

# Falkland 1900-2000

## Year 1916

### (As researched by Jack Burgess)

#### 1st January 1916

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Mr Francis Henderson** – “Mr Francis Henderson, formerly of the British Linen Bank here, returned to Falkland last week from Bahia Blanca, where he was in the service of the Anglo-South American Bank, his purpose being to enlist in one of the Scottish Regiments.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Parish Church Christmas Service** – “The usual Christmas service was held in the Parish Church on Sunday evening, when the choir, under the leadership of Mr George Spence, rendered a selection of carols. Miss Agnes Forsyth also contributed a solo, while Mr William Dowie presided at the organ. An appropriate address was delivered by the Rev. J.K. Russell.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Christmas Treat to School Children** – “The annual treat to the children attending the Public School given by Lady Ninian Crichton-Stuart took place in the Drill Hall on Thursday evening last week. The children, to the number of about 200, sat down to a sumptuous tea served at nicely decorated tables. After tea, they amused themselves and entertained those whose privilege it was to listen to them with a programme of music under the direction of Mr Robb, headmaster, Mr Macnab, assistant master, Mrs Robertson, infant mistress, and Miss Falconer. Miss Margaret Henderson tastefully played the accompaniments. Mr D. Bonthron, Chairman of the School Board, made suitable reference to the sad circumstances under which they met this season owing to the lamented death in action of Lieut-Colonel Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart. The Chairman called for cheers for Lady Ninian for her great kindness, which were heartily given.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Christmas Services** – “On Christmas Eve, midnight Mass was celebrated in the Palace Chapel by the Rev. John Joyce. The church was beautifully decorated with evergreens and white chrysanthemums. Mass having been celebrated, an eloquent sermon appropriate to the occasion was preached by Father Joyce. The joyous feelings which Christmas inspired in former years, was, on this occasion, tempered with much that is sad. The death of Lieut-Colonel Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart (whose vacant seat was a sad reminder of happier times), and of other members of the congregation who since last Christmas have made the great sacrifice, could not fail to tinge the feelings of the worshippers with sadness. Suitable reference was made by Father Joyce to those heroes who, fighting valiantly, had fallen on the stricken field, and who were wont to worship within these walls. The choir, under the leadership of Miss Durkin, Edinburgh, provided excellent music, and the organ accompaniments were played by Miss Margaret Gavin. The decorations were tastefully carried out by Mr P. Hunt, head gardener at the Palace.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Birth – Shanks** – “At Falkland Wood, Falkland, on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, to Mr and Mrs Shanks, a son.”

## **15<sup>th</sup> January 1916**

Intimation from *The Fife News*: **B.O.A.F.G.** – “B.O.A.F.G. Approved Society, No. J.C. 181 – Lomond Oak Lodge, No. 387. The Annual General Meeting of the above Lodge will be held in the Town Hall, Falkland, on Thursday evening, 20<sup>th</sup> January 1916. Time, 7.30 p.m. Thos. D. Hopkins, Secy.”

Article from *The Fife News*: **Our Tobacco Fund – Roll of Honour Collecting Books** – “By arrangement with Messrs Martins, Ltd., London, we are now able to offer an additional method for supplying our troops with tobacco. From every factory, workshop, and office in our midst, men have gone forth to serve their country, and their names are inscribed on the firm’s Roll of Honour. Too often the good intentions of those left at home to send the boys something to cheer them are forgotten, and it is to make this duty more easily accomplished that we have opened our Roll of Honour scheme.

All You Have To Do: -

Get the manager of your firm to write to us for a Roll of Honour collecting book. This we shall send by return, and then he will send us a list of the names on your Roll of Honour. Every week, you need only hand your subscription to the official collector,

who will forward the total sum to us, together with the numbers of the parcels you wish to send. The usual reply post-cards will be enclosed with the tobacco, and notes of deep gratitude will come back to you for your thoughtful kindness. The new plan in no way interferes with the other methods by which we are sending smokes to soldiers, and we hope that all who have subscribed so generously to our 6d parcels, which are sent regularly to "Fife's Own", will continue to help us in this work that has already given such satisfaction.

*Subscribers To Our Fund:* Below we give the list of those who have not forgotten the boys in the trenches: -

*Mr John Skinner, manager, Pleasance Works, Falkland; Mr John W. Jackson, Pleasance Works, Falkland; Mr Charles Jackson, Pleasance Works, Falkland; Mr Joseph Skinner, Pleasance Works, Falkland; Nurse Fraser, Falkland; Mr A. Anderson, Allan Park, Falkland; Mr John Collins, New Road, Falkland; Mr John Reekie, Horsemarket, Falkland; Mr Tom Schofield, Pleasance, Falkland; Mr James Rourke, Cemetery Lodge, Falkland; Mr David Campbell, East Port, Falkland; Miss T. Hay, Well Brae, Falkland; Miss Ida Kilgour, Victoria Place, Falkland; Miss M. Garland, Balmbrae, Falkland; Miss M. Goodger, Hill Street, Falkland; Miss Katie Collins, New Road, Falkland; Miss Ann Forsyth, Brunton House, Falkland; Miss Nancy Aires, South Street West, Falkland; Miss Lizzie Radford, South Street, Falkland; Miss Mary Birrell, Cross Wynd, Falkland; Miss G. Smith, Balmbrae, Falkland; Miss Nellie Kay, South Street, Falkland; Miss Nellie Scott, West Port, Falkland; Miss Kate Reekie, Balmbrae, Falkland; Miss Agnes Reekie, Balmbrae, Falkland; Miss Jeannie Steedman, Balmbrae, Falkland; Miss Helen Lambert, High Street, Falkland; Miss Ruby Dyason, Balmbrae, Falkland; Miss Euph. Grieve, Royal Terrace, Falkland; Miss Ethel Terry, Well Brae, Falkland; Miss Kate Lawson, South Street, Falkland; Miss Jeannie Robertson, Well Brae, Falkland; Miss Helen Paterson, Back Wynd, Falkland; Mr James Hay, South Street, Falkland; Mr Wm. Graham, Pleasance, Falkland; Miss Bella Peggie, Pleasance, Falkland; Miss Jean Birrell, Cross Wynd, Falkland; Miss Kate Birrell, Cross Wynd, Falkland; Miss Betsy Skinner, Pleasance, Falkland; Miss Madge Munro, Victoria Terrace, Falkland; Miss May Page, High Street West, Falkland; Miss Bella Dryburgh, Summer Field, Falkland; Miss Janet Braid, Well Brae, Falkland; Miss Mary Ann Robertson, West Port, Falkland; **Miss Jessie Robertson, Cross Wynd, Falkland;** Miss Mary Myles, Pleasance, Falkland; Miss Esther Brown, Back Dykes, Falkland; Miss Annie Mason, South Street, Falkland; Miss Mary Craig, South Street East, Falkland; Miss Eliza Smith, New Road, Falkland; Miss Bella Forgan, Pleasance, Falkland; Miss Kate Fernie, Royal Terrace, Falkland; Miss Eva Tidman, West Port, Falkland; Miss Jessie Anderson, South Street, Falkland; Miss Agnes Skinner, Pleasance, Falkland; Mrs McLaughlan, Horsemarket, Falkland; Miss Jessie Traill, Pleasance, Falkland; Miss Lizzie Ross, West High Street, Falkland; Miss Annie Peggie, Pleasance, Falkland; Miss Janet Fernie, Balmbrae, Falkland; Miss Mary Oswald, Bellisle, Falkland; Miss Jean Finlay, Lomond View, Falkland; Miss Mary Anderson, Balmbrae, Falkland; Miss*

*Isa Fernie, High Street, Falkland; Miss Mary Crombie, South Street, Falkland; Miss Jean Wallace, The Terrace, Falkland; Miss Agnes Edmeston, Bruce Buildings, Falkland; Miss Charlotte Dalton, South Street, Falkland; Miss Belle Peggie, South Street West, Falkland; Miss Bella Graham, Pleasance, Falkland; Miss Maggie Finlay, Lomond View, Falkland; Mr Wm. Anderson, South Street, Falkland; Mr Wm. Gullon, Pleasance, Falkland; Mr John Lewis, West Port, Falkland; Mr Henry Blair, Masonic Tavern, Falkland; Mrs Fernie, Sugar Acre Cottage, Falkland; Miss May Campbell, East End, Falkland; Mr Frank Mather, Barracks Buildings, Falkland; Mr James Skinner, Back Wynd, Falkland; Mr John Traill, Pleasance, Falkland; Mr Alex. Adam, East End, Newton of Falkland; Mr Alex. Skinner, Well Brae, Falkland; Mr Hopkins, Oak Bank, Falkland; Mr George Hobbs, West Port, Falkland; Mr George Myles, Pleasance, Falkland; Mr Henry Robertson, Well Brae, Falkland.”*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Whist Drive** – “A very successful ladies’ whist drive was held on Wednesday afternoon, at Lomondvale, the residence of Provost Jackson, when the sum of £5 was raised, in aid of voluntary war work (Cupar branch), which sum will be handed over in due course.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **The Derby Scheme** – “The following are the details of the Derby recruiting scheme in the parish: - Attested – Married, 10; single, 17; single, enlisted, 3; single, to navy, 1 – total 31. Eligibles – Married, 29; single, 37 – total 66. Rejected – Married, 7; single, 5 – total 12. These figures do not include starred men.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **The Late Major Slacke Mentioned in Dispatches** – “The late Major Roger Cecil Slacke, who has been mentioned in dispatches, was, previous to the outbreak of war, acting as Parliamentary and Private Secretary to the late Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Ninian Crichton Stuart, M.P., of Falkland. Being on the reserve of officers, Major Slacke was recalled to his old regiment, The Buffs, but he went to France with a draft of the Queen’s Own. He was killed in May last while leading his men near Festubert. A cousin of Lady Ninian Crichton Stuart, the Major was well known and greatly respected in Falkland and district.”

## **22<sup>nd</sup> January 1916**

Intimation in *The Fife News*: **Falkland Gas Light Company** – “In terms of Contract of Co-Partnery, I hereby give notice that a meeting of the Partners of above Company will be held within Bank Buildings, Falkland, on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 1916, at two o’clock afternoon, when a Resolution passed at a General Meeting of Partners

*held on 27<sup>th</sup> December last, that the Company be dissolved, and its whole property, works, and undertaking sold and realised and converted into cash, and its debts and obligations discharged and the residue, if any, divided among the Partners in terms of the Contract of Co-Partnery and the Company wound up, will be submitted for confirmation. Thereafter, the meeting will proceed to appoint a Liquidator, with full power to take all necessary steps to carry out the foregoing Resolution, and to wind up the Company. John Brown, Secretary, Falkland, 19<sup>th</sup> January 1916."*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **On Furlough** – *"Private William Grieve, of the 1/7<sup>th</sup> Black Watch has just been home from France on six days' furlough. Pte. Grieve is the youngest son of Mr Alex. Grieve, Royal Terrace, Falkland, and for some time he acted as servant to Captain Donaldson and the late Lieut. Westwood."*

## **29<sup>th</sup> January 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **On Furlough** – *"Private William Trail, of the 44<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance, R.A.M.C., is at home this week on eight days' leave from the western theatre of war"*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **B.O.A.F.G.** – *"The annual meeting of the Lomond Oak Lodge was held in the Town Hall on Thursday of last week, when satisfactory reports were submitted by the Secretary and Treasurer. The office-bearers for the ensuing year were appointed."*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Y.M.C.A.** – *"Messrs Thomas Farmer and Peter M. Henderson, of the Markinch Association, visited Falkland on Sunday morning. Mr Farmer read a paper on "Strength", which was well received, and Mr Henderson made a few remarks on the present great work being carried on by the Y.M.C.A. among the troops."*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Alleged Contravention of Liquor Control Order** – *"At Cupar Sheriff Court on Tuesday, Andrew Duncan, labourer, Royal Terrace, Falkland, pleaded not guilty to having on 8<sup>th</sup> January, between 8 and 9 p.m., in the Bruce Arms Hotel, Falkland, occupied by Wm. Edward Strudley, hotel-keeper, induced the latter to supply him with a pint of whisky for consumption off the premises. A similar plea was tendered on behalf of Strudley to a charge of having supplied the whisky, and proof in each case was fixed for 8<sup>th</sup> February."*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Lecture** – “A lecture entitled “*With Cycle and Camera through Central Africa*”, was delivered in the Drill Hall on Wednesday evening by the Rev. J.H. Morrison. This is the first opportunity Mr Morrison has had of giving his lecture in Falkland since his return from Livingstonia in September 1914. The limelight illustrations were from photographs taken by the lecturer in the course of his journey, and in conjunction with an extremely interesting narrative proved very instructive and enjoyable. The Rev. J.K. Russell occupied the chair, and the lantern was operated by Mr Robert Miller. On the call of the Chairman, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Morrison. A collection, taken on behalf of the Livingstonia Mission, realised almost £2.”

### **5<sup>th</sup> February 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Marquis of Bute as Private** – “According to a writer, the Marquis of Bute, eldest brother of the late Lord Ninian Crichton Stuart, is now a private in the Officers’ Training Corps, and may be seen training daily in the Inner Temple Gardens. This is not the first time he has donned the uniform, having been honorary Colonel of the 4<sup>th</sup> Highland Brigade, and also President of the Bute Territorial Association.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **New Store Manager** – “In consequence of Mr A.S. Grant, manager of the Falkland Equitable Co-operative Society (Ltd.), being called up under Lord Derby’s scheme, a meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday evening for the purpose of appointing a successor. Four names, Messrs R.C. Drysdale, Falkland; Robert Nellies, Cowdenbeath; J.C. Speed, St Andrews; and – Steele, South Queensferry, were submitted to the meeting, and on a vote being taken, Mr Nellies was appointed to the vacancy.”



### **Falkland Equitable Co-operative Society (Limited)**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Killed in France** – “On Friday of last week, intimation was received by Mr and Mrs Burgon, East Port, Falkland, that their son, Private William Burgon, Public Schools Battalion, attached to the 19<sup>th</sup> Royal Fusiliers, had been killed on the previous Monday as the result of a shell bursting in his dug-out. Private Burgon enlisted in April 1915 and prior to entering the army was a pupil at the Bell-Baxter School, Cupar, where he had a very successful career. He had taken his leaving certificate, and was about to proceed to the University, where he intended studying for the ministry. Cupar Town Council bursary was being reserved for him on his return from service. He was a young man of outstanding ability, and his parents were looking forward to his entering upon a bright professional career. Fitting reference was made to the sad event at the Sunday morning meeting of the Y.M.C.A., of which Private Burgon was a member, and a letter of condolence was sent to his parents in the name of the Association. The following is the tribute paid by the Rev. J.H. Morrison at the U.F. Church on Sunday: -

“It is fitting that we should today pay a tribute to the memory of one of our number who has fallen in battle. I need not give particulars of his life, which are perfectly well known to you all. Suffice it to say that he has left a most pleasant and Christian memory. Nor need I dwell on the exceeding pathos of this event, a young life cut off and many bright hopes shattered, for it was his intention to study for the ministry. His death is a personal grief to us all and a heavy sorrow to many. It makes us realise more vividly the horror of this war, and will lead us to pray with more intensity that wars may cease and the Kingdom of God come. But this is no ordinary

*bereavement. Here is a man who has laid down his life for his country, one of our number who has died for the rest of us. Every impulse, therefore, of patriotism and religion summons us to face this event with courage and hope. It is right that the voice of thanksgiving and of praise should be heard. Our friend devoted himself to the service of his country, and to that high service his parents freely gave him up. To-day amid their sorrow they do not regret, nor would they withdraw the gift. To all such we owe a debt we can never repay. These are the benefactors and saviours of our country. Among the Protestant exiles driven from France two hundred years ago mention is made of some of the name of Burgon. It appears, therefore, that our friend returned to the land from which his forefathers were driven out for Christ's sake, and died in its defence. Thus are the ages linked, and we see running through them a divine purpose, fulfilling itself through persecution and war, and destined yet to reach its consummation. And for these young lives laid down, we cherish the faith that they are not lost but are put to the noblest use by Him who turns darkness to day, and brings good out of evil."*

### **11<sup>th</sup> February 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News Almanac: **Killed in Action*** – “News received at Prestonhall Farm, by his wife, of death in action of Sergeant Findlay, V.C., Falkland.”

### **12<sup>th</sup> February 1916**

Intimation in *The Fife News: **Falkland Gas Light Company (In Liquidation)*** – “There will be exposed to sale, by Public Roup, within Bank Buildings, Falkland, Fife, on Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 1916, at 2 o'clock p.m. The Gas undertaking carried on by the Falkland Gas Light Company, with Gas Works, Manager's House, and whole Plant, Meters, Tools etc. Feu duty, 11s 3d. Upset Price, £300. For further particulars apply to Alexander Anderson, solicitor, Falkland, Liquidator, with whom are the Titles and Articles.”

Extract from *The Fife News: **Contravention of Liquor Order*** – “At Cupar Sheriff Court on Tuesday, Andrew Duncan, labourer, Royal Terrace, Falkland, was charged with having on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> January, between 8 and 9 p.m., in the Bruce Arms Hotel, Falkland, occupied by William Edward Strudley, induced Strudley to supply him with a pint of whisky. Strudley was also charged with having supplied Duncan with the whisky. Both pleaded guilty. Mr T.W. Davidson, Cupar, on behalf of the accused, said Strudley had been only a short time in the licensed trade. He had not realised the gravity of the offence when he handed over the whisky to Duncan, who



took it away. Sheriff Armour-Hannay sentenced Duncan to a fine of 10s, or five days, and Strudley to £1, or 10 days.”

### **19<sup>th</sup> February 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Remarkable Escape of the Marchioness of Bute** – “The wildest storm of the winter swept England on Wednesday night, and considerable damage was wrought on land and water. In London the Marchioness of Bute, sister-in-law of Lady Ninian Crichton-Stuart, House of Falkland, had a remarkable escape. Having been on a visit to her doctor in Harley Street, she had just left the doctor’s residence to enter her car when a number of chimneys on a house close-by were swayed by the wind and toppled over into the street where they fell on the top of the car. The roof of the car was completely destroyed, but neither her Ladyship, nor the chauffeur was hit.”

### **26<sup>th</sup> February 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **The Marquis of Bute** – “The Marquis of Bute – now Private John Crichton-Stuart, of the Inns of Court O.T.S. – is “shaping jolly well”, so his sergeant-major declares, in the drills which he has been going through every morning and afternoon at Gray’s Inn, and looks like making as fine a soldier as his younger brother, Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart, M.P., who was killed last October. At present the Marquis’s work consists of squad-drills, and before long he will go to Berkhamstead for a further course of training prior to taking his commission - *London Opinion*.”

### **4<sup>th</sup> March 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Home Farm Let** – “Westfield Farm, which was the late Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart’s Home Farm, has been let to Mr W.H. Dykes, Drumdreel, Strathmiglo. The farm extends to 1,000 acres.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Sunday School Examination** – “The results of the U.F. Church Sunday School examination held in January last have now been declared, and out of the seventeen candidates who entered, thirteen been awarded certificates. In the senior division, Isobel Morrison, Chrissy Peggie and M. Pryde have obtained first-class certificates, while Maggie Duncan and Annie Wotherspoon have received second-class certificates; middle division – first-class certificates, Emily McLeod and Esplin Morrison; second-class certificates, Bella Todd, Lizzie

*Pryde and James Balfour; junior division – first-class certificate, Douglas Morrison; second-class certificates, Jean Morrison and William MacCartney.”*

## **18<sup>th</sup> March 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Shorthand Class** – “*This class, which has been conducted during the winter in connection with the evening continuation classes, by Mr Joseph Robison, Kinross, has now been brought to a close. Elementary certificates have been gained by the following pupils: - Thomas Drysdale, James Rourke, and David Sturrock.*”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Y.M.C.A.** – “*At the morning meeting on Sunday a very able and instructive address on certain aspects of the war was delivered by Mr A. Forrester, Lomondside. A sum of £3 9s 8d has been forwarded from the local Association to the General Treasurer of the National Council as a contribution to the War Emergency Fund.*”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Presentation** – “*At the meeting of the Women’s Guild of the Parish Church on Thursday last week, the Rev. J.K. Russell was the recipient of a handsome silver wristlet watch as a token of the respect and esteem of the members and an expression of their best wishes prior to his going on military service. The presentation was made by Mrs Sharpe, vice-President of the Guild, and Mr Russell suitably acknowledged the gift.*”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Band of Hope Recital** – “*The annual recital of the Parish Church Band of Hope was held in the United Free Church on Friday last, the lighting restrictions preventing it being held in the Parish Church. There was a large and appreciative audience to hear the children. The Rev. J.K. Russell read the story of “Wee Davie”, and the various solos and choruses were rendered in a very acceptable manner, which reflected great credit on the conductor, Mr George Spence. Mr William Dowie was an efficient accompanist. The lantern was manipulated by Mr Robert Miller and his assistant, Mr D. Sturrock. On the call of Mr Russell a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to all who had contributed to the evening’s entertainment. The meeting was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.*”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Captain Donaldson Back at the Front** – “*Captain Donaldson, 1/7<sup>th</sup> Black Watch, has returned to the firing lines. He was badly*

wounded in the severe engagement in which the 1/7<sup>th</sup> Black Watch took part on 16<sup>th</sup> June. He sustained severe injury to his right eye, and it was eventually found necessary to remove it. Despite his misfortune, Captain Donaldson was soon on duty at home, and anxious to return to his Battalion. This desire has now been gratified. Captain Donaldson, who is bank agent at Falkland, is a native of Carnbee district, and saw service in South Africa, attaining the rank of Lieutenant in the Banker's Company of the Queen's Edinburgh Volunteers. He is a member of the Town Council, School Board, and Parish Council of Falkland."

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Congregational Union** – "It was arranged some time ago on the attestation under the Derby scheme of the Rev. J.K. Russell, minister of the Parish Church, that on his being called up for service, the Rev. J.H. Morrison, of the U.F. Church, would undertake the oversight of both congregations, and the first joint service was held in the Parish Church on Sunday. In spite of the inclemency of the weather, there were good attendances at both forenoon and afternoon diets, the Rev. J.K. Russell preaching at the former, and the Rev. J.H. Morrison at the latter. The afternoon service was of the nature of a farewell to Mr Russell. Mr Morrison preached from the text, "Be ye strong, therefore, and let not your hands be slack; for your work shall be rewarded" (2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles, xv., 7), and at the close of his sermon he made reference to the fact that Mr Russell was now about to take up a different kind of service from that in which he had been engaged. He expressed the hope that circumstances would soon permit of his return to take charge of his congregation. The joint services will be held in the Parish Church at 11.15 a.m. and 2.00 p.m., under the charge of Mr Morrison, who is undertaking the additional work gratuitously as his "bit" of war service, and the various financial and other arrangements have been amicably arrived at between the respective Kirk Sessions."

## **25<sup>th</sup> March 1916**

Advert in *The Fife News*: **Falkland House for Sale or To Let** – "House of 5 rooms in excellent situation as residence for single Lady or Gentleman or for Summer Lodgings. Garden and outhouses. Rent, £25 per annum. Apply Alex. Anderson, Solicitor, Falkland."

Extract from *The Fife News*: **The Marquis of Bute** – "The Marquis of Bute is at present confined to his room in his London residence, St John's Lodge, Regent's Park, London, suffering, it is understood, from a form of measles. His Lordship recently enlisted as a private in the Inns of Court O.T.C., and was to have presided as Chairman of the Local Tribunal for the County of Bute at its meeting in Rothesay last week. Lady Bute has now gone to London to attend to his Lordship."

## **1<sup>st</sup> April 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Pulpit** – “The pulpit of the Parish Church was occupied on Sunday last by the Rev. Mr Currie of Langside, Glasgow, with whom the Rev. J.H. Morrison was exchanging pulpits in order to conduct special missionary services.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Captain Donaldson’s Return to the Front** – “Letters from members of the 1/7<sup>th</sup> Black Watch serving in France tell of the warm welcome extended to Captain James Donaldson on his return. Captain Donaldson was severely wounded on 16<sup>th</sup> June last, losing the sight of an eye. He was anxious to return to active service, however, and a few weeks ago was passed as fit, and went back to France. He was always one of the Seventh’s most popular officers, and from all ranks he received an enthusiastic greeting on his rejoining his old comrades. On his presenting himself to his original company, the welcome reached its climax; it seemed like a breath from the homeland to have their beloved Captain amongst them again, and the lads whom he had left nine months before cheered again, tossed their caps in the air, and in every possible manner demonstrated their delight at their officer’s return.”

## **8<sup>th</sup> April 1916**

Notice in *The Fife News*: **Falkland Gas Light Company** – “Notice is hereby given that at a Special General Meeting of the Partners of the Falkland Gas Light Company, Falkland, Fife, duly convened and held in terms of the Contract of Co-Partnery within Bank Buildings, Falkland, on 27<sup>th</sup> December 1915, a Resolution was passed that the Company should be dissolved and wound up; and at a subsequent Special General Meeting of the Partners of the said Company, also duly convened and held in terms of the said Contract of Co-Partnery within Bank Buildings, Falkland, on 7<sup>th</sup> February 1916, the said Resolution was duly confirmed, and it was declared that the said Company was then and as from that date dissolved, and by a further Resolution duly passed the Subscriber was appointed Liquidator of the Company. Alex Anderson, Liquidator, Bank Buildings, Falkland, 8<sup>th</sup> April 1916.

With reference to the above Notice, all persons having claims against the said Falkland Gas Light Company are required within seven days from this date to send particulars thereof to the Subscriber. Alex Anderson, Liquidator, Bank Buildings, Falkland, 8<sup>th</sup> April 1916.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Falkland Reservist Killed** – “Information has been received to the effect that Private Leo Kelly, Highland Light Infantry, has been killed in action. As a reservist, he was called up on the outbreak of hostilities, and had been first in France and latterly in Mesopotamia. He was wounded at La Basse about fourteen months ago, but recovered sufficiently to go on active service again. Previous to the commencement of the war, Private Kelly was employed as a grocer with Markinch Co-operative Society.”

Article from *The Fife News*: **Cupar and District Association for the Co-ordination of Voluntary Workers:** -

Falkland (Mrs Donaldson) – 77 mufflers, 65 pair mittens, 2 pair socks.

Falkland (Miss Robertson) – 214 mufflers, 128 pair mittens, 73 pair socks.

Falkland Parish – 34 mufflers, 38 pairs mittens.”

## **15<sup>th</sup> April 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Patriotic Concert** – “In order to raise funds for providing comforts to the local men serving with the colours, a very successful concert was organised by a Committee composed of members of the combined Established and U.F. Church choirs and others. The concert was held in the Drill Hall on Saturday last at eight o'clock, and in the absence of Provost Jackson, through illness, the Rev. J.H. Morrison presided over a large audience. The programme was sustained wholly by the members of Committee with the assistance of Mr George Spence and Messrs George Anderson and William Dowie as accompanists, as follows: - Soloists – Misses Jessie Anderson, Agnes Forsyth, Jeanie Smith, and Jessie Traill; duets by Misses M. & J. Finlay, Isa Peggie and Mary Oswald, and Agnes Edmeston and Nellie Forsyth. Miss E.M. Piller contributed a pianoforte selection and a recitation. A special feature of the entertainment was a sketch taken part in by Misses Jessie Anderson, Maggie Finlay and Maud Piller. On the call of the Chairman a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the performers and other members of Committee for the excellent entertainment. The proceedings were brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem. The satisfactory sum of £13 2s 10d was realised.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Death of Ex-Bailie Lawrie** – “The inhabitants of the burgh learned with surprise and regret that Mr William Lawrie, plumber, died at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, on Saturday. He had not been in the best of health for some time, but was able to attend to his business, and when spending the Spring

holiday in Edinburgh with his son, he took the opportunity of consulting a specialist at the Royal Infirmary. He entered the Institution as a patient on Monday the 3<sup>rd</sup> inst., after experiencing the Sunday night's Zeppelin raid, but instead of making progress, he lost ground and passed away on Saturday. He had been in business in Falkland for the long period of 37 years, and was a popular member of the community. He was a member of the Town Council for eight years to 1905, and for the last two he acted as a Bailie under the late Provost Miller. The deceased took a keen interest in horticulture and ornithology, and was Secretary of Falkland Horticultural Society and Falkland Ornithological Society for a number of years as well as a successful exhibitor. He was also an enthusiastic curler and a prominent member of St John's Lodge of Free Masons. Deceased leaves a widow and three sons and a daughter to mourn his loss. The funeral, which took place on Thursday, was largely attended, and a Masonic service was held at the grave."

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Death of an Old Residenter – Newton of Falkland** - "After an illness of less than a week, the death occurred on Thursday last week of Mr James Duncan, one of the oldest inhabitants of the village. He was in Falkland on the previous Saturday, but complained that he was not feeling well after his return home, and he gradually became worse until the end came on the Thursday morning. He followed the occupation of a gardener, but had been retired for a number of years. He was a devoted member of the United Free Church, of which he was an elder. Mr Duncan is survived by two sons and five daughters."

## **22<sup>nd</sup> April 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Eggs for the Wounded Soldiers** – "A very successful egg collection organised by the teachers of the Public School as resulted in over 37 dozen eggs being sent off this week."

Extract from *The Fife News* – **Death – Storrar** – "At High Street West, Falkland, on the 16<sup>th</sup> April, Janet Storrar, aged 92."

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Death of Nonagenarian** – "By the death of Miss Janet Storrar, High Street West, the burgh has lost its oldest inhabitant. For the best part of the last year she had been confined to bed, but previously Miss Storrar was able to be about and take her share of household duties."

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Home from the Front** – "Sergt. S.S. Sutherland of the Royal Scots and Sergt. John Venters of the Black Watch arrived home from the front

*last week. The former has proceeded to Oxford for training, with a view to receiving a commission, and the latter has meantime obtained his discharge, his period of service in the Territorials having expired."*

## **29<sup>th</sup> April 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Bingo Pictures** – *"Bingo Pictures" paid a visit to the town on Friday.*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Eggs** – *"A further contribution of over 46 dozen eggs has been sent off from the school this week for the benefit of the wounded soldiers in hospital."*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Gifts for the Soldiers** – *"The proceeds of the recent concert for supplying comforts for the local soldiers have been utilised in sending parcels to those serving abroad, and postal orders to those in training at home or on home defence."*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Change of Bank Hours** – *"Intimation has been given to the customers of the bank that the hours of business will now be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. instead of from 10 a.m. to 3.30 p.m., as formerly, with the exception of Thursday afternoon, when the bank will close at one o'clock. The branch will be open on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, as usual."*

## **6<sup>th</sup> May 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Lady Ninian Crichton-Stuart** – *"Lady Ninian Crichton-Stuart arrived on Wednesday at Falkland House, where she is to spend the summer months."*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **On Furlough** – *"Private James Birrell, Motor Transport, A.S.C., is at present home from the front on furlough."*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Prize Draw** – “A prize drawing in aid of the funds of the local Red Cross Work Party resulted in Miss M. Ogilvie winning an umbrella, while Mr William Robb, Schoolhouse, was fortunate in obtaining a model ship.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Y.M.C.A.** – “At the morning meeting of Sunday last, Mr Andrew Forrester, Lomondside, gave an excellent address on “Love in its relation to war and punishment.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Flag Day** – “In connection with the Flag Day organised from Freuchie on behalf of the Scottish Women’s Hospital Fund, the sum of £3 16s 3d was collected on Saturday afternoon.”

### **13<sup>th</sup> May 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Communion** – “The half-yearly communion was celebrated on Sunday last by the united congregations in the Parish Church. The forenoon service was conducted by the Rev. J.H. Morrison, and the Rev. J.K. Russell officiated at a small afternoon service for the benefit of those unable to attend in the morning. Mr Morrison preached at the thanksgiving service in the evening, while Mr Russell performed a similar duty in Freuchie Parish Church. The usual preparatory service was held in the U.F. Church on Friday evening, when the pulpit was occupied by Mr Russell.”

### **20<sup>th</sup> May 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Concert** – “To provide funds for sending comforts to the local soldiers, a very successful concert was held in the Drill Hall on Saturday last, when Provost Jackson presided over a large audience. The programme was of a very varied nature, and the entertainment was very much enjoyed. The vocal part consisted of solos by Misses A. Forsyth, M. Oswald and M. Reid and Mr John Drysdale; and patriotic choruses by the members of the glee party, under the leadership of Mr George Spence. Mr Drysdale also contributed a recitation, “The Broken Bowl”. The special features of the evening were the step dancing by Miss Barbara Michie, Leslie, and the classical dance by a troupe from Leslie under the direction of Mrs Spence, St Michael’s, Miss Morgan acting as accompanist. Mrs Spence also gave a novel exhibition of paper folding. In addition to the above, pianoforte selections were given by Miss Morgan and Mr John Venters, the latter also being accompanist to the singers. The audience had the benefit of the latest records provided by Mr William Gould’s gramophone. At the close the Chairman



*intimated that the substantial sum of £21 3s 8d had been drawn, and he asked that a very hearty vote of thanks be accorded to those who had contributed to the programme, and this was worthily responded to. The Provost was thanked for his conduct in the chair on the call of ex-Bailie Lister. The success of the concert was largely due to the efforts of Mr William Dowie and the young ladies of the glee party.”*

### **27<sup>th</sup> May 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Flag Day** – “The flag day held on Saturday last on behalf of the funds of the Y.M.C.A. resulted in realising the sum of £10 1s 6d, which has duly been forwarded to the treasurers.”

### **3<sup>rd</sup> June 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Empire Day** – “Thursday of last week was observed in the burgh as Empire Day.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **On Furlough** – “Private Mungo Robertson has returned to France this week after six days’ furlough.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Death of Ex-Bailie Reekie, Selkirk** – “The death occurred on Friday of last week of Mr Christopher Reekie at the age of 65. Mr Reekie was a native of Falkland, but had resided in Selkirk for about 30 years, and during this time he was conductor of the Selkirk Band, in which he took a keen interest. He also served as a member of the Town Council and for the period of six years occupied a seat on the bench. Mr Reekie, who was a brother of the late Mr Michael Reekie, is survived by a widow and family, his three sons being on military service.”

### **10<sup>th</sup> June 1916**

Intimation from *The Fife News*: **Falkland Weighing Machine Company** – “A meeting of the Shareholders of the Falkland Weighing Machine Company will be held in the Town Hall, Falkland, on Monday, the 19<sup>th</sup> inst., at 7.30 p.m. Falkland, 9<sup>th</sup> June 1916.”

### **17<sup>th</sup> June 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Pulpit Tribute** – “At the forenoon service in the Parish Church, the Rev. J.H. Morrison paid a fitting tribute to the late Lord Kitchener. He preached from the text, “Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel” (2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel, iii., 38)”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Band Concert** – In fulfilment of a long-standing arrangement made by Bailie Angus, Lochgelly Band visited Falkland on Saturday afternoon and entertained the inhabitants to a varied programme of patriotic music, strath-speys, etc. On the suggestion of Mr J. MacLean and Bailie Angus a collection was taken up, and as a result the sum of 14s has been handed over to the Red Cross Society.”

## **24<sup>th</sup> June 1916**

Intimation in *The Fife News*: **Falkland School Board – Lumsden Bursary** – “Applications are invited for Bursaries under the Deed of Trust by John L. Lumsden, Esq., open to present and former pupils of Falkland and Freuchie Public Schools. Candidates shall have been in regular attendance at either of above Schools for at least two years, and intend to prosecute their studies at Secondary, Technical, Commercial or State-aided Schools or Colleges, and shall intimate proposed course of instruction to be followed. Particulars, with Schedules of Application, may be had from Alexander Anderson, Solicitor, Falkland, Clerk to the Trustees, with whom the Applications must be lodged on or before 31<sup>st</sup> July 1916. 21<sup>st</sup> June 1916.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Local Soldiers Wounded** – “Information has been received by Mr James Oswald, Belleisle, that his son, Private James Oswald, of the Gordon Highlanders, has been slightly gassed, and has been admitted to hospital at Sheffield. Mr Alex Grieve, Terrace, has also received intimation that his son, Private William Grieve of the Black Watch, has been wounded in the foot.”

## **1<sup>st</sup> July 1916**

Intimation in *The Fife News*: **B.O.A.F.G. “Lomond Oak” Lodge, No. 387** – “The half-yearly General Meeting will be held in the Town Hall, Falkland, on Thursday evening, 6<sup>th</sup> July 1916. Time – 7.30 p.m. prompt.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Red Cross** – “The members of the local Red Cross work party have done a great deal of good work this season. Since last November, among the many useful articles they have sent away are: -

To various hospitals - 7 dozen surgical pillows, 12 flannel bedjackets, 12 pairs bedsocks, 21 nightshirts, 41 bandages, 31 bags.

To men at the front – 2 dozen day shirts, 31 mufflers, 14 pairs mitts, 382 pairs socks, while about 100 pairs socks have been handed to Falkland men as they came home on leave.

Some of the members have, by the kind permission of Lady Ninian Crichton Stuart, gathered sphagnum moss, and have sent off no fewer than 118 sacks. This has been arduous work, but they have been helped by the willing hands of several boys and girls, and very grateful thanks have been received from the hospitals.”

## **15<sup>th</sup> July 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Bingo Pictures** – “Bingo Pictures paid a visit to the town on Friday of last week, and, in consequence of being unable to reach Auchtermuchty on account of the flooding, a second series of pictures was shown on the Saturday evening.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Marriage – Michie – Sanders** – “The ‘Times’ says: - The marriage arranged between Mr J.K. Michie, third son of the late Mr J.C. Michie, Newton of Falkland, Fife, and Barbara, youngest daughter of the late Colonel R.C. Sanders, I.M.S., and Mrs Sanders, Creamare, Wem, Shropshire, will take place at the Wem Parish Church on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> August, at 2.30 p.m.”

Article from *The Fife News*: **Families Flooded:**

“The unprecedented rainstorm that was experienced on Friday and Saturday throughout Scotland, and particularly along the East Coast, did not leave Fifeshire scathless. From all parts of the county reports have been received of serious flooding and of much damage to crops and property. In the Lomond Vale and along the whole Howe o’ Fife, there was much flooding. Auchtermuchty, Ladybank, Kettle, Monimail, Collessie, and Pitlessie were all sufferers, while in the North of Fife valleys, water seriously interfered with traffic and did great damage to the crops. At the inn at Pitscottie, the flood rose to the bar counter, and the postman from Cupar, after a strong effort to push his bicycle through a three feet deep flood, had to give up and returned to Cupar thoroughly soaked. At Dura Den, tons of rock were dislodged and the road was terribly cut up. One half of the town of Auchtermuchty

was completely cut off from the other half by a torrent which filled the Burnside for a distance of half a mile. Mr Aitken, road surveyor, who made a round of the Cupar district after the flood, describes the scene as unparallel.

Considerable inconvenience and damage was caused in Falkland and neighbourhood through the hill streams overflowing. Especially was this the case in Balmblae, through which the Maspie runs. Practically every house was affected to a greater or less degree, and one old woman, in whose house the water was on a level with the top of the kitchen grate, had to be carried to her daughter's house a few doors away. The low-lying fields on the farms of Falkland Wood and Woodmill were under water, but otherwise very little damage was done as regards the agricultural land in the vicinity. The road to suffer most was the hill road to Leslie, where deep channels have been made, the metal being washed away by the cartload."

### **22<sup>nd</sup> July 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Death of the Rev. John Sharp** – "The Rev. John Sharp, minister of Heatherlie Parish Church, Selkirk, has died after a long illness. He was a native of Falkland, and was 68 years of age. Heatherlie Church was his first and only charge, which he held for 36 years. Mr Sharpe took a deep interest in all that pertained to the welfare of Selkirk. He was unmarried. As the Rev. J.K. Russell is now in a position to resume his duties as minister of the Parish Church, the closing joint service with the United Free Congregation was held on Sunday last, the Rev. J.H. Morrison preaching in the forenoon and Mr Russell in the afternoon. Although circumstances have altered so as to curtail the anticipated period of the joint services, the experience has been characterised by the utmost harmony and goodwill."

### **29<sup>th</sup> July 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Local Casualties** – "Information has been received by Mr David Robertson, Lomondside, that his son, Private Peter Robertson, Royal Scots Fusiliers, has been wounded in the thigh. This is the second occasion on which Private Robertson has been wounded. Mrs Hamilton, Cross Wynd, has also received intimation that her son, Private Alex. Hamilton, of the New Zealand Contingent, has been killed in action. Prior to leaving for New Zealand a few years ago, Private Hamilton was in the employment of Mr C.C. Brunton, butcher, Falkland."

### **5<sup>th</sup> August 1916**

Article from *The Fife News*: **Entertainment at House of Falkland – An Unqualified Success:**

*“A representative company of about 240 ladies and gentlemen wended their way to a concert and variety entertainment at House of Falkland on Monday evening. The avenue of lime trees by which they approached the noble mansion and the lawns and flower beds surrounding it were never seen to better advantage, and when to the attraction these provided there was added the good object for which the entertainment was organised – the Falkland and Freuchie District Nursing Fund – the anticipations of an enjoyable evening ran high. In organising and carrying through the entertainment, Lady Ninian received yeoman support from the wounded officers for whose benefit House of Falkland has been made a charming and commodious resting-place. The large dining room was set apart as the concert chamber, and the concert was opened by a pianoforte solo, “Valse Triste” by ‘Sibelius’, played with expression by Lieut. J.T. Baines of the Welsh Regiment – the Regiment of which the late Lord Ninian Crichton Stuart, M.P., killed in action, was the Colonel Commanding. Lady Ninian followed with a couple of Bandanna ballads – “Uncle Rome” and “Plantation Hymn”, and later she sang “Ninnette”, by ‘Pedro de Zuleta’. Gifted with a soprano voice of good range and delightful quality, her Ladyship’s singing was marked by fine feeling and appropriate expression. For her rendering of “Ninette” she was warmly encored, and, responding with another melodious number, gave further proof of genuine musical ability. Mr Donald Macgregor, Leith, contributed two ‘cello solos with a tunefulness and artistic success that have long won golden opinions of his playing on both sides of the Forth. He also was encored, and in his muted rendering of a beautiful air, entitled “La Jeune Mere”, he made a still more favourable impression. Other four artistes lent their help, and each proved a specialist in his or her sphere. The entry on the stage of Miss Tongue as a vocalist and danseuse quite electrified the audience. She was vivacious to the finger tips, and with her upstanding, fan-shaped collar and dainty figure infected all about her with her own merry-heartedness. Miss Durkin also gave the highest satisfaction by her capabilities as an elocutionist. Her command of English, Irish and Scottish dialects as heard in the humblest ranks was perfect, and made each of her appearances a treat. The conjuring exhibitions of Driver Waterman, No. 2 B Battery H.A.C., were quite bewildering. We have seen few on any stage who could surpass his mystifying sleight of hand. Trooper C. Muller, Duke of Lancaster’s Own Yeomanry, “brought down the house” again and again by his extraordinary burlesques and impersonations. His nigger dancing was an entertainment in itself. It remains to be said that the piano accompaniments to the songs and ‘cello solos were most sympathetically played by Lady Beatrice Kerr Clark (who, like the hostess, has also lost her husband at the front), and that the whole entertainment, which was closed by the National Anthem, in which the audience heartily joined, was an unqualified success. The sum realised was £17 15s.”*

## **12<sup>th</sup> August 1916**

Article from *The Fife News*: **Company Sergeant-Major Lumsden, Cupar:**

*“The death in action of this brave soldier has also caused deep regret. He had greatly distinguished himself at a former period of the war in most trying circumstances, and was highly respected because of his many sterling qualities. He was one of three soldier sons whose mother resides at Parliament Square, and was about 27 years of age. Before joining the Army he was fireman in the employment of Messrs John Honeyman & Coy., South Bridge Works, having previously been a baker to Miss Elder, St Catherine Street. In June of last year, Sergeant Lumsden, as he then was, covered himself with glory and brought honour to his native town by his cool and gallant conduct during a heavy engagement. Early in the day he constructed a bridge by means of which the wounded were enabled to be taken to the rear, and later in the fight, when his company officer, Captain James Donaldson, Falkland, had sustained a serious wound, involving the loss of an eye, he carried him to safety under a heavy shell fire. For these signal acts of courage he was mentioned in despatches in January last, while Captain Donaldson unhesitatingly declared that he owed his life to Lumsden’s gallant conduct. He was home on furlough quite recently. His widow and two young children reside at Railway Place, where the Sergt.-Major was well known, and where the news of his death has caused a very painful sensation.”*

## **19<sup>th</sup> August 1916**

Intimation in *The Fife News*: **Garden Fete** – *“A Garden Fete will be held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September in the Grounds of Falkland Palace in aid of the funds of the Red Cross Work Party. Stalls, Concerts, Games, etc. Contributions of Farm Produce will be gratefully received.”*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Visitors** – *“There are at present a good number of visitors in the town, principally from Edinburgh, Kirkcaldy, and Dundee.”*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Wounded** – *“Mr Walter Peggie, South Street West, Falkland, has received information that his son, Private W. Peggie of the Royal Scots Fusiliers has been wounded, and is in hospital in Manchester. Private Peggie enlisted a year ago, and has been in France for almost five months.”*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Prisoner of War** – “Mrs Hepburn, Cross Wynd, received intimation from the War Office that her husband, Private Hepburn of the Black Watch, had been reported missing since 18<sup>th</sup> July last. On Thursday Mrs Hepburn’s anxiety was to some extent relieved by a letter she read from her husband, stating that he had been wounded, and was a prisoner of war in Germany”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Golden Wedding** – “On Wednesday of this week, Bailie Robertson and Mrs Robertson celebrated their golden wedding. The whole of the 50 years of their married life has been spent in Falkland, and Mr Robertson is at present a Magistrate of the Royal Burgh, holding the office of Junior Bailie. In honour of the occasion a family gathering was held at their residence in West Port, when the interesting event was suitably recognised. The surviving members of the family are five sons and three daughters.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Death – Dunn** – “At Woodmill of Falkland, Auchtermuchty, on the 13<sup>th</sup> inst., Jane Blyth, wife of George Dun.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **The Late Mrs Dun, Woodmill** – “The death on Sunday of Mrs Dun, wife of Mr George Dun, Woodmill, has occasioned sincere and wide-spread regret. A severe illness which overtook her some time ago steadily wasted her strength, and during the last fortnight caused all the hopes cherished for her recovery to fade away. Mrs Dun was a daughter of the late Mr Blyth of Leckiebank and a cousin of Sir Andrew Fraser of Indian fame. Possessed of many amiable qualities, she delighted to interest herself in any movement designed to promote the good of those among whom her lot was cast. To sales of work or concerts for charitable or philanthropic purposes, she, with the help of her daughter, was always ready to give practical support. Her death leaves a blank in the Falkland district that will be long felt, and, in view of other bereavements that have befallen them in recent years, Mr Dun and his family have the heartfelt sympathy of a wide circle of friends in their present overwhelming sorrow.”

## **26<sup>th</sup> August 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Visit from Lord French** – “After inspecting the troops stationed at Annsmuir on Tuesday last, Field Marshall Viscount French paid a visit to the Royal and Ancient Burgh for the purpose of viewing the palace, in the historic associations of which he showed a great interest while these were being related by the guide. Lord French, who was accompanied by Lieut.-General Sir J. Spencer Ewart, K.C.B., and other members of his staff, was met at the palace by Lady Ninian

*Crichton-Stuart and Mr Gavin, factor, while the assembled inhabitants accorded him an enthusiastic welcome.*”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Tribunal** – “A meeting of the local Tribunal was held on Friday evening of last week, when Provost Jackson presided, and the military were represented by Captain Walker, Cupar, with Mr Fraser, recruiting office, Cupar, in attendance. Provost Jackson at the commencement of the sitting offered the congratulations of the Tribunal to one of its members, Mr George Thomson, on the celebration of his golden wedding. The Provost hoped that Mr and Mrs Thomson would have many happy years still before them. Captain Walker associated himself with the Provost in his felicitations. Two cases were before the meeting. The first was that of Frank Mather (35), married, a block cutter in the floorcloth factory. Provost Jackson, being connected with the firm by whom Mather was employed, vacated the chair, and Mr John Angus took his place. Conditional exemption was granted. In the case of John Lambert (39), married, crofter and contractor, conditional exemption was also given.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Oil Painting of the Late Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart** – “An oil painting of the late Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart has been presented to the City Hall at Cardiff. The unveiling of the portrait was performed by Lord Bute. A full page reproduction appeared in the ‘Graphic’ of last week. The portrait is an excellent likeness of the late officer in uniform, and is full length and three-quarter view. The ‘Graphic’ says:

“The memory of Cardiff for a very sad event in the war last year was quickened yesterday in the formal presentation of the portrait of the late Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart, which has been painted by Mr Herbert Draper for preservation in the City Hall of the great town which has been so intimately connected with the family. Lord Ninian was the second son of the late Marquis of Bute, and was born in 1883. He began soldiering in the Scots Guards, and went out to France as Lieut.-Colonel of the 6<sup>th</sup> Welsh Regiment, falling at Vermelles, near La Bassee, on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1915. He had almost, as it were, foreseen his fate, for he provided in his will that in the event of his being killed, a portrait of him should be painted for the city of Cardiff.”

## **2<sup>nd</sup> September 1916**

Article from *The Fife News*: **Brother of Falkland Minister Killed:**

“Widespread sympathy is expressed in the Falkland district for the Rev. J.K. Russell, the minister of the parish, in the loss he has suffered by the death in action of his



*brother, Second-Lieutenant W.N. Russell. Like his brother, Lieutenant Russell was a 'St Andrews man'. He entered the University after receiving his early education at Dollar, and he also had chosen the Church as his calling. After graduating M.A. he entered the Divinity Hall and received his degree of B.D. just as war broke out. At once he offered his services to his country, and received a commission in the Royal Scots Fusiliers. When at St Andrews he interested himself keenly in the work of the Officers' Training Corps, and after receiving his commission he proved himself an earnest and efficient soldier. He proceeded to the front some months ago, and has now shared the fate that has befallen so many brave St Andrews students. He was the third son of Mr Russell, Schoolhouse, Glendevon."*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Death – Anderson** – “At Brunton Street, Falkland, on the 24<sup>th</sup> August, William, eldest and only surviving son of Robert Anderson, Kincardine Street, Dundee, and beloved husband of Betsy Scott, Falkland, aged 42 years.”

### **9<sup>th</sup> September 1916**

Intimation in *The Fife News*: **A Garden Fete** – “A Garden Fete in aid of the Funds of the Falkland Red Cross Work Party will be held in the grounds of Falkland Palace on Saturday, the 16<sup>th</sup> inst. It will be opened at 2.30 by Lady Ninian Crichton-Stuart. Stalls, Concerts, etc., etc. Tea and Refreshments. Admission, 3d. Children, 1d. Contributions of Farm Produce, Cakes, and Sweets etc., will be gratefully received at the Palace on the morning of the Fete.”

### **15<sup>th</sup> September 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News Almanac*: **Fete** – “Fete at Falkland realised £67.”

### **16<sup>th</sup> September 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Killed** – “Mrs Brewster, Falkland Wood, has received intimation that her husband, Private James Brewster of the Black Watch, was killed in action on 18<sup>th</sup> July last. Prior to enlistment on the outbreak of the war Private Brewster was employed as a ploughman with Mr Alexander Shanks, Falkland Wood.”

### **23<sup>rd</sup> September 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Poaching on the East Lomond** – “On the complaint of Mr Nicol Ross of Navitie, Lochgelly, proprietor of the East Lomond, Andrew Lawson, labourer, was at Cupar on Monday charged with having trespassed in pursuit of game on the East Lomond Hill Park. He pleaded guilty, and admitted two previous convictions, though the one was in 1896 and the other in 1905. Mr A.E. Grosset, who prosecuted, said that a gamekeeper saw accused ferreting, and took the animal and seven bag nets. A fine of 10s, with £1 of expenses, was imposed.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Death – Sheriff** – “At Bruce Buildings, Falkland, suddenly, on 16<sup>th</sup> inst., Miss Euphemia Sheriff, sister of the late John Sheriff, writer.”

### **30<sup>th</sup> September 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Dispersion of the Falkland Palace Border Leicesters** – “In a preliminary notice of the sale of Border Leicesters, which took place at Gorgie Market, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, the ‘N.B.Agriculturist said: -

“The Late Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart, had he been alive, would never have been in the market at this time as anything but a buyer. He had the intention of building up and maintaining a first-class flock, and although at the time of his death he had not quite fully attained his object, he had so far done so as to make the disposal of his sheep an event of almost national interest. Everyone will remember his Lordship’s plucky purchase of the great ram, His Majesty (2317), at the Galalaw dispersion of 1911. The sheep was then in his fourth year, and in ordinary course could hardly have been expected to be of much service for more than a year or two. But so impressed was his lordship – and he did the bidding himself – with the merit of the sheep and his continued prospective potentiality as a breeder that he readily gave £140 for him – a price at that time unheard of, and still very rare, for a sheep of the age. The purchase turned out an exceedingly lucky one, as many of these plucky ventures often do. The sheep lived to a good old age at Falkland, and practically repaid himself in the first season. There are a lot of beautiful animals by him now in the flock, and as the blood is getting scarce, breeders will have to be diligent in their offerings next week if they are to secure any of them. The flock numbered 175, and at the sale they realised a total sum of £2,025, or the great average of £11 11s 4d. The top price of the sale was £50. This sum was paid by Mr Smith, Leaston, for each of a pair of two-crop ewes by ‘His Majesty’.

### **7<sup>th</sup> October 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Anniversary** – “Monday was the first anniversary of the death in action of Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart, M.P., when a

*special memorial service was held in the private Chapel at House of Falkland which was attended by Lady Ninian Crichton-Stuart and other members of the household.”*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Bible Society Service** – *“The annual service in connection with the Local Auxiliary of the National Bible Society of Scotland was held in the Parish Church on Sunday afternoon, when the Rev. P.W. Lilley of Freuchie occupied the pulpit and preached an appropriate sermon. A similar service was conducted by the Rev. J.K. Russell in the U.F. Church, Freuchie.”*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Assessments** – *“The burgh assessments for the current year show an increase of 1/2d per £1 on Owners and Occupiers, the total rate being 1s 31/2d and 2s 21/2d per £1 respectively. On the other hand, the parish rates have been considerably reduced, the rates being Owners 81/4d per £1 and Occupiers 91/2d per £1 as compared with seven-eighths last year.”*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Curling Club** – *“The annual meeting of the Curling Club was held in the Town Hall on Friday of last week, Mr Alex. Shanks, president, in the chair. The report submitted by the treasurer was satisfactory, and the office-bearers were appointed for the ensuing year. Mr J.A. Patullo of Lathrisk was elected patron of the club in place of the late Lord Ninian Crichton Stuart of Falkland.”*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Wounded in France** – *“Mrs Henderson, West Port, Falkland, has received intimation that her son, Corporal Francis Henderson of the London Scottish, has been severely wounded. It has been found necessary to amputate his right leg below the knee, and the left foot has also been seriously damaged. Colonel Henderson, who was in the service of the Anglo-South American Bank in Bahia Blanca, returned home towards the end of 1915 for the purpose of enlisting.”*

## **14<sup>th</sup> October 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Y.M.C.A.** – *“The opening meeting of the Association for the session was held in the Town Hall on Sunday morning, when there was a good turnout. Mr George Robertson, vice-president of the Association, read an excellent essay on “Lessons from the Life of Joseph”. Mr Walter Peggie presided.”*

## **21<sup>st</sup> October 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Illness of the Rev. J.H. Morrison**: “The Cupar Presbytery met by leave of the Synod at the close of its first sederunt, and granted sick supply to Rev. J.H. Morrison of Falkland, who is in hospital for an operation.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Wounded in France – “Mr John Robertson, Cross Wynd, Falkland, has received intimation that his son, Pte. Alex Robertson, Royal Scots Fusiliers, has been wounded in the foot. Pte. Robertson has been in France since the end of 1915.”**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Outbreak of Fife** – “Soon after dark on Sunday evening, an outbreak of fire occurred at Gowrie Cottage, as a result of which a stack of oats belonging to Mr Thomas Milne was destroyed. The cause of the fire is unknown.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Death – Henderson** – “Died on 8<sup>th</sup> October of wounds received in action, Corporal Francis Henderson, aged 29, London Scottish, late of the Anglo-South American Bank, Bahia Blanca, Argentina, dearly loved only son of Mrs Henderson and grandson of Lawrence Reid, West End, Falkland, Fife. Deeply mourned.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Soldier Dies of Wounds** – “Corporal Frank Henderson, a Falkland young man of much promise, who came all the way from Bahia Blanca, South America, to take his place in the fighting line, has made the supreme sacrifice. About a fortnight ago his mother, Mrs Henderson, West Port, Falkland, was notified that her son had been seriously wounded, and it had been found necessary to amputate his right leg below the knee, while the left foot was badly shattered. This was followed by an official communication that the gallant soldier had died on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> inst., as the result of wounds received in action. He had been in hospital for one week. Corporal Henderson was a grandson of Mr Lawrence Reid, retired inspector of poor for the parish of Falkland. He served his apprenticeship in the Falkland branch of the British Linen Bank, leaving to take over the duties of teller in the Carluke Branch, and from there he was transferred to the London Office. Having spent some time in the Metropolis, he secured an appointment with the Anglo-South American Bank, and from their head office he was sent to Bahia Blanca, where he was located at the outbreak of war. Towards the close of last year he came home for the purpose of enlisting, and joined the London Scottish. He had been in France for about five months, and was 29 years of age. At the meeting of the Y.M.C.A. on

*Sunday morning, fitting reference was made to the sad event, Corporal Henderson being a former member, and the Secretary was instructed to send a letter of condolence to Mrs Henderson and family.”*

## **11th November 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Golf** – “At the annual meeting of the Falkland Golf Club last Friday, the office-bearers were re-appointed for another year.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **The Rev. J.H. Morrison** – “The Rev. J.H. Morrison has now returned home from Edinburgh, where he has been undergoing treatment. The operation performed has been successful, and Mr Morrison is making satisfactory progress.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Communion** – “The half-yearly Communion was celebrated in the Parish and U.F. Churches on Sunday. The respective services were conducted by the Rev. J.K. Russell and the Rev. P.W. Lilley, the latter acting in place of the Rev. J.H. Morrison. A preparatory service was conducted in the U.F. Church on Saturday afternoon by the Rev. W.L. Craig, Balmalcolm.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Concert** – “The first of a series of concerts to provide comforts for local men with the Colours took place in the Drill Hall on Saturday evening, when there was a large audience. The programme, which consisted of solos, duets, and quartettes, was sustained by Misses M. Finlay, M. Oswald, J. Finlay, A. Edmeston, Chris. Fernie, M. Reid, Agnes Forsyth, and B. Peggie; and Messrs J. Drysdale, A. Wallace, T. Drysdale, James Peggie, F. Fernie, and J. Peggie, jnr., while Mr George Anderson acted as an efficient accompanist. The entertainment was much enjoyed, and, on the call of Provost Jackson (the chairman), a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to those who had taken part. A similar compliment was paid to the Chairman, on the motion of Mr D. Bonthron, and the proceedings terminated by the singing of the National Anthem. The sum of £12 was realised.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **The Late Dr James Mackay** – “The death in Leven last week of Dr James Mackay has removed a medical gentleman who was long in practice in Falkland, and who, by his skill and personal qualities, gained the regard and esteem of a wide circle of friends, not only in Falkland, but throughout the

county. He was a man of energy and enterprise, full of the gaiety of life and possessed of a rich fund of humour. A friend who knew him well writes: -

*“Many in Falkland heard with great regret last week that Dr James Mackay had passed away. For the long period of fifteen years he was resident as Doctor in Falkland, and full of the interests of the ancient burgh. A clever, painstaking practitioner – his patients had great confidence in him and well-remembered still is his unfailing kindness. Fourteen long years have come and gone since he left to take up practice in Leith. Some years ago his health quite broke down and he came to Leven, where he died. Many old memories in Falkland were awakened by the news. He had a great love for young people, and entered into their sports keenly. Many attached friends were grieved to know of his long illness, so bravely and patiently borne, and now that he has gone another link seems broken with the past.”*

### **18<sup>th</sup> November 1916**

Article from *The Fife News*: **Exemptions by Military:**

*“The following got conditional exemption with consent of the military: -*

*John Methven, Freuchie, headmaster of Public School; James T. Lindsay, Lodge Farm, farmer; John Mitchell, Pitlethie, farmer; James Kay, Fliskmillan, farmer; Wm. Meldrum, Backfield of Ladeddie, farmer; Thomas Meldrum, Backfield of Ladeddie, farmer; Wm. Miller, Nydie Mains, farmer; George Osler, Skelpie, farmer; Dugald McVean, Northbank, farmer; William Keith, Craigie, blacksmith; John Walker, Falkland, wood-turner and sawyer; Wm. Couper, Dunshalt, farmer; Robert Brown, Newton of Falkland, shepherd.”*

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Death – McCathie** – *“At Myreside, Falkland, on 13<sup>th</sup> Nov., Annie Henderson, widow of John McCathie, Strathmiglo, in her 67<sup>th</sup> year.”*

### **9<sup>th</sup> December 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Death – Jackson** – *“At Newton of Falkland, on 30<sup>th</sup> Nov., Robert Jackson, aged 42.”*

### **16<sup>th</sup> December 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Home on Leave** – “Private Alex. Lawson, Motor Transport, A.S.C., has been enjoying a furlough at home after 18 months’ service in France.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Comforts Fund** – “Out of the Comforts Fund, over 40 parcels have been sent to men on active service in France, and arrangements are being made for sending gifts to those in other parts and at home. In addition to the above, the Women’s Guild of the Parish Church have sent off a consignment of parcels containing useful knitted articles and eatables.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Patriotic Concert** – “The second of the series of concerts in aid of the funds for supplying comforts to the local men on naval and military service was held in the Drill Hall on the evening of Saturday, when, in spite of the inclement weather, there was a large attendance. The Rev. J.H. Morrison occupied the chair. The programme consisted of a pianoforte selection by Miss Bryce, who also acted in her usual efficient manner as accompanist; solos by Misses Jean Smith, Jessie Traill, and Mr P. Shields; and selection by a glee party consisting of Misses J. Anderson, L. Burgon, L. Ross, J. Traill, A. Edmeston, and E. Grant and Messrs T. Drysdale, J. Peggie, A. Wallace and J. Peggie jnr. A special feature of the entertainment was a sketch arranged by Mrs Livingstone, Lomondvale, the characters being represented by Misses L. Ross, J. Anderson, and M. Piller. A very enjoyable evening was spent, and the practical result was very satisfactory, a sum of over £13 was drawn. On the call of the Chairman, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to all who had contributed to the programme, and on the motion of Provost Jackson, a similar compliment was paid to Mr Morrison. The proceedings were terminated by the singing of “God Save the King.”

## **23<sup>rd</sup> December 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **On Furlough** – “Pte. Robert Laing, R.A.M.C., and Pte. Thomas Dryburgh A.S.C., have been home on leave from France during the past week.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Street Lamps** – “With the permission of the Chief Constable it has been decided to light certain lamps within the burgh on moonless nights.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Private Louis Stuart** – “Private Louis Stuart, Australian Imperial Force, has written to a friend at Falkland that he won the Military Medal on November 5, and that it was presented on November 30. Private Stuart is a son of Nurse Stuart, who was district nurse in Falkland for a time, and at the outbreak of war he was attending a school in Belgium. He subsequently went to the Antipodes and joined up there.”

### **30<sup>th</sup> December 1916**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Christmas Carols** – “At the afternoon service in the parish church on Sunday, Christmas carols were rendered by the children of the Band of Hope, while Miss A. Finlay sang a solo and Misses Kennedy and Grant contributed a duet. The Rev. J.K. Russell delivered an appropriate address.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Red Cross Work Party** – “Through the kindness of Mrs Gulland, Millfield, the members of the Red Cross Work Party were entertained to tea on Monday evening. Songs were contributed by several of the ladies present, and an enjoyable evening was spent.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Former Falkland Soldier Dies of Wounds** – “Information has been received that Gunner John Leitch, who was attached to the Canadian Artillery, had died of wounds received in action. Gunner Leitch was formerly employed by Mr John Morgan, Kilgour, and his mother recently resided at West Port, Falkland. Mrs Leitch has other three sons serving with the Colours.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Gunner T.C. Myles** – “Gunner T.C. Myles, of the Canadian Field Artillery, visited Falkland to see his parents, Mr and Mrs Geo. Myles, Pleasance, a few days ago, prior to his leaving for the front. Gunner Myles left Falkland about 10 years ago and was doing well in Canada, when he volunteered to come over and do his bit. All the sons of Mr and Mrs Myles are with the Colours.”

Extract from *The Fife News*: **A Popular Children’s Concert** – “The third of the series of concerts arranged for in connection with the fund for supplying comforts to the local soldiers and sailors was held in the Drill Hall on the evening of Friday last, when Provost Jackson presided over a large audience. The programme was wholly sustained by the school children, and included the following songs, recitations and sketches: -



Songs – “Marseillaise”, “Leaves”, “Up the airy mountains”, “Turn ye to me”, “Molly Bawn”, “Grandmothers old”, “Jolly Waggoner”, “The Birds’ Ball”, “It was a lover and his lass”, “Little Jack Frost”, and the children’s greeting to our soldiers, “A Guid New Year”.

Recitations – “Santa Claus and the Mouse”, “A Mortifying Mistake”, “Sugar-tooth Dick”, and “The Broken Bowl”.

Sketches – “Joe and Amy”, and “The Three Queens”.

Most of the songs and recitations were accompanied by illustrative actions by the children, and the whole performance reflected great credit on the teachers who had trained their pupils for the occasion. Miss Cochrane acted as an efficient accompanist. At the close Provost Jackson intimated that the sum of £10 had been realised, and proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Robb, Mrs Robertson, Miss Cochrane and Miss Falconer, which was heartily accorded. On the call of Mr Robb, Provost Jackson was also thanked for acting as chairman, and the proceedings were brought to a close by the singing of the national anthem.”

## Falkland Almanac

Population according to census 1911 (Parish) – 2,356

**Magistrates and Town Council** – Provost, Charles Jackson; Bailies, John Angus and George Robertson; Town Clerk and Treasurer, Alexander Anderson; Councillors, John W. Jackson, Robert Ness, William Horne, John Brown, Robert Drysdale, Andrew Lister, James McCall, James Donaldson and David Chisholm; Representative Cupar District Licensing Court – Provost Jackson; Fiscal, W.D. Robertson; Town Officers, John Walker and Robert Strachan; Burgh Assessor, George S. Hardie.

**Places of Worship** – Parish Church, Rev. J.K. Russell, B.D.; United Free Church, Rev. J.H. Morrison, M.A.; Plymouth Brethren, Various Teachers.

**Parish Council** – David Bonthronne (Chairman), Robert Nelson, David Rymer, George Gavin, Provost Jackson, Walter Peggie, James Donaldson, Alexander Fraser, David Dryburgh.

**School Board** – Members, David Bonthronne, David Drybrough, William Horne, William Bonthronne, James Donaldson, David Rymer and John Brown; Teachers –

*Falkland School, Wm. Robb, M.A., and Assistants; Freuchie School, John Methven, M.A., and Assistants. Clerk, Alex. Anderson.*

**Inspector, Clerk and Registrar** – *George S. Hardie.*

**Gas Company** – *William Tulloch, Manager.*

**Bank** – *British Linen, James Donaldson and Alexander Anderson, Joint Agents.*

**Solicitor** – *Alexander Anderson, N.P.*

**Medical Practitioner** – *J.G. Jack, M.B., Ch. B.*

**Golf Club** – *Captain, D. Bonthron; Secretary and Treasurer, J. Peggie.*

**Curling Club** – *Patroness, Lady Ninian Crichton-Stuart; Patron, J.A. Patullo, Lathrisk House; President, Alexander Shanks; Vice-President, Walter Peggie; Secretary and Treasurer, James Donaldson.*

**Lomond Oak Lodge No. 387 B.O.A.F.G.** – *Thos. D. Hopkins, Secretary; John Drysdale, Treasurer.*

**Free Masons, St John's Lodge, No. 35** – *Thos. D. Hopkins, R.W.M.; David Campbell, Secretary; Andrew Venters, Treasurer.*

**Halls** – *The Town Hall, High Street; The Drill Hall, South Street.*

