

Frank Hunter Blair Dies

One of the leading Galloway cattle breeders and exhibitors in the country has died in his 70th year. Frank Hunter Blair of Marbrack Farm, Carsphairn, ran the highly successful Marbrack herd and won most of the major awards at shows and sales of the Galloway breed.

Mr Hunter Blair farmed 2,200 acres at Marbrack which rises to 2,300ft where he ran a herd of pedigree cows and a flock of pure-bred Blackface ewes.

It was around 1954 that Mr Hunter Blair went to Marbrack and started registering Galloways about 1956. He was convinced from the start of the value of Galloway cattle as the ideal complement to his sheep stock.

His stock cows have sold to a New Galloway breeder and new herd has been established.

He played an active part for much of his farming career in the Galloway Cattle Society and he first joined the council in 1982, although he had been a member of various committees as far back as 1977.

Mr Hunter Blair was appointed vice chairman of the society in 1984 and then in 1986 he was appointed chairman and held the post until 1991.

Through his time in the top offices the Galloway breed enjoyed a major boom with several thousand valued at around £7m being exported to European countries, mostly to Germany where they have been bred and reared successfully.

In 1992 was elected as a vice president of the Society and was still in this appointment when he died on Friday after a period of illness. He is survived by his wife Joyce and four sons and a daughter.

One of his sons, Peter, who farms Nether Cleugh, Dalry, was showing at the Stewartry Agricultural event the day before his father's death where he won the reserve Galloway Championship.

Tributes have been flowing in this week for Mr Hunter Blair, who was a very staunch supporter of the breed and put his name to at every occasion. He travelled on several occasions to Germany on official business to see, promote the breed and to find out how they were doing.

The Marbrack Galloways won many championships and in 1976 he had the female championship, the year before the breed celebrated its Jubilee.

He was also vice president of the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society and a past chairman of the Blackface Sheepbreeders Association.

His funeral service will be held in Carsphairn Church this afternoon (THURS) followed by interment in the local churchyard.

Death of Former Stewartry Lord Lieutenant.

8.04.04

The death has taken place after a long illness of Charles Murray Kennedy, the Lord Sinclair of Knocknalling, Dalry, who was 89.

A service of thanksgiving to the memory of Lord Sinclair, a former Lord Lieutenant of the Stewartry, will be held at Kells Church, New Galloway, today at 2.30pm.

Before he succeeded his late father, the 16th baron, in 1957. Lord Sinclair was the Hon Charles Murray-Kennedy St Clair (Master of St Clair).

Born in 1914, he was educated at Eton and Cambridge and then served in the Coldstream Guards until he retired with the rank of Major in 1947.

During the War he served in Palestine where he was wounded.

In 1953 he was appointed an extra Equerry to Her Majesty the Queen Mother and was Portcullis Pursuivant of Arms from 1947 until 1957 when he was made York Herald, a post he held until 1968 when he resigned to devote more time to his estate.

He married Miss Anne Cotterell, Hereford in 1968 and had a family of three, Matthew, who succeeds him as the 18th Lord and who was the Master of St Clair, Laura and Annabel.

Lord Sinclair was appointed a deputy Lieutenant of the Stewartry in April 1969, a post he held until he became vice Lord Lieutenant in 1977 – 82 and Lord Lieutenant from 1982 – 89.

He was also a member of the Queen's Body Guard for Scotland (Royal Company of Archers).

In 1990 Lord Sinclair was appointed Commander of the Royal Victorian Order in the Queen's birthday honours.

He is a former chairman of the Dee Fishery Board where he succeeded Col Walter J M Ross of Netherhall. He was an active member of the Fishery Board from the time he joined it in 1968 and also served his local area on the Old Stewartry County Council, becoming chairman of the housing and roads committees as well as serving on many other committees and sub committees. Lord Sinclair was also a property and income tax assessor.

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Black Mist on Corserine

From the Forest Gate on the main road to the shepherd's house at Fore Bush, the distance is over five miles. The narrow track leading into the hills, richly wooded with beech and hazel, follows the course of a rocky mountain stream foaming and fretting its way through fern and heather. A small, close-set planting of stunted Scot's firs marks the ending of the road, and a path strikes through the peat-moss to the little farm dwelling nestling at the foot of the Bennan Hill.

A great barking of dogs in the outer steading announced the arrival of the young herd, leading in peats from the moss. And, with three sheep-collies trotting at his heels, soon we were deep in a subject lying near to the heart of every hill-shepherd.

"That dog there," said the young herd pointing to a rough coated black collie, "has a history. She was tossed out o' an Army lorry near Kir-coo-bri' because she took seek on the road."

"But," he added "she's a great pet, an a gran' dog for the hill." And, leading the way into the stable-" Hae ye ever seen collie pups? Cum ben till ye see this. . . ."

"Sae ye've cam' a' the road tae climb Corserine?" said the shepherd, as we emerged from the stable. "Ye'll no see far the day."

Crashed Aircraft

As seen from the steading, Corserine looked black and sinister in the distance. Thick, drifting clouds twined like smoke half-way down its steep, rocky battlements. No fewer than three 'planes had crashed on that hill in the mist, so the shepherd told me, the last near the top, where wreckage still lay among the rocks on the hillside.

Promising to look in on my return, I set off, and soon came within sight of Loch Harrow, with its red-roofed boathouse and dusky blue waters lying deep in shadow under Craignelder, to the right of Corserine. Trudging on round the loch, through a tangle of peat-haggs, bog myrtle, and heather, brought me at last to an old stone dyke and the top of the rough, boulder-strewn ridge overlooking Loch Minnoch.

Sullen, Remote

I was now directly under the spreading base of Corserine, but of the hill itself I could see very little, for it lay shrouded in a dark and forbidding mist. As I climbed upwards toward the first great bulwark of the hill, Loch Dungeon came into view, lying sullen and remote under the grim, thunder-battered crags of Millfire. Corserine shoulders up into the clouds in a series of gigantic ramparts, and soon I was enveloped in a thick, misty curtain that shut out everything but my immediate surroundings.

It was now that I doubted the wisdom of continuing the climb. Had not five men been lost for a whole day when the mist came down and trapped them among the rocky precipices?

Ghostly streamers of clinging, vapour cloud came floating gently down, giving a strange eerie feeling as I clambered among the wet jagged rocks.

This was no ordinary mist that covered the hill but like a blanket. It was the dreaded black mist the shepherds fear that blot out everything like a dense, impenetrable fog.

Suddenly my foot struck against something hard, with a metallic sound. I stooped and there was a long strip of twisted metal firmly wedged among the boulders.

The young herd had spoken about the wreckage of an aircraft, and these Galloway hills had proved a very death-trap to brave and gallant crews on just such a day as this, and it was with feelings better imagined than described that I groped my way forward to scale the last great bastion of the hill.

On the Summit

Standing beside the cairn of stones that marks the summit of Corserine, I looked in vain for any break in the swirling mantle of grey-black mist. The air was chill, and with a piercing cold, wetting smirr.

Black and sinister indeed was Corserine that day. And in the dark and threatening mist the dreadful scene rose up before me like a living picture, rooting me to the spot.

The roar of the aircraft, the crash upon the hillside, the blinding flash and flame – I felt I was standing upon the very bones of creation and, lifting up my arms – “God have mercy upon them” – I fled from the desolate, haunted sepulchre.

How long I wandered upon that bleak hillside I cannot say, but, coming down through the wild swirl of blinding mist, I suddenly found myself on the edge of a great precipice and turned my steps aside just in time. Further down the hill, as I emerged at last out of the enveloping cloud, there was Loch Dungeon on my right, with the frowning crags of Millfire to give my bearings.

“Hame Safe”

Big Ben was striking six o'clock when I entered the bien, old-fashioned kitchen at the Fore Bush. Heartsome content within, a friendly smell of burning peat and new-baked scones straight from the girdle – a pleasant spot, indeed, for a sharp-set traveller to rest awhile.

“kent yon was a black mist on the hill.” Said the shepherd, “and I'm glad ye're hame safe.” Not so long ago, he told me, when he was herding between Corserine and the Dungeon, a blinding mist came down and for hours he was gathering the wrong sheep, having completely lost his bearings.

Shadows of the night were darkening the hills when I bade farewell to the kind folk who live at the Fore Bush. Accompanied by his rough-coated collies, the young herd convoyed me to the outer gate. “Cam back after the lambin' time,” he said “ There's nae mist on the hill then.” And with the barking of the sheep-dogs ringing in my ears, I set off down the long road to the Forrest gate.

VALLEY OF DOON NOTES DOCTOR TO RETIRE

It has been learned with general regret in Doon Valley that Dr George Kirkhope, MB ChB., Doonbank, Patna is to retire at the end of this month. Known to every man, woman and child in the district, and popular with all, “the Doc” has held the practice for close on 29 years. A native of Irvine, he graduated from Glasgow University and during the first world war gave 3 ½ year's service with the R.A.M.C. in Mesopotamia and in France. Thereafter he worked for a time in Glasgow's Western Infirmary and in Glasgow Maternity Hospital before coming to Doonbank late in 1920. The valley practice, stretching from Waterside to Rankinston, is a widely scattered and growing one, and demands fitness. Dr Kirkhope has decided that it is a job for a younger man. A task so exacting left little time for hobbies, but in his earlier days the doctor was very keen on “skelpin' the wee gutty ba” Later he devoted much of his spare time to teaching and examining local ambulance classes.

Reputed for his gentle manner, he is possessed of a keen sense of humour. One of his best stories is well worth repeating. During the last war a conscript who was being examined by the doctor appeared to have incredibly poor eyesight. The doctor, suspicious of the genuineness of the complaint tried by every means to catch the man out, but failed and was forced to let him go. The same evening the doctor, feeling the need for some relaxation betook himself to a cinema and when the lights went up was amazed to see sitting next to him the man who had failed to pass the eye test. “Dear, dear!” exclaimed the doctor, “I would never have expected to find a man with eyes as defective as yours at the picters.” “The picters?” the other ejaculated, “the picters?” Good heavens, I thought this was the bus for Gourock!” Doctor Kirkhope and his wife will take up residence in Redcroft, Kidsneuk, Irvine, and will carry with them the good wishes of the entire valley.

SAD DEATH OF A SHEPHERD

At daybreak on Saturday, David Forsyth, shepherd, residing at the Boat House, Waterside, set out in pursuit of his calling accompanied by his two dogs. As the day advanced he did not make his customary return, but the younger of the dogs did and this gave cause for alarm which intensified at nightfall. His now anxious wife then procured help and a search party was organised to scour the hill, with the result that shortly after midnight, his lifeless body was discovered in a reclining posture at the foot of Grimmet Glen guarded by his faithful collie, the barks of which attracted the party to the spot. At first the dog resented interference, but afterwards seemed pleased and frequently licked his dead master's hand. Death was due to heart failure and was supposed to have taken place fourteen hours before discovery. Deceased, who herded part of Grimmet Farm, Dalmellington, was 65 years of age. He was of an intelligent and kindly nature and was beloved by all who had the privilege of his acquaintance.

“**The sun**, , closing his benediction sinks, and the darkening air thrills with a sense of triumphing night – night with her train of stars and her great gift of sleep.”

Announcements for this classification can only be accepted if they bear the signatures of both contracting parties.

Mr A Wilson, Miss J A Davis.

Mr and Mrs Billy Wilson of Basildon, are pleased to announce the engagement of their youngest son, Andrew, to Jillian Ann, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Harold Davis, of The Queen's, Basildon.

Marriages

Mr C A Escott, Miss J E Cooke

Were married at Heston St Andrew's United Reform Church, Heston, Bradford 3, at 1.00

Davidson - Suddenly – at home – 1, Barns Terrace, Ayr, on 15th November 1986. ROBERT MURDOCH DAVIDSON. M.B. Ch. B. late of Moniaive, Dumfriesshire, loving husband, father and grandfather of Stephanie, Robin and family. Funeral service at Alloway Parish Church, tomorrow (Wednesday) at 11.15 am followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations to any charity preferred.

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CARSPHAIRN TO VANCOUVER

FARMING FAMILY'S GREAT ADVENTURE

A chance in a lifetime for their four sons.

On Tuesday Mr and Mrs Hugh Martin and their four sons from Croft's Farm, Carsphairn, said their last farewells to their friends in and around the village and set off on the first lap of a 5000 mile journey which will eventually take them to Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

For well nigh 70 years the farm of Crofts, incongruously situated in the middle of Carsphairn village, has been owned and farmed by father and son. It extends to only 77 acres, and that is the chief reason for Mr Martin's decision to emigrate. With a family of four sons and no prospect of being able to enlarge the farm Mrs Martin said he decided that it would be in the best interests of the young people to transfer their interests and activities to the promising land of Vancouver Island.

“As things are in this country,” said Mrs Martin, we can’t see much of a future for the boys, and as three of them appear dead set on farming we would give them their chance. Anyway, there are many restrictions in this country.”

The eldest son, Robert, is 15 years of age and has recently been studying agriculture at Wallace Hall Academy, Thornhill. Anthony (12) and Douglas (7) are still at school while the youngest Michael, has not yet reached school age.

Farewell Gifts

Naturally enough, the occasion has aroused a good deal of interest and excitement in the village and for days before their departure Mr and Mrs Martin and family had a constant stream of visitors to wish the “bon voyage” and the best of luck in their great adventure.

As reported in last week’s issue Mr Martin has been presented with parting gifts from the local darts and bowling clubs and on Saturday a deputation comprising Rev W R Sievwright, and Messrs C Stewart, Glenelg; John Hunter, Knowe; and George McMillan, handed over a farewell gift from the people of this parish – a wallet of notes. The gift was handed over by the eldest member of the deputation, Mr Stewart, who expressed the regret of all in Carsphairn and district that the Martin family were leaving them, but on behalf of every subscriber wished them the very best of luck on their new life. After a few words by Mr Sievwright Mr Martin suitably replied. It was something of a wrench, he said, to pull up their roots and take themselves off to pastures new but “nothing ventured, nothing gain.” He thanked all concerned for their kindness and assured them that, God willing, Mrs Martin and he would be back to see them all some day.

Mr and Mrs Martin and family sail on the 10th May from Greenock in the Empress of Scotland. Meanwhile they will be paying farewell visits to their friends and relations up and down the country.

The new tenant of the Crofts is Mr Douglas Muir, Minishant.

Caption to photograph:“**WHAT ABOUT TEDDY?**”

Packing has been quite a problem for Mrs Martin. Twenty cubic feet per person is the maximum allowed, and the difficulty is to decide what to take and what to leave. It is a problem, too, for Master Michael, who wants to take Panda and his favourite Teddy. Elder brother Douglas would like to pack his favourite story book, but in case it has to be abandoned he takes a last look at it.

VILLAGE SAYS ‘THANKS R.A.F.’ WITH £20

By Daily Mail Reporter

The tiny Galloway village of Carsphairn (population about 65) has sent a £20 10s “Thank you” cheque to the CO’s benevolent Fund at Turnhouse aerodrome in appreciation of the efforts of RAF men who dropped supplies to them when they were snow-bound for a fortnight last winter.

Organisers of the effort were Mrs N Lawrence and her two daughters Helen and Diana, who live in the village.

“The money was raised by a whist drive and dance last December.” Miss Helen Lawrence said yesterday. “and we also raffled a cake and tins of jam.

“We felt that we would like to say ‘Thank You’ to the RAF for their help and have received a letter of appreciation from the station commander.”

Important items dropped by the Dominic aircraft piloted by Wing Commander A H Simmonds – then Senior Officer at 66 (Scottish Reserve) Group Headquarters at Turnhouse – were tins of milk for four-month-old Michael Martin son of Carsphairn smallholder.

Miss Dougan dies at the age of 100

One of Stewartry's oldest residents, Jessie Dougan, died on Thursday, less than seven months after her 100th birthday.

Miss Dougan died peacefully in her sleep at Goldielea Nursing Home last week. She was cremated at Masonhill, Ayr, yesterday (Wednesday).

She and her younger sister, Nancy Caldow, moved to Goldielea from their home, Garry House in King Street, Castle Douglas, after Jessie's 100th birthday last June. Their eldest sister, Janet Cabedo, was also a centenarian.

Mrs Cabedo returned to Scotland from Florida after her American husband died, and in 1980 all three sisters moved to Garry House where they lived together for many years.

Jessie was one of a family of six born to James and May Dougan, of Crossmichael. She was a pupil at Glenlochar and Clarebrand schools where she picked up a lifelong love of learning.

At 20 she became a teacher at Clarebrand, later teaching at Rhonehouse and Parton before becoming head of Shawhead School, a post she held for 20 years. Altogether her teaching career spanned 43 years.

Mrs Caldow was also a teacher, latterly headmistress of Kirkpatrick Durham. Their sister Ellen, who died 10 years ago, was an infant mistress at Dalry.

Miss Dougan was always active in the community. Her interests included choral music, drama, country dancing and writing – including a book about Crossmichael.

She retained her faculties and will be much missed by Nancy and friends at Goldielea who loved her great sense of humour.

Record Catch on Tay

Caption to photo;

Messrs William Duncan and J Hamilton Craig, Edinburgh, with their catch of nine salmon with a total weight of 165 ½ lbs, which they caught on the Tay at Benchil, near Stanley – claimed to be the largest catch of salmon from one boat this season. The largest fish weighs 28 lbs., and the others weigh 25, 20, 20, 19,19,15, 10 ½ and 9 lbs. Mr Hamilton Craig is a former winner of the Loch Leven National Competition.

THE LATE JAMES HAMILTON CRAIG, C. A.

The death took place on March 8 of James Hamilton Craig, for more than 50 years in practice as a Chartered Accountant in Edinburgh and a well-known figure there. Apprenticed to Richard Brown & Co., Edinburgh, he qualified as C.A. in 1905, became partner in Romanes & Aitchison in 1910, and was for many years, until his death, senior partner in that firm. He served from 1929 to 1933 on the Council of Edinburgh Society.

James Craig was a man of outstanding character and ability, of the highest integrity, scrupulous and punctilious in everything he did. He won the confidence and the affection of his many clients, not only in this country but on the Continent as well.

In the First World War he served with distinction with the Seaforth Highlanders but in 1917 was very severely wounded. After a long time in hospital he returned to practice with his firm, but these wounds gave him serious trouble for the rest of his life.

Undeterred by this handicap he devoted his leisure hours to shooting and fishing. He was a very fine shot and a lovable companion, hospitable and kindly to a degree, and his happiest hours were those spent on the moors or at the coverts, particularly in the Carsphairn district. It was, however, as one of our leading anglers that he was probably best known. He won the National Championship at Loch Leven on two consecutive years, captained the Scottish team in the annual International Match, and gained many honours. His slender, and latterly frail, figure will long be remembered by his friends and companions both within and outside his profession. His was a triumph of the spirit over physical weakness and pain.

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No title (Death of Mr George Lawrence, J. P.)

Mr George Lawrence, J.P., banker, Fraserburgh, was the son of the late highly esteemed parish practitioner, Dr Nathaniel Lawrence, Longside, Aberdeenshire (1808 – 1880), by his wife Beatrice Whyte. Born at Longside, 3rd February, 1850, and baptised on the 28th of the same month (Longside Parish Registers), Mr Lawrence was educated at the Parish School, Longside, and the Grammar School at Aberdeen and began his banking career at the head office of the North of Scotland Bank at King Street, Aberdeen, in 1868. Some time after completing his apprenticeship, he was appointed accountant at the west end branch of the bank in Aberdeen. Subsequently he acted as relieving officer at several branches, being stationed over a year at Carnoustie and for a considerable time at Oban and other places. In 1879 he accepted the agency at New Deer, an excellent appointment in the centre of an important agricultural district. Here, as elsewhere, Mr Lawrence was extremely popular,. Courteous, genial, and frank in manner, his personal qualities combined with business abilities of a high order, did much to maintain and build up the position of the bank in the district. he acted as School Board clerk at New Deer for a number of years, and was instrumental in smoothing over not a few difficulties during his tenure of office. In 1880 he was elected a justice of the peace, and here we may mention that his strong hobby has been antiquarian research. A member of the Club of Deer, he formed a large and valuable collection of flints from various parts of Aberdeenshire, arrowheads, coins, and curios of all kinds, literary and otherwise. These “miscellanen” we were specially privileged to examine at length a few years ago, and like a genuine student Mr Lawrence was most obliging to impart to others his acquired knowledge on such matters. In regard to antiquarian matters he had contributed occasionally to various periodicals. He was an ardent supporter and subscriber to the defunct monthly periodical “Scottish Notes and Queries,” originally published by Messrs David Wyllie and Son, Union Street, Aberdeen, and edited from first to last by the late Mr John Bulloch, (1837 – 1913), father of Mr John Malcolm Bulloch, M.A., now editor of “The Graphic.”

Before leaving New Deer Mr Lawrence was entertained to dinner, when over 200 hundred of his friends met and presented him with a handsome silver tray and silver water jug subscribed for by his friends in the parish and district of New Deer. His transference to Fraserburgh took place on 23rd September, 1898, and there he carried on a very large and successful business. He was a director of several companies, a vestryman of St Peter’s Episcopal Church, Fraserburgh, and had been pressed by influential deputations to enter Town Council, School Board, and other public bodies, but had always declined the honour. As honorary treasurer of the Fraserburgh Nursing Association he has done useful service. He resigned his position as agent of the Saltoun Square branch of the north of Scotland and Town and County Bank, Limited, Fraserburgh, this year. For nearly half a century a valued official in the service of the bank, he was exceedingly popular both as a business man and as a prominent citizen.

RETIREMENT OF BRECHIN BANKER

Mr James Guthrie, J.P.

A Prominent Personality in the City

Mr James Guthrie, J.P., senior partner of Messrs David Guthrie & Sons, agents for the Royal Bank of Scotland at Brechin, has retired after over 60 years of service and the agency is now under the charge of Messrs Thomas Maule Guthrie and Robert Scott Cargill, who are to act as joint agents.

The news that Mr Guthrie has retired will come somewhat as a surprise to the citizens. Although he has now passed the age when it is considered that a man may enjoy a well merited rest he has up to now been very active in business. His many activities have made him well known not only in Brechin, but throughout Scotland, and it is difficult to think of him, even at the age of 84, leaving business. So closely associated has he been with banking in Brechin that one can hardly grasp the idea of the Royal Bank without his active figure moving around.

A son of Dr Thomas Guthrie, the famous preacher and founder of the Ragged School Movement, he inherits in no small degree the capabilities of that eminent man displaying the sagacity, broad-mindedness, business activity and wit of his father. Born in 1835 at Arbirlot, Mr Guthrie came to Brechin in 1849 to serve his apprenticeship under his uncle David, who was then acting as agent for the Western Bank. It is interesting to note that his father was for two years in the bank at the end of his student days, and was told at the end of that time that if he preached as well as he banked he would succeed. That his son James, showed talent in the banking line was evident, for when his uncle David died he was nominated as his successor, but being under age it was arranged that his cousin should be associated with him in the Bank agency for a limited number of years. Mr Guthrie has thus acted as bank agent for the long period of 65 years, which, it is believed, is a record for Scotland.

In 1857 the Western Bank failed, and the following day being Martimmas Muckle market at Brechin, it is stated that there never were so many drunk people in Brechin as on that day. The firm did not put off, however, in getting a new business, and on the following day a signboard above the premises indicated that it was now the agency of the Royal Bank of Scotland.

The premises up to 1862 were situated at Prenice Neuk. Extended accommodation being required it was then removed to its present situation in Swan St. From that day until now under Mr Guthrie's management it has flourished, and it has a large business in Brechin and district.

Notwithstanding his activities in the banking business, Mr Guthrie has found time to have a large interest in public affairs. A strong Church man, he has taken a keen interest in religious affairs, and is an elder of the East United Free Church. From 1858 to 1863 he sat on the Town Council, and here again he was following the example of his uncle David, who was also a member of the Town Council for 37 years. The grandfather and great-grandfather filled the Lord Provost's chair, one after the other for many years; and this post has also been worthily filled by his son, the present Town Clerk.

Greatly interested in the Free Library, Mr Guthrie has from year to year contributed handsomely to the Book Fund, and the Infirmary and Nursing Association have found him a shrewd guide and practical helper. As Chairman of the Brechin Gas Company and Chairman of the Alliance Trust, and as Chairman and Director of various other concerns, he is well known, and his spacious outlook and shrewd business foresight have proved valuable to the many business undertakings in which he has taken an interest.

Mr Guthrie has also taken a prominent part in the temperance movement, and as a speaker is in great demand. Ready in speech, quick in repartee, and with the saving grace of humour, he makes a capital impression on his hearers, and with his fund of anecdote and pithy illustrations he retains the attention of his audience. His associations with Brechin are but a continuation of the connection which the Guthries have always had with the old town. "There have aye been Guthries in Brechin."

Active and painstaking to a degree, he has recognised the value of doing all things well. Having ideas of his own, he believes in seeing them carried out, and, while showing strength of character and admirable business aptitude, he has not forgotten the grace which is found in lending a hand to his less fortunate neighbours.

GALLOWAY UNIONISTS

----- M.P.'s CRITICISM OF BALLOT.

There has been a development in the strife in Galloway political circles for the past three years on the eve of the ballot by the Galloway Unionist Association to determine whether Mr John McKie, M.P., is to be recognised or not by the association.

Mr McKie has sent a letter to Major Richard A. Oswald of Cavens, the chairman of the association, protesting an alleged attempt to obscure and prejudice the issue in the circular appealing to the 22,000 Unionists in Galloway to take part in the ballot.

Reference is made to Mr McKie, both as a National Conservative and as an Independent member, and it is to designation as an "Independent 'member" that Mr McKie takes strong exception. He reminds Major Oswald that he sent him a telegram last June asking him to withdraw his statement made at a public meeting in Kirkcowan that he, (Mr McKie) was an "Independent member."

Major Oswald's serious illness immediately intervened and Mr McKie desisted from taking any further action. But, he says, the clear implication of the words now used was that having been returned as a National Conservative he had in the present Parliament departed from the pledge on which he secured election and had voted as an Independent-namely, first in one Lobby, then in another, and more often than not had not voted at all, as an analysis of the votes of Independent members would show that this was their accepted practice.

That was a serious statement to make at the present juncture, Mr McKie adds, and he states that his Division record is much better than a large portion of those members who receive the party Whip. He had consistently voted with the Tory opposition in the present Parliament.

Mr McKie states that he could not regard this statement as other than calculated gravely to obscure and prejudice the present issue.

100 Years Ago (08-08-86)

After lengthy preparations a shot was fired on Saturday which produced the best fall of rock in Craignair Quarry for over 15 years.

Post-car driver David McMichael received a purse of sovereigns in recognition of his long and faithful service between Carsphairn, Dalry, New Galloway and New Galloway station.

The new Gatehouse Town hall will be opened on Tuesday salmon fishings in the River Dee belonging to Kircudbright Burgh were leased for £250 per annum on a ten-year lease.

RADIO COMPETITION WITH MEETINGS

Fireside Electioneering

Campaigning in Kilmarnock Division began in earnest last week. Unionist, Labour, Liberal, and Communist candidates have now been formally adopted and have held meetings in the constituency, but the audiences at all of them have been small.

The feeling has grown that, because of the radio broadcasts by party leaders, the meetings of the individual candidates have been declined in importance, since obviously many of the electors are now content to hear the clash of political controversy at their own firesides.

Mr William Ross, the Labour candidate and former member for the division, is basing his appeal on the record of the Labour Government during the past five years and putting emphasis on full employment. On Thursday he is to have the support of Mr Chuter Ede, the Home Secretary, at an afternoon meeting, and various well-known West of Scotland Labour members will speak at other of his meetings.

Probably the most intensive campaign is that of Colonel A. D. McInnes Shaw, the Unionist candidate. This week he will visit every part of the constituency and address at least two meetings every night. On the other hand, Mr J. Gibson Thomson, the Liberal candidate, has only one indoor meeting advertised for this week, but he proposes to address open-air meetings in all districts.

Mr Thomson professes to be very angry with the Unionists for splitting the anti Labour vote. "The Unionists," he has said, "have found it necessary to go forward with a candidate of their own at a time when one would have thought that they would have been only too willing to support a Liberal candidate against the Socialists." This is rather disingenuous, since no Liberal candidate has contested the seat for 21 years, and since Colonel McInnes Shaw has been nursing the constituency assiduously for two and half years whereas Mr Thomson appeared in the field of the Liberals only two or three months ago.

As the campaign develops it is becoming obvious that many former Liberals are annoyed at the intervention of a Liberal candidate who, by splitting the anti Labour vote, without any chance of his own success, can only help to ensure the return of the Labour candidate.

The Communist candidate, Mrs Isabel Brown, has so far had the smallest audiences. She is a good speaker and has been stating her case with studied moderation.

The present electorate of the division is 45,974, which is about 6,000 fewer than in 1945. At the general election then Labour won the seat with 23,837 votes and the Unionist polled 16,300. In local political circles it is thought that, with four candidates in the field, the one to poll 17,000 votes will be successful. The Unionists believe that only one anti Labour candidate forward they could add considerably to their poll of 1945.

NATIVE OF FRASERBURGH

Mr Geo. Lawrence, Bank Manager, Retires.

Mr George Lawrence, who has been manager of the North of Scotland Bank's chief office in Glasgow since 1938, retires on 31st July.

A native of Fraserburgh, he served as accountant at Aboyne, Buckie and Peterhead before being appointed manager at Lossiemouth in 1920. Two years later he became manager at Cluny Square branch, Buckie.

In 1930 he was promoted to Commercial Road branch, Aberdeen. A year later he was appointed assistant manager at the chief office in Glasgow, and seven years later took over his present post.

Mr Lawrence's father, the late Mr Geo. Lawrence, was for many years the popular manager of the Saltoun Square branch, Fraserburgh. His sister, Miss Peggy Lawrence, resides in Grattan Place.

SOUTH AYRSHIRE'S QUOTA OF EXPENSES

Little More Than Ayr's Total

South Ayrshire is one of the most scattered constituencies in the country, and both the Unionist and the Labour organisations feel aggrieved at the amount of expenses and the number of cars allowed them for their wide canvass. The fact that Ayr, which is so very compact is permitted the same number of cars -29- would appear to add weight to their argument. The total expenditure which each candidate in South Ayrshire may incur is £811 5s. Whereas in Ayr it is £803 16. 8d.

Mr Emrys Hughes, Labour's continued choice for South Ayrshire, succeeded Mr Alexander Sloan at the by-election in February, 1946. Before that he had been a member of Ayr County Council for 14 years and he has been Provost of Cumnock.

His supporters feel that his record, both in local government and in parliament, is more than enough to send him back to Westminster, where on occasion he has taken an independent and critical line.

The Unionists, whose choice of candidate is Mr J C George, point out that he, too, has a record which will appeal to many electors. He went down the pit when he was 14, worked at the coal face, was an oversman, under-manager, manager, and agent. They believe he is their best candidate for some time. In addition, they feel that Labour's prospects will suffer by the transference of part of the miner's vote to Ayr Division.

(Feb 7th 1950)

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MINISTER RETURNS 'HOME' FOR 50 YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Rev. John Alexander M.A., celebrated his Golden Jubilee as an ordained minister, on Friday last week in St. Medan's Church Hall, Drummore.

Mr Alexander was born in 1900 in the former United Free Manse of Kirkmaiden – now known as Ardmore – while his father, was the minister of the U.F. Church.

After beginning his education at the Central School, Drummore, Mr Alexander went on to Stranraer High School and eventually became a student at Glasgow University. He was ordained at Dunbarney United Free Church in Perthshire on July 30th 1925, and was married four years later in St. Medan's Church. After being in Kirkwell, Fraserburgh and Strathmartine, he returned to Galloway, to the Church and Parish of Carsphairn.

Mr Alexander retired from Carsphairn five years ago and now lives in Glenluce. The company – friends and relations of the Alexanders – were welcomed by the minister of Kirkmaiden, the Rev. J. I. Andrews, M.A., B.D. The presentation of an adjustable cantilever table, teak plant stand and a cheque was made by a lifelong friend of Mr Alexander, Mr William Morland Simpson who had also been present when Mr Alexander was ordained. Mrs Alexander was presented with a bouquet of flowers by a school friend. Mrs N. Maxwell. A telegram of congratulations from a former congregation in Strathmartine was read by Rev. Andrews.

They had also sent a bouquet of flowers which was presented to Mrs Alexander by her granddaughter, Fiona.

Rev. Alexander thanked his brother minister, Rev. Andrews, and all his friends for the beautiful gifts and for the kind and loving thoughts which accompanied them.

Tea, served by the ladies of the congregational board, was followed by music and transparencies shown by Rev. Andrews.

After the benediction, Rev. Alexander shook hands with the company before leaving the hall.

Caption to photograph. – Pictured at a presentation to Rev. John Alexander to mark his 50th year in the ministry, at St Medan's Church Hall, Drummore, last Friday are, left to right; Mr W H Simpson, Mr A McGuffie, Rev. J Andrews and the Rev. J Alexander.

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(Handwritten poem)

Poem to T. T.

I'm sorry Timothy Tight Breeks,
That my collar slipped over my head,
That I ran down the village street at you –
I'm sorry for all I said.

My missus was very angry,
She has made my collar so tight –
I can hardly swallow my dinner,
Or sleep in my bed at night.

Yes she called me far worse names
Than I called you, Timothy T.
She says I'm a bad wee terrier
And she's really ashamed of me.

I've not had a cat for a friend, Tim,
So I've missed a lot in life.
Whenever I've seen a cat, Tim,
It has always been war to the knife.

I know the street is yours, Tim,
And the shop and the village too,
I'm only a visiting terrier
And I must'nt be rude to you.

Do you ever take milk from a jug, Tim,
I like it that way myself,
When SHE leaves it lying about, Tim,
On a nice, convenient shelf.

So I hope you'll accept this jug, Tim,
For your own exclusive use,
And I'll never chase you again, Tim –
(Unless my collar gets loose!)

The Galloway Gazette - Saturday, 11th October 1975

Caption to photo: Mrs M Mitchell, Chairman of the Galloway Conservative and Unionist Association presenting a chess set to Mr John Brewis, the former Member of Parliament for Galloway.

FORMER M.P. HONOURED

A REPRESENTATIVE gathering of branches of the Galloway Conservative and Unionist Association met in the Crown Hotel, Newton Stewart, last Saturday to mark the retiral last year of Mr John Brewis as Member of Parliament for Galloway.

Mrs Mitchell, Chairman of the Association, presented Mr Brewis with a beautiful Chess Set made of Scottish wood and horn and paid handsome tribute to his fifteen years' devoted service to Galloway and the Conservative Party. Mrs Percy Sanderson whose husband was agent when Mr Brewis first took the seat, presented Mrs Brewis with a bouquet of flowers.

In her remarks Mrs Mitchell referred to the friendship they had enjoyed over these fifteen years of close association with Mr Brewis.

Not only the Conservative Party in Galloway owe much to Mr Brewis but the electors of Galloway do so as well. He had been truly an M.P. for his constituency, in Parliament to represent all the electors, whether they voted for him or not. Mr Brewis worked very hard and made himself readily available to anyone who needed him. Much of his service and work over 15 years has gone unpublicised but with the appreciative thanks of many people in Galloway.

After a brief personal speech, in which he had his audience chuckling at many humorous anecdotes from his years in Parliament, Mr Brewis thanked everyone for the kind gift and for their support and help throughout his years as an M.P.

Passing to topics of the moment he said he was absolutely horrified that the unemployment figures in parts of Galloway have doubled in the last year. This was the price they had to pay for a short spell of profligate Socialist Government sustained by the minority parties.

Mr Brewis said he wanted to see our M.P. raise this matter in the House of Commons at once in the most vigorous manner. He had already delayed too long. "I certainly can't find anyone to agree with his boast that Scotland for any rate this part of Scotland has never had so much attention as in the last 18 months," said Mr Brewis.

"Of course there are some workshy people in the unemployment figures, but what do not show are the numbers who have to leave Galloway to look for work and these include many of our best school-leavers.

"In the last years of the Conservative Government the position improved greatly in both Dalbeattie and Stranraer, our two main industrial areas, but there has been little to record in new jobs since then. It is also worth noting that when the Conservatives left office the By-pass and Douglas Ewart buildings were in the bag.

"This is no accident because a Conservative Government stands for stability and industrialists have the confidence to branch out in new areas. Who is going to expand when he doesn't know if he will be taxed to death or taken over by Mr Wedgwood Benn and his friends?

"The S.N.P. keep their political colour pretty secret, but it is not difficult to guess the colour a Scottish Government would be. The S.N.P.'s utter opposition to the Common Market and obvious intention of fleecing the oil companies to finance their grandiose programme are hardly calculated to inspire confidence and attract outside industries."

Concluding Mr Brewis said he was sometimes sorry for local Nationalists. There were no spare factories in Scotland to come to Galloway and relieve unemployment. As to the by-passes on the A.75, they knew that

Scotland's life for many years to come would depend on diverting her finances to develop the oil-rich North-East. In other words, the S.N.P. just could not deliver the goods.

MAYAN PROPHECY (handwritten)

They devised a calendar for astronomic events that is as accurate as the one we use today. Even last month's eclipse of the moon was predicted to within 35 seconds' accuracy. The Mayan 'Long Count' calendar – so-called because of the vast time-span it embraced – began on August 11, 3114BC. But rather worryingly, it ends on December 21, 2012, when the sun will be exactly aligned with the centre of the galaxy and the Earth. Many have seen this as a prediction of the end of the world, although there is no evidence that the Mayans believed this.

McMillan – At Ballochmyle Hospital, Ayrshire on 24th December, 1981, ELIZABETH JACK McINTOSH, aged 81 years, beloved wife of the late George McMillan (Joiner), Carsphairn. Funeral service in Carsphairn Parish Church, today (Monday), at 1.45 pm; thereafter to Masonhill Crematorium by Ayr, at 3pm.

Deaths

KELLIE – Robert Turnbull, retired solicitor, Thornhill, Dumfriesshire. Memorial service to be held in Thornhill Parish Church on Saturday 9th June 2007 at 11am. All friends respectfully invited to attend. No flowers or donations.

I feel, as time rolls onward and I leave the past behind,
That much I thought was sorrow only proved that God was kind;
That many a flower I longed for had hidden a thorn of pain;
That many a rugged pathway led to fields of golden grain.

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The Dishonourable Lady Fagends (handwritten)

The woods are lovely dark and deep
But I have promises to keep
And miles to go before I sleep

There's nothing left remarkable beneath the visiting Moon

(type-written)

Here's to you, old friend,
May you live one thousand years,
To sort'er keep things lively,
In this vale of-tears human tears.
And here's that I may live

One thousand years to ----
Did I say a 'Thousand years'?
No, a thousand, less a day;
For I should hate to live on earth,
And learn that you had passed away.

STEWART – On 16th August 2002 at Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary, Ian Stewart, Munches Park House, Dalbeattie, formerly of Dalry, beloved husband of the late Margaret, and a loving father, grandfather and great grandfather. Cremated at Masonhill Crematorium, Ayr, on 21st August 2002.

CUTHBERT – At Royal Infirmary, Dumfries on 8th September 1980 JOHN BELL CUTHBERT of 3 Deugh Cottages Carsphairn (late of British Guyana), beloved husband of Jessie (nee Stewart). Funeral Service in Carsphairn Parish Church on Thursday 11th September, at 2 pm and Masonhill Crematorium, Ayr at 3pm. (No flowers, please).

WED IN ALLOWAY CHURCH

The wedding took place in Alloway Church on Friday, of Mr Ian McArthur McDonald, elder son of Mr and Mrs T J McDonald, Glasgow, and Miss Marion Burns Randall, younger daughter of the late C L Randall and of Mrs Randall, 16, St Andrew's Street, Ayr. The bride wore a dress of embroidered marocain, with a softly draped bodice and a full skirt falling into a graceful train. There were tiny buttons on the sleeve matching those on the bodice. Her veil (lent by Mrs A Y Crawford; Ayr) was of white tulle and had a head-dress of orange blossom. The bridesmaids were Miss Christine L Randall, the bride's sister, and Miss Helen Lawrence, Carsphairn; they wore dresses in matching blue and pink moss crepe with a draped hipline and new V neckline and tiny cap sleeves. The bride carried a bouquet of pink roses and white heather. The bridesmaids chose pink carnations, blue scabious, and 'love in a mist'. The best man was Mr Herbert McDonald, brother of the bridegroom. The church was beautifully decorated with white flowers, including gladioli, chrysanthemums and heather.

Caption to photograph: Mr Ian A McDonald, 2 Hughendon Terrace, Glasgow, and Miss Marion B Randall, 16 St Andrew's Street, Ayr, pictured leaving Alloway Church after the wedding on Friday. Miss Randall's family were formerly at Burns Monument Hotel, Alloway, and Salutation Hotel, Carsphairn.

Presentation

Social & Dance
To Dr J McEwan Campbell
In Community Centre
Dalmellington
Saturday 24th November 1973
At 4.30pm.

Ticket

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75p

EVENING PARTY

for presentation to

MR JOHN BREWIS

In recognition of his representation of Galloway

in the House of Commons 1959 – 1974

in CROWN HOTEL, NEWTON STEWART, on

SATURDAY, 4th OCTOBER, at 8 pm.

Bar and Light Refreshments

R.S.V.P. by 1st October, to

David Bell,

32 Albert Street,

Newton Stewart.

TICKETS, 50p.

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FOUR DIE IN PLANE CRASH

FRIDAY, 3rd October, 1975

Caption to photographs: A, Police guard the crashed plane near the top of the hill. B, Investigators sift through the wreckage looking for clues.

Four men died on Sunday evening when their light aircraft crashed into a hillside near Kirkcudbrightshire/Ayrshire boundary during a storm.

The Piper Cherokee crashed just below the summit of the 2040 ft. Bow Hill three miles west of Carsphairn.

On Monday a police team and Board of Trade investigators spent most of the day in heavy rain and strong winds examining the debris.

The dead were later named as Mr Maurice King, the pilot, Mr Neil Pomfret, Mr David Evans and Mr Gerry Gibson, all from the Burnley area.

The accident happened 15 minutes after the aircraft left Prestwick Airport en route for Blackpool. It was seen by a group of hill walkers who raised the alarm and a team of police officers set up a command post at the base of the hill.

Mr J W Holton, senior inspector of accidents said on Monday; "We are making a thorough examination of the area but it is too early to say what happened."

Four persons died last night when their light aircraft crashed in fog and torrential rain into the side of 2000ft, Bow Hill in the Kells range, on the border of Ayrshire and Kirkcudbrightshire.

The plane, an Aztec Piper, carried a pilot and three passengers. It crashed 15 minutes after take-off from Prestwick en route for Blackpool.

The four men, all in their early 20's, were believed to be members of Blackpool Flying Club.

A party of hill walkers saw the aircraft come down. They alerted Mr David Wallace, of Garryhorn farm, who

contacted the police, and they then split into two parties to search for the wreckage which they found.

Later they gave directions to teams of policemen from Dumfries and Galloway and to fire brigade units.

The wreckage was found four and a half miles north of Carsphairn, Kirkcudbrightshire, and about two miles from abandoned lead mine workings.

Local people say these workings distort the compass readings of hill walkers.

The bodies of three of the dead were last night still in the wreckage. The fourth was found a short distance away.

Mist and difficulty in crossing the rocky terrain hindered the efforts of police and firemen, and the bodies will be brought down from the hills today.

The aircraft belonged to Air Navigation Ltd. (Blackpool). An official of the firm said last night he understood the plane left Blackpool yesterday on a pleasure trip to Scotland.

He thought the party intended to fly round Arran and stop at Prestwick Airport for lunch and refuelling before returning home.

A Government inquiry into the cause of the crash starts today.

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PLANE CRASH WIDOWS WOMAN SECOND TIME

A mother of six was widowed for the second time by the crash of the Piper Cherokee light aircraft on Sunday night in the Galloway Hills. It was disclosed yesterday.

The four who died in the crash included Mr Gerry Gibson, 37, of whose wife, Madeleine, 37, lost her first husband in a car crash 16 years ago.

The aircraft, from Blackpool Flying Club, plunged into the ground only minutes after taking off from Prestwick Airport on its return to Lancashire.

The others on board were named as Mr Maurice King, 41, of Foulbridge, near Colne. Mr Neil Pomfret, of Brunshaw Road, Burnley, and Mr David Evans, of Briercliffe, near Burnley.

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'The Bulletin' Saturday, January 14, 1939

What grim secret lies behind the gloomy Rhinns of Kells – barren Kirkcudbright mountain range and plague-spot of aviation in Scotland? What fatal attraction causes airmen to fly blindly into the sullen slopes? Statistics show that a rapidly increasing percentage of air accidents in Scotland can be traced to these hungry hills. Year after year the death-roll mounts.

A plane vanishes . . . search parties go out . . . patrols scour the sky. And then comes the fateful message; "Lost plane located." Grim-faced men scale the vicious slopes, plod across endless bogs, reach the rock-strewn summits. And once they gaze hopelessly at tangled wreckage, charred remains of an aeroplane which was flying safely only a few hours before.

The Rhinns of Kells claim another victim. And weary men trudge back to the valleys below bearing their stretchers.

Even the names of these fateful peaks are as dark and forboding as their grim tops and serried flanks. There's black Merrick, and Kirriereoch, Corserine, Carlins Cairn, Millfire, Meaul, Benyellary, North Gairy Top, and Meikle Millyea.

Another Victim

Meikle Millyea – Rearing up to almost 3000ft, this is the latest peak on the Rhinns of Kells range to claim a victim.

A shepherd looks out in the darkness and sees flames roaring from its summit. At dawn he goes out, and in the grey light a wisp of smoke trails from the wind-swept peak. Seven miles he tramps across wild country, jumping bogs, clambering up precipitous gullies. And at last he comes upon the scene.

A burnt-out bomber lies spread-eagled on the scorched slope. Its crew lie dead beside the charred skeleton of their machine.

Airmen shake their heads and wonder. They can't explain this dread secret of the Rhinns of Kells. But there is a secret. And some day, perhaps, it may be known. What they do know is that this wild range of hills has a strange attraction for aircraft. Like a spider's web it pulls them in and holds them forever.

Pilots know the notorious record of these hills. Yet, for some mysterious reason, they are still being caught in the trap. Unheeding, sure of their altitude and course, they fly on and into the hills of doom. Clinging mists hide the villain from their eyes. But their instruments say –“ You are safe!” And they fly on until a black wall suddenly rushes towards them out of the cloud and death swiftly takes the toll.

Few Live to Speak

What is the explanation? What is the secret? And can the hidden menace – if one exists-be overcome?

Investigators, and there are many, know one thing-that the Rhinns of Kells is the most dangerous flying area in Scotland. Too many experienced pilots have crashed with fatal results on these hills to permit of the argument standing unchallenged that they showed not enough care.

Unfortunately, few have come back to tell the story of their crash and explain how it happened. Men are left to guess and theorise.

Yet there was a sinister message behind the crash of a search 'plane which went down out of control over Meikle Millyea, not 50 yards from the spot where a bomber had crashed and burned the night before.

The two occupants escaped. Their machine struck bogland. Instead of being smashed into a jumble of twisted wreckage it buried its nose in the morass and turned over.

What was the pilot's story?

He flew towards the point where the wrecked bomber lay, having previously observed its position from a higher altitude. When at a point near the wreckage and a little more than 200ft above it, the machine he was flying – a two-seater Tiger Moth –failed to respond to the controls.

It dived at 90 miles per hour straight towards the hillside. The pilot struggled to pull the machine out of the dive, to sideslip away from the onrushing slope. The machine carried straight on and crashed. By a remarkable stroke of good luck the pilot and his companion escaped with their lives.

They believe that they were caught in a violent current of air. But they cannot be sure. Was their machine caught in a savage down-draught? Or did something else pull them with terrific force to earth? Or was the cause a deep vacuum-an empty pocket in mid-air which a 'plane would drop, unable to sustain itself in flight?

There is a popular belief that the Rhinns of Kells have a strange magnetic force caused by vast mineral deposits which have never been worked. This theory is often advanced as a possible explanation of crashes in this area.

And it's not a fanciful story. I know a Scottish air transport pilot who escaped with his life to prove beyond doubt that his altimeter was seriously disturbed while flying over the Rhinns of Kells.

Black Shape in Mist

Three years ago he was flying from Renfrew to Isle of Man, taking the mainland route over the Kells to the Solway Firth before turning over the sea to the Isle of Man. He was flying “blind” in heavy rain. His altimeter

read at just under 5000ft, which should have given him a clearance of more than 2000ft.

But in the grey mist he saw a black shape flash past his wing tip. He missed it by a few feet.

That black object, of course, was one of the peaks of the Rhinns of Kells. The pilot missed certain death by only a few feet. Had he been just a little lower, his would have been another grim story added to the fateful list.

Why did his altimeter read 5000ft when he was very obviously flying at under 3000ft? It must have simply been due to unusual atmospheric conditions. But perhaps the Kells could supply the answer.

Here is another story- a true story- of an air-liner pilot flying from Liverpool to Renfrew by Carlisle. He had good weather conditions until he crossed the Solway. And then he flew into dense fog and mist which completely hid the Kells from view.

Bearings Go Wrong

He had plenty of altitude, but he asked for bearings to check his position Renfrew flashed back bearings by radio. He checked again, and when he considered that he was over the danger area he came down cautiously, believing that he would be approaching Glasgow.

He found himself over the sea, and a few minutes later discovered that he was heading in the direction of Ireland! Yet, before he reached the Rhinns of Kells and struck the "blind" patch, he was positive of his position. Which leaves little doubt that the wireless bearings he received while over the Kells were very far out.

What, we ask again, is the explanation? Did this strange range of hills cause the bearings to be faulty and the aircraft to deviate 90 degrees from its course? Or was the fault due to well-known flaw-night error?

During the war a seaplane base was built at great cost on Loch Doon in the heart of this dreaded area. The idea, briefly, was that seaplanes could take off from the loch at a moment's notice, climb above the hills and head out to the Irish Sea to attack enemy submarines. But the scheme was eventually abandoned.

The reason? Once again a condemning finger points at the Rhinns of Kells.

The Final Mystery

And from the last tragedy of the Kells comes a curious story – a story which still further deepens the mystery. Before the bomber crashed that night on Meikle Millyea its wireless operator was in touch with the wireless station at Renfrew airport. His position was given as over the Nith Valley and heading towards Dumfries. The time was noted.

In the wreckage of the bomber next day, watches which had stopped at the moment of the crash were examined. They stopped one minute after the Renfrew bearings had been given. The position indicated by the bearings was 25 miles distant from the spot where the tragedy occurred.

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TEMPLETON – Suddenly at Granite House, Carsphairn, on 27 October, 1980. MARY McWHIRTER MURDOCH, aged 90 years, beloved wife of the late William Templeton, and beloved mother of Mary. Service at Carsphairn Parish Church, tomorrow (Wednesday), at 2 pm; funeral thereafter at Dalmellington Cemetery, at 2.45pm.

SOLDENHOFF – RICHARD DAVIS DE SOLDENHOFF O.B.E., beloved husband of the late Mollie de Soldenhoff, loved father of Janice, Alexander and Richard, died on 7th April, 1981. Cremated in the presence of the family only, on the 9th April, 1981 Southport. Donations if desired can be sent to the British Heart Foundation.

GROSSART – Peacefully, at his home, Milton, St Andrew Drive, Castle Douglas, on Wednesday 29th April, 1981, WILLIAM GIBSON GROSSART, in his 94th year. Private interment; family flowers only.

LYONS - on 2nd May, 1981, at Nithbank Hospital, Dumfries, Mary, dearly loved eldest daughter of the late John and Martha Lyons, late of Dalshangan Lodge, Carsphairn, and dearly loved sister Jean, Tom, Frank and Joe. Sadly missed.

HYSLOP – In hospital on July 5, 1981, Miss Mary Hyslop, 55 Townhill Road, Dunfermline, beloved daughter of the late Mr and Mrs James Hyslop, of Carsphairn, Galloway, and dear sister of the late James Hyslop. Service in Dunfermline Crematorium on Wednesday, July 8, at 2.30pm, to which all relatives and friends are invited.

BELL – Peacefully at Ravenspark Hospital, Irvine, on Tuesday 2nd September, 1980. DAVID BELL, 5 Maryborough Avenue, Prestwick, dearly beloved husband of the late Anna S Welch, and father of Ritchie and family. Funeral service at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr, on Friday 5th inst., at 11 am, to which all friends are respectfully invited; no flowers or letters please.

ROSS – At Derby, on 26th November, 1981, MARY BOYD ROSS, aged 88 years, beloved wife of the late Malcolm Ross, butcher, Dalmellington.

OLIVER – On Jan 15, 1982, at Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary, MARGARET OLIVE OLIVER, Glenhowl, Dalry, and 18, High Beech, Winchmore Hill, widow of D H Oliver. Funeral on Wednesday, Jan 20, Service at Masonhill Crematorium, Ayr, at 3pm.

DICKSON – At Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary, on 7th September, 1980, MARY ELLAN DICKSON, beloved wife of Archie Dickson, Larg farm, Creetown. Service at Kirkmabreck Church tomorrow (Wednesday) at 2.30pm; funeral thereafter to Kirkmabreck Churchyard; all friends respectfully invited; no flowers or letters please; donations if desired to cancer research.

LYON – Peacefully, at a hospital, on 30th May 1980, ADELINE LORNA, Whitehill, Portling, much beloved mother of John, Del and Christine. – Funeral service at Colvend Parish Church on Thursday, 5th inst., at 2.30pm and thereafter interment private at Southwick Old Churchyard; Family flowers only.

GEMMELL – Peacefully at Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary, on 8th July, 1980. ROBERT GIBSON GEMMELL, M.B. Ch. B., beloved husband of Rina Campbell and dearly loved father of Robert and Annette. – Service (private) at Belmont, Dalbeattie, today (Friday). Funeral thereafter at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr, at 11 am, to which all friends are respectfully invited. Memorial Service will be held in Craignair Church at a later date.

ATKINSON – At Moor Green Hospital, Southampton, on 15th July, 1980, James Muir Atkinson, M.B., C.H.B., aged 58 years, second son of the late Edward Atkinson, Potato Merchant and of Mrs Wilhemina M Atkinson, 4 Ettrick Place, Ayr and beloved brother of William, Moira, Edward and Ratcliffe. No letters please. Donations may be sent to Cancer Research Fund if desired.

McWILLIAM – On 7th August, 1980, Jessie Girvan, Navrig, New Galloway, loved wife of the late W H McWilliam, dear mother of Lillias and grandmother of Jane and Derek. – Cremated at Masonhill, Ayr. No letters please.

ALEXANDER – At Newton-Stewart Hospital, on 2nd December, 1981, the Rev JOHN ALEXANDER, of St Cuthbert's Glenluce, service at Old Luce Parish Church, Glenluce on Saturday 5th inst., at 12noon; interment thereafter in Glenluce Cemetery; all friends respectfully invited; family flowers only, if desired donations in lieu of flowers to league of Friends, Newton-Stewart Hospital.

FELL – On 18th November 1998, peacefully at Cheadle, Stoke on Trent, Willie Fell, brother of Davie, loving husband of Sheena, father of John and Adrienne and beloved grandfather.

HOWAT – At a nursing home, Glasgow, on 26th November, 1969, Jane (Jean) Murray, beloved wife of George Howat, 3 Caledonia Street. Funeral on Saturday; friends desirous of attending please meet at Woodside Crematorium at 11.30 am – No flowers or letters, please.

WOOLGAR – On 25th January 1980 (peacefully) at home in Dorset, after an illness courageously borne. Edward Woolgar, aged 61 years, beloved husband of Violet (late of Corriedoo, Dalry).

NEILL – Peacefully at Ballochmyle Hospital, Mauchline on Saturday 22nd March, 1980, JOHN NEILL, dearly beloved husband of Agnes Baird Wright, Blairston Lodge, Netherauchendrane, Alloway – Service at Ayr Auld Kirk, tomorrow (Tuesday) at 2 pm; funeral thereafter at Alloway Cemetery, at 2.30pm; family flowers only; no letters, please.

CAMPBELL – At the home of her sister, on 1st April, 1980, ELIZABETH BURNS HIGHET, beloved wife of William Campbell, Glen Maree, Hollybush, by Ayr (formerly of Brockloch, Carsphairn), and dear mother of Christina – Funeral service at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr, on Friday, 4th inst., at 10.30 am to which all friends are respectfully invited.

BEER – At Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary, on 13th April, 1980 GEORGE HOLROYD BEER (late of Bishopbrig, Dalmellington, Ayrshire), beloved husband of Elsie May Clark, Seabreeze, Isle of Whithorn Church, service at Isle of Whithorn Church tomorrow (Wednesday) at 8.30am; funeral thereafter at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr, at 11 am; all friends respectfully invited; no flowers, please; donations to cancer research.

TAYLOR – Peacefully, at Argyll Park, Helensburgh, on 17th April, 1980 (after a long illness, bravely borne) MARY M CHRISTIE, beloved wife of the late Stephen Taylor – Funeral service at Cardross Crematorium today (Saturday) at 10.30am, to which all friends are invited.

BARCLAY – Suddenly at Dalry, Kirkcudbrightshire, on 17th April 1980, MARSHALL LINDSAY BARCLAY. F.R.I.C.S., I.S.O. (formerly chief valuer Scotland, Inland Revenue) beloved husband of Nan, 79 Ravelston Dykes, Edinburgh, and dear father of Michael, Alasdair and Robert. – Funeral service at Warriston Crematorium, Edinburgh, on Tuesday, 22nd inst, at 1 pm; no flowers, please.

FERGUSON – At Ayr County Hospital, on 17th April 1980, ELIZABETH LEES GRIEG, beloved wife of the late Thomas Fergusson, Carminnows, Carsphairn. – Funeral service at Carsphairn Parish Church on Monday, 21st inst, at 3 pm.

WATSON – Peacefully, at Erskine Hospital, on 19th May, 1980, ELIZABETH WATSON, in her 75th year, beloved mother and grandmother of Maureen, Carolyn, 9 Caird Drive, Glasgow – Friends desirous of attending funeral please meet cortege at Clydebank Crematorium, North Dalnotter, tomorrow (Thursday) at 10.25 am.

CAMPBELL – Peacefully, at Holm of Lagwyne, Carsphairn on 20th February, 1979, CATHERINE M CROMARTY, dearly loved daughter of Jessie W Cromarty, beloved wife of the late Colin Campbell and mother of Rhoda, Colin, and Catherine. – Service at Carsphairn Parish Church tomorrow (Friday) at 12.15 pm; funeral thereafter to Carsphairn Churchyard.

McCUTCHEON – On 15th March, 1979, (peacefully) at Lady Home Cottage Hospital, Douglas, Maggie Heron, 2 Deugh Cottage, Carsphairn, dearly beloved wife of the late John McCutcheon (formerly of Meadowhead Farm, Carsphairn), and dearly beloved grandmother of John.

RAMSAY – On 19th July 1979, at Biggart Hospital, Prestwick, David George Ramsay, J.P., M.A., B Sc., in his 91st year (late Rector, Kirkcudbright Academy) dear husband of the late Ellen Hill, most dear father of Dr Helen Mackie and the late T S Ramsay and a dear grandfather.

SMITH – At Garrick Hospital, Stranraer, on 23rd July, 1979, CHARLES DAVIDSON SMITH (solicitor), Midway, London Road, Stranraer, husband of the late Elizabeth Margaret Young – Service at St Ninians Church, Stranraer tomorrow (Thursday) at 1.30pm; funeral thereafter to Inch Cemetery; all friends invited; family flowers only.

DUNCAN - On 6th August, 1979, at his home, Bellevue, Castle Douglas, Allan Ernest Duncan, formerly of Ardmannoch, Castle Douglas, dear husband of Ailsa Dunlop – The funeral service will take place in St

Andrew's Church, Castle Douglas, at 2 pm, on Thursday, 9th August followed by interment in Castle Douglas Cemetery. All friends respectfully invited. No flowers, no letters please.

GROSSART – On 2nd October, 1979, MARY ALEXANDER YATES, beloved wife of W G Grossart, Milton, St Andrews Drive, Castle Douglas – Funeral Service at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr, tomorrow (Friday) at 1.30pm; no flowers or letters, please.

SMITH – At Vale of Leven Hospital, Alexandria on 16th November, 1979, HELEN WEMYSS, in her 82nd year, Abbeyfield House, Helensburgh. – Funeral service at Cardross Crematorium, tomorrow (Tuesday) at 2.pm, to which all friends are invited.

MACKAY – Tragically as a result of an accident on December 2, 1979, Evelyn MacMillan (Lynn), beloved wife of John Mackay and much loved mother of Marion and Neil, Kelowna, North Connel. Sorely missed. Funeral will take place on Friday December 7, 1979 from Achnaba Church, at 1.30pm to churchyard.

WALLACE – Suddenly at home, Garryhorn Farm, Carsphairn, on 14th March 1978. MARGARET McWHIRTER, beloved wife of the late?.... Wallace, Service at Carsphairn Parish Church tomorrow (Friday) at 1.45pm (private) thereafter at Riccarton Cemetery, Kilmarnock.

SHANNON – At a nursing home, Skelmorlie, on the 23rd May 1978, VIDA McCULLOCH, wife of the late John Shannon, (formerly of St John's Residential Home, Glasgow) and dear aunt of Nan and Fairlie – Funeral service at Greenock Crematorium, tomorrow (Thursday) at 3.30pm; no flowers or letters, please.

AULD – At Dumfries Infirmary on the 18th June 1978, IVIE AULD, aged 77 years, , dearly beloved husband of Christina Thompson, Polmaddie, Carsphairn – Service at Carsphairn Parish Church tomorrow (Wednesday) at 1.50pm; funeral thereafter at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr at 3 pm.

SILLAR - On 23rd June 1978, at Kirkmulloch, Dalry, Castle Douglas, Frederick Cameron, aged 83 years, dear husband of Dorothy – Cremated at Masonhill, Ayr, on 27th June.

GIBSON - On 3rd July 1978 (result of an accident) Colin aged 16 years, youngest son of Joan and the late James W Gibson, Rosebank, Dunscore – Funeral service will take place in Dunscore Parish Church Today (Friday) at 2 pm and thereafter to Dunscore New Cemetery. All friends respectfully invited to attend.

MACMILLAN – At London on 5th July 1978, JENNIFER, beloved younger daughter of Ralston and Evelyn, Lamloch, Carsphairn. And much loved sister of Lynne and John.

BARCLAY – At Heathfield Hospital, Ayr on Sunday 27th August 1978, AGNES (nan) BELL, Kirklee, Carsphairn, Kirkcudbrightshire, dearly beloved wife of the late Thomas Barclay F.R.I.B.A. (formerly of Glasgow and Nether Achie, New Galloway) – Service at Carsphairn Parish Church, today (Wednesday) at 2pm to which all friends are respectfully invited, interment thereafter in the churchyard; family flowers only, please.

LORIMAR – At 3a St Leonard's Road, Ayr, on 11th October, 1978, LILIAS B AULD, aged 72 years, beloved wife of Finlay Lorimer, and dear mother of Derek. Funeral service today (Friday) 13th October at Masonhill Crematorium, Ayr at 11 o'clock, to which all friends cordially invited.

GRIERSON – On 17th October 1978, at Brownhill Cottage, Keir, Jean McFadzean, dearly loved wife of the late Robert Grierson, in her 78th year – Funeral service in Keir Church, Today (Friday) at 1.30pm interment thereafter at Penpont Churchyard. All friends respectfully invited to attend. No flowers, please.

STEWART – At Blairgowrie, on 2nd September, 1976, BESSIE HOWIESON, Greenacres (late of Maryfield Farm) beloved sister of Anna Sievewright (formerly of The Manse of Carsphairn) – Service in St Andrew's Church on Tuesday, 7th inst. At 2 pm: funeral thereafter at Blairgowrie Cemetery at 2.30 pm; to which all friends are invited; no letters, please.

CAMERON – At Dalgleish, Carsphairn, on 25th September, 1976, DUNCAN McARTHUR CAMERON beloved husband of Florence Hastings McDowall – Service at Carsphairn Parish Church, tomorrow (Tuesday) at 2pm.

CROMARTY – On Jan 4, 1977, at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, ALEXANDER CROMARTY, (Ret. C.A.), Glasdale, Kingussie, beloved husband of Edna La-Vera and father of Hamish and Alastair. Funeral service at New Cemetery, Kingussie, on Friday Jan 7, at 2.15, to which all friends are respectfully invited.

MORGENTHALER – Peacefully, at Ballochmyle Hospital, Mauchline, on Thursday, 3rd February, 1977. EDWARD, beloved husband of Fanny Wills, 112 Castlehill Road, Ayr. – Funeral service at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr, in Monday, 7th inst., at 10.30am, to which all friends are invited; no flowers or letters, please.

SINCLAIR – At Zambia, on 28th August, 1977 (the result of an accident) JOHN W W SINCLAIR, aged 34 years, elder son of Mr and Mrs Ian Sinclair, Carnavel, Carsphairn, and dear father of Helene and Ian.

McGARVA – Suddenly at his home, Maryfield, Crossmichael, Castle Douglas, on 29th August 1977, SAMUEL GIBSON McGARVA, dearly beloved husband of Mary Rennie, - Service at Crossmichael Church tomorrow (Thursday) at 2.30pm; funeral thereafter to Crossmichael Cemetery; all friends respectfully invited; no letters, please.

McNAIR – Peacefully at home, 2 Dornoch Park, Ayr, on 8th September, 1977, ROBERT HUNTER McNAIR, L.D.S., beloved husband of Jessie Thomson Mitchell. – Funeral service at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr, on Monday 12th inst., at 10am; no flowers or letters, please.

MARR – At Ayr County Hospital, on 16th September, 1977, JOHN McILVEAN MARR, younger son of the late Robert and Jessie Marr, Bellsbank Road, Dalmellington, Ayrshire., dear brother and brother in-law of Jessie and Murdo, and dear uncle of Donald, - Service at Kirk of the Covenant, Dalmellington, on Monday, 19th inst., at 3pm; funeral thereafter to **Dalmellington** Cemetery; all friends respectfully invited.

MATTHIESON – Suddenly on 9th October, 1977, GEORGE McLEAN PARK MATHIESON, 26 Seabank Road, Southport, (late of Bearsden Glasgow), dearly beloved husband of the late Betty Mathieson, beloved father of Campbell, dear father-in-law of Julie, and dear grandfather of Ashley and Andrea. – Funeral service at Southport Crematorium on Friday, 14th inst., at 2.30pm; inquiries to H Porter & Sons, 115 Norwood Road, Southport. Telephone 32902.

STEWART – Peacefully, at the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, on Saturday 25th May 1974, JANET MILROY, wife of the late James Stewart, Craigroy, Carsphairn – Funeral at Carsphairn on Wednesday 29th inst., at 2pm.

McKAY – At Inglewood Eventide Home, Alloa, on 22nd July 1974 JAMES McKAY, aged 86 years (late of Alexandria and Carsphairn), beloved father of Bill, Bette, Molly and James.

HUNTER – At Dumfries Royal Infirmary, on 5th December 1974, JOHN ARCHIBALD (Bobby) at 84 years late of The Knowe, Carsphairn, husband of the late Jeanette. Funeral on Monday 9th December, at Masonhill Crematorium, Ayr, at 2pm.

NISBET – Suddenly at Ballochmyle Hospital on 28th March 1975 MARGARET DOROTHY NISBET, Arden, Turnberry, Ayrshire, beloved wife of the late William Nesbit of Malaya and daughter of the late Rev R G and Mrs Colquhoun, Chalmers Manse, Girvan. Funeral to Doune Cemetery Girvan, on Wednesday 2nd April. Friends desiring to attend please meet cortege at cemetery gates at 2.30pm.

FULTON – At Heathfield Hospital, Ayr, on 18th August 1975 MARY VALLANCE MACKIE beloved wife of David Hay Fulton, 31 Auchincruive Avenue, Prestwick. – Funeral service at Masonhill Crematorium by Ayr, on Thursday 21st inst., at 1.30pm.

STEWART – At Kilmore, Carsphairn, on 31st August 1975, ELIZABETH STEWART, second daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Gibson Stewart and dearest aunt of Elizabeth Lawson – Funeral private (at her own request).

JEFFS – On 28th September, 1975, Tim Jeffs, The Yellow Door, Kirkcudbright, beloved husband of Mary – Cremated at Ayr on 20th October.

LADY MACINNES-SHAW – Peacefully at Ballochmyle Hospital, Mauchline, on 8th April 1976, DOROTHY ADA THOMSON MACINNES-SHAW, wife of the late Sir Douglas Macinnes-Shaw, Symington House, by Kilmarnock. – Service at Symington Church on Tuesday 13th inst. At 2pm, to which all friends are invited; funeral thereafter private; no flowers, please.

RANDALL – At a hospital, Inverness, on 8th May 1976, CHRISTINA LUMSDEN RANDALL, Carsphairn, Newtonmore, eldest daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Christopher Randall, Carsphairn, Ayrshire, - Service at St Bride's Parish Church, Newtonmore, tomorrow (Friday) at 1.30pm; funeral thereafter at Perth Crematorium at 4pm.

EXECUTRY NOTICE – Any Solicitor, Banker or other Party holding a will by, or papers belonging to Miss CHRISTINA LUMSDEN RANDALL WHO RESIDED FORMERLY at Carsphairn, 16, St Andrews Street, Ayr and latterly at Carsphairn, Newtonmore and who died on 8th May 1976, is requested to COMMUNICATE with The Manager, Bank of Scotland, Newtonmore.

McNEILL – At a hospital, London, on 11th May 1976, GAIL GARDINER, beloved wife of Neil J McNeill, Cairnsmore House, Carsphairn, Kirkcudbright and Dubai, - Funeral at Carsphairn tomorrow (Friday) at 3pm.

REITH – On 16th June, 1971, the Rt Hon JOHN CHARLES WALSHAM REITH, in his 82nd year (First Baron Reith of Stonehaven K.T.) – On his special injunction the funeral will be private.

SHANNON – Suddenly, at Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, on 6th October, 1971, in his 89th year, JOHN SHANNON, M.I.C.E. (LATE OF Sir William Arrols) formerly of 11 Glencairn Drive, Glasgow, S. 1, good husband of Vida McCulloch – Funeral to Craigton Crematorium, on Friday, 8th inst; friends desiring to attend please meet cortege there at 2pm; anyone wanting transport please telephone John Johnston Ltd., 719 Cathcart Road, Glasgow, S.2 041-423 2443; no flowers or letters, please.

CLARK KENNEDY – On Feb. 8 1972, MAUDE ROTH (nee Rivers), widow of the late Rev. A C CLARK KENNEDY. Vicar of Highworth, Wilts, died peacefully in her sleep at home, aged 88 years. Funeral at Carsphairn, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire, at 12 noon, Friday Feb 11. No wreaths.

KENNETH – At Auchendolly, Bridge of Urr, Castle Douglas, on Sunday 26th March 1972, ROBERT KENNETH, in his 95th year, beloved husband of the late Emily Cunninghame. Love and very dear father of Betty, Joan and Jim (died 23rd May 1971) – Service at Auchendolly today (Wednesday) at 12.45 pm; funeral thereafter to Shiewalton Cemetery, Irvine, at 3.30pm; friends please accept this (the only) intimation and invitation.

GLASS – At Holmston Hospital, Ayr, on 4th October 1972, DORIS MURIEL SNOOK, beloved wife of Alexander Stewart Glass, J.P., Invergarry, Dalmellington. – funeral to Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr, tomorrow (Friday) arriving at 3.30pm, to which all friends are invited; no letters or flowers, please.

HUTCHISON – At Newarkhill Farm, Alloway, Ayr, on 4th October, 1972, ELIZABETH WALKER HUTCHISON – Service at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr, tomorrow (Friday) at 10am.

GEORGE – Suddenly, at Seton Lodge, 9 Southpark Road, Ayr, on 14th October, 1972. Sir JOHN CLARKE GEORGE K.B.E. beloved husband of Eutharnia Donaldson – Service at Auld Kirk of Ayr, tomorrow (Tuesday) at 10.45 am; funeral thereafter to Ayr Cemetery at 11.30am

HUNTER – At Dumfries, on 22nd November 1972, JEANNETTE MURRAY LINDSAY, dear wife of JOHN ARCHIBALD HUNTER, Cremation private. (No letters, please.)

MACDOUGALL – At Salisbury, Rhodesia on 12th December 1972, NEIL MACDOUGALL, F.E.I.S., aged 83 years (formerly of Twynholm and Kirkcudbright). Beloved husband of the late Jessie M Stevenson and dear father of Allan and Bill.

MASON – At a hospital, on 12th June, 1973, WINIFRED ANNE, 35 Glenacre Drive, Largs, Service at William Tyre & Son's Funeral Parlour, Gallowgate Lane, Largs, on Friday, 15th inst. At 2pm; funeral thereafter to Ardrossan Cemetery.

COCKILL – On June 12, 1973, HARRY FREDERICK, aged 73 years, of 43, York Road, Birkdale, Southport, dearly loved brother of Dorothy Mary and Margaret. Funeral service at St James Church, Birkdale, on Monday June 18, at 12 noon prior to interment in Liverpool Road Cemetery. Flowers and enquiries to Broadbents' chapels of Rest. Tel. Southport 5101.

ERENTZ – Peacefully, at a nursing home, in Ayr, on 24th September, 1973, CHRISTINA M SAMSON, beloved wife of the late Patrick J Erentz, C.A., 2 Dallas Road, Troon. – Funeral service at Masonhill Crematorium, Ayr, tomorrow (Wednesday) at 3 pm, to which all friends are invited; no flowers, please.

MORISON – On Oct 17, 1973, at her home, Howford, Woodstock, Oxford, MARGARET JANE TRAQUAIR MORISON, daughter of the late Dr and Mrs John Morison of St Albans. Funeral service, Begbrook Parish Church, Monday, Oct 22 at 2pm. Flowers to church.

MOTHERSILL – On 12th March, 1974, peacefully, aged 85 years, in a Nursing Home in Abingdon, the Rev. J E Mothersill. – Funeral service will be held in St Mary's Church, Kirkcudbright. Tomorrow (Saturday), 16th March at 2pm, and thereafter to St Cuthbert's Churchyard.

FORMER ANGLING CHAMPION

A former Internationalist and champion angler, Mr James Hamilton Craig, died yesterday at his home, 30 Cluny Drive, Edinburgh. He was 76.

Mr Craig won the National Angling Championship in the 1930's, fished for Scotland several times and occasionally captained the team.

He qualified as a chartered accountant in 1905 and at the time of his death was senior partner in the firm of Romanes and Aitchison, chartered accountants, Edinburgh.

Mr Craig is survived by a sister.

MASSINGHAM – Very suddenly, at St Thomas's Hospital, London, on 11th January 1970. MARGARET NEILSON (Madge), widow of Godfrey Massingham and elder daughter of the late T C H Hedderwick – Service at Golders Green Crematorium on Friday 16th inst., at 11.30am; flowers and inquiries to J H Kenyon Ltd, 70 Rochester Row, S.W.1 Telephone 01-8344624.

BARBIROLI – On July 29, suddenly, in London, Sir JOHN BARBIROLI C.H. Requiescat inpace. Cremation will take place privately. Family flowers only, please but donations may be sent to Musician's Benevolent Fund, 16 Ogle Street, W.1. A memorial Service will be announced later.

BUCKELL – On Sept 25, WILLIAM DOVER WAY BUCKELL O.B.E., M.C. at Milstream Cottage, Newport, Isle of Wight (formerly of Bonchurch). Aged 79, husband of Elsie, father of Elizabeth and Bill. So dearly loved. Cremation private. Memorial Service, St Thomas's Church, Newport, 2.30pm Thursday Oct 1. Please, no flowers or letters. Donations to British Red Cross, 1 Hunnyhill, Newport.

GALLOWAY – At Castle Douglas Hospital, on 25th October 1970, WILLIAM GALLOWAY, aged 74 years, The Crofts, Carsphairn. – FUNERAL SERVICE IN Carsphairn Parish Church to-morrow (Wednesday) at 2.30pm.

BUCHANAN – At Ailsa Hospital on 28th November, 1970, IDA HAY McMILLAN, AGED 85 YEARS (FORMERLY HEAD MISTRESS AT Carsphairn Primary School), beloved wife of the late Robert W H Buchanan. – Service in Carsphairn Parish Church to-morrow (Wednesday) at 1.20., followed by a funeral at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr, at 3pm.

CRAIG – At a nursing home in Edinburgh on 7th January 1971, AGNES VALLANCE, sister of the late Dr JOHN CRAIG and the late J HAMILTON CRAIG C. A. Funeral to Morningside Cemetery on Monday 11th January, arriving at 10.30am to which all friends are invited. (No flowers, please)

KELLIE – At Dumfries Infirmary on 12th March 1971, MARGARET ANDERSON TURNBULL, Waukmill, Moniaive, Dumfriesshire, wife of the late Edward Kellie, Eyemouth and beloved mother of Robert and Tom –

Funeral will take place on Monday, 15th inst., at Masonhill Crematorium, Ayr, arriving at 11.30am; all friends are respectfully invited to attend.

MACMILLAN – Suddenly, at Law Hospital, Carluke, as the result of an accident, on 9th April 1971. JAMES CALDER MACMILLAN, beloved husband of Agnes Bowie, 2, Clackmae Road, Edinburgh and younger son of Mrs I Macmillan, Cairnview, Carsphairn. Service at Mortonhall Crematorium, Pentland Chapel on Wednesday, 14th April at 12.15 pm, to which all friends are invited. (No flowers, please.)

CAMPBELL – On May 21, in Haslemere Hospital, JAMES GRANT, of Minstead, Grayswood, Haslemere, husband of Mary. Cremation private. No flowers, please, but donations to Friends of Haslemere Hospital, the Secretary, Haslemere and District Hospital, Haslemere.

SANDERSON – At 5 Kay Avenue, Newton-Stewart, Wigtownshire, on 4th June, 1971, GEORGE (Percy) SANDERSON, M.B.E., beloved husband of Catherine McLure. – Funeral tomorrow (Tuesday), meeting in Penninghame Old Parish Church, Newton-Stewart at 1.30pm; thereafter to Newton-Stewart Cemetery; all friends respectfully invited; no letters, no flowers, please; donations to Cancer Relief Fund.

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LOVE

Take a man and take a maid,
Make her shy, half afraid,
Have him young and strong and gay,
Add a lovely summer day.

Let their hearts be true and bright,
Stir in laughter and delight,
Try some ocean and some sand,
Let her fingers touch his hand.

Add the twilight, dusky grey,
Give him tender words to say,
Put a silver moon above,
Mix them well and you have love.

PRAYER BEFORE BATTLE

Lord for tomorrow and its needs
I do not pray,
Please keep me from stain and sin
Just for today,
And lest my tide of life
Should ebb away
Please keep me, my God, from stain of sin
Just for today.

IN FLANDERS FIELDS

In Flanders fields the poppies grow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place: and in the sky,
The larks still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead, Short days ago
We lived, fell down, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands, we throw
The Torch: be yours to hold it high!
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

John McCrae

To everything there is a season, and time to every purpose under the heaven:
A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;
A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;
A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;
A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
A time to love, a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

THE SOLDIER

If I should die, think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is forever England. There shall be
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,

A body of England's, breathing English air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.

And think, this heart, all evil shed away,
A pulse in the eternal mind, no less
Gives somewhere back to the thoughts by England given;
Her sighs and sounds; dreams happy as her day;
And, laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,
In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.

RUPERT BROOKE

By permission of Sidgwick and Jackson

(type-written)

And the night shall be filled with music,
And the cares that infest the day
Shall fold their tents like the Arabs
And silently steal away.

Longfellow

THOUGHTS BEFORE GOING INTO ACTION

What is this loneliness in me
That weeps and begs so piteously
For fog and rain and wind-swept shore,
And this parched desert never more?

Why do I lie awake at night
Oblivious of man's explosive might,
Sniffing sweet smells of English earth,
Longing for dew on morning turf?

What is this belief in me
That one day soon I shall be free
To go to my beloved land
And walk on English soil and sand?

This my song of joy and pain
When on bleak battlefields I've lain
Dreaming of home and loved ones dear,
Praying that victory is near.

TRUST

Sweet is the smile of home,
The mutual look
When hearts are sure of one another;
Remember love
Can conquer all.

(type-written)

There is so much that is bad in the best of us,
And so much that is good in the worst of us,
That it doesn't behoove any of us,
To talk about the rest of us.

(handwritten)

“ I HEAR HIM IN THE WIND'S SOFT SONG
AND WITH THE FLOWERS HE COMES AGAIN.”

On a quiet summer's night in 1914, Prime Minister Henry Herbert Asquith sat in the darkened Cabinet Room with his Foreign Secretary, Sir Edward Grey. It was August 3. As the clock struck 11 pm, Britain's ultimatum to Germany's Kaiser Wilhelm II expired, and England was at war. Sir Edward Grey rose thoughtfully and walked to the long windows. He watched the lights of London begin to go out, one by one. Then he made a prophetic, oft quoted remark: “The lamps are going out all over Europe; we shall not see them lit again in our lifetime.”

There is a tide in the affairs of men
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;
Omitted, all the voyage of their life
Is bound in shallows and in miseries.

“You had the softness of all summer days,
The lovely radiance of the twilight hour,
The mystery of the bluebell, in accepted ways,
The passion of the white syringe flower.”

Music, when soft voices die,
Vibrates in the memory ---
Odours, when sweet violets sicken,

Live within the sense they quicken.
Rose leaves, when the rose is dead,
Are heaped for the beloved's bed;
And so thy thoughts, when thou art gone,
Love itself shall slumber on.

PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY

1792 – 1822

They sit in the park
With their radio,
Drowning the bird song,
We smile for we know –
We shall have music
The moment they go.

There is no pleasure in having nothing to do; the fun is having lots to do and not doing it.

Dear God, give us strength to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed. Give us courage to change the things that can be changed. And give us wisdom to distinguish one from the other.

EDRIDGE – CAMPBELL – At Coylton Parish Church, on Tuesday 4th August, 1981, SIMON, son of Mr and Mrs Gerald Edridge, Gillingham, Kent, and CHRISTINA, only daughter of Mr William Campbell, and the late Mrs Elizabeth Campbell, Glen Maree, Hollybush, by Ayr.

BRIDGE, JOYCE MARY –And if perchance you see the red of western skies or feel the cool soft rain or smell the flowers I loved, then let your heart beat fast for me and I will not be dead.

Looking heavenwards in the stillness of the moonless night, one may share the thoughts of the Greek astronomer Ptolemy as he stood on his “fixed” Earth nearly two thousand years ago, so beautifully expressed on a translation by Ronald Latham:

“ I know that I am born to die and few are my allotted days; but when I trace the tangled maze of stars that circle through the sky, then am I lifted up on high and tread no more the earthly ways: among the gods my spirit strays and tastes of immortality.”