

Royal Marines Corps Memorial Dates

23 April 1918 - The Raid on Zeebrugge

The 4th Battalion under the command of Lieutenant Colonel B N Elliot DSO took a leading part in the gallant enterprise against the German Naval Base Zeebrugge, on St George's Day 1918. The RMLI companies landed on the mole in the face of determined opposition and held their positions whilst the entrance to the canal was successfully blocked and the mole destroyed. Lt -Col Elliot, the last of a family who had served in the Corps from father to son since 1775, Major Cordner, his second in command, 9 other officers and 109 NCOs and men lost their lives in this gallant affair, whilst 233 all ranks were wounded and 13 taken prisoner. Two Victoria Crosses were awarded to the Royal Marines for their conduct during this operation.
