

Grahams Road Church WAR MEMORIAL

(SMR1434)



A pipe organ was unveiled in March 1924 and dedicated to the memory of twenty-four men of the congregation who made the supreme sacrifice in the Great War. The unveiling ceremony was performed by the Rev. Lieut-Colonel T. L. Beveridge, a former minister of the congregation. The congregation remained standing in silent sympathy while he pulled the cord which operated the veil, and revealed to those present the members' tribute to the fallen. Before descending from the pulpit to place a large laurel wreath on the keyboard of the organ, he said: "To the glory of God and in memory of our comrades who have failed to answer the call, I unveil this, our memorial and our emblem of thanksgiving." The names on the roll were read out by Lieut. H.S. Sanderson, two members responding as against the twenty-four who fell. The two members who were present and answered the roll were Air Mechanic Wm. Howden, R.A.F., and Pte. Wm. Wright, R.A.M.C.

The memorial organ was erected at a cost of £1,216. The woodwork was completed in oak, while the pipes were silvered. The keyboard had 24 stops and six composition pedals, the organ itself being described as a two manual and pedal instrument. Blown by an electric motor, the instrument was installed by Messrs Ingram & Co., Edinburgh, to the specifications of Mr. D. Thomson, Mus. Bae, Falkirk.

The tablet bearing the names of the fallen was also in oak, situated in the centre of the pipes, immediately above the pulpit. It was surmounted by a carved laurel wreath with the following inscription: "To the glory of God and the memory of the men of this congregation who fell in the Great War, 1914 – 1918." The names of the twenty-four men and their respective regiments were/

War Memorials in Churches, Schools, Works and other Public Buildings

/ were then set out in a single column, below which was the simple tribute, "Greater love hath no man than this."

The following are the names of the fallen, comprising four officers, four no commissioned officers and sixteen private soldiers:-

Captain Robert Lapsley Hannah, M.C., 12th H.L.I.
Sec.-Lieut. James Mellis, 5th G.H.
Sec.-Lieut. John Niven, R.F.A.
Sec.-Lieut. Kenneth James Niven, 11th A. & S. H.
Sergt. Quintin Wilson, 1st R.S.F.
L-Corpl. John Anderson, 1/5th G.D.
L-Corpl. Henry Wallace Maxwell, 401st R.E.
L-Corpl. John Prentice Sanderson, 2nd A. & S. H.
Pte. James Gaul, 7th A. & S. H.
Pte. Robert Lapsley Gibson, 12th A. & S.H.
Pte. David Marshall Hannah, 14th A. & S. H.
Pte. Thomas Hastings, 7th A. & S. H.
Pte. Richard Kidston, 9th R.S.
Pte. Peter Morton Kidston, 2nd R.H.
Pte. Robert Lawson, 1st A. & S. H.
Pte John Maxwell, 12th M.G.C.
Pte. Peter Miller, 2nd A. & S. H.
Pte. Alex. McIntyre, 1st R.S.F.
Pte. William Laing Russell, 17th H.L.I.
Pte. John Russell, 1st G.H.
Pte. Malcolm Sharpe, 7th A. & S. H.
Pte. James Taylor, 7th A. & S. H.
Pte. William Turnbull, 6th R.H.
Pte. Alex Wallace, 3rd R.H.

The church was demolished in 1989.

A separate bronze strip with leaf terminals containing the dates 1939 and 1945.

"ALSO IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR/
ALEXANDER W SUMMERS
G McKELL
J WHIGHAM GB/
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM".

It is now in Falkirk Museum.