

**“We will remember them”:
Stratford Heroes of the First World War**

By the Stratford Heritage Committee

“We will remember them”:
Stratford Heroes of the First World War

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Passchendaele. This image is available from Library and Archives Canada.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS	i
FOREWORD	iv
PREFACE	vi
Place Names	vii
Scope	vii
Terminology	vii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	viii
INTRODUCTION: Heroes in the Backyard	x
For the Fallen	xv
Chester Thomas Balderston	1
Alton Havelock Burke	5
John Charles Burns	8
Joseph Amos Burns	11
Elmer Carver	13
John Vincent Duffy	18
Wilfred Martin Duffy	21
James Russell Farquharson	25
Kenneth Arthur Ferguson	29
William Longworth Ferguson	33
Joseph Everett Flood	39
Allan Hamm	46
Charles Bovyer Hamm	49
Stewart Henry	53
Elliot Jones	55
Walter Lorne Kelly	57
Fauntleroy Guard Kennedy	62
John Gordon Mason	66

John Warren McCarron.....	70
Redmond James McCarron.....	74
William Wilfred McCarron	76
William Alphonso McInnis	78
William Harold Mulse	84
Arthur Alexander Lester Mutch	86
Florence Sara Mutch.....	89
George Henry Myers.....	92
Frederick William Ogar	98
Peter Amos Ogar.....	102
James Wellington Patterson	106
Eric Carlyle Pendergast	108
Chester Alonzo Robertson	110
Thomas Burrows Rogers	114
Wilfred Louis Roper	119
Alfred Lorne Stewart.....	121
Burton Stewart.....	126
Charles John Cecil Stewart.....	129
Cecil Stewart	135
John Andrew Stewart.....	138
Russell Stewart.....	140
William McMillan Stewart	145
Cecil Allison Tait.....	149
Frederick Sutherland Taylor.....	153
Frederick Henson Trowsdale	159
Arthur Inglis Wood.....	162
Brenton Longworth Wood	163
Everett Alexander Wood.....	168
Table of Definitions.....	171

Military Service Act	171
Military Medal (MM)	171
Taken on Strength/Struck off Strength.....	171
War Diaries	171
Table of Images.....	172
Bibliography	175
Primary Sources	175
Secondary Sources	175
Photographic and Image Sources	176

FOREWORD

History lies at the heart of each of my novels. It's my passion - one that I share with my wife, Elizabeth - which led us to create History Matters, a foundation dedicated to historic preservation. Since 2009, we've crossed the country to help save endangered historic treasures, raising money by way of lectures, receptions, galas, luncheons, dinners, and a popular writers' workshop. To date, over 3,000 students have attended those workshops and we've helped local groups raise over a million dollars.

In the fall of 2013, I was part of the first Steve Berry and Fans trip. It consisted of a European river cruise with 25 people. During that journey, I had the pleasure to get to know two Prince Edward Islanders, Jamie and Coleen Kelly. As a result of that connection, a few months later, Jamie's brother, Doug Kelly, invited Elizabeth and me to Stratford to help raise funds for a book that the local heritage group was creating.

In August 2014, we spent a wonderful week on Prince Edward Island in what was the first international History Matters event. Elizabeth and I were able to help the Stratford Heritage Committee with a number of fundraisers, including a gala dinner at a local historic home, a writers' workshop, and a public lecture. We had a marvelous time. Prince Edward Island is one of the world's great treasures. Jamie and Coleen showed us around, and some of those locations eventually made their way into my 2016 novel, *The 14th Colony*.

Enough about me and History Matters. This book, *"We will remember them": Stratford Heroes of the First World War*, provides a glimpse into the lives of those who served their country and community in the First World War. As we mark 100 years since the Armistice was signed ending the Great War, it is appropriate that these stories are recorded for future generations to know the personal sacrifices made by these gallant people.

The main character of most of my novels is a fictional hero, Cotton Malone, who served his country as an intelligence agent in the United States Justice Department. He's a product of my imagination. The men and woman in this book served their country for real. Each one is a hero in the truest sense of the word. For some, history is something

easily forgotten, a seemingly endless list of names, dates, and occurrences. For those who love history, those names and dates are just the skeleton upon which a riveting story is waiting to be told.

This book tells 46 true stories of heroes who served "King and Country."

Enjoy.

Steve Berry

Steve Berry is a New York Times and #1 internationally bestselling author of thrillers. His books have been translated into 40 languages with over 23,000,000 copies in 51 countries.