

# Falkland 1900-2000

## Year 1908

### (As researched by Jack Burgess)

#### 25<sup>th</sup> January 1908

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Concert** – “On Friday of last week, a highly successful concert was given in the Drill Hall in connection with the annual course of lectures. Provost Miller ably fulfilled the duties of Chairman. A programme of unusual excellence was submitted to an audience which filled every part of the hall. The concert was opened by Mr J.M. Cooper’s string quartette (note – I know quartette is not spelt like this, but it is as it appears in the Fife News. You may notice several others e.g. to-day, to-morrow, pic-nic etc., as it was printed in those days!) party from Kirkcaldy, with the final two movements from Haydn’s string quartette, Op. 33, No. 3, and subsequently there were given delightful renderings of Beethoven’s Variations, No. 5, and a quartette arrangement of Schumann’s Traumerei, followed by the celebrated minuet of Boccherini, and lastly, with Miss McLaren at the piano, the quintette in E Flat by Schumann. In all these items the quartette played with the precision and expressiveness which this class of music demands, and afforded those present a musical treat of a high order. A feature of the evening was the solo violin playing of Mr Wilson of Leven. He gave a very masterly rendering of Dancla’s “Romance and Bolero”, and quite captivated his hearers with the Scotch selection, “Echoes from Ayrshire”, playing as an encore Raff’s “Cavatina.” Mrs T.B. Hood, soprano, Kirkcaldy, gave a cultured rendering of the songs, “Il Bacio” (Arditi), and “Love, the Pedlar” (German), and an encore being demanded, she responded by singing “The Scottish Blue Bells”. Mr Hamilton, Edinburgh, well known in operatic circles, contributed several songs and a musical monologue, “The 11.69 Express”, in his own inimitable manner. His humorous songs, “Beneath your Window” and “The Happy Land” kept the audience in delighted humour. Mr F.Y. Sutherland, who possesses a rich, baritone voice, sang with great

expression the “Bedouin’s Love Song” and “The Skipper”, and responding to an encore, “The Deathless Army”. Much credit is due Miss McLaren, who acted as accompanist to both singers and instrumentalists in a most skilful manner. Hearty response was given to votes of thanks, proposed by the Chairman, to the various artists, and to Mr James Craw, to whose efforts in arranging the programme the success of the concert was mainly due. A very pleasant entertainment was brought to a close by the audience singing “God Save the King.”

## **15<sup>th</sup> February 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Serious Breach of the Peace – Constable attacked –** “On Sunday, an exciting scene was witnessed while the church bells announced the hour of evening service. A party of seven young men from Leslie visited the bar in the afternoon and, having had some liquor refreshment, proceeded to the ice-cream shop occupied by George Garland, for food. Trouble arose, and Police-Constable Calder was summoned. David Clement struck the constable, whereupon the latter took hold of him and asked him to come to the police office. He refused. The constable dragged Clement to the door, and then the others of the company endeavoured to obstruct the officer. The constable and his charge practically rolled down the Cross Wynd, the former being badly mauled on the way. By the time the foot of the Wynd was reached, the constable’s coat was torn from his back, and his shirt sleeves were also torn. Mr John Angus, of the Commercial Hotel, on being appraised of the policeman’s plight, rushed to his assistance, but he was knocked down and kicked behind the ear and on the knee. He soon regained his feet and held on to the prisoner, the constable by this time being well-nigh exhausted. At length the police office was reached, but it was with difficulty that the prisoner was got inside. Here while being searched, Clement struck the constable a dastardly blow on the eye. On Monday morning Clement, who was described as a labourer from Leslie, was brought before the Police Court at Falkland. He pleaded guilty, and the Fiscal (Mr Reekie) detailed the circumstances. Provost Miller said it was a most cowardly assault. He had to compliment Mr Angus on the timely assistance he had rendered to the constable. Sentence upon Clement was passed of a fine of 50 shillings, or thirty days’ imprisonment.”

## Intimation from *The Fife News*: **Properties in the Parish of Falkland (Fifeshire) for Sale:**

“To be exposed to sale, by Public Roup, within the Royal Hotel, Cupar, Fife, on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 1908, at twelve o’clock noon (in virtue of the powers contained in a Bond and Disposition in Security):

The following subjects which belonged to the late James Arthur: -

1. Land adjoining and lying to the south of Floorcloth Factory, Falkland, extending to 2 ½ acres or thereby, and presently occupied by Alexander Douglas.
2. Land adjoining and lying to the east of Lot 1, extending to ½ acre or thereby, at present occupied by the said Alexander Douglas.
3. Land lying to the west of Templelands, extending to 2.115 acres, and occupied by the said Alexander Douglas.
4. House, garden, and byre in Cross Wynd, Falkland, tenanted by Jane Hamilton.

Rental or Annual value: - Land, Lots 1,2,and 3, £11 10s; House etc., £5. The Feu-duties payable from Lots 1 and 2 are 4s 7 ¾ d.

Upset Prices: - Lot 1, £170; Lot 2, £15; Lot 3, £70; Lot 4, £35.

For further particulars, apply to Charles Gulland, Writer, Falkland, who has the Title-Deeds and Articles of Roup. Falkland, 5<sup>th</sup> February 1908.

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart** – “During the next two months, Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart is to be residing at Castell Coch, Tom-Gwyn Las, Wales.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Newton of Falkland** – “There is a prospect of a big road improvement being effected in the village of Newton of Falkland, by the demolition of the old licensed property. A sub-Committee of the District Committee visited the property on Monday. The house is a very old one, being erected in 1744, and it is understood the proprietor, Mr David Bonthron, is favourable to the proposal of the promoters of the improvement. Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart; Mr Alexander Lawson of Annfield; Mr W.D. Patrick, the county clerk; Mr Thomas Aitken, M.I.C.E., road surveyor, were among those who inspected the property.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Death – Michie** – “At Park House, Newton of Falkland, on the 6<sup>th</sup> inst., suddenly, Mary Kilgour Thomson, widow of J.C. Michie, Inland Revenue.”

**14<sup>th</sup> March 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **The Light Railway** – “It is announced that an arrangement has been come to between the promoters of the light railway between Falkland Road Station and Falkland, and the North British Railway Company, whereby the latter are to work the line. The working terms have been provisionally fixed, and it is expected that an effort will be made to get the undertaking under way as soon as possible.”

### **28<sup>th</sup> March 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Death – Dick** – “At Gaswork, Falkland, on the 21<sup>st</sup> inst., J. Milne, wife of John Dick, gas manager.”

### **4<sup>th</sup> April 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Formation of Women’s Unionist Association** – “At a largely attended meeting of ladies in the district, convened last week by Mrs Sprot, Stravithie, it was agreed to form a branch of the Women’s Unionist Association. Mrs Sprot presided, and delivered an interesting address. Lady Ninian Crichton Stuart was appointed president of the branch; Mrs Gulland, Millfield; Mrs Dun, Woodmill; Mrs Gavin, Falkland Palace; and Mrs Livingstone, Lomondvale, vice-presidents; and Miss Madge Dun, hon. Secretary. Arrangements were made for having an address from Miss Collum, London, on an early date.”

### **11<sup>th</sup> April 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart on Socialism** – “The annual meeting of the Arthur Balfour Habitation of the Primrose League was held in the Queen’s Rooms, Glasgow, on Wednesday evening. Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart, who was the principal speaker, dealt with what he called some of the ridiculous and untenable ideas of Socialism. We were at the beginning of a new, terrible, and unknown era, he said, during which would be fought one of the greatest political battles in the history of the world. On one side, there would be freedom and justice; on the other, a one-sided and unscrupulous party, whose actuating principle, as enunciated after the Colne Valley election of last year, was pure revolutionary Socialism. The socialisation which was preached in the United Kingdom to-day was altogether anti-Christian. Its aims were to make all people equal, not in God’s good time and in God’s good way, but by Act of Parliament, if possible, or even, if necessary, by bloodshed. The greatest enemy to religion which would have to be dealt with was the pure revolutionary Socialism of Colne Valley fame. (Applause). Turning to the question of the Constitution of the country, he said it was made up of

*the wishes of the people for centuries and of our progressive civilisation; but something new had come into it – the fungus of Socialism, which had taken hold of the minds of the people of this country. He wondered if those people realised that one of the very first planks in the Socialistic platform was to do away with the Crown, annihilate the House of Lords, and wreck the Constitution of Great Britain. (Applause). A Republican Government was not wanted in this country, and, moreover, the people would not have it; but that was the form of government which the Socialist party would introduce if they could. These were the two dangers which the members of the Primrose League were pledged to oppose by all the means in their power. (Applause.)”*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Enthusiastic Tariff Reform Meeting** – “A public meeting under the auspices of the newly-formed Women’s Unionist Association was held in the Town Hall here on Tuesday night, when an address was delivered by Miss Collum on Tariff Reform. The hall was filled to overflowing, one of the ante-rooms being required to hold part of the audience. Lady Ninian Crichton Stuart presided, and the proceedings were opened with the singing of the Union song, after which other songs were sung by Miss Sprot, Stravithie, and Miss Dun, Woodmill. Miss Colum spoke at great length and with great eloquence on the subject of women’s influence and on Tariff Reform. At the close, Mrs Dun, Woodmill, proposed, and Mr Gavin, Falkland Palace, seconded a vote of thanks to the lecturer. Lord Ninian Crichton Stuart moved a vote of thanks to Colonel and Mrs Sprot, who were present for bringing the lecturer to Falkland and for their exertions in the Unionist cause. Lady Ninian Crichton Stuart was cordially thanked on the call of Colonel Sprot for presiding. The meeting was the most enthusiastic that has been held in Falkland for years.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Lord and Lady Ninian Crichton-Stuart** – “Lord and Lady Ninian Crichton-Stuart have concluded their extended visit to Cardiff and returned to their home at Falkland House. Lord Ninian has spent over two months in the city as prospective Unionist candidate for the constituency, and has greatly advanced his claims. His Lordship has addressed meetings in every ward in the city, together with more gatherings in the largest halls. He has been received with the unflinching enthusiasm of his party, the leaders and rank and file having rallied to his support in every quarter of the Parliamentary division. Lord and Lady Ninian have also taken part in a large number of social and civic functions and have made friends among all classes. During their stay in the city, they have resided at Castell Coch, a medieval house with extensive grounds, the property of the Marquis of Bute.”

**18<sup>th</sup> April 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Lodge St John** – “Brother H. Montague, R.W.M., and the other office-bearers of Lodge No. 19 Coupar o’Fife, drove to Falkland on Wednesday night, and visited Lodge St John, giving a splendid working of the mark degree. There were two candidates.”

## **16<sup>th</sup> May 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **A Hot Water Dispute – Motion ruled Incompetent** – “The Town Council met on Monday night – Provost Miller presiding. Bailie Sutherland had given notice of a motion that, as Messrs Jackson had refused to abide by the table of water charges approved by the Council, the water be cut off from their works and garden. Mr J.W. Jackson asked if the motion was in order. Mr Anderson, the acting Town Clerk, stated that Mr Gulland, the Town Clerk, who was not able to attend the meeting, did not think the motion as it stood was competent.

Bailie Sutherland – “What is incompetent about it? The fact remains that there are three supplies of water for the domestic supply granted to the factory for which nothing is paid. My motion is plain English. You know what I mean.”

Mr Lister – “In his motion Bailie Sutherland says that Messrs Jackson have not complied with the arrangements of 1905. These arrangements of the water rates only existed for a year. They were not workable.”

Mr Jackson – “The Council abandoned them.”

Bailie Sutherland – “All that was abandoned was the reference to the stables and byres. I stand by my motion, and I shall appeal to a higher authority. The Council last year assessed the Co-operative Store on the whole rental.”

Mr Jackson – “If the Co-operative store pay a tax they should not pay, that is their fault.”

Bailie Sutherland – “You pay the public rate, which gives you no right to water. You have three supplies you have no right to. I don’t see why you should throw dust in people’s eyes.”

Mr Jackson – “I have no intention of throwing dust in people’s eyes, and I shall not be talked to like that by you.”

Mr Anderson read the various minutes on the matter, beginning in 1871, when Mr Jackson was granted a supply for his factory from the overflow. Provost Miller said the water was first granted from the overflow, but since then they had had an expensive scheme, and it should be made clear that they had no right to give away the rate-payers’ water for nothing.

Mr Lister – “Are we giving it for nothing?”

*The Provost – “Yes.”*

*Mr Lister – “They pay on a quarter of the valuation.”*

*The Provost – “Suppose they got no water from us at all, they would have to pay that.”*

*Mr Jackson – “That is true, but you can get a water supply for drinking purposes and still continue to pay on a fourth of the valuation. The supply that comes from the overflow is surplus water.”*

*Bailie Sutherland – “You were offered it from the main.”*

*Mr Jackson – “We have never been offered it from the main. You are the only one that offered it. You are not the Council, though you try to be. If we require to take water from the main we shall be willing to pay for it. I want to make it perfectly clear that I don’t want to be bullied.”*

*Mr Lister – “I think it is a piece of animosity and ill-will.”*

*The Provost – “Order.”*

*Bailie Sutherland – “I have no cause for animosity.”*

*The Provost ruled that the motion was incompetent, and it was agreed to take the advice of the Convention of Burghs on the whole matter.”*

### **23<sup>rd</sup> May 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Birth – Bonthron** – “At Newton House, Newton of Falkland, on the 15<sup>th</sup> inst., the wife of David Bonthron, of a son.”

### **30<sup>th</sup> May 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Function** – An interesting function was performed in the playground of the Public School on Friday. Mr J.L. Lumdsen, Chairman of the School Board, has presented a flagstaff and Union Jack to the school, and the ceremony of unfurling the flag was performed with due honour.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Shooting** – “The Empire Day shooting competition in connection with the Freuchie and District Rifle Club took at Purin Range, near Falkland, on Saturday afternoon – seven rounds and a sighter at 200, 500, and 600 yards. Major George J. Lumdsen superintended the shooting. Principal results: - A Class – Empire Day Cup and first stage of competition for Major Lumdsen’s trophy –

Ex-Corporal J.W. Leishman, 91; ex-Private H. Dick, 88; ex-Sergeant A. Wallace, 83; ex-Private John Briggs, 80; ex-Private George Lindsay, 80; ex-Corporal J. Robertson, 79; ex-Private R. Duncan, 74. The eight highest marksmen averaged 80 points per man. B Class – 200 and 500 yards – for Major Lumsden’s rifle – R. Boucher, 38; J. Maxwell, 32; W. Fairbairn, 32; A. Mitchell, 30; T. Donaldson, 28; J. Donaldson, 25; H. Bayne, 23.”

## **6<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

Extract from *The Fife News: **The General Assembly – Some Impressions*** – “Some impressions of this year’s General assembly” was the subject of an interesting address by the Rev. Lyon Johnstone in the Parish Church on Sunday evening. To an appreciative audience, the rev. gentleman describes in graphic language, the principal features of one of Scotland’s greatest national gatherings. The more spectacular scenes such as the ceremonials and receptions in connection with the Lord High Commissioner were lightly touched on. The more weighty and practical work of the Assembly was dealt with in fuller detail. The scenes enacted in the historic debating chamber were vividly portrayed. According to the speaker, the floor of the house is thoroughly democratic, any member, no matter how humble or insignificant, being entitled to a hearing. The talkative gentleman who speaks merely for speaking’s sake is tolerated, certainly; but is usually subjected to merciless criticism, whilst the ordinary member, speaking perhaps with diffidence and fear, is, provided he had a message to deliver, ensured a patient and friendly hearing. The various schemes and agencies of the Church were described in some detail. Guilds and other Societies in connection with the Church were reported to be in a fair condition. At the same time, there was abundant room for improvement. The home mission work was dealt with in a sympathetic manner. Intimately associated with his subject was the question of social reform. The Church of Scotland had recognised the need for engaging as a body in the solution of that important problem. In impassioned tones the speaker declared that, a Church which had so many organisations doing good work, a Church which was so prominent in the fight for the social and moral progress of the people, a Church which stood for what was best and highest in life, could not be truthfully described as a decadent Church. Mr Johnstone then treated at some length the proposals in the air at present for a closer connection between the Presbyterian Churches in Scotland. While clearly emphasising the fact that a better mutual understanding was desirable, he said that the difficulties in the way were considerable. While, personally, he was in favour of more co-operation between the various bodies, he felt there were certain principles he must adhere to. Those who believed in the necessity of a real national Church could not surrender that idea; because to them it meant something more than a mere belief – it was an essential truth. The difficulty, therefore, was to reconcile the two conflicting schools of opinion on that great question, and as that had never been done as yet, the greatest hindrance to permanent unions still remained. This



*important, though rather delicate subject, was treated in an able and sympathetic manner.”*

### **13<sup>th</sup> June 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Masonic Church Parade** – “A Masonic church parade under the auspices of Lodge St John, Falkland (No. 35) took place on Sunday afternoon. In response to the invitations issued by St John, brethren responded from Coupar o’ Fife (No. 19), Kirkcaldy (No. 72), Newburgh (No. 106), St Cyre, Auchtermuchty (No. 17), King Robert de Bruce, Ladybank (No. 304), Kirkcaldy (No. 468) and Thornton (No. 867). Assembling at the Drill Hall, the brethren marched in processional order to the Parish Church, where the Rev. A.E. Gordon, Kettle, preached an able sermon on brotherly love. The lessons were read by the minister of the parish, Brother A. Lyon Johnstone, I.P.M. Lodge St John hospitably entertained the visiting brethren.”

### **20<sup>th</sup> June 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Marriage of The Hon. F. Hanbury Tracy, Falkland** – “The Hon. Felix Hanbury Tracy, late Scots Guards, third son of Lord and Lady Sudeley, was married on Thursday last week, at Lacock Church, Wilts. to Miss Madeline Llewellan Palmer, only daughter of Mr and Mrs George Llewellan Palmer of Lackham, Lacock, Wilts. The church was beautifully decorated with white roses, and the Rev. the Hon. Alfred Hanbury Tracy, with the Rev. T.S. Wood officiated. There were two small pages and four bridesmaids in attendance upon the bride, who was led up the aisle by her father, and wore a dress of ivory satin charmeuse, arranged with Limerick lace, and a veil of the same lace. The pages wore white satin Court suits with capes slung from the shoulder and lined with silver cloth, while the bridesmaids were attired in dresses of white tulle over silk, the skirts finished with deep hems of cloth of silver, and they also wore Louis XV hats in white tulle with crowns of white roses and streamers of silver ribbon. Viscount Northland was best man, but owing to mourning in the bride’s family, because of the sad death of a brother, there was no formal reception at Lackham after the ceremony. The marriage, it need hardly be said, has awakened much interest in Falkland and district, where the bridegroom through his connection with Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart, and the active part he has taken in local cricket and other sports, to say nothing of his own agreeable manners, has made himself highly popular. He is to reside at Lathrisk House, and is expected there with his young wife this week. He is a brother of Mrs H.T. Anstruther, whose charming disposition endeared her to all she met when her husband was M.P. for the St Andrews Burghs.”

## 27<sup>th</sup> June 1908

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Golf - Markinch v Falkland** – “On Saturday at Falkland. Result: -

<b>Markinch</b>		<b>Falkland</b>	
J.M.G. Wright	0	W. Peggie	1
J.S. Allan	1	G. Robertson	0
J. Diston jnr.	½	D. Bonthron	½
J. Black	1	G. Anderson	0
J. Baldie jnr.	0	J. Cochrane	1
J. Prichard	1	J. Richardson	0
W.G. Rutherford	0	F. Henderson	1
D. Robertson	0	D. Richardson	1
J. Guthrie	0	Rev. Mr Fraser	1
J. Terras	1	A. Anderson	0
J. Ford	1	J. Peggie	0
E. Ross	1	J. Venters	0
	<b>6 ½</b>		<b>5 ½</b>

*Tea was served in the Clubhouse by Miss Anderson and the Misses Richardson.”*

## 11<sup>th</sup> July 1908

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Shooting Competition** – “The second competition for the handsome trophies presented to Freuchie and District Rifle Club by Major G.J. Lumsden, late 6<sup>th</sup> (Fifeshire) Royal Highlanders, took place on Purin Range, Falkland, on Saturday. Principal results: -

*A Class – 1 Ex-Corporal James W. Leishman, Freuchie, 93; 2 ex-Corporal J. Robertson, Freuchie, 85; 3 ex-Private George Lindsay, Kettle, 83.*

*B Class – 1 R. Boucher, Ladybank, 78; 2 A. Mitchell, Kettlehills, 68; 3 James Maxwell, Kettle, 64.*

*Ranges – A Class – 200 yards, J.W. Leishman, 33; 500 yards, R. Lindsay and A. Wilson, 31 each; 600 yards, J.W. Leishman, 30. B Class – 200 yards, T. Donaldson, 27; 500 yards, J. Maxwell, 30; 600 yards, R. Boucher, 30.”*

## 18<sup>th</sup> July 1908

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Parish Church Sale of Work** – “A very successful sale of work was held under the auspices of the Women’s Guild on Saturday. The sale was opened at two o’clock in the presence of a large audience by the Hon. Mrs F.

*Hanbury-Tracy, Lathrisk. She expressed the great pleasure it gave her to be present and thus to show her interest in the community. She hoped the sale would be most successful. Dr Jack moved a vote of thanks to Mrs Hanbury-Tracy. The stalls were well filled with many beautiful and useful articles. The stall-holders were as follows: - Guild Stall – Mrs Johnstone, Mrs Miller, Sutherland and Myles; Misses Crombie and Allan. Work and Produce Stall – Mrs and Misses Dun, Mrs Morgan, Mrs Shanks and Miss Morgan. Sweet Stall – Miss Gulland, Miss Lyell and Miss McInnes. Tea Stall – Miss Sharp, Mrs Henderson, Miss E. Williamson, Miss Sutherland and Mrs Robertson. A missionary alphabet demonstration was given during the afternoon and evening. In this the children were dressed in native costumes representing the different mission stations under the Church of Scotland. These demonstrations were greatly appreciated. At the close, the Rev. A.L. Johnstone announced that the sale realised £124 0s 7d.”*

## **25<sup>th</sup> July 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Golf – Falkland v Glenfarg** – Played at Falkland on Saturday. Scores: -

<b>Falkland</b>		<b>Glenfarg</b>	
W. Peggie	1	W. Burnie	0
D. Bonthron	1	Rev. J.W. Jack	0
G. Robertson	0	Duncan Wilson	1
J. Cochrane	0	C. McKarsie	1
Rev. C. Fraser	0	W. Deas jnr.	1
D.A. Richardson	1	W. Deas	0
	<b>3</b>		<b>3</b>

## **1<sup>st</sup> August 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Golf** – “In the annual competition for the Morrison Medal (scratch), the winner was Mr Walter Peggie with a score of 85. The first competition for the rose bowl presented to the Club by Miss Gulland, the captain, was won by Miss Brunton with a score of 57.”

## **15<sup>th</sup> August 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **The Late Rev. John Wilson Thomson** – “The Rev. John Wilson Thomson of Lytham, Lancashire, and formerly of Allan Park, Falkland, for 31 years minister of Kinghorn, who died on 17<sup>th</sup> April last, aged 68 years, left personal estate in the United Kingdom valued at £3,846 8s 3d.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Rifle Club** – “The Freuchie and District Rifle Club on Saturday held a Club shoot over the Lomond Hill Range – seven rounds at 200, 500 and 600 yards. Results: - 1 Ex-Sergeant J. Duncan, 93; 2 ex-Corporal H. Dick, 85; 3 Corporal A. Wilson, 84; 4 ex-Corporal J. Robertson, 82; 5 William Fairbairn, 81; 6 ex-Private G. Lindsay, 78; 7 J. Milne, 75. 200 yards – Ex-Sergeant J. Duncan, 32; W. Fairbairn, 30. 500 yards – Ex-Sergeant J. Duncan, 34; ex-Sergeant A. Wallace, 31. 600 yards – Ex-Corporal J. Robertson, 29.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **A Unique Political Entertainment** – “On Thursday evening last week, an excellent entertainment was given in the Drill Hall under the auspices of the Women’s Unionist Association. An enthusiastic and highly appreciative audience was ably presided over by Lady Ninian Crichton Stuart, the president. The musical programme was sustained by the President, Mr Slack, Miss Dun, and Mrs Pierson, whose song, “Tariff Reform” proved very popular. An instructive address on “Tariff Reform as a working man’s question”, was then given by Mrs Pierson, who told of her personal experiences and urged the need of a change in our present fiscal policy. Numerous instances were given of declining industries in various parts of our country, and the consequent distress among our industrial population. Mrs Pierson begged her audience to put aside party bias, and look at this matter as a national question, and above all as a working man’s question to which our working classes must give attention and consideration for a policy which compels our men to stand idle for want of work, while we pay workmen of other countries for doing it, cannot be a policy for sensible working men to support. A little sketch was then admirably represented, entitled “John Bull at Market”. Where all acquitted themselves so well, it is difficult to give individual praise, but certainly Miss Sprot, as ‘Tariff Reform’, was excellent, also Mr Bell as ‘John Bull’, Miss Dun as ‘Free Trade’, and Miss Huntingdon as ‘France’. ‘John Bull’ was discovered at market, with his hands tied, and accompanied by ‘Free Trade’. After some discussion on the blessings or otherwise enjoyed while ‘Free Trade’ has managed ‘John Bull’s’ estate, ‘Free Trade’ sits beside ‘John Bull’, as ‘America’ enters to trade with him, followed by ‘Germany’, ‘France’, ‘Russia’, ‘Italy’ and ‘Switzerland’, who trade with each other, and then with ‘John Bull’. ‘Germany’, too, dumps down his goods at ‘John Bull’s’ feet, whether they are required or not; the others follow suit, and all bully ‘John Bull’ who is unable to defend himself because his hands are tied. ‘Free Trade’ takes no notice of his cries or struggles, while he is so unfairly treated. In response to ‘John Bull’s’ cry for help, however, ‘Tariff Reform’ enters, followed by ‘Prosperity’, ‘Employment’, and ‘Happiness’, and severs the bonds which have held ‘John Bull’ so long. He is then enabled to clasp hands with his children, the colonies, who group around him, (with ‘Tariff Reform’ and the representatives of the Women’s Association), each carrying the British Flag, and with the foreign countries in the background, form a final tableau singing “Rule Britannia”. Lady Ninian Crichton

*Stuart, from the chair, in a charming little speech, proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs Pierson for her excellent address, also to those who had contributed to the success of that evening's entertainment. This was heartily accorded by every one present, and Mrs Pierson suitably responded, saying that she knew that everyone who had taken part in arranging and carrying out the programme was only too happy to do what had to be done. Colonel Sprot, who was present with Mrs and the Misses Sprot, proposed a vote of thanks to Lady Ninian Cricjton Stuart for so kindly presiding, and in a few well-chosen words, showed how much the Association owed Lady Ninian for her kind assistance, not only in presiding, but in singing her beautiful songs. Mr Gavin, the factor, then suggested that thanks should be given to Colonel Sprot and Mrs Sprot for their attendance that evening, and hoped that Colonel Sprot would be in the future even more closely identified with Falkland and its interests, which evoked hearty applause, to which Colonel Sprot briefly responded. After singing the National Anthem, the company dispersed, highly delighted with one of the most successful gatherings ever seen in Falkland. The characters in the sketch were represented by the following: - 'John Bull', Mr F. Bell; 'Free Trade', Miss Dun; 'Tariff Reform', Miss Sprot; 'America', Mrs Pierson; 'Germany', Mr G. Dun; 'France', Miss D. Huntingdon; 'Italy', Miss Amos; 'Russia', Dr Jack; 'Switzerland', Miss Isobel Dun; 'Canada', Miss R. Sprot; 'India', Miss Lyell; 'Africa', Mr Morgan; 'Australia', Miss Chisholm; 'Prosperity', Miss M. Chisholm; 'Employment', Master A. Gavin; 'Happiness', Miss D. Dun; 'Representative of the Women's Association', Miss Dun."*

## **22<sup>nd</sup> August 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Presentation** – “Deputations from the employees at Pleasance and St. John's Works waited upon Mr John W. Jackson, Lomondvale, and presented him with a handsome hall clock and silver lamp on the occasion of his marriage. Both presents bore suitable inscriptions.”

## **29<sup>th</sup> August 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Rifle Club** – “A Rifle Club shoot was held on Lomond Hill Range, near Newton of Falkland, on Saturday. Principal results: - A Class – Ex-Corporal Harry Dick, 62; ex-Corporal J.W. Leishman, 57; Wm. Fairbairn, 56; ex-Drummer Archie Henderson, 56; ex-Sergeant J. Duncan, 56; ex-Sergeant A. Wallace, 53; ex-Corporal J. Robertson, 52; J. Milne, 47. B Class – Thos. Donaldson, 40; J. Maxwell, 39; J. Donaldson, 33. 200 Yards – Ex-Sergeant J. Duncan, 32; ex-Corporal H. Dick, 32. 500 Yards – Ex-Corporal H. Dick, 30; W. Fairbairn, 30.”

## **12<sup>th</sup> September 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Cricket** – “Cupar 2<sup>nd</sup> XI paid a visit to Falkland on Saturday last week. The homesters batted first and ran up a total of 71 runs, R.B. Bryce and W. Middleton being highest scores with 19 and 13 respectively. Cupar replied with 27, R. Walker being highest scorer with 5. Bowling for the homesters, Grieve had 4 wickets for 7 and H.D. Michie had 5 for 12.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Glasgow Publican Mysteriously Drowned** – “The dead body of a man was found about five o’clock, in the pond at the rear of the entrance lodge to Falkland House, on Thursday evening last week. The discovery was made by some masons who were going home from work. The body was identified as that of John Drake, 62 years of age, a publican, residing at Hill Street, Garnet Hill, Glasgow. Drake, who had just arrived at Falkland from Glasgow on the Thursday morning for the purpose of taking home his wife, an invalid, who had been living in Falkland for the past month, was last seen about three o’clock in the vicinity of the pond.”

## **26<sup>th</sup> September 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Trophy Shoot** – “The annual competitions in connection with the Freuchie and District Rifle Club for the Lumsden Cup and other trophies took place on the Purin Range, near Falkland. Principal results: -

*Ex-Volunteers’ Cup*, presented by Major Jas. Cusin, and the National Rifle Association’s Donegall Medal; seven rounds at 200 and 500 yards – 1 Corporal Harry Dick, 64; 2 Sergeant Jas. Duncan, 59; 3 Corporal John Robertson, 58; 4 Sergeant A. Wallace, 58; 5 Private Geo. Lindsay, 57; 6 Corporal Jas. W. Leishman, 57; 7 Archie Henderson, 51.

*Lumsden Cup*, presented by Miss Lumsden of Edenvally, Freuchie, for second class shots – 1 Thomas Donaldson, 56; 2 G. Maxwell, 51.

*Major Lumsden’s Rifle for A Class*; two highest of three competitions at 200, 500, and 600 yards – 1 Corporal J.W. Leishman, 91 and 93 – 184; 2 Corporal H. Dick, 88 and 80 – 168; 3 Corporal J. Robertson, 79 and 85 – 164; 4 Private G. Lindsay, 80 and 83 – 163; 5 Sergeant A. Wallace, 77 and 83 – 160.

*Ranges* – 200 yards – Corporal J. Robertson, 31; Corporal H. Dick, 31. 500 yards – Corporal H. Dick, 33; Private George Lindsay, 31.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Marriage – Parker – Reekie** – “At London on September 12, Henry J. Fleming Parker of London, to Christina Margaret Reekie of Falkland.”

### **3<sup>rd</sup> October 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Old Age Pensions** – “The total number of schedules already dealt with amounts to between 60 and 70, and the latter number is expected to be reached.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **The Falkland Light Railway** – “It will be seen from our advertisement columns that a special meeting of the proprietors of this railway is called for Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> inst., to consider a Provisional Order to confirm agreements between the North British Railway Company and the Falkland Light Railway Company, to raise further money for the purposes of the undertaking.”

**Advertisement Column Notice:** “NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a SPECIAL MEETING of the FALKLAND LIGHT RAILWAY COMPANY will be held in the OFFICE of the COMPANY at FALKLAND on SATURDAY, the 17<sup>th</sup> day of October 1908, at Three o’clock Afternoon, for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, approving of the following Provisional Order, for which application has been made to the Secretary for Scotland under “The Private Legislation Procedure (Scotland) Act, 1899”, which Provisional Order will be submitted to the Proprietors of the Company at such Meeting, namely: -

“A Provisional Order to confer further powers upon the North British Railway Company in relation to their undertaking; to provide for the amalgamation of the West Highland Railway Company with the North British Railway Company; to confirm and give effect to agreements between the North British Railway Company and the Invergarry and Fort Augustus Railway Company and the Falkland Light Railway Company respectively; to empower the Forth Bridge Railway Company to raise further money for the purposes of their undertaking; to raise additional Capital; and for other purposes.”

CHAS. JACKSON, Chairman. GEORGE ROBERTSON, Secretary.

Falkland Light Railway Company’s Office, Falkland, 30<sup>th</sup> September 1908.

### **10<sup>th</sup> October 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Water** – “The water assessment has been fixed at 8d – 2d of an increase as compared with last year.”

### **24<sup>th</sup> October 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Town Council Assessments** – “The burgh assessments for the current year are as follows: - Lunacy, etc. – owners 1d, occupiers 1d (being same as last year); roads and bridges – owners 5d, occupiers 5d (2d up); public health – owners 1d, occupiers 1d (1/2d up); water – owners 2d, occupiers 2d (1d down); sewerage – owners 7d, occupiers 7d (1d down); burgh general – occupiers only 1s 1d (1d up); total – owners 1s 4d, occupiers 2s 5d (being 1/2d up over all for owners and 11/2d for occupiers compared with last year).”

### **31<sup>st</sup> October 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Town Council Contest** – “Nine nominations have been made for the five vacancies on the Town Council, viz., Messrs Michael Reekie, William Horne, John W. Jackson, David Chisholm, Andrew Lister, Christopher C. Brunton, Robert Strachan, William A. Mason, and James Peggie. The first five are the retiring members.”

### **7<sup>th</sup> November 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Town Council Election** – “Nine candidates for five vacancies: - Mr Brunton, 101; Mr Jackson, 86; Mr Mason, 86; Mr Lister, 84; Mr Reekie, 73. Unsuccessful – Mr Horne, 71; Mr Chisholm, 71; Mr Peggie, 44; Mr Strachan, 29. Messrs Brunton and Mason are Councillors for the first time.”

### **5<sup>th</sup> December 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Lecture** – “An interesting lecture on “The Fungus Pests of the Farm and Garden” was delivered in the Drill Hall on Friday evening by Dr John H. Wilson, Lecturer in Agriculture in St Andrews University. Mr Richardson, the Schoolhouse, presided.”

### **19<sup>th</sup> December 1908**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Birth – Bryce** – “At Royal Terrace, Falkland, on 12<sup>th</sup> inst., the wife of R.B. Bryce, of a daughter.”