



**NAME:** Adam Victor McClen

**DoB:** June 1887  
**DoD:** 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1914

**PLACE:** Benwell, Newcastle upon Tyne  
**AGE:** 27

**PARENTS -Father:** Adam McClen (1856-1912)  
**-Mother:** Jane Ann McClen (nee Thompson) (1859-1918)

**PARENTS ADDRESS:** 39 Kirk Street, Byker

**EMPLOYMENT PRIOR TO ENLISTMENT:** Carpenter

**ENLISTMENT:** Unknown but an Army Regular before WW1

**RANK:** Corporal  
**REGIMENT:** 54<sup>th</sup> Battery, Royal Field Artillery

**SERVICE No:** 60450

**SERVICE:**

02/04/1911	Portobello, Edinburgh
05/08/1914	Bordon, Hampshire – mobilised for war
18/08/1914	Bordon, Hampshire – departed for France
19/08/1914	Le Havres, France – arrived at test camp
21/08/1914	Le Havres, France – entrained
22/08/1914	Hautmont - detrained and joined 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bgde
01/10/1914	Chivy, Aisne – observation on west slopes
31/10/1914	Gheluvelt, east of Ypres
01/11/1914	Wood 800 yards north of Veldoek

**CEMETERY:** YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL

**GRAVE/MEMORIAL REFERENCE:** Panel 5 and 9

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** The fourth of seven children, with one older brother, two older and three younger sisters.

**April 1891**  
Living in Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne

**April 1901**  
Living at 20 Headlam Street, Byker and working as a Telegraph Messenger

**16/09/1914**  
Battery Sergeant Major Brannan killed, becoming first loss of the battery.

**26/09/1914**  
3 dead, 11 wounded plus 9 horses lost to date

**31/10/1914**  
54 Battery one of two to test the first high explosive shells in action. Major Peel Battery commander. Shell supply was poor and 'rationing' implemented.

**31/10/1914**  
H C Rees D Company commander 2<sup>nd</sup> Welch Regiment reported to Major Peel in battle that the Battalion was annihilated, losing 16 officers and 514 other ranks dead, wounded or missing on that day. 'It was a day one doesn't wish to live ever again'.

**01/11/1914**  
In action all day firing at trenches and battery near Polderhoek.

**02/11/1914**  
Remain in action shelling same targets as yesterday. Leftone gun detached under W Osmaston, who was wounded, to shell houses in Veldoek. 2 men killed and 10 wounded. Move at night to new position 400 yards to NE. Detach 1 section to SW corner of Polygon Wood.

**03/11/1914**  
After the fighting of 31<sup>st</sup> October, apart from minor skirmishes, the battle 'slackened' into 4 days of an artillery duel. Weather fine and unseasonably warm between 31<sup>st</sup> Oct and 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

**10 & 11/10/1920**  
Memorial Services at Bainbridge Memorial Wesleyan Methodist Church to honour those associated with the Church who served King and country through a 'Roll of Honour' Plaque and unveil stained glass windows to those who did not return. These included Victor McClen.

**24/07/1927**  
Adam Victor McClen name unveiled as one of the 55,000 'missing' commemorated on the Menin Gate, Ypres.