



COWAL'S WAR DEAD 1914-18 & 1939-45

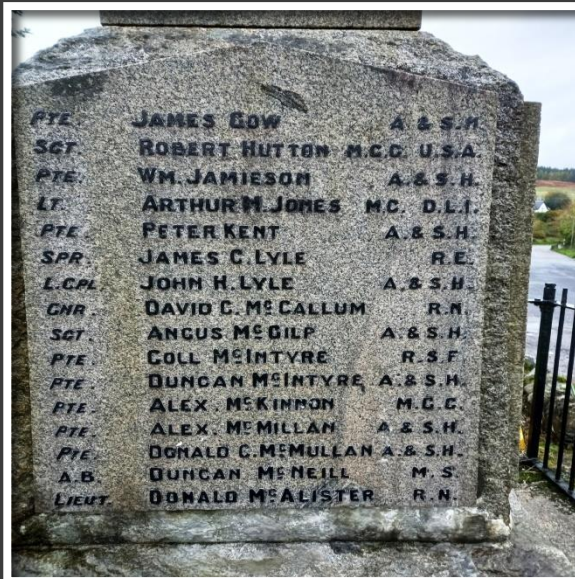
Commemorating those who gave their lives during the “war to end all wars”

“... There is no use in being sad, and the cheerier you are the better, for one never knows when it may be his turn to stop laughing for a long, long time ...”

- Private Daniel Ballantyne, "C" Company, 2nd Royal Scots
- Formerly the Secretary to the National Reserve Rifle Club, Kames
- Killed in action 27 April 1915, age 37
- His widow was awarded a pension of 24s.6d per week
- Effects returned to her include pipes, coin, disc, belt, knife, shaving brush, tobacco box, photograph, postcard, Christmas card and a letter



A War Memorial was raised in the 1920s at the crossroads in Kames, commemorating men from across Kilfinan Parish.



A total of 49 local men killed in the Great War are listed, many from the same families. A terrible toll for a small community.



A separate memorial was raised in Kilfinan village showing local men killed during the Great War. Two brothers, from the Nicol family, are not included on the Kames Memorial



Many of these men are also commemorated on the Dunoon War memorial.

We found further men, and a woman, with connections to Cowal listed only in Dunoon or on gravestones in the Kilbride Parish Churchyard.

PRIVATE DANIEL BALLANTYNE



"C" Company, 2nd Royal Scots. Died 27 April 1915, age 37



"You were asking how we could be so cheery in the trenches. Well, it's like this. There is no use in being sad, and the cheerier you are the better, for one never knows when it may be his turn to stop laughing for a long, long time. ...Some may not come back, but we get accustomed to that thought, and think nothing of it. It may be our turn next, but we know that if it does come we have tried to the best of our ability to do our duty to our people at home and King and country."

Daniel worked at the Kames Gunpowder Works and lived at Shore Cottage, Kames, with his wife Mary and their children, Jane, Alice, Mary, Daniel and Margaret.

He re-enlisted on 14 September 1914. His unit was sent to the Western Front in January 1915. His letters were regularly published in *The Buteman and West Coast Chronicle*. The last written just five days before his death,

He was killed by a sniper's bullet while on tea break, near Kemmel in France.



PRIVATE JOHN BAXTER

5th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Died on 23 March 1918, age 26

The eldest son of Alexander, a gun-powder maker, and Janet Baxter, of 1 Shore Cottages, Kames, his siblings were Tina, Robert, Alexander, Mary, Jane and Neil. Before enlisting he was employed as a Labourer at the Kames Gunpowder Factory. The 5th Battalion fought in Gallipoli, Egypt and in the Palestine campaign of 1917. John was repatriated but died in Ripon Military Hospital. He is buried in Ripon Cemetery and commemorated on Kames and Dunoon War memorials..



PRIVATE WILLIAM BROWN

10th Royal Highlanders (Black Watch). Died 15 January 1920



A number of Brown families lived locally at this time.

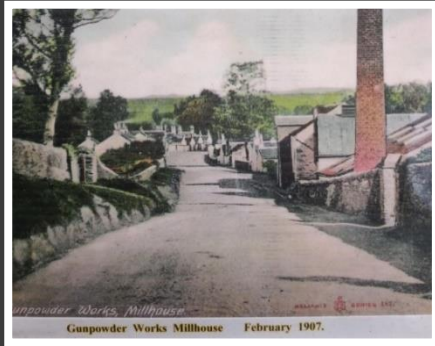
William was a keen shinty player and played in the Camanachd Cup Final against Kingussie in April 1914. Nine of the players that day lost their lives during the Great War, including three from Kyles Athletic.

William contracted tuberculosis and died after being sent home. He is buried in Kilbride Parish Churchyard and is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon Memorials.



PRIVATE ANGUS CAMPBELL

14th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 27 March 1918, age 27



The 4th son of Alexander Campbell, a carter at the Gunpowder Factory, and Euphemia, of Castle, Kilfinan, brother of Donald, Alexander, Isabella, John, Hugh, Mary, Robert, Hector and Euphemia. Before enlisting he was employed as an assistant forester at Ellesmere Estate in Lancashire.

Angus was killed during the 1918 Spring Offensive and is commemorated on the Kames, Dunoon and Arras Memorials and on the family gravestone in Kilbride Churchyard..



ABLE SEAMAN /QUARtermaster SHAW CAMPBELL

Mercantile Marine, *City of Paris*, Died 4 April 1917, age 22



The youngest son of William, a Carpenter, and Catherine Campbell (nee Taylor), of Adolphin Cottage, Kames. He was the brother of John, William, Isabella, Malcolm, Roderick, James, Elizabeth, Jessie and Catherine.

Shaw was lost after his ship was sunk by a U-boat (UC-35) 46 miles off Cap d'Antibes. There were no survivors. French warships later picked up four lifeboats containing 41 dead.



PRIVATE WILLIAM C CANDLISH

6th Cameron Highlanders. Died 24 August 1917, age 25

The son of James Candlish, a cashier, and Mary McGill Lennox. His siblings were James and Mary.

Originally enlisting in the Argylls, William transferred to the Cameronians and served during the Battle of Passchendaele. He was killed in action between Vampir and Beck House, and is commemorated on the Tyne Cot, Kames and Dunoon Memorials.





PRIVATE ARCHIBALD CARMICHAEL,

2nd Gordon Highlanders. Died 6 September 1916, age 38



2nd Battalion,
Gordon Highlanders
crossing no man's
land near Mametz on
1 July 1916.

The son of Alexander, a millkeeper, and Jane Carmichael, of Albion House, Kames. He was brother to Jane, William, John, Charles and Daniel.

He was employed as an Engineer and lived, with his wife Susan, at Berry Burn, Kames. The 2nd Battalion took part in the Battle of the Somme. He was killed in action two months later and is commemorated at Kames, Dunoon and on the Thiepval Memorial, France.



SEAMAN ARCHIBALD CARMICHAEL

Royal Navy, HMS *Vehement* died 2 August 1918, age 30



Son of Hugh, a ploughman, and Jane Carmichael, of Ardlamont. Brother to Sarah, Mary, Jane and Ann.

He joined the Royal Navy in September 1916 and was killed along with 47 other crewmen when his ship struck a mine off the Heligoland Bight. The ship was later abandoned and sunk by gunfire when salvage efforts failed.



PRIVATE JOHN CARMICHAEL,

Scottish Rifles (2nd Cameronians). Died 1 April 1918 , age 29



Born on 21 May 1889 at Shore Cottage, Kames. He was the eldest son of William, a cooper, and Ann Carmichael. The brother of Elizabeth, Mary, Isabella, Charles and William (who was killed in 1917) .

John was fatally wounded, during the 1918 Spring Offensive, near Roye in the Somme Region. The town was taken by the Germans on 26 March.



LANCE CORPORAL WILLIAM CARMICHAEL

1st/8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders 23 November 1917, age 26



The 2nd son of William, a cooper, and Ann Carmichael of Berryburn House, Kames (now demolished). Brother of Isabella, Charles, Elizabeth, Mary and John who was killed, in 1918. William was killed during the Battle of Cambrai (see also Robert Docherty below) where tanks initially allowed an unprecedented 5 mile advance. However, strong German counter attacks recaptured most of these gains over the following weeks.



LANCE CORP. DUNCAN MACNEILL COCKBURN

1/8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 1 July 1917, age 25

Born in Paisley, the eldest son of Robert and Sarah Cockburn. Brother to Alexander, John and Robert.

After his father's death, the family lived with Sarah's brother, Lachlan MacNeill at Ivy Cottage, Millhouse. Duncan remained in Paisley, working as an Engineer.



The Argyllshire Battalion (1/8th) landed in France in May 1915, joining the 51st (Highland) Division. It is not known where or when Duncan was wounded. He is buried in Essex Farm Cemetery in Belgium and is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials



LIEUTENANT COMMANDER DONALD COWAN

Royal Naval Reserve, Fleet Messenger *Princess Alberta*. Died 21 February 1917



Donald's sister lived in Kyles Bank, Tighnabruaich.

His ship hit a mine laid by UC-23 (Johannes Kirchner) whilst delivering mail and transporting soldiers in the Aegean. Only 16 men survived and an estimated 85 men were killed.

Donald is buried in East Mudros Military Cemetery, Lesbos



SISTER JEANNIE GLASSFORD DALTON

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service. Died 20 March 1916, age 43

Born 20 September 1874, daughter of Joseph John Dalton, the general manager of the Gunpowder Mill, and Jeanie Niven. Sister of Lillia, Charles and Mary.

She died at the Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich. More than 650 women died in uniform during WW1. Most were nurses.

Jeanie was buried beside her father in Kilbride Churchyard. However she is not listed on either the Kames or Dunoon Memorials.



Casualty Clearing Station ward by
J Hodgson Lobley



PRIVATE ROBERT DOCHERTY

1st/8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 23 November 1917, age 23

The son of Henry, a railway porter, and Elizabeth Docherty. Henry formerly worked as a gunpowder maker in Millhouse.

Brother to Alexander and Harry who also lost his life during the Great War (see below).

Before enlisting at Kames, Robert was employed locally as a farm worker.

He was killed during the Battle of Cambrai (also William Carmichael above), where tanks initially allowed an unprecedented 5 mile advance in a single day. However, strong German counter attacks over the following weeks recaptured most of the early gains.





PRIVATE HARRY DOCHERTY

1/8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

The son of Henry, a railway porter, and Elizabeth Docherty. Henry formerly worked as a gunpowder maker in Millhouse. Brother to Alexander and Robert - who was killed in 1917.

No war record for Harry can be identified.





SGT. MAJOR SAMUEL NORMAN DUNCAN

South African Squadron, Royal Flying Corps. Died on 9 January 1918, age 38

The 4th son of Robert and Margaret Craig Duncan (later Wilson), of The Royal Hotel, Auchenlochan. Brother to Jessie, Margarita, William, Agnes, Harriet, Jane, Wilson, George and Catherine.



He joined the South African Aviation Corps in August 1915 in Capetown, while he was employed as a Mechanic. His unit was posted to Kenya and Tanzania.

Sam is buried in Dar-Es-Salaam War Cemetery and is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials and on the family gravestone in Kilbride Churchyard.





PRIVATE JOHN FERGUSON

1/8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 13 November 1916, age 25

The son of Donald and Mary Ferguson, of Kilfinan.

The Battle of the Ancre (13–18 November 1916), was the last British attack of the Battle of the Somme and is considered a success. However, the 51st (Highland) Division alone suffered 2,200 casualties (including also Angus MacGilp below). German losses were also heavy and over 7,800 prisoners were taken.

He is commemorated on the Kames, Kilfinan and Dunoon War Memorials





PRIVATE JAMES GOW

Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders

Little is known about this man.

He is listed on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials.



SGT ROBERT HUTTON

US Machine Gun Corps. Died 3 October 1918, age 32

Son of Hugh and Mary Hutton (nee Kerr).

Robert is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials and on the family gravestone in Kilbride Churchyard.





PRIVATE WILLIAM JAMIESON

7th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Died 9 April 1917, age 25

The son of James Jamieson, a baker, and Margaret McIsaac, of Burnside Tighnabruaich. William played in the Camanachd Cup final against Kingussie in April 1914. Nine of the shinty players that day were killed during the war, including three from Kyles Athletic.



The attack on Vimy Ridge began at 0530 hours on 9 April (Easter Monday). The 51st (Highland) Division successfully captured the ridge along with 4 Canadian divisions. The battle is considered one of the allied successes of 1917 but cost the lives of two local men (see also Malcolm Smith below).

William is buried in Roclincourt Valley Cemetery. He is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials and on the family gravestone in Kilbride Churchyard.

LIEUTENANT ARTHUR MERYDYDD JONES, MC



50th Machine Gun Corps, Durham Light Infantry. Died 10th April 1918, age 24



The son of Sir Henry and Lady Jones, of Noddfa, Tighnabruaich. Sir Henry was the Professor of Moral Philosophy at Glasgow University and one of the founding fathers of basic education in Wales. Arthur was the brother of Enid, James and Elias.

Arthur joined up in 1914 as a private. He was wounded four times and awarded the MC twice. In April 1918, the 50th Division was heavily attacked during the Battle of the Lys (Operation Georgette). Arthur was last seen lying wounded on a stretcher in Estaires shortly before the town was captured. He is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials and on the family gravestone in Kilbride Churchyard.



PRIVATE PETER KENT

Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 29 May 1917, age 21



The son of James and Jessie Kent of Auchnaha, Kilfinan.
Possibly 8th General Hospital, Royal Army Medical Corps.
Peter is buried in St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen and is
commemorated on the Kames, Dunoon and Kilfinan War Memorials

SAPPER JAMES C LYLE

Royal Engineers



Commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials.

Nothing is known of James's connection with Kilfinan. Possibly brother of John Lyle (see below)





LANCE CORPORAL JOHN W LYLE

10th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 27 September 1915

John is commemorated on the Loos, Kames and Dunoon War Memorials.

On 25 September, the German front line at Loos was taken successfully, but reserves were slow to arrive to exploit the initial success. Attacks against the second line on subsequent days failed and proved costly.

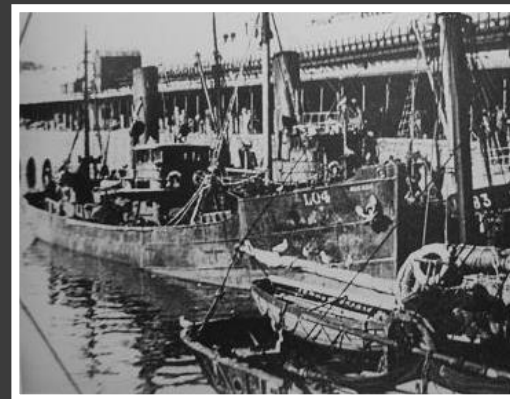
Nothing is known of John's connection with Kilfinan. Possibly brother of James Lyle (see above).





LIEUTENANT DONALD McALISTER

Royal Navy Reserve, HM Trawler *Mikasa*. Died 16 February 1919, age 42



The son of John and Catherine MacAlister, of Ardlamont, Argyllshire, and the husband of Eleanor Esther MacAlister, of Birmingham.

Mikasa (L04) may be named after the Japanese flagship at the Battle of Tsushima which avenged the sinking of a British trawler off the Dogger Bank in 1904.

Donald died of influenza and is buried in Kilbride Cemetery, Kilfinan. He is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials.



PRIVATE ARCHIBALD McALPINE

4th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 18 November 1920, age 22



The son of Duncan McAlpine and Mary Morrison, of Auchgoyle Cottage, Millhouse.

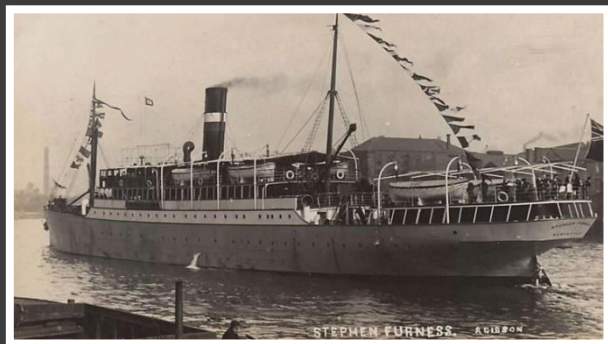
He is buried in Kilbride Parish Churchyard.





ORDINARY SEAMAN DAVID C McCALLUM

Royal Navy, HMAV *Stephen Furness*. Died 13 December 1917, age 33



The son of Hector and Mary (Crawford) of Auchenlochan Farm. His ship, an “armed boarding steamer”, was torpedoed by UB-64 (Walter Gude) off the Isle of Man. The ship sank before lifeboats could be lowered with the loss of 101 crew.

David is buried in Douglas, and is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials and at Kilbride churchyard.





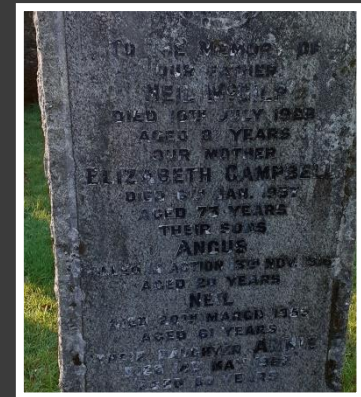
SERGEANT ANGUS CAMPBELL MACGILP

'D' Company, 1/8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 13 November 1916, age 20

The son of Neil and Betsy MacGilp, of Shore Cottages, Kames. Neil worked at the nearby Saltpetre works. Angus was brother to Neil jnr. and Annie.



The Battle of the Ancre in 1916 was the last British attack of the Battle of the Somme and is considered a success. However, the 51st (Highland) Division alone suffered 2,200 casualties, (including also John Ferguson see above). German losses were also heavy and over 7,800 prisoners were taken. He is buried in Mailly Wood Cemetery and commemorated in Kilbride Churchyard.





PRIVATE COLL McINTYRE

6th/7th Battalion, Royal Scots Fusiliers. Died 1 February 1917

Coll is buried in Dernancourt Communal Cemetery Extension.





PRIVATE DONALD McINTYRE

‘B’ Company, 49th Canadian Infantry. Died 5 June 1916, age 33

The son of Donald and Ann McIntyre, of Pierhouse, Ormidale, Glendaruel, Argyllshire. He is commemorated on the Dunoon and Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorials.



Craig Lodge, Ormidale. CS.113.



PRIVATE DUNCAN McINTYRE

Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died on 5 June 1916, age 33

Identity is uncertain. May be the son of Samuel McIntyre, Pass of Awe, Taynuilt, Argyllshire.

However, he is commemorated on the Kames, Kilfinan and Dunoon war memorials.





LANCE CORPORAL MALCOLM McINTYRE

1st Battalion, Scots Guards. Died 15 September 1916, age 24

The son of Donald McIntyre, of Craig Cottage, Ormidale.

He is commemorated at Dunoon War Memorial and on the Thiepval Memorial.





PRIVATE ARCHIBALD McKELLAR

10th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 20 July 1916

There were a number of McKellar families living locally before the Great War.

Archibald may be related to the W McKellar who ran the shoe shop in Tighnabruaich High Street and to Susan McKellar who founded Susie's Tearoom. The McKellars also used to own the land now used as the boatyard at Rhubaan.



Archibald is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials, and at Thiepval France



PRIVATE ALEX McKINNON

Machine Gun Corps

Little is known. He is listed on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials.



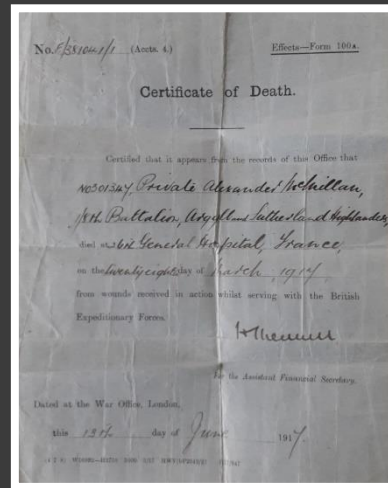


PRIVATE ALEXANDER McMILLAN

1/8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, on 28 March 1917, age 33

The son of Archibald McMillan and Janet Thompson, of Ardmarnock, Kilfinan.
Brother of John and Archibald.

He is now buried in Etaples Military Cemetery and is commemorated on the Kames, Kilfinan and Dunoon War Memorials. He is also commemorated on his family grave in Kilbride (cont.).



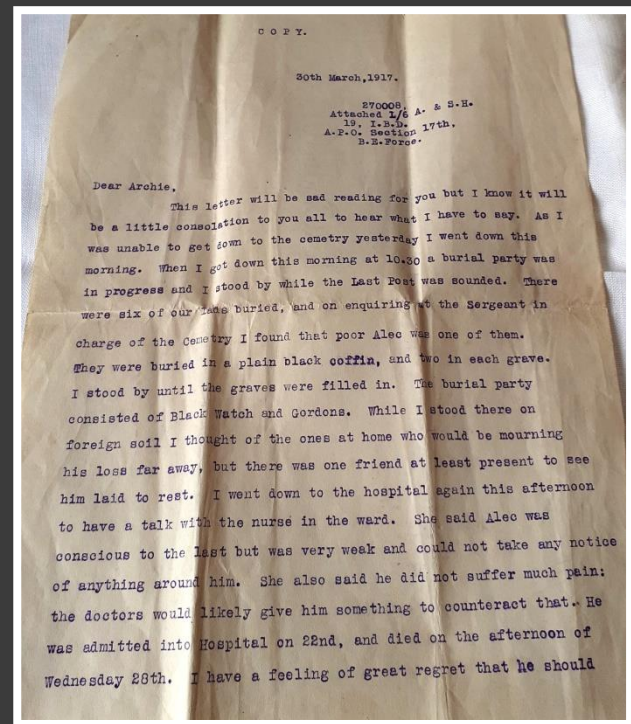


PRIVATE ALEXANDER McMILLAN

1/8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, on 28 March 1917, age 33

(Cont.) His battlefield burial was witnessed by John Munro from Tighnabruaich who unexpectedly realised that a friend was being interred.

John made enquiries at the hospital and found that “Alec” had been badly wounded six days previously. He had not experienced much pain during this time but had also not been able to respond to the nurses. He asked Alec’s brother Archibald for heather to be sent from home to mark the grave.





PRIVATE DONALD C McMULLAN

7th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Died 19 February 1919, age 26

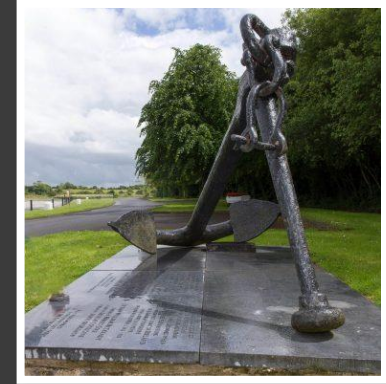
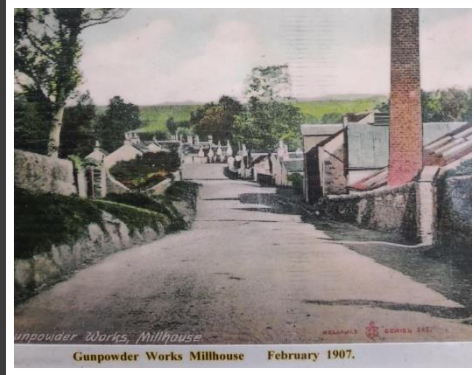
Donald is buried in Cologne Southern Cemetery and is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials.





ABLE SEAMAN DUNCAN McNEILL

Merchant Marine, SS *Keeper*. Died 10 June 1917, age 32



The husband of Maud McNeill, of Limerick. Possibly related to Lachlan MacNeill of Ivy Cottage, Millhouse. (see Duncan MacNeill Cockburn above).

His ship was an unarmed 572 ton steamer which sailed on 9 June 1917 from Belfast for Limerick with a cargo of wheat. She never arrived. The ship had a crew of 12 men. all were lost. S.S. Keeper is commemorated in a Memorial at Clarecastle Quay, Ireland



PRIVATE ARCHIBALD McPHERSON

8/10th Gordon Highlanders. Died 26 April 1917

Archibald is buried in Duisans British Cemetery, Etrun. He is commemorated at Kames and Dunoon War Memorials.

Possibly related to Donald and John McPherson (see below).



PRIVATE DONALD McPHERSON

1/8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 16 September 1916



Donald is buried in Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery, Armentieres.

He is commemorated at Kames and Dunoon War Memorials

Possibly related to Archibald or John McPherson).



TROOPER JOHN McPHERSON

Scottish Horse Yeomanry



The Scottish Horse was formed for home defence but members volunteered for overseas duty. It saw heavy fighting in Salonika as the 13th Battalion, Black Watch, and was transferred to France in July 1918.

John is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials.

Possibly related to Archibald and Donald McPherson (see above)



PRIVATE WILLIAM McQUEEN

1/7th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 20 February 1915

May be related to James McQueen, an engine keeper at the gunpowder works in Kames, who worked there until its closure in 1921.

William is buried in Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery, Armentieres. He is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials.

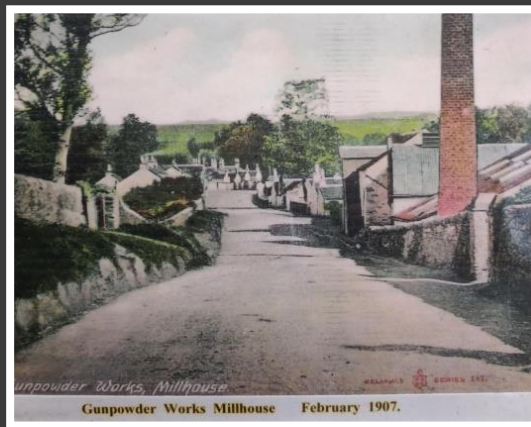




LANCE CORPORAL JOHN McTAGGART

1/8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 29 September 1918, age 29

The son of Allan McTaggart, a millwright, and Flora MacKellar, of Millhouse.
Brother of Robert who died in France in 1917 (see below).



John died of influenza and is buried with a CWGC headstone in Kilbride Parish Churchyard. He is not mentioned on either the Kames or the Dunoon War Memorials.

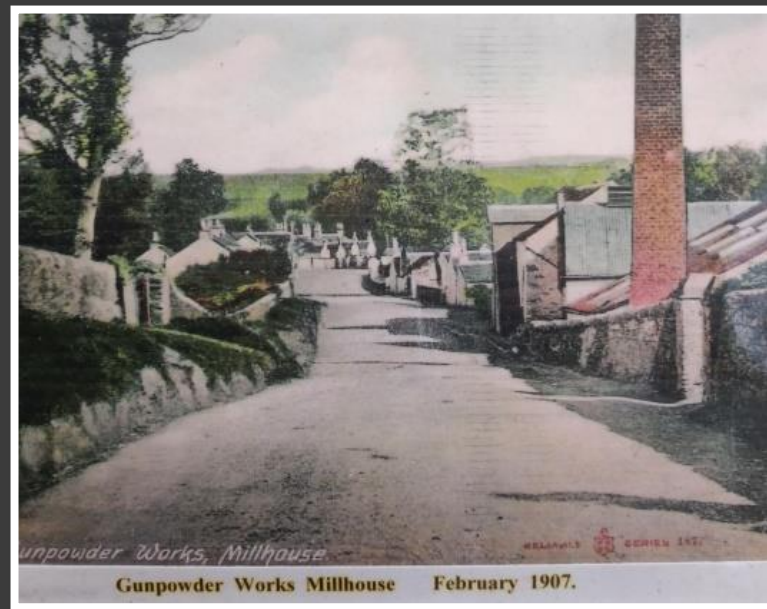


PRIVATE ROBERT McKELLAR McTAGGART

1/6th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 26 May 1917, age 24

The son of Allan McTaggart, a millwright, and Flora MacKellar, of Millhouse. Brother of John McTaggart who died in 1918 (see above)

He is buried in Orchard Dump Cemetery, Arleux en-Gohelle. He is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials.





LANCE SERGEANT ARCHIBALD MARTIN

1/8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 25 November 1917

May be related to Alexander Martin a watchman at the gunpowder works in Millhouse. Archibald is recorded as dying of wounds in 1917.

He is buried in Rocquigny-Equancourt Road British Cemetery, Manancourt. He is also commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials.





MAJOR WILFRID EDWARD NICOL, DSO

1st Grenadier Guards. Died 1 October 1915



The second son of Donald and Annie Nicol, owners of the Ardmarnock estate. He was awarded the DSO for 'gallantry and ability' at Neuve Chapelle but died of wounds received during the Battle of Loos, probably from shell fire. He is buried in Chocques Military Cemetery near Bethune and is commemorated on the Kilfinan War Memorial.



LIEUTENANT DONALD NINIAN NICOL

3rd Scots Guards. Died 27 December 1915, age 33



Eldest son of son of Donald and Annie Nicol, owners of the Ardmarnock estate. Husband of Frances and father of a son. Brother of Wilfred, who was killed in action in 2015 (see above), and Colin who also died in December 1915.

In March 1915, Donald re-joined the Scots Guards and served in England till his death there from illness. Donald is buried in Ardmarnoch House Burial Ground, and is commemorated on the Kilfinan War Memorial



CORPORAL CELESTINE N L NICOLSON

1/8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 29 April 1918, age 25



Youngest son of Neil Nicolson, a farmer, and Ann McAlpine of Auchgoyle Farm Millhouse. He was from a large family: his siblings were Neil, Hugh, Tom, Bessie, Mary, George, John, James, Malcolm, Andrew and Dugald. His brother Dugald, born with Downs Syndrome, died aged 11 in 1907.

Celestine was a keen shinty player and played in the Camanachd Cup Final against Kingussie in April 1914. Nine of the finalists, including 3 from Kyles Athletic, were killed during the Great war.

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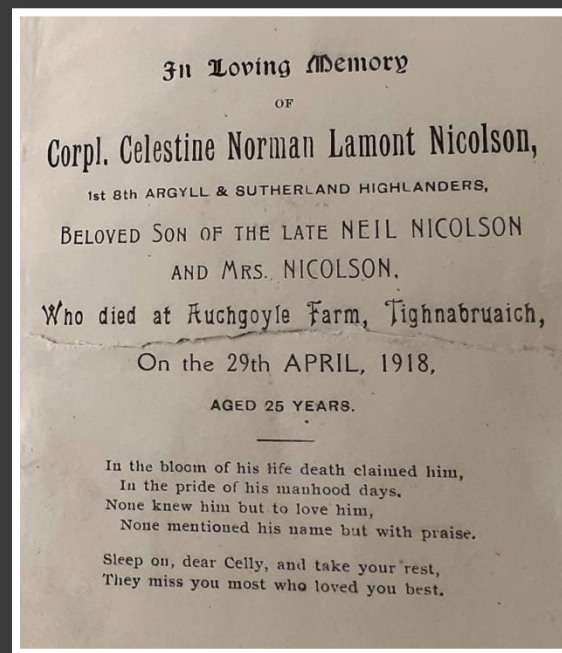
CORPORAL CELESTINE N L NICOLSON

1/8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 29 April 1918, age 25



(cont.) Celestine was badly wounded at Neuville St Vaast France on 2 June 1918. Shrapnel was lodged in his head which could not be removed. He was repatriated before dying at home in 1918.

Poetry was composed by local women in his memory: an example is shown on the right. He is buried in his family lair in Kilbride Parish Churchyard (left) and is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials.





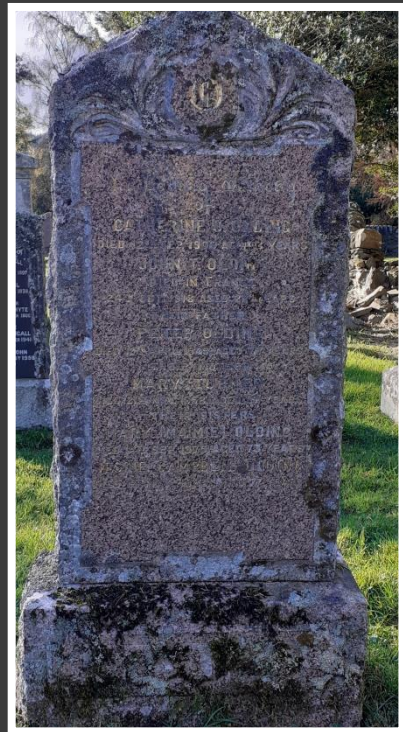
SERGEANT JOHN F. OLDING

10th Black Watch (Royal Highlanders). Died 24 October 1918, age 24

Son of Peter and Mary Olding, possibly of Lismore, Tighnabruaich.

After serving on the Western Front and in Salonika, the 10th were returned to France in August 1918 as casualty replacements. John died only three weeks before the Armistice.

He is buried in Blargies Communal Cemetery Extension France and is commemorated in Kames Dunoon and on the family grave at Kilbride church.





LANCE CORPORAL WILLIAM GEORGE PETTERSON

6th King's Own Scottish Borderers. Died 15 April 1918, age 23



The son of Peter and Ann Pettersen of Underhugh, Tighnabruaich.
He is commemorated on the Kames, Dunoon and Tyne Cot Memorials.



PRIVATE ROBERT L RESTON

12th Battalion, Royal Scots. Died 27 September 1918.



The son of Mr T Reston of the Temperance Hotel (now Port Drishaig House), Tighnabruaich.

He is buried in Lowrie Cemetery, Havrincourt and is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials..



2ND ENGINEER JACK SIMPSON

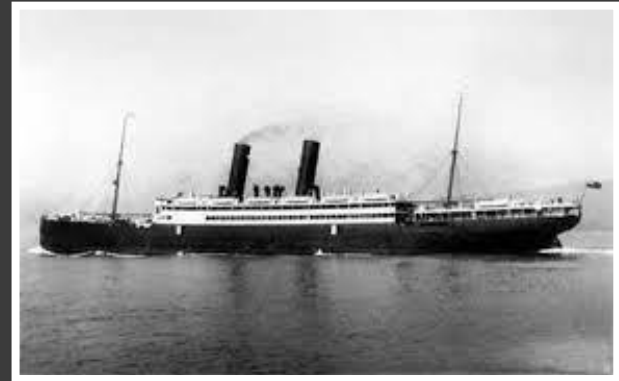
HM Transport, SS *California*. Died 7 February 1917, age 59

Jack was 3rd Mate of the SS *California* returning to Glasgow from New York with 214 souls on board. The ship was torpedoed, 36 miles off Fastnet, by U-85 (Willy Petz). Five people were killed instantly and 36 drowned when their lifeboat was swamped by the ship which could not be stopped.



U-85 was sunk on 12 March by HMS *Privet*, which posed as an unarmed merchant vessel to lure her to the surface. Her entire crew died.

Jack is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials.





PRIVATE MALCOLM SMITH

1/8th Battalion, Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Died 9 April 1917, age 28

The son of Mrs Annie
Whyte of Burnside, Kames.

The capture of Vimy Ridge
began at 0530 hours on 9
April (Easter Monday).



The 51st (Highland) Division successfully captured the ridge
along with 4 Canadian divisions. The battle is considered one of
the allied successes of 1917.

Malcolm, and William Jamieson (see above), are buried in
Roclincourt Valley Cemetery with 40 other highlanders killed
during the battle. He is commemorated on Kames and Dunoon
War Memorials and on the family grave at Kilbride Church.





PRIVATE MALCOLM WHYTE STEWART

242nd Machine Gun Corps. Died 29 November 1917, age 34

The son of Archibald and Sarah Stewart, of Drum Cottage, Kilfinan and the husband of Sarah.

On 28th November the 242nd were sent forward in the defence of Bourslon Wood, part of the Battle of Cambrai.

Malcolm is buried in Lebucquiere Communal Cemetery and is commemorated on the Dunoon Kames and Kilfinan War Memorial.





PRIVATE PETER WHYTE

'B' Company, 7th Seaforth Highlanders. Died 12 October 1916, age 23.

The son of Peter and Isabella MacLaren Whyte. Brother of Janet (Morrison) and Sarah (Douglas).

During the Battle of the Somme, the 7th Battalion were used in the final attacks. On 12 October, they were caught in a boggy no-mans-land by intense machine-gun fire from concealed positions behind the German front line. Although reinforced by the 10th Argylls, they could only advance 180m by nightfall.

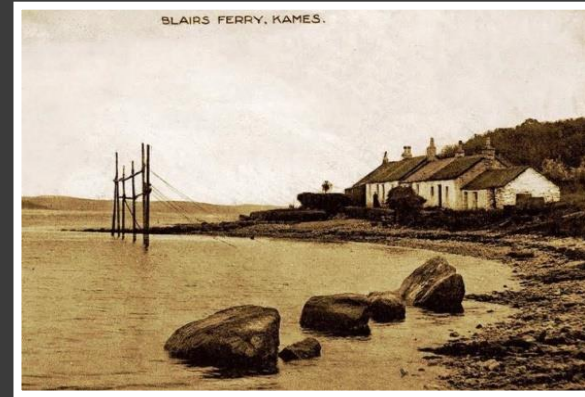
Peter is buried in Warlencourt British Cemetery, near where he fell, and is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon War Memorials and on the family grave in Kilbride Churchyard.





ABLE SEAMAN ALEXANDER NEIL WEIR

Royal Navy Reserve, HM Yacht *Eriska*, Died 19 October 1915, age 55



Alexander was the husband of Mary Cameron Weir, of Blair's Ferry, Kames. Despite his age he volunteered for active service.

He died of a ruptured appendix whilst on duty. He is buried in Kilfinan Parish Churchyard and is commemorated on the Kames and Dunoon Memorials.

BUT THE WAR TO END ALL WARS DID
NOT END CONFLICT BETWEEN
NATIONS.

In 1939 the people of Cowal were again called upon to give their lives...
and six did

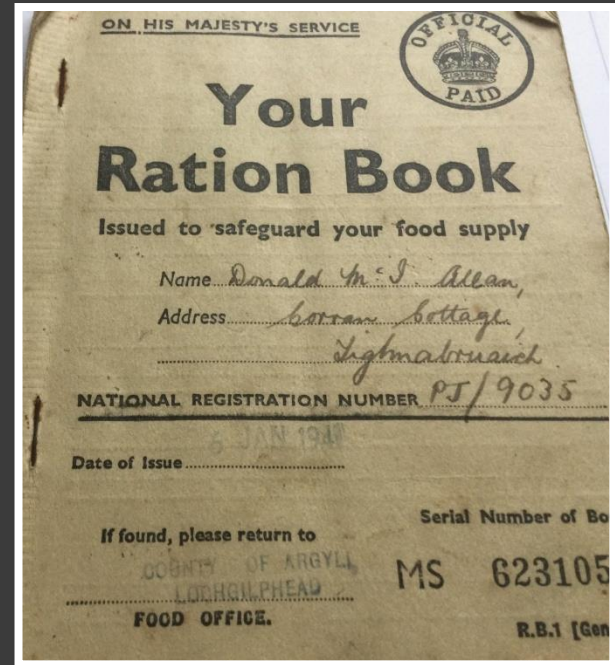
SAILOR DONALD McINNES ALLAN

Merchant Navy, SS *Thurso*, Died 15 June 1942, age 21



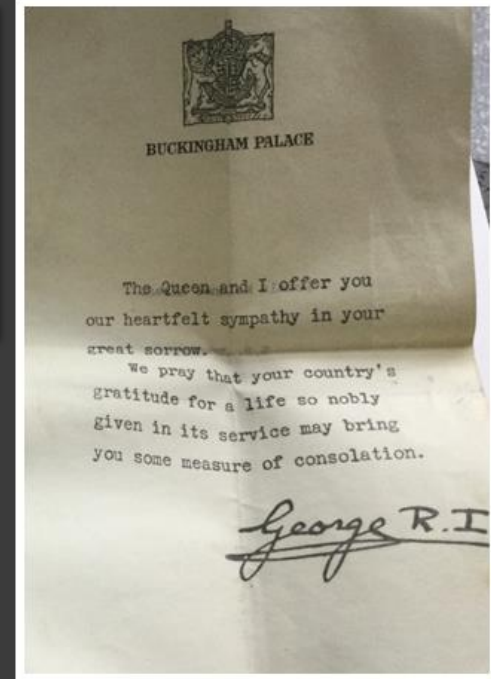
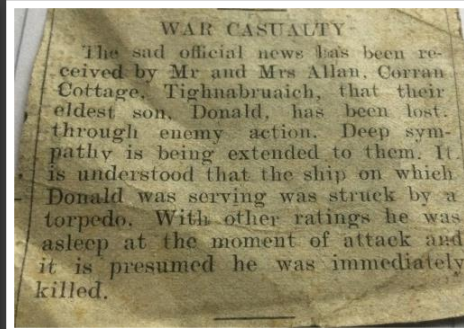
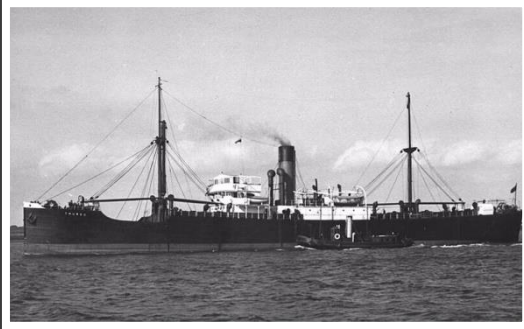
Son of John and Catherine Allen of Corran Cottage, Tighnabruaich.

SS *Thurso* was part of Convoy HG 84 which left Gibraltar on 9 June escorted by Captain "Johnnie" Walker who was to become the most effective U-Boat hunter of the war. *Thurso* carried 850 tons of cork, general cargo, and 1,500 bags of mail for German POWs in Britain. (Cont.)



SAILOR DONALD McINNES ALLAN

Merchant Navy, SS *Thurso*, Died 15 June 1942, age 21



(Cont.) Six ships from Convoy HG84 were lost within 2 days. *Thurso* was torpedoed by U-552 (Erich Topp) off Cape Finisterre, killing 29 of the 42 crew. Topp, a staunch Nazi, was the 3rd most effective U-Boat commander of the war.

30,000 merchant seaman gave their lives during WW2. After the war, Donald's family received his three posthumous war medals.



WALTER M BROWN
Merchant Navy



HENRY JARDINE
Merchant Navy



WM C PETTERSON
Merchant Navy



JOSEPH Y STEELE
Merchant Navy



DUGALD CURRIE
Merchant Navy

This presentation reflects on-going research by the Tighnabruaich Heritage Centre (<https://www.tddt.org.uk/virtual-heritage-centre>).

If you know anything about any of the men and women listed here, or other victims of war with local connections, please let us know by email (rats.wallace@icloud.com) or by telephone (07902 431289).

