

# Freuchie First World War Casualties.

## Year 1915

### (As researched by Jack Burgess with notes by Marietta Crichton Stuart)

#### **23<sup>rd</sup> January 1915**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **National Reservist Killed in Action** – “Intimation has been received by Mrs Dall, Back Street, Freuchie, that her husband, Private Robert G. Dall, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Black Watch, has been killed in action. In a letter the commanding officer of D Company writes: -

*“I very much regret having to break the news to you of your husband’s death. He was shot in the head this morning by a German sniper. Death was absolutely instantaneous. He will be much missed in the company, as he was always cheerful, even under most depressing circumstances. He was a real good soldier, and died a soldier’s death.”*

*Private Dall, who belonged to Freuchie, joined the Black Watch while a young man, and served 8 years, having seen service in Malta, Gibraltar, and Egypt. He was a member of the National Reserve, and only enlisted in his old regiment three months ago. Previous to enlisting, he was employed as a cloth inspector with Messrs W. Lumsden & Son. He leaves a widow and six children, for whom the deepest sympathy is felt.”*

3/4108 Private Robert Gould Dall, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Black Watch, killed in action 10 January 1915, aged 45. He had been in France since 1 December 1914. He has no known grave and is commemorated on Le Touret Memorial, France, panel 24-26.

His son Thomas (Tom) Dall served in the 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Kings Own Scottish Borderers, 27772, formerly 2860 Fife and Forfar Yeomanry. He died of wounds on 16 April 1917, aged 21. He is buried in Etaples Military Cemetery, France, grave XXII.J.2A

Both father and son are commemorated on the Freuchie war memorial.

#### **10<sup>th</sup> April 1915**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Killed in Action** – “Mr David Inglis, Freuchie, has received intimation that his son, Private Peter D. Inglis, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Scots Guards, who was posted as missing, was killed on 4<sup>th</sup> January in action in France. He was the first local man to join a first-line regiment after the war began, and he put in only six weeks’ training before leaving for the front.”

9316 Private Peter Dryburgh Inglis, C Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Scots Guards, killed on 3 January 1915 near the La Basse canal, northern France. The son of David and Barbara M Inglis of East End, Freuchie, he had been an apprentice at Messrs W Lumsden and Son, Freuchie and later worked for the Fife Coal Company. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial, France, panel 3 and 4.

### **8<sup>th</sup> May 1915**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Killed at Ypres** – “Intimation was received here in Freuchie this week, that Lance-Corporal John Morgan, of the 2<sup>nd</sup> K.O.S.B., has died from wounds received at the Battle of Ypres. He had been on active service for three months, and was at the taking of Hill 60. Lance-Corporal Morgan was through the Boer war with the Fife and Forfar Yeomanry. The deceased was 34 years of age, and unmarried.”

12894 Private John Morgan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, King’s Own Scottish Borderers, died of wounds on 27 April 1915, aged 34, buried in Wimereux Communal Cemetery, France, grave reference I.F.14A. Born in Freuchie. He enlisted in Portland Dorset. He had served in the Boer War with the Fife and Forfar Yeomanry.

### **19<sup>th</sup> June 1915**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Killed in Action** – “Intimation has been received in Freuchie that Private Alexander Allan, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dragoon Guards, Main Street, Thornton, eldest son of Mr Wm. Allan, clerk, North Street, Freuchie, has been killed while gallantly fighting with his regiment in France. The sad news was conveyed in a letter from a comrade to his brother, Private Wm. Allan, serving in the Royal Engineers, who at once sent word home. It appears that Private Allan was severely wounded, and was being removed when a shell burst, wounding the stretcher-bearers and killing him. Deceased was a fine type of soldier. He enlisted in September, and had been training in Canterbury prior to going to France. It is only six weeks ago since he was home on furlough, and he has only been in France for a month. He was 27 years of age, and leaves a widow and three children.”

10940 Private Alexander Allan, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion (Prince of Wales’ Own), Dragoon Guards, killed in action on 2 June 1915 aged 27. He went to France on 18 May 1915

so he had been there 2 weeks. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Menin Gate, panel 3. He is not listed on the Freuchie War Memorial.

## **16<sup>th</sup> October 1915**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Killed in Action** – “A further addition has to be made to the list of Freuchie men who have made the supreme sacrifice at the front. Intimation has been received from Private Archibald Henderson, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Black Watch, that Private Robert D. Jack, 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion Black Watch, son of Mr James Jack, Eden Valley Row, Freuchie, late of Lochee, was killed in action on 26<sup>th</sup> September. The sad news was conveyed to his parents by the Rev. P.W. Lilley, minister of the United Free Church. Private Henderson found Private Jack killed while returning with a supply of water. Deceased, who was 21 years of age, was a fine type of soldier. He enlisted shortly after the outbreak of war, and was employed in the same trade as Private Henderson – tenter with Messrs W. Lumsden & Son, Eden Valley Works – being one of the first to join the colours in their employment. Private Jack was a regular member of the Y.M.C.A., and a very enthusiastic cricketer, prominent football player, and a loyal scout. He was very popular with all who knew him. Private Jack was a member of the United Free Church, and is the first on their Roll of Honour to give his life in this great European war. In the United Free Church on Sunday, the Rev. Mr Lilley, at the forenoon service, made sympathetic reference to the death of Private Jack.”

S/3979 Private Robert Doctor Jack, A Company, 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Black Watch, killed at the Battle of Loos on 25 September 1915 aged 20. He was born in East Port, Falkland. Sam Hastie from Falkland was in the same battalion, they were both killed on the same day, both are commemorated on the Loos Memorial, France, both a commemorated on the Falkland War Memorial. Robert is also on the Freuchie memorial. He was the son of James (Jimmy) and Jane Jack, nee Doctor.

## **6<sup>th</sup> November 1915**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Killed in Action** – “Official intimation has now been received by Mr James Jack, Eden Valley Row, Freuchie, late of Lochee, that his son, Private Robert D. Jack, 9<sup>th</sup> Batt. Black Watch, was killed in action on 26<sup>th</sup> September at the recent advance on Loos. Information received from a comrade states that Private Jack was passing the guns when one of them fired. The concussion rendered him unconscious. After a few minutes he came round, and was gallantly fighting with his regiment when he was killed. Private Jack was of a bright, cheery nature, only 20 years of age, and was employed as a tenter with Messrs W. Lumsden & Son, Eden Valley Works. He was one of the first to join the famous

*regiment after the outbreak of war, and also the second to give his life for King and country.”*

#### **4<sup>th</sup> December 1915**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Well-known Man Killed at the Front** – “The name of another well-known Freuchie man has to be added to the list of those who have made the supreme sacrifice, that of Private Peter D. Inglis (9316), C. Coy., 1<sup>st</sup> Batt. Scots Guards. Private Inglis was officially reported missing on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1915, and intimation has now been received from the War Office that he was killed on that date. Private Inglis, who was 25 years of age, was a son of Mr David Inglis, East End, Freuchie, and was one of the best known and most popular young fellows in the village. He served his apprenticeship as a yarn dresser with Messrs W. Lumsden & Son, Eden Valley Works, Freuchie, and was the first local man to join Lord Kitchener’s Army at the outbreak of the war. Private Inglis was a regular attender of the Y.M.C.A., took a keen interest in the game of billiards, and was also a good domino player. Prior to enlistment Private Inglis was employed with the Fife Coal Co. Private Inglis was a keen Territorial, and had been connected with the 7<sup>th</sup> Black Watch (T.F.) for a few years.”

[See also the Fife News 10 April 1915 above]