battle of the Somme was fought 1 July and 18
November 1916 on both sides of the upper reaches of the
Somme river.

It was battle was intended to hasten a victory for the Allies and was the largest battle of the First World War on the Western Front.

More than one million men were wounded or killed, making it one of the bloodiest battles in human history.





The SOMME CONFLICT. A different landscape than YPRES. Round troad terrain, open country with some words.

20.10.2016



HANTHORN RICKE, towards Beaumont Hamol

Park of 'Newfound land Park' memorial, beautifully organised and managed by the Canadians

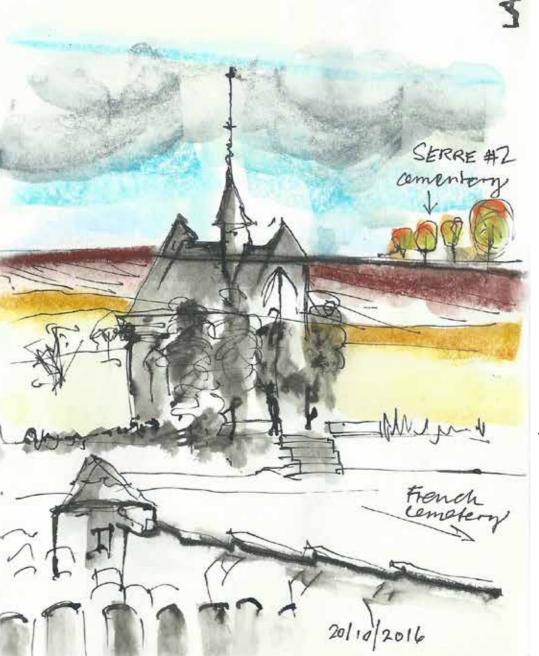
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16.00 Hours SERRE Nº 1 CEMETERY
Set against a broad landscape Battle grounds faced eastwards. Next 2 French cementary andopposite

wind in the trees the Grhysomos here

this small femaful anrowset just offte road





### The Danger Tree Hawthorn Ridge

The Danger Tree is a petrified tree and the only original tree in this location to survive the 1914-1918 fighting in this area. Newfoundland Memorial Park, near Beaumont Hamel, is one of only a few sites where the ground remains largely untouched from 1918. The Newfoundland Regiment attacked as part of the first morning of the Somme offensive. Within half an hour they had suffered terrible losses, with more than 90% becoming casualties.

Y Ravine Beaumont Hamel (Newfoundland Park)

The Germans held this area up until the Somme began on 1 July 1916. From this high position safe in their battered trenches they wrought havoc with their machine guns firing on the Allied advance whom had no cover.

#### Serre No1

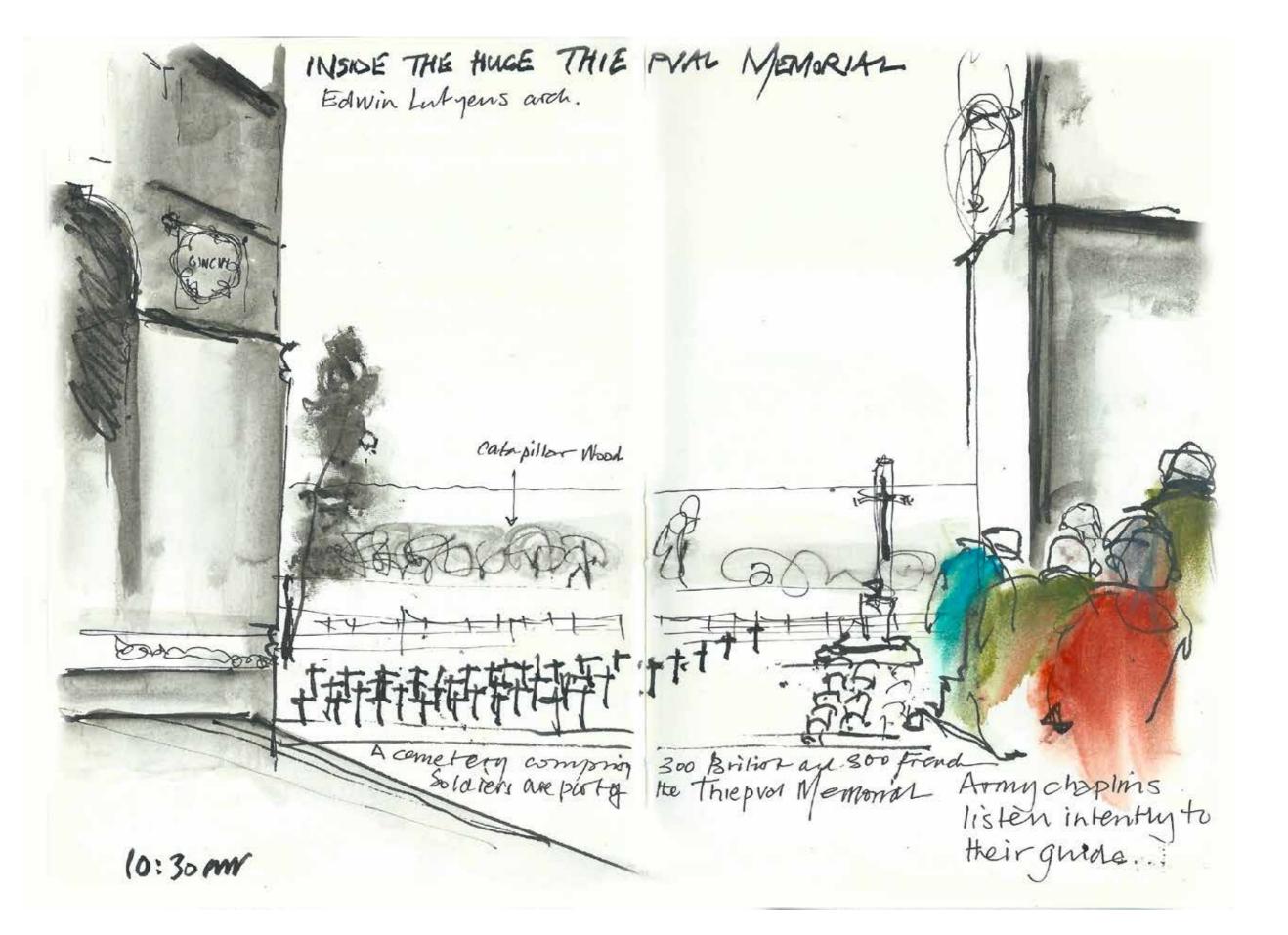
Serre was strongly fortified village held by the Germans at the beginning of the Battle of the Somme. The name of Serre has come to be linked closely with several of the 'Pals' battalions; battalions raised following Kitchener's call to arms; many of those who enlisted were friends, colleagues or relations. The Pals suffered massive losses here.

# Thiepval

The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme. This imposing cenotaph 72,246 missing British Empire soldiers who died in the Battles of the Somme. Designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, it is the largest Commonwealth Memorial to the Missing in the world.









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#### **Ovillers**

This was the place of intense and continual fighting between 1914 and 1916, the Western Front ran trough this area, and the village was destroyed.

# Lochnagar Crater

The Lochnagar mine was an underground explosive charge, secretly planted by the British, ready for 1 July 1916, the first day of the Somme offensive. The two explosive charges created a vast crater about 220 feet (67 m) in diameter excluding the lip and 450 feet (140 m) across.

# Devonshire Cemetery towards Mametz

We sat down on a log, on ground that had originally been held the 9th Devons, before their attack on the German positions in Mametz on 1 July. We looked across these now gentle fields. After the attack a wooden board was erected close to the mass grave with the legend, 'The Devonshires held this trench, the Devonshires hold it still'.

These words are now on the stone memorial tablet within the cemetery.

# lNew Zealand Memorial Longueval

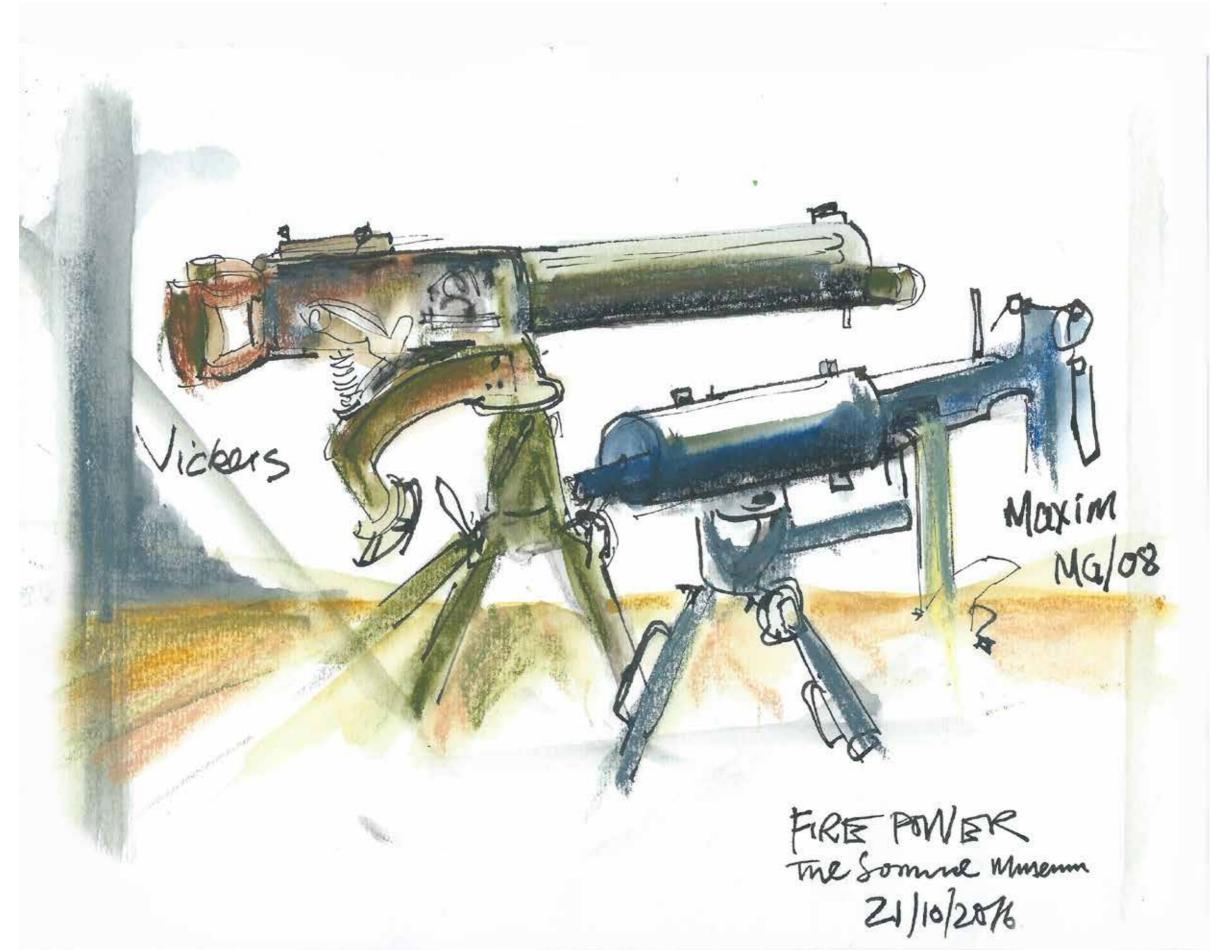
This marks the position, which the New Zealand Division gained as their original objective in the First Battle of the Somme. Alongside them was a new secret weapon being used for the very first time, tanks. They made their first appearance on this battlefield!



In his letters home to his wife, Rupert Edward Inglis, a Forces Chaplain, describes passing through Albert.

We went through the place today (2 October 1915) where the Virgin Statue at the top of the Church was hit by a shell in January. The statue was knocked over, but has never fallen; I sent you a picture of it. It really is a wonderful sight. It is incomprehensible how it can have stayed there, but I think it is now lower than when the photograph was taken, and no doubt will come down with the next gale.

Today beneath this church, situated at the heart of the Somme battlefields, the Museum of Albert charts the lives of soldiers in the trenches during WW1. It is a museum that must be visited.



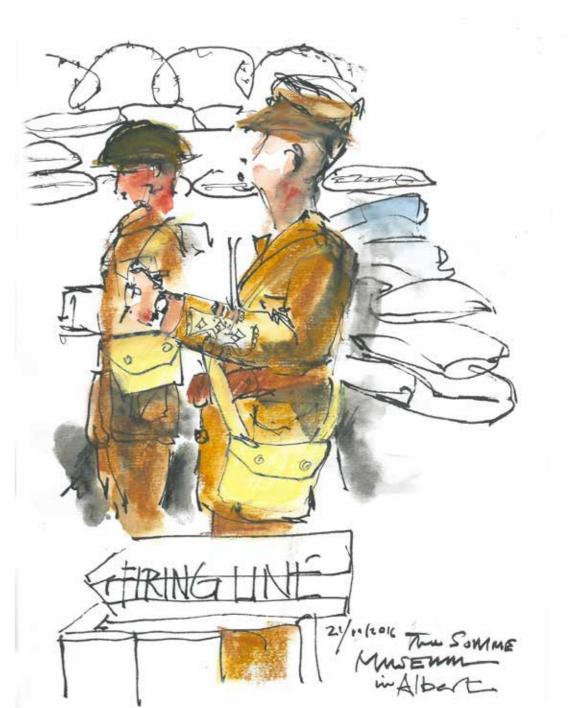
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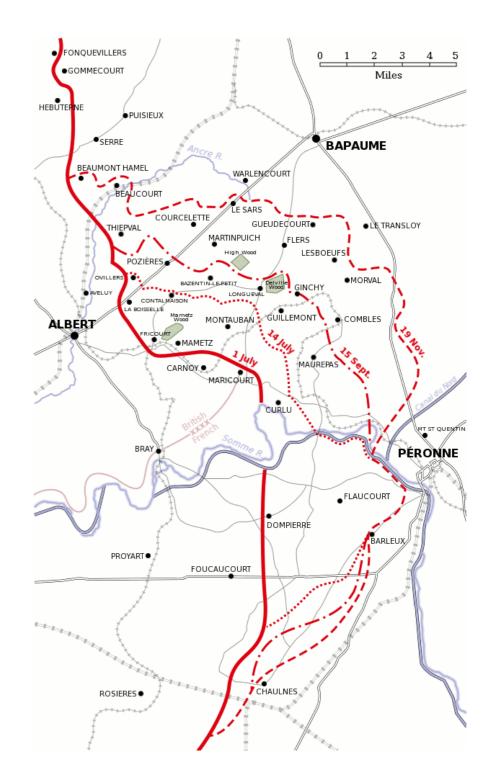
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Technological advances on both sides exacerbated the extreme casualty rate. This was worsened by the tactical stalemate caused by gruelling trench warfare.





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#### Tim Baynes

Tim is moved and inspired by the landscape, colours and people in these places.

He studied at Colchester School of Art, the Slade School of Fine Art and Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design.

Tim works in oils, acrylics as well as watercolours capturing the land, sea and shoreline, Private collectors in Britain, America, Australia, Italy and France have acquired his work.

Always drawing, Tim fills Moleskine sketchbooks whenever he travels. He has amassed a collection of over 1300 drawings of 25 places across the world. These drawings were featured in a weekly travel blog 'Passport' on the BBC.com website where 50 million people have access to his work. As a result of his collaboration with the BBC Tim's work is featured in Wanderlust magazine and major newspapers in America and the Far East.

As a print maker he has exhibited several times in The Circus Gallery in Marylebone, London.