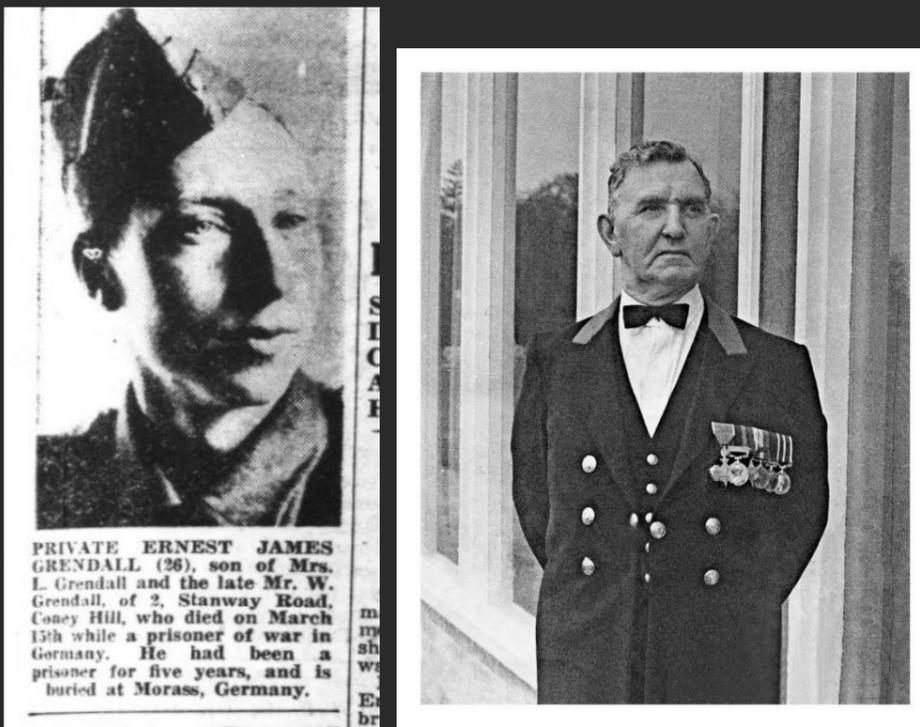


# Private Ernest Grendall, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Cheshire Regiment



## Beginning with a name



**Figure 1:** (Left) Excerpt from newspaper commemorating Ernest Grendall's death. (Right) James Fulton, XXB Stalag Camp 'man of confidence'. Source courtesy of Ritchie and Lorna Conaghan of the Girvan and District and Great War Project.

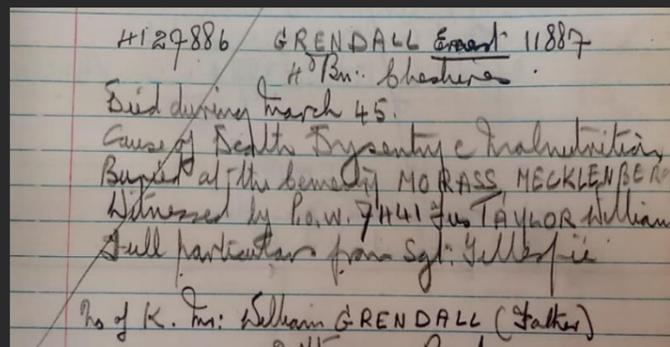
Approximately three years ago, researchers Ritchie and Lorna Conaghan of the Girvan and District Great War Project discovered a seven-page diary which detailed the Long March from Poland to Germany in early 1945. The diary began in January 1945 and continued until to May 1945. The author of the diary is to this day unknown. The only information we have about the author is that following his release as a prisoner of war, he travelled from London to Edinburgh, then to Glasgow, but does not mention his regiment. However, a single name is mentioned in the diary: Ernest Grendall.

## Ernest Grendall

Private Ernest Grendall was a soldier in the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Cheshire Regiment. It is believed that he participated in the Battle of Dunkirk and was later taken prisoner of war at Stalag Camp XXB in Wielbark, now Malbork, Poland). Grendall's time spent in the Stalag Camp is diligently documented by James Fulton, the camp 'man of confidence'. Grendall endured 5 years at the camp before returning home. It was on the journey back to his hometown that Grendall tragically lost his

## The Unknown Grave in Berlin

Grendall was later buried in a small churchyard in Morass. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission have had Grendall's name commemorated on the Dunkirk Memorial. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission have confirmed that Grendall's body was later reburied, but the exact whereabouts of his new grave are unknown. Despite this, the Commission were able to share that after the Second World War, one body was recovered from Morass and buried in an unknown grave in the 1939-1945 Commonwealth War Grave Cemetery at Heerstraße.



**Figure 2:** Excerpt from Slywia Kaszuba's diary, in which Grendall's death and burial place is mentioned. Source courtesy of Ritchie and Lorna Conaghan of the Girvan and District and Great War Project.

Since receiving this information and cross referencing the graves buried at both Morass and the cemetery at Berlin (Heerstraße), Ritchie and Lorna have been determined to prove that the unknown grave at Berlin belong to Private Ernest Grendall of the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Cheshire Regiment.



**Figure 3:** Excerpt from Slywia Kaszuba's diary, in which Grendall's death and burial place is mentioned. Source courtesy of Ritchie and Lorna Conaghan of the Girvan and District and Great War Project.