

# ON THE BRINK

## The Politics of Conflict 1914-1916 Project

PRO / ANTI HOME RULE

EASTER RISING & BATTLE OF THE SOMME

COMMEMORATION

### JAMES HARPER

James Harper was a member of the Ulster Volunteer Force. Like many others, he enlisted for Imperial service in the 36th (Ulster) Division. Local volunteers were organised into the 10th Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, known as 'The Derrys'.

*'Urgent...You will parade at the Drill Hall Limavady on Tuesday morning the 15 September at 7:45am and from there proceed by train to Finner Camp Ballyshannon. Your dress will be your ordinary clothes (no uniform) with overcoat of you so desire.'*  
Signed by M.M McCausland Commander 2nd Battalion, North Londonderry Regiment U.V.F 12 Sept 1914  
Courtesy of A Harper

The Derrys were part of the first advance at the Somme on 1st July 1916. James died that day. James' body was never found. He is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing.



Surviving photograph of a platoon from The Derrys, taken at Finner Camp in 1914. James Harper's sister has highlighted him amongst the group.  
Courtesy of A. Harper