

Grangemouth West Church WAR MEMORIAL

(SMR880)



The memorial was a large oblong of bronze set in a frame of green Swedish marble, the tone being rich, soft and warm. The letters stand out in bold relief in sunken rectangular panels, and the border is similarly executed with black paint in the background. The

ornate border has a flowing scroll of Tudor roses and leaves. Some of the flower heads have fixing screws at their centres. It was executed by Messrs Allan and Sons, 4 George Place, Edinburgh, to a drawing by, and under the superintendence of, Mr John Kinross, A.R.S.R..

Beneath the superscription:

**"TO THE MEMORY OF THOSE BELONGING
TO THIS CONGREGATION
WHO FELL DURING THE GREAT WAR
1914-1919"**

the following names were inscribed:-

Pte. J.C. ALLWART,	17th H.L.I.
Sgt. R.S.BURNS,	1st C.H.
Pte. D. CLARK,	10 th A. & S.H.
Lt. W.T. GALBRAITH,	R.F.C.
Pte. J. INKSTER,	1st G.H.
Pte. W. LAMOND,	H.C.B.
Pte. R. MATHEW,	R.N.
Pte. R. MERCER,	1/6th R.H.
R. M ^c GEOCH, 7th	A. & S.H.
Lt. J. MACGOWAN,	R.A.M.C.
Pte. C. PATERSON,	1st G.H.
Sgt. A.R. TAYLOR,	10 th A & S.H.
Lt. R. WATT, 11 th	R.F.

Below there was the epitaph :

"BE THOU FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH,/ AND I WILL GIVE THEE A CROWN OF LIFE".

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

The memorial was unveiled in the church, but later fixed in the vestibule. At the ceremony in November 1920 it was covered by the Union Jack, and then unveiled by Mrs Mitchell, one of the oldest workers in the church. "The congregation remained standing while Mr Riddick read over the names engraved on the tablet. All present were deeply moved. The organist gave a beautiful rendering of "The Flowers of the Forest" and after the benediction had been pronounced, the "Last Post" was sounded by Bugler Peter McKellar, late of the 7th Scottish Rifles, the haunting notes of the familiar call striking a chord of deepest pathos. With the singing of the National Anthem, a very touching and memorable service came to a close."

After the church was demolished the bronze table found its way into the collections of the Grangemouth Heritage Trust and is currently (2013) fixed to the wall of the entrance foyer. The marble has been replaced by a simple wooden picture frame.

A second plaque, presumably from this church, was set up after the Second World War. It is a rectangular brass plaque with raised lettering, the background painted black. There is a simple beaded border, now placed within a wide wooden (oak?) frame and attached to the wall near the entrance to the Grangemouth Heritage Trust.



"TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN GRATEFUL MEMORY OF THE MEN OF THIS CHURCH WHO LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR 1939-1945

PTE. ALEXANDER SYDSERFF DAVIDSON	7 TH A. & S.H.
FIREMAN JOHN FLANNIGAN	MERCHANT NAVY
SERGEANT JOHN GRASSOM	ROYAL AIR FORCE
MARINE ENGR JAMES HUTCHISON	MERCHANT NAVY
PTE. JAMES RAMAGE SNEDDON JOHNSTON	2 ND A. & S. H.
PETTY OFFICER DAVID RUSSELL	ROYAL NAVY

"GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS".