Jack Sinton was born in Victoria, British Columbia, to Northern Irish parents on 2nd December 1884. The family returned to Lisburn, Northern Ireland, in 1890 where he and six siblings were brought up by their mother, his father having returned to Canada.

He was educated at The Nicholson Memorial School, Lisburn; RBAI Belfast and The Medical School at Queen’s College Belfast of The Royal University of Ireland where he had a distinguished academic career, obtaining honours in virtually every subject. He graduated in 1908 in Medicine, Surgery, Midwifery and Gynaecology taking top place in all.

In 1911 he took first place in the entrance exam to the Indian Medical Service (IMS) and was gazetted Lieutenant on 29th June. Newly commissioned officers of the IMS had to serve a minimum of two years in the military branch of the service.

At the outbreak of the War he was posted at Kohat in the North West Frontier Province of India as Medical Officer with a moveable column of Lancers.

In October 1915 he joined the Indian Expeditionary Force sent to relieve the siege of Kut in Mesopotamia. He was appointed as Regimental Medical Officer for the 37 Dogra Regiment. The force engaged the Turks on 6th January 1916 and by the 9th had prevailed. It was during this action that he was hit by a bullet, and, although wounded himself, he continued tending to the wounded throughout the battle. In the same campaign he was mentioned in despatches four times and was awarded the Russian Order of St. George. His VC was gazetted on 21st June 1916.

He continued his research into malaria after the war and in 1921 was appointed director of the Malaria Survey of India and later became Coordinating Officer and a Member of the League of Nations’ Malaria Commission.

At the outbreak of the Second World War he became a consultant malarialogist to the War Office and, as a Brigadier, was sent to the Middle East.

After the war he retired to Cookstown settling at Slaghtfreedan Lodge on the shores of Lough Fea. He took an active interest in many aspects of life in Cookstown. He continued his involvement with his alma mater, now The Queen’s University of Belfast and became a Member of its Senate in 1948, then the Pro-chancellor in 1952; High Sheriff of Tyrone in 1953 and a Deputy Lieutenant in 1954. He was President of Cookstown Branch of The British Legion and also of No 4 Group. His list of medals, awards and achievements is long but in brief; he was elected Fellow of The Royal Society in 1948, the only Fellow with a VC, a record that still stands; in early 1956 the Royal Society for Tropical Medicine awarded him with The Manson Medal, their highest honour and posthumously the United Nations included him in their “Big Six of Malaria”. He published over 200 papers mostly under his own name.

He died 25th March 1956 and had a military funeral and burial in Claggan Presbyterian Churchyard. His Obituary in The Journal of Tropical Medicine and
All stand for the entry of the Union Flag carried by
Mr Norman Espie,
RBL National and Northern Ireland Standard Bearer

Reception of
Her Majesty’s Vice Lord-Lieutenant, Co Tyrone
Mr Patrick Killen, OBE, DL,
accompanied by The Deputy Lieutenants and Clergy.

The Royal Salute

Announcements:
Mr John Gilmour, Vice President, Cookstown RBL

Reception of
The RBL Standards, including the Northern Ireland District, The Northern Ireland Women’s Section, The Northern Ireland Youth Standard, No 4 Group Standard, along with Standards representing Group 4 Branches.

Welcome:
Mr John Gilmour, Vice President, Cookstown RBL

Call to Worship
Revd Dr Isaac Thompson, TD, DL
President, Cookstown RBL

Praise: Paraphrase 61 (from I Peter 1:3-5) Tune: Bishopthorpe
Blest be the everlasting God, the Father of our Lord......
Scottish Paraphrases, 1781

Prayer led by
Revd Canon Norman Porteus, Chaplain Cookstown RBL

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 19:27-30
Colonel Nicholas Tougher, Assistant Commander, 38 (Irish) Brigade

Praise: God of our fathers, known of old Tune: St Peters burg
Rudyard Kipling, 1865-1936 (altered)


Mrs Mary Edwards (granddaughter of Brigadier Sinton)

Reception & Dedication of
The VC Memorial Stone & Act of Remembrance

Wreaths laid
on behalf The Royal British Legion
by Colonel (Rtd) Mervyn Elder, MBE, TD, JP, DL
on behalf of the Sinton family
by Miss Alice Watson (great-granddaughter of Brigadier Sinton)

Praise: Who would true valour see
John Bunyan, 1628-1688; adapted Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936

Sermon
“First to march on and the last to march off.” (Acts 23:11b)
(Maj Gen) Revd Dr David Coulter, QHC,
Chaplain General to Her Majesty’s Land Forces

Offertory Praise*: Healing river of the Spirit Tune: Converse
(* The Poppy Fund)

Dedication & Prayer
Revd June Parke, Cookstown Methodist Church

Praise: I vow to thee, my country Tun e: Thaxted

Remain standing for the Return of The Standards

Praise: God save the Queen! Tune: v1-2 1745; v3WE Hickson, 1803-1870

The Blessing & Choral Amen

Remain standing
The Recession of The Standards,
Clergy, Her Majesty’s Vice Lord-Lieutenant and The Deputy Lieutenants.