

ROBERTSON FAMILY OF GLETNESS

Hugh Robertson Sen., R.N.R Patrol duty. Gletness, South Nesting.

Married to Helen Henderson Hunter. Father of one girl (who died as a baby), Henry and William (both below) and three other sons, one of whom died at sea prior to WWI. Henry and another son, Hugh, moved to Canada.

Henry H Robertson, Sergeant, Canadian Forestry Corps. Son of Mr and Mrs H Robertson, Gletness, South Nesting.



Henry H Robertson

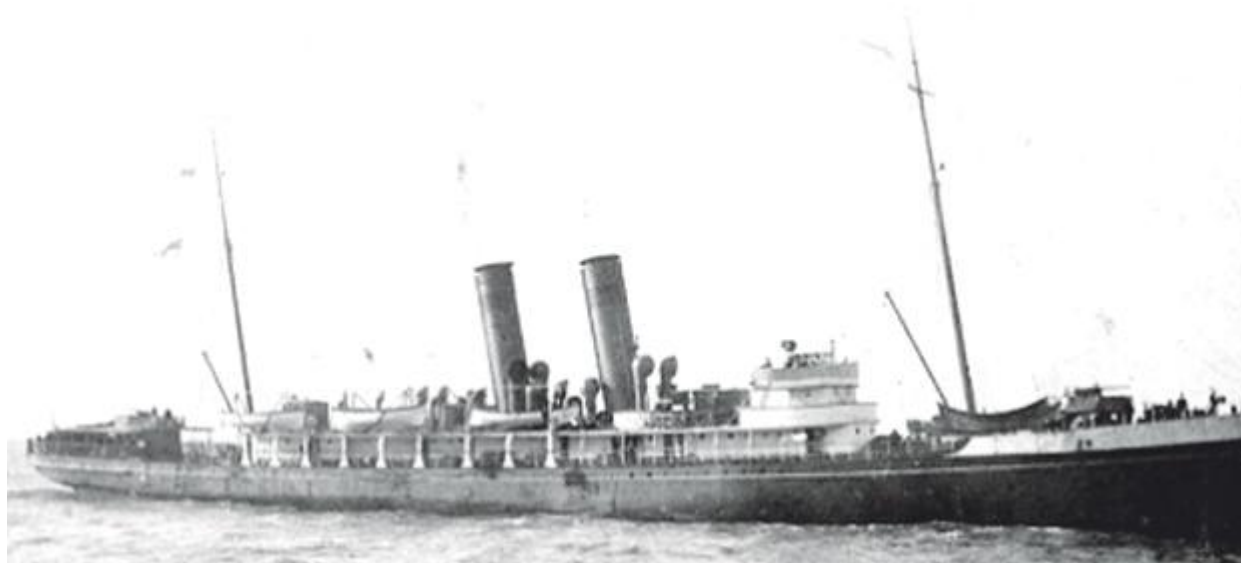
William Robertson, A.B., R.N.R., HMS Louvain. Gletness, South Nesting. Died in the Mediterranean on 21st January, 1918. Aged 22 years.

HMS Louvain started off as the *SS Dresden*, constructed in 1897 at Earle's Co. Ltd in Hull, weighing 1,805 tons. Owned by Great Western Railway Co, she was a ferry boat on the Harwich to Antwerp route. The *Dresden* was taken over by Admiralty as an Armed Boarding Steamer and renamed *Louvain* in 1915. She was sunk by the German submarine *UC22* on the 20th January 1918, in the Aegean Sea. There were about 228 men on board at the time of the sinking, with only about 16 survivors.

SS Dresden will always be remembered for the mysterious disappearance of the famous diesel engine inventor Rudolf Diesel while travelling aboard the ship.

On the evening of September 29, 1913, Diesel boarded *SS Dresden* in Antwerp on his way for a meeting with the Consolidated Diesel Manufacturing Company in London. After having dinner, he retired to his cabin, leaving word to be woken at 6.15am. He never answered the call and was never seen again. His bed had not been slept in and his coat and hat were neatly folded.

Ten days later, a Dutch boat, *Coertsen*, came upon a badly decomposed corpse of a man. The corpse was in an advanced state of decomposition and could not be recognised. However, personal items retrieved from the corpse were later identified by Diesel's son Eugen as belonging to his father. There are various suicide and conspiracy theories that seek to explain Diesel's death but none can be substantiated to be proven correct.



HMS LOUVAIN