

BENARTY LOCAL AREA
NEWSPAPERS EXTRACTS

COWDENBEATH ADVERTISER &
LOCHGELLY
TIMES

1915 – 1919

&

1924

WEST FIFE
ECHO

MARCH 1915

to

OCTOBER 1918

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

COMMUNION

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was dispensed in the U.F. Church on Sunday last at the afternoon and evening service. Rev. C. Mason conducted the former service, while Rev. Duncan Brown officiated in the evening. There was good attendance at both services.

TREAT TO SOLDIERS' WIVES.

The committee of the Lochore and Benarty Workmen's Institute gave an entertainment to the wives and mothers of Lochore men who have enlisted in the Imperial Forces. There was a large turnout, and it was found necessary to hold an overflow meeting in the library, the hall proving too small. Mr James Roden, president, occupied the chair in the hall, and Mr James Macfarlane, vice-president, presided in the library. Pleasing addresses were given by the chairmen and Rev. W.H. Macdiarmid, and a delightful programme of songs and recitations was provided by the following ladies and gentlemen:- Mrs Campbell, Miss Golder, Rev. W.H. Macdiarmid, Mr Roden, Mr Shand, Mr Burt and Mr Duncan. The accompaniments to soloists were rendered by Miss Henderson. The call for votes of thanks to all who had rendered their services for the entertainment were heartily responded to. As the audience dispersed, a service of cake and fruit was presented to each.

Published 31st March 1915

RAPID PROMOTION FOR GLENCRAIG VOLUNTEER

Glencraig district will be pleased to hear of the success of one of their number in the person of Thomas Finnie, who enlisted in the Army Service Corps on 7th December, 1914, as a wheeler, and on 6th January was promoted to the rank of Corporal. He has now been promoted to the rank of Wheeler Staff Sergeant. Sergt. Finnie has seen service in the Boer War, and was a staunch Volunteer and Territorial. He was also a popular member of the staff at Preston's Picturedrome at Crosshill. He leaves Aldershot this week in charge of the transport of the 30th Divisional Train for Rhyl, North Wales.

DETERMINED TO SERVE HIS COUNTRY

Having been rejected on account of defective eyesight at five different recruiting centres in Canada, Mr J.M. Reid, a young chartered accountant, whose parents reside in Alloa, arrived in this country in the middle of last week as a willing recruit, and was successful in obtaining enlistment in the Army Ordnance Corps. He is now at Aldershot.

KILLED IN ACTION

Intimation has been received that Private John Docherty, Royal Scots, Loftus View, Glencraig, has been killed in action at Neuve Chapelle on 12th March. In his last letter home he wrote-" Dear mother, if ever we meet it will be a happy meeting," written just before the battle. Deceased was 27 years of age, and was only married seven months ago. He has another two brothers and two brothers-in-law serving with the colours.

Published 14th April 1915

1500 SCOTTISH FOOTBALLERS

On Saturday the Scottish Football Association announced that professional footballers have not shirked joining the colours, as shown by the fact that 1500 have enlisted, as well as 2000 non-playing members who are now with the army.

Published 28th April 1915

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

MISSIONARY ENLISTS

Mr John McTurk, who for many years took a great interest in the religious life of the district, and a former deacon of the U.F. Church, occupied the pulpit of that church on Sunday afternoon, and delivered a stirring discourse. Mr McTurk while in this district was employed in the pits, but by diligent home study fitted himself for missionary work, and was appointed to a mission station in the Shetland Islands, where he did much good work. Prompted by patriotic feelings, Mr McTurk has resigned his charge to enlist in the R.A.M.C. Mr McTurk also preached to a large congregation in the Flockhouse Mission Hall at night. All collections for the day which total nearly £4 were

taken on behalf of the appeal made by the Glasgow authorities for assisting in helping the Belgian refugees resident in that area.

SOLDIER KILLED

Intimation has been received that Pte. William Templeton, Rosewell Terrace, Lochore, has died of wounds received in action. Pte Templeton belonged to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Published 19th May 1915

AN OLD RECRUIT

Corporal James O'Brien, of the Army Service Corps, who was charged at the North London Police Court with being intoxicated, gave his age as 54 when he enlisted, but he confessed to the magistrate that he was "nigh on sixty". He stated that he had been in the army before. He rejoined last December, and was wounded at St. Julien.

The Magistrate – The fact that you re-enlisted at your age is enough to shame the young men who are holding back. I cannot in the circumstances punish you. You will be bound over.

Published 9th June 1915

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

Pte. James Black, 1st Black Watch, Glencraig, is reported missing and no word has been received from him since 9th May. Pte. Black enlisted in March 1914 and was sent to France on the 2nd of Decembe

HOME ON LEAVE

Trooper And. Glencross, 12th Lancers, son of Mr Glencross, Lofty View, Glencraig, and who has been at the front practically since the commencement of the war, arrived home on Monday of last week on a few days leave. He has participated in much of the severe fighting in the Ypres district, and so far has escaped injury. He left again for France on Thursday evening.

Published 16th June 1915

THE BANTAM BATTALION

A new Battalion (the 14th Service) is to be formed for the Highland Light Infantry, and young men in Lochgelly and district are invited to join. The height is to be from 5 ft. to 5 ft. 2 in., and as this is the first time a Bantam Battalion had been formed in Scotland outside of Edinburgh and Glasgow there should be no difficulty in filling up the ranks. Particulars can be obtained at Lochgelly Recruiting Office.

ONE OF OUR WOUNDED

Mr John Henderson, spirit merchant, has got a letter from his son, Pte. Geo. W. Henderson, who was wounded lately at the Dardanelles. Pte. Henderson emigrated to New Zealand two years ago, and when war broke out he joined the Wellington Mounted Rifles, being afterwards sent to the Dardanelles. He was out digging trenches at night when his company was surprised by an army of Turks about 2000 strong. His companion at New Zealand, Lieut. Cameron, was killed by his side, and most of the company was wiped out. Pte. Henderson was shot in the ankle and wounded with shrapnel. He is at present in a hospital at Cairo, and is progressing favourable.

Published 14th July 1915

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

DEATH OF LOCAL MAN IN EGYPT

Intimation has been received that Mr James Ross, attached to the Royal Naval Division, has died in Alexandria from wounds. The young man is the eldest son of Mr and Mrs David Ross, South Glencraig. Another brother is serving with the forces in France.

OUTBREAK OF FIRE

While on night duty about midnight on Sunday last, Constables Mackay and Wilson discovered an outbreak of fire in a brick-built outhouse belonging to Mr John Hardman, Glencraig. It is suspected that the fire originated from smouldering material in an ashpit adjoining. The constables, assisted by willing helpers, who carried water speedily, soon had the fire under control, but not before the roof had become affected. As the building is adjoining other wooden buildings, and is close to business premises and dwelling houses, it was fortunate that the fire was discovered before

it reached a more serious stage.

DR SINCLAIR AND MILITARY DUTY

At a recent meeting of the medical practitioners of Fife it was pointed out to them the urgent need of the Army for more medical men, and a representative from one of the governing bodies advised them that where it was at all possible to make a satisfactory temporary arrangement that doctors that could possibly arrange it should take up military work for the duration of the war. After consultation with Dr Todd of Lochcraig, Dr Sinclair offered his services to the War Office, and his offer having been accepted he took up military duties on Monday. During his absence Dr Sinclair's patients will be attended by Dr Todd. In intimating the arrangements to his patients Dr Sinclair says he is confident that patients will approve of and co-operate in the arrangements, which are the best that can be done in this time of national stress. On Saturday evening Dr Sinclair was the guest of the local Lodge of Shepherds, when he was presented with a silver luminous wristlet watch on the occasion of his taking up military duties for the duration of the war. He was wished a speedy and safe return to civilian life.

Published 21st July 1915

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

GLENCRAIG MAN DIES FROM WOUNDS

Intimation has been received of the death of Pte. Geo. Murdoch, Royal Scots Fusiliers. He was severely wounded in action, and died three days later. He leaves a widow and family.

NARROW ESCAPE FROM A BURNING HUT

A large hut erected for the accommodation of navvies employed at the extension of Kirkcaldy water reservoir at Leslie was burned to the ground in half an hour on Wednesday morning. The inmates, 12 in number, all escaped unhurt, except John Small of Perth, who was burned on the face and cut on the breast as he was being hauled through the window. The men were mostly naked. The farmers and cottagers in their neighbourhood exerted themselves to the utmost to get clothes and boots for the men. The injured man was taken to Thornton Hospital. The damage must be considerable but is said to be covered by insurance. Nothing of the building was left but the iron fittings. Fortunately the hutkeeper's wife, who is in delicate health, had gone home to Lochore with her four children.

Published 4th August 1915

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

Dr Sinclair, Crosshill, has been gazetted a Lieutenant in above.

NATIONAL REGISTRATION

The work of collecting National Registration forms was speedily carried out by the respective enumerators. The South Glencraig collections were in the hands of Mr Small, Town House, by Wednesday forenoon, and Mr Wilson, Ballingry Parish, reports similar for his district. Several ladies and gentlemen have voluntarily offered their services to assist the Ballingry Parish Council Office staff in the more arduous duties that follow the collection of the forms.

Published 25th August 1915

LOCHORE RELIEF FUND

Some time ago the workers at the Mary Pit decided that instead of their weekly contribution going to the Prince of Wales National Relief Fund, they should form a local relief fund, with the title Mary Pit Workers' Relief Fund. This scheme has been in progress and the committee now intimate that on Sept. 1st they will meet to consider any applications for relief. Applicants must apply for a form, obtainable from Mr Spence, Secretary, and only applications made on the official form will be considered.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The inspection of the gardens of the members of the local society was completed last week and the judges reported as follows:-

Best All Round Garden- 1st, Thomas Cuthbert, Lochore Steading; 2nd, Thomas Thomson, Ballingry; 3rd, James Salmond, North Glencraig.

Best Vegetable Garden- Same as above.

Best Flower Garden- 1st, W.C. Davidson, Lochcraig; 2nd, James Herd, View Place; 3rd, James Salmond.

Window Boxes- 1st, James Currie, Peveril Place, Lochore; 2nd, James Salmond; 3rd, Thomas Thomson.

Special Prizes- Roses, Duncan M'Galloway; Sweet Peas, Wm. Moyes; Dahlias, Jas. Herd; Violas and Pansies, Jas. Currie; Cabbages, J. Culbert; Cauliflower, T. Culbert; Beet, J. Thomson; Leeks, J. Farmer.

Published 1st September 1915

ANOTHER LOCHGELLY FOOTBALLER KILLED

Mrs Haldane, Glencraig, has just received intimation that her son, Private James Haldane, 11th Royal Scots, has been killed in action in France. Private Haldane was a well-known footballer, and had signed on for Lochgelly United. Formerly he played for the Hearts of Beath, and previous to joining Lochgelly several clubs were anxious to secure his services. He enlisted in the Royal Scots immediately war broke out. He had already served four years in the Territorials. Private Haldane has another two brothers on active service in the Dardanelles, and another brother in France. Private John Steedman, a comrade, in a letter to a sister of deceased, gives a full account of the circumstances of his death. He says: -" I have very bad news for you. Your brother Jim was killed in the trenches here last night. He suffered none, for he died instantaneously. The story is this. We were out in front with a working party digging a trench when suddenly the Germans opened fire on us with rifle and machine gun fire. A chap in front of your brother was hit in two places, and was in great pain. Jim heard him cry for help and he went out to bring his wounded comrade in. He was in the act of bringing him in, when he was hit and died instantly. Jim laid down his life for his comrade. It cast a gloom over all of us when we heard he was killed. He was well liked in the Company and he had many friends. He was buried here in the churchyard in the village. I attended his burial today. I know how you will miss him at home, but you will have to cheer up. You have the satisfaction of knowing that he died doing his duty for King and Country. I only feel sorry for his untimely end. He was a good soldier and we miss him, but I know you will miss him more than us. He is lying alongside other heroes who have died for the great cause. A man can make no greater sacrifice than to lay down his life for his comrade. Jim and I made it up between us when we came out here first that if one of us fell the other would break the news to those at home. I am only fulfilling his wishes. This is a terrible war, and there will be many sad homes before this is ended. His comrades wish to express their deepest sympathy to you and your family.

Published 8th August 1915

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE CASUALTIES

That Glencraig and Lochore men have been taking their part in the recent battle in France is evident from the reports of number of wounded. The information has as a rule been conveyed in field post cards from the men themselves, or from the letters of comrades. The following list of men thus reported wounded must not be considered complete:-

Scots Guards – Jack Danskine, Glencraig. Jas. McEwan, Lochore.

Black Watch – Thos. Robertson and John Morton, Lochore. John Jackson and John Casey, Glencraig.

Gordon Highlanders – Arch. McCleish, Glencraig. Arthur Fanning, Lochore, (Second time wounded).

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders – Edward Connelly, Lochore.

Royal Scots – Ben. Donnachie, Lochore.

Royal Scots Fusiliers – Geo. Marshall, Lochore. J. Galloway and F. Donnachie, Crosshill. Ed. Thomson, Alex. Wilson and D. Anderson, Glencraig.

Published 13th October 1915

REPORTED KILLED

It is reported by an officer of the regiment that Sergt. Wm. Gibson, K.O.S.B., has been killed in action in France. As caretaker of Glencraig Institute, Sergt. Gibson was well known and highly respected. He was previously in the army and had experienced active service on several occasions. He had completed his period on the reserve when the present war broke out but he rejoined his old regiment. That he was a capable and respected soldier is verified by the fact that shortly after the declaration of war Sergt. Gibson received a personal appeal from the Colonel (who was a junior officer of the regiment during one of the campaigns in which he served) asking him to rejoin, and recalling several incidents by which he remembered him. Sergt. Gibson is survived by a widow.

Published 27th October 1915

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

GLENCRAIG MAN KILLED

Intimation has been received of the death of Lance-Corporal David Bell, 7th R.S.F. The news was conveyed in a letter to the father, Mr Gavin Bell, South Glencraig, from an officer in the regiment. The writer says:- "Your son was in the reserve 2 miles back from the firing line and on the 22nd he was in charge of a party bringing up the rations. He had visited Nos. 1 And 2 machine gun positions and was on a visit to No. 3 gun. He was having a chat with his machine gun officer, who was also visiting the gun, when a shell landed in amongst them. The officer and your son were both killed instantaneously, whilst the other two men who were at hand were not in the slightest way hurt. Your son was a fine fellow and a fine soldier. He was loved and admired by all who knew him. Personally I did not know him, and that is greatly to my disadvantage. Had his officer lived I am sure he would have written you with all sympathy. He died while doing his duty, which is a great thing.

Published 1st December 1915

INTERESTING LETTER

Letter received from Pte. Jas. Owens, a Glencraig man, by Mr T. Lynas, Glencraig, giving a humorous account of his experiences:-

Nov. 14th, H.M.S. - - - - -

You will see from above I have changed my address. The fact is, things were a bit tiresome in the trenches in France so I spoke to the Colonel about a change and he suggested a cruise in the Mediterranean. I agreed and he brought the rest of the battalion along for company. We entrained 40 men to a truck which trucks were beautifully done up to represent miniature farmyards, I think. The straw on the floor gave it a realistic appearance. I have heard of society ladies using pet dogs for foot stools: we went one better and used each other's feet for pillows. We had 40 hours of this luxurious style of travelling, which I understand is called "a la sardine." We have now been four days out at sea, and our dietary so far is a good dinner, but only bully beef and hard biscuits for breakfast and tea. We were supplied with a loaf of bread the first day, and it was like that Bible yarn, only it was the multitude that fed the fishes with the small loaves. As the Colonel has been good enough to bring me so far, I have left all further arrangements in his hands so I do not know where he will land us. We are informed that a mail will be collected today, so that looks as if we are to touch some port or other tonight. My address now will be -----c/o G.P.O. London; that is if this boat is not torpedoed. If it is torpedoed then I daresay my past life will have a lot to do with my future address etc.,.

Published 15th December 1915

SOLDIERS THANK LOCHGELLY LADIES

As showing the kind appreciation by our soldier lads of the mindfulness of the members of the Co-operative Women's Guild, the following letters, which were read out at their weekly meeting on Monday night by the secretary, Mrs Thos. Hunter, to whom they were sent, may be given as samples:-

Dear Mrs Brown, - It is with great pleasure I take this opportunity of writing you a note thanking you for the splendid pair of socks I have received through your kindness. It is such as you that keep the boys in such good heart, for they know that the good folks at home are thinking of them and are eager to help them in whatever little way they can. Accept my heartfelt thanks for your splendid

gift I belong to Blantyre just outside Glasgow so have not got any acquaintance with your town, but if I am spared to see the end of the struggle I will surely visit your town. Your gift has found its way to one of Scotland's foremost regiments viz., 2nd Batt. Gordon Highlanders a regiment which has rendered years of service during fourteen months of the present war and has figured in nearly all the big engagements very prominently. My address is Machine Gun Section, 2nd Batt. Gordon Highlanders, B.E.F. France, so if you find it convenient let me know if you receive this. I will close my rambling letter by wishing you and yours a very Happy New Year – I am one of your Tommies. 12401 Pte. John Christie.

Dear Mrs Hunter, and members of the Co-operative Women's Guild; - I have today, Sunday, 26th Dec., received the handsome cake which you and your comp[anions so kindly sent me. It was very kind of you all to think about me, most of you having husbands and sons to think about. We have spent a very good Christmas here on this island in the North Sea, and I hope everyone of you have enjoyed yourselves as much as I have. I will close now wishing one and all a happy New Year when it comes. I again thank you all very much for the kindness you have shown towards me. Believe me, your sincere friend, Gunner J.R. Millar, No 20 Coy, R.G.A., Inchkeith.

To President, Co-operative Women's Guild, Lochgelly – Just a line or two to thank you for the nice present of cake you sent me. I can assure you these little gifts go a long way to brighten the days for us, away from home and friends. It is not the money value we look at, it is the kind spirit of remembrance that prompts the action, which makes us feel we are not forgotten although out of sight. I am sure we all wish this terrible war was at an end, and let us all home to our family life. Kindly return my best thanks to you committee for their gift, and at the same time, tell them it was heartily enjoyed by us all, including our Coy. Regt. Major, in whose billet I am. - With kind regards, I remain yours sincerely, Pte. A. Matthew, 2/7 Black Watch, Broughty Ferry.

Published 19th January 1916

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

CONCERT

The Lochgelly Co-operative Society held their annual entertainment in Lochgelly Hall on Tuesday last. The hall was packed and a capital programme was gone through. Each of the audience received a box of chocolates on entering.

MARY PIT WORKERS WAR RELIEF FUND

Some time ago the Mary Pit workers decided to cease contributing to the National Relief Fund, preferring to establish a local scheme of their own. After several months working of the new fund, the officials submitted their reports to a meeting of the subscribers held on Wednesday evening. The financial report showed that the contributions totalled £79. 0s. 2d. Expenditure £11. 16s. 1d. Leaving a balance of £67. 1s. 2d.

SOLDIER KILLED

Intimation has been received that Pte. Joe Bowman, son of Mr Alexander Bowman, Helenslea, Crosshill, has been reported killed. Pte. Bowman, who was serving in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders was on the morning of 2nd January buried beneath the debris caused by a mine which the Germans had exploded. His body was never recovered. He was a bomb thrower. Mr Bowman has other two sons in the forces, one in Salonika and the other in the R.G.A.

Published 16th February 1916

ALL SINGLE MEN TO BE CALLED UP

A rapid and unexpected development was reported on Saturday in connection with the coming into force of the Military Service Act.

It is understood that the War Office proposes to call up without further delay all the classes of single men and this step will be notified by Royal proclamation, which will probably be issued in the course of the week.

There has been considerable activity both at the War Office and the Ministry of Munitions within the last few days, and no doubt this decision is the result of joint consultation.

The statement may also be made, though with reserve, that some of the younger groups of married men may also receive an official intimation regarding their position within a month from

now.

Published 16th February 1916

GLENCRAIG MAN HAS LUCKY ESCAPE

Mr Wm. Aird, Currie's Buildings, Glencraig, has received word that his son Corpl. Peter Aird 10th Gordons, has been admitted to hospital with wounds in the legs. While in the trenches he heard a cry for a stretcher, and fearing that one of his own platoon had been injured, he set off to investigate. An enemy rifle grenade burst at his feet injuring both legs. He has undergone an operation and had the shrapnel removed but the injuries are not so serious as at first thought. In writing home, the Corporal expresses the opinion that he was exceedingly lucky.

WHAT IS A PATRIOT?

What is a patriot? A man who does for his country? Not necessarily. A patriot is a man who loves his country so well that he is willing to do anything for it, even to sacrificing his life for it. The past is full of patriots, so is the present, and so will be the future.

Wallace was a patriot. He fought for his country and gave his life for it. Wycliffe fought for the religion which he thought would help his country and died for it. The nobles who forced John I to sign the Magna Carta on a summer day in 1215 were patriots in the highest sense of the word. They realised that to prosper their country must have good laws and freedom, so they fought their tyrannous selfish king, and obtained their rights. Knox, Horay and the Covenanters were patriots; they stood up for what they thought best. Wilberforce and the men who fought for and obtained the abolition of slavery, were patriots, as were those who gained the Repeal of the Corn Laws. Pitt, the great statesman of George III's reign, Nelson and Wellington were men who devoted their lives to the good of their country.

The present is full of patriots – women give husbands and sons ungrudgingly to fight for King and country. But why should a mother with only one son give him – her all – when those with two or three withhold even one? Are the latter satisfied that others should lay down their lives for those who are perfectly able to go and defend themselves and their women folk. Perhaps if they could see the stretches of country devastated and mangled waste, or the long mounds of earth, surmounted by a small wooden cross, which proclaims the last resting place of “somebody's boy” who had fallen in Flanders, Belgium, or at the Dardanelles, or if they could peep into the homes from which a dear one has been taken and see the heroic fortitude of the women of Britain, and hear a prattling voice ask, “Mamma why doesn't daddy come”? Something might prompt them to forget self and to go and fight the great cause of humanity.

How can the slackers slack? Do we remember the scornful words in the old song?

Wha wad be a traitor knave ?

Wha wad fill a cowards grave ?

Wha sae bane as be a slave ?

Let him turn and flee.

How can those who are fit and able read these words and hear the gallant Admiral say “England expects that every man this day will do his duty”, and still remain at home in luxury, while their brothers are dead or dying on a foreign shore.

By the torments here children have suffered,

By the deaths men have died at her altars;

By the blood that her martyrs will give

By these shall our liberty live.

In the silence of tears in the burden

Of the wrongs we some day will repay,

Live the brothers who died in all ages

For the Freedom we live for today.

Again, where is the man who calls himself a patriot who would be willing to stand aside and see his ancient land humbled to the dust? Let us hope he does not exist.

Jeannie Glencross
Lofty View, Glencraig.

Published 23rd February 1916

BLACK WATCH CASUALTY

Mr Thomas Laing, Largo Cottage, Glencraig, has received official word that his son, Pte. James S.B. Laing, 1st Black Watch was killed on May 9th, 1915, or since. He was previously officially reported missing as from same date. Deceased was in the Special Reserve when war broke out, and was early engaged in France. He was wounded at Ypres in October 1914, and rejoined his regiment again in January.

Published 2nd March 1916

CASUALTIES

Corporal Michael Dacey, 9th Scottish Rifles, attached to Royal Engineers is reported killed. He was resting preparatory to resuming mining operations when an enemy shell exploded and killed Dacey and several others. The corporal was a young man and a native of Co. Mayo but worked and resided in Glencraig for several years. - Corporal John Borland, 6th R.S.F., Montrose Street, Lochore, has been missing since Sep. 25th. An officer of the regiment conveys the information that Corpl. Borland was hit during a hot attack on the Germans. Previous to joining the army Corp. Borland was employed at the Mary Pit, Lochore. Private William Reilly, Black Watch, has also been missing since Sep. 25th. He was employed at Kelty at the outbreak of war, and he enlisted and became a piper in the band of the battalion. His mother resides at 74 Waverley Street, Lochore.

Published 22nd March 1916

GLENCRAIG SERGEANT COMMENDED BY GENERAL

Sergeant Jack Glencross, of the Royal Field Artillery, has received the following card of commendation signed by the General Commanding the 1st Division:-

“ I have read with great pleasure the report of your conduct on April 2nd 1916 in setting a good example of coolness to the men of the Battery while under heavy shell fire. Your name and the circumstances of the case have been duly recorded “. Sergeant Glencross has been in France since the landing of the 1st Expeditionary Force, and earned his promotion to Sergeant in the field. Another brother, Andrew who voluntarily transferred from the Lancers to the Black Watch while on active service, was also promoted to Sergeant within a short time of his transfer.

GLENCRAIG SNIPER DIES FROM WOUNDS

Mr and Mrs Andrew Greenlees, 146 South Glencraig, have received intimation of the death of their son, William, private in a Manchester regiment. The sister-in-charge at 1 / 2 London Casualty Clearing Station, France and knowing the parent's address, wrote to a friend in England, and the letter was forwarded to Glencraig. In it the writer said that the young man died on April 7th. He had been admitted the previous night with a severe wound in the head, and was unconscious to the end. The following letter from the officer of the regiment has since been received by the parent's. - “ It is with very genuine sorrow that I have to inform you of the death of your son, No. 27601 Sniper W. Greenlees, who died of wounds received in action. He was a very brave lad and devoid of fear. In fact, I don't think he knew what fear was. He was very kind hearted, and everybody liked him, and I am quite certain he had not a single enemy. He was a very well known figure in the battalion, and I should say he was known to more people in the brigade than any other private soldier. We all miss him very much indeed, and the place seems very different without him. If there are any other particulars about his death you would like to know, I shall only be too pleased to tell you. Again sympathising with you in your sad bereavement, I am yours faithfully, J.L.M. Morton, Sniping Officer.

Published 19th April 1916

KELTY SEAFORTH DIES OF WOUNDS

Information has been received by Mr John Dow, Woodend Park, Main Street, Kelty, that his son, Private John Dow, Seaforth Highlanders, has died of wounds. Private Dow who was 26 years of age had been in the Civil Service in London for the past nine years. He enlisted in July of last year. He was wounded by a trench mortar, and died the following day. A brother, Alfred, is in the Mechanical Transport.

Published 3rd May 1916

DOUBLE FATALITY AT LOCHORE

A gloom was cast over Lochore village on Wednesday morning when it was known that an accident had occurred at the Mary Pit and that two men had lost their lives.

It appears that the unfortunate men namely James McLachlan, Waverley Street, Lochore, and Matthew Anderson, Milton, Crosshill, while at their duties were caught in a heavy fall of material from the roof and were completely buried.

Speedy efforts were made to remove the fall but little hopes were entertained of getting the men out alive. When the bodies were recovered they were found to be extinct in both cases. Dr Todd who was in attendance at the colliery certified the deaths as due to suffocation.

Anderson had but recently come to the district and resided in lodgings. McLachlan was well known. He was a prominent Freemason and Orangeman. He was W.M. Of Lodge 320 (Orangemen), Lochore, and for five years held the office of secretary of District 15. A fortnight ago he was presented with a gold badge for services rendered. He was an ex-soldier, and served with the Royal Scots Fusiliers in the South African war, and possessed both the Queen's and King's medals and six clasps. He leaves a widow for whom much sympathy is felt. Deceased's brother lies seriously wounded in a hospital in France.

The funeral took place on Friday afternoon to Ballingry Cemetery, and in addition to a large representation of Masonic brethren and Orangemen there was a good turnout of the public. Lochgelly Band headed the cortege and played slow and appropriate music. The service at the grave was Masonic and the Rev. W.H. Macdiarmid also took part.

Published 10th May 1916

FOOTBALL IN FRANCE

An interesting football match took place somewhere in France on a recent Sunday when the 16th Royal Scots (Sir George McCray's Footballers' Battalion) opposed the 32nd Div. Supply Column team, the latter being composed of "Scotties". The teams were:-

16th Royal Scots: Henderson (Falkirk); Crossan, Briggs, Ness, (Hearts); McLay (Raith Rovers) Smith (Leith); Wattie, Currie, (Hearts); Woods (Falkirk) and Scott (Raith Rovers).

Supply Column: Cook, (Bowhill Thistle); P.Murphy and J.Penman (Kelty Rangers); T.Penman (Arniston Rangers); J.Logan, (Glencraig Celtic); J.Seath and O'Donnell (Bowhill Thistle); Balloch (Glencraig Celtic); W.Penman (Lochgelly United); Duffy (Kelty Rangers) and Moffat (Dunfermline).

The game was a very fast one and the Supply Column were rather unlucky to have only equal points with the pros. At half-time, the score then being 1-1. In the second portion the pros. Had the greater part of the play but only managed to score in the last three minutes, the Supply Column having a great defence which would have held many teams. The game ended 2-1 in favour of the Royal Scots. The twenty two players played fine football all through, the two best being Briggs and Balloch.

Published 24th May 1916

LIFT OFF YOUR HAT

Dedicated to the Black Watch and Royal Scots Fusiliers National Reservists guarding
Grangemouth Docks:-

When it came about that this war broke out,
he did'nt shout " Hip hooray,"
He said- " I shall go and keep back the foe "
Though I'm old and my hair is grey.
O'h, lift off your hat
to a man like that
He showed young and old the way.

When he left the pit to do his wee bit,
he dropped sixty bob a week,

“Twas't common sense – No, 'twas Home Defence-
Truly British – not modern Greek.
Boys take off your cap
To that brave old chap,
And of him as a hero speak.

The National Reserve all honour deserve
For the trying work they do,
Till stiff in the joints they guard vital points,
Like old bulldogs grim and true.
Then take off your hat
To true men like that,
They are better than me or you.

His son at the Front is bearing the brunt,
of the shock of our war abroad;
His son on the sea in the British Navee.
Is another who bears our load.
Oh, lift off your hat
To men like that,
For their safety pray to God.

He left wife and weans', but seldom complains,
Sometimes says he's not doing enough,
And when cruelly told he's too stupid or old,
He just smiles and treats it as bluff.
Oh, lift off your hat
To a man like that,
He's A1 pure gold, sterling stuff.

The majority of the men, both Fusiliers and Black Watch are miners, but almost all of them left good positions and have sons serving in France, Flanders, Serbia, Egypt with the Regular and Territorial Armies, whilst a few have sons in both the Royal and Merchant Navy.

Published 31st May 1916

FIFE AND KINROSS MINERS PART IN THE WAR

Over 10,000 miners in the counties of Fife and Kinross have joined the colours.

This information is contained in the annual report to the Fife and Kinross Miners' Association by Mr William Adamson M.P. The general secretary, who observes that many of them have made the supreme sacrifice in the service of their country. A considerable number of their members who have taken part in the war have acquitted themselves nobly and won the highest honours for their heroism.

The large drain on their membership, he proceeds, has affected their finances. The income has been reduced by £777 in comparison with the previous year, while the expenditure has been largely increased in consequence of the arrangements made at the beginning of the war to keep in full membership those of their members enlisting in either the army or navy.

Advocating a strong organisation Mr Adamson said that every member of their Association should exercise his influence in the direction of securing every man and boy at the pits to become members. In addition to the purely trade reasons for complete organisation in connection with their industry, regard must be had to the fact that out of the gigantic struggle in which the nation was engaged many new problems would emerge, and if they were wise they would put their house in order, so as to be able to grapple successfully with these.

Published 7th June 1916

GLENCRAIG MAN MISSING

Mrs Anderson, Shawford Place, Lochcraig, has been informed by the Canadian Record Office that he husband, Sapper Peter Anderson, 2nd Canadian Tunnelling Company, has been posted as missing since June 2nd. Sapper Anderson emigrated to Canada about 2 ½ years ago. Shortly after war was declared he joined the Overseas Mounted Rifles of the Canadian Forces. He was eager to get to the scene of hostilities, and as the Tunnelling Company presented him with such an opportunity he transferred to that Corps. He visited his home for a few days recently when en route to France. A brother-in-law, is serving in the same company, but was on duty in another sphere on the day Sapper Anderson was reported missing.

LUMPHINNANS ROYAL SCOT KILLED

Mrs David Inglis 106 Main Street, Lumphinnans, has been officially informed of the death of her husband, Private David Inglis, of the Royal Scots. Inglis who was a miner, enlisted immediately after the outbreak of war and had been for fifteen months in the trenches. In his last letter he said he was looking forward to an early visit home.

Published 14th June 1916

LETTER FROM GERMANY

Pte G. Watson, 1st Black Watch son of Mr John Watson, South Street, who is a prisoner of war in Germany, writes that he is in good health and spirits. He is working on farm work, and has plenty to do for his pay of two and a half pence a day. He says "we call it work and sleep". We have plenty of potatoes but very little food. The weather is good and warm. I could do with a razor, looking glass and soap. In concluding, he says he is sorry to hear of the boys who are killed. He thinks it is luck; if you have to go, you go. Cheer up! We are on the winning side.

WAR OFFICE AND TREATMENT METED OUT TO CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

The Secretary of the War Office issues the following:-

It is obvious from letters which are being received at the War Office from various sources, that an impression has gained ground that a special form of punishment has been devised for conscientious objectors undergoing detention or imprisonment for breaches of discipline.

The letters in the main allege ill-treatment, and contain specific allegations as to the particular punishment which has been inflicted. In addition they allude very frequently to the fact that the prisoner is not permitted to write letters or see visitors.

Assuming the statements contained in the letters to be correct, it is clearly not realised that the soldiers concerned are undergoing the punishment required under the rules for military detention barracks and military prisons, which are statutory.

The rules for military detention barracks and military prisons are published by Messrs Harrison & Sons, St Martin's Lane, W.C.

Letters of complaint of this nature are in reality directed against the military detention barracks system, which is applied to all soldiers, and no distinction whatever is made in the treatment of a soldier who may have committed offences against discipline for conscientious reasons.

Considerable attention has also been directed by the public towards the special Army Order of 25th May 1916, and constant inquiries are being made as to why soldiers in detention cannot by law be committed to undergo imprisonment in a civil prison for the reason that the sentence of the Court was detention and not imprisonment.

The scale of punishment authorised under the Army Act varies in degree, and as detention is less in the scale of punishment than imprisonment it is not possible in law to commute detention to imprisonment as commutation is a lessening of the degree of the severity of the sentence. Conversely, however, imprisonment may be commuted to detention. From this it will be seen that it is only when a Court awards a sentence of imprisonment that the soldier concerned can be committed to a civil prison to undergo his sentence.

FOUR DUNFERMLINE MEN IN CASUALTY LIST

Four Dunfermline men have figured in the casualty list during the past week.

George Chaplin who was a steward on board H.M.S. Defence has been officially reported

drowned. He was a son of Mr Alex. Chaplin, Fordell, Fife. Previous to joining the navy he was travelling in Europe as valet to Prince Louis of Spain.

Private Archibald Ritchie, Seaforth Highlanders who was missing since September 1915, has been officially reported killed in action. Prior to joining the army he was employed as a gardener at Pittencrieff Gardens, Dunfermline.

Corporal Joseph Gillies, Black Watch, son of Mr David Gillies, St. Leonard's Place, Dunfermline, has died of wounds. Previous to the war he was a miner.

Private Jack Niven, son of Mr John Niven, Craigmoss, Appin Crescent, Dunfermline has been killed in action. He was 24 years of age, and was formerly employed as a grocer.

FIFE CANADIAN REPORTED MISSING

Mrs Veale Brown's Buildings, Lumphinnans has been notified that he brother Gunner James Drummond of the Canadian Expeditionary Force is reported missing. Drummond who has been in Canada for some time, enlisted there after the outbreak of war.

Published 21st June 1916

ALLOCATING COMPANIES IN FIFE FOR NEW VOLUNTEER BATTALION

A meeting of representatives of the various Volunteer Corps in Fife was held at Kirkcaldy on Thursday. Colonel Purvis, who has been appointed Commandant of the new regiment for Fife, presided. Colonel Newbigging, the military adviser of the Central Association, was present, as was also Sir Robert Lockhart.

It was agreed that the Territorial Force Association be asked to undertake the responsibility for the administration of the new volunteer regiment for Fife. All present took the oath. It was resolved that in the event of the Government providing arms, &c., those present should undertake the providing of uniforms.

At present it was agreed to allocate companies as follows:- Kirkcaldy Burghs - two companies. Dunfermline - one; Cupar (including Leuchars) - one; Newport and Tayport - one; St. Andrews - one; It was suggested that Leven and Buckhaven combine in forming one company.

DCM FOR LOCHGELLY SOLDIER

It is pleasing to note that Company Sergeant Major G. Dewar, 2nd Batt. Scots Guards, White Street, has been awarded the D.C.M. For conspicuous bravery. Sergt. Major Dewar was in the army when war broke out. As published in the Gazette the D.C.M. Was awarded for conspicuous bravery. After a continuous and intense bombardment by the enemy he was cut off and isolated with a few men. His part of the trench was almost obliterated, but when the enemy attacked he organised a bombing counter attack and drove them off. It was mainly due to his coolness and bravery that the position was maintained.

Published 28th June 1916

LETTER FROM PRISONER OF WAR

Mrs R. Whyte 49 Melville Street, has received a letter from her son Pte. Robert Whyte 2nd Black Watch, intimating that he is a prisoner of war at Bagdad. The following is the letter:-

Dear Parents, - Just a few lines to let you know that I am well, hoping you and the family are the same. I have been wounded and taken a prisoner of war, but you need not worry about me for the Turks are very kind to the English soldiers, who get the very best of food. I think that they don't use butter or jam, so I will be much obliged if you would just send me out some jam and a cigarette. I suppose you will have got word that I was missing or dead. I was wounded in four places, one in the same place as before, one in the shoulder and two in my hips, but they are all slight ones. Tell all at home that I am asking kindly for them, and hope we shall all meet when it is finished.-

Your loving son, Robert.

Published 5th July 1916

GLENCRAIG SCOTS GREY WOUNDED

Mrs James Wood, Gordon Place, Glencraig, has been notified that her brother, Lance Corporal Alex. Hutt, Scots Greys, has been admitted to hospital with wounds in thigh and arms.

REGISTRATION RETURN

The following are the registration returns for Lochore registration district of Ballingry Parish for quarter ending June 30th; Births – 41; deaths – 8; Marriages – 6;

Compared with same period last year there is a decrease in births – 8; deaths – 6; Marriages – 3.

GUNNER HIGGINS DIES FROM GAS POISONING

Mr James Higgins, 56 South Glencraig, has now received word that his son, Gunner Patrick Higgins, has died from the effects of gaseous poisoning in No. 10 Stationary Hospital, St. Owan, France. Two telegrams were previously received informing the relatives of his grave condition.

LOCHORE SAPPER KILLED

Intimation has been received that Sapper Alex. Langlands, tunnelling section R.E. Has been killed. He was in the Black Watch but latterly transferred to the Royal Engineers. Prior to the war he was employed at the Mary Colliery and in his spare time was on the staff of the Crosshill Picturedrome. He leaves a widow and five of a family who reside at Waverley Street, Lochore.

SOLDIER WOUNDED

Mrs Henderson, residing in Fifth Street, has been informed that he brother-in-law, Pte. William Henderson, Gordon Highlanders, was wounded in the knee, and is now in hospital. This is the second time Pte. Henderson has been wounded during this war. On a previous occasion he got wounded in the face, and was confined to hospital for four months. He belongs to Methil, but resides with his sister-in-law in Fifth Street, Bowhill.

PRISONER OF WAR

Mr James Pearson, blacksmith, Shawsmill, Cardenden, has been informed by the War Office, through the American Embassy, that his son, Corpl. William Pearson (21), Fife and Forfar Yeomanry, died a prisoner of war on 25th May. Corpl. Pearson was taken a prisoner by the Turks in Suvla Bay on 28th November 1915. Corpl. Pearson was two years with the Yeomanry when war broke out, and mobilised at that time. He was employed as jobbing blacksmith at Dundonald Colliery when mobilisation took place.

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

NEWS FROM PRISONER OF WAR

Sapper Peter Anderson, in a letter to his wife, states he is still in the best of health. We are treated very good as prisoners but you might send a parcel of eatables as soon as possible, as the food we get here is not the same as the old country's.

GLENCRAIG CHILDRENS' GALA

The Glencraig Childrens' Gala was advertised to take place on Saturday last, but the weather being hopeless most of the arrangements were postponed. The children were summoned to the Institute hall, where they received their bag of pastry and the new penny.

SERIOUS FLOODING

The low lying ground of Lochore Meadows was transformed into a sheet of water several hundred acres in extent and over six feet deep. A railway used for mineral traffic was submerged for over half a mile, cutting off a locomotive and waggons. The amount of water passing to the underground workings has been enormous.

Published 12th July 1916

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

A DUNFERMLINE PRIZE FOR GLENCRAIG

In a competition organised by the Committee of a War Relief Fund, and held in Dunfermline last week end, the successful winner was Mr W.C. Davidson, Manse Road, Glencraig. The prize was a valuable tea set and tray.

LOCHORE MEN WOUNDED

Corpl. John Quinn, Black Watch, Peveril Place, Lochore and a member of Lochore Institute Committee has been wounded in action, and lies in a Boulougne Hospital. Pte. J. Brown, Black Watch, Waverley Street, Lochore, has also been admitted to hospital with gun shot wounds in the le

THE AMBULANCE FUND

Mr R. Small, hon. Treasurer of Lochgelly and District Ambulance Waggon Association desires to acknowledge with thanks the sum of £10.19s.9d, being amount of collections made by the Fife Coal

Company's employees at the Mary Pit, Lochore, for the ambulance van funds

Published 26th July 1916

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS
SPECIAL INTERCESSORY SERVICE

A special intercessory service was held in Ballingry Parish Church on Friday at noon. The clergymen officiating were Rev. W.H. Macdiarmid, B.D. And Rev. Charles Mason. There was a good attendance. Mr Mason read the lesson and offered up the intercessory prayer, while Mr Macdiarmid delivered a most eloquent address suitable to the occasion.

MILITARY FUNERAL

The funeral of Pte. Kennedy, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who died in a Liverpool hospital from wounds received in action took place last Friday afternoon. It was unfortunate that the delay in the arrival of the body from England rather upset the local arrangements with the result there was not the turnout of public mourners that otherwise would have been. The military authorities in Dunfermline kindly sent out four pipers who headed the cortege from the house of the parent's to Lochgelly Cemetery.

PRIVATE GREENLEES' DEATH

Captain Johnstone, writing to Mr and Mrs Greenlees, South Glencraig, informing them of the death of their son, John, says he was killed by a German shell on July 19th. He was in my company before he joined the Machine Gunners and I felt that I must write to say how greatly I and my officer's felt his loss. He was always bright and cheerful and a great favourite with officers, NCOs and men. A number of Scotch boys joined my company when we were formed, and I may say that they have proved themselves the best soldiers I have had. None was more popular than John Greenlees. He has given his life like so many other British heroes, for his King and country. I pray that God may give you and yours special strength to bear the terrible loss. Pte Greenlees was in a British regiment recruited in Manchester district.

Published 9th August 1916

PREPARING WELCOME FOR DUNFERMLINE VC

Arrangements are being made to accord a right royal welcome to Sergeant Erskine, VC, Scottish Rifles, on his arrival in Dunfermline from the front.

At a public meeting of citizens in Dunfermline on Friday, Provost Harley suggested that a civic welcome should be accorded the gallant sergeant on his arrival at the station. He would then be escorted to the Corporation Buildings, and made the recipient of a presentation.

Sir William Robertson said that the meeting should extend to Sergeant Erskine and his mother its cordial congratulations in connection with the award of the VC. There should certainly be an official reception to the gallant sergeant.

It was indicated that the gifts to be presented might take the form of a gold watch and an illuminated address or war loan certificate. The meeting unanimously agreed to invite subscriptions.

Published 30th August 1916

GLENCRAIG SOLDIER DIES FROM FEVER

Official information has been received that Gunner Francis Bond, Royal Field Artillery, son of Mr Matthew Bond, 17 North Glencraig, has died in a Bombay War Hospital from enteric fever, contracted in Mesopotamia. A sad feature of the death is that with the same mail, by which came the official intimation of the death. There also arrived letters from the young man himself stating that he was improving and was being removed to another hospital and expected to be his usual, soon. Deceased voluntarily enlisted about a year ago. His wife resides at 4 First Street, Bowhill.

Published 27th September 1916

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

WOUNDED

Intimation has been received that Pte. David Wilkie, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders has been wounded in action. Wilkie volunteered early in the war, and resided in Glencraig for several

years. He was employed in the local colliery.

Published 4th October 1916

QUARTERMASTER SERGEANT McLEOD

KILLED IN ACTION

Official intimation has been received of the death of Quartermaster Sergeant John McLeod, Australian Imperial Forces. Deceased who is a brother-in-law of Mr J. Cooper, Lochore Institute, had long experience with the army. He joined the Cameron Highlanders and served in the Sudan campaign and received the British and Egyptian medals, with bars, for Albara and Khartoum. At the former battle his only brother, also in the Camerons, was killed. He afterwards transferred to the West Indian Regiment, and was stationed for a number of years in Jamaica and also the Gold Coast. He retired with the rank of Sergeant Major about seven years ago and took up residence in Glencraig. He took an active part in starting the Boy Scout movement in the district, and was the first Scoutmaster. He also interested himself in the starting of the Fifeshire Branch of the Cameron Highlanders Association, and was for a time, secretary.

He lately emigrated to Australia, and received an appointment with the Australian Imperial Forces, and was stationed in Sydney when war was declared. He travelled to Egypt with the first contingent of these Colonial troops, and was with them throughout the Gallipoli campaign, and latterly was in France. He was in Scotland on a few days leave in May of this year. He leaves a widow who resides in Sydney.

GLENCRAIG BROTHERS IN LATEST HONOURS LIST

In the recent list of Military Medal awards Glencraig district is well represented, and it is a striking coincidence that it includes two brother's, namely, Sergeant Jack Glencross, R.F.A. And Sergeant Andrew Glencross, Royal Highlanders. Both are sons of Mr R. Glencross, Lofty View, Glencraig, and have seen most of the fighting, as both went out to France with the original Expeditionary Force. The older brother, Jack, was previously commended by the Brigadier General for coolness and good example to the men while under heavy shell fire but he has been very reticent as to the incident that has gained him the latest honour. The younger brother, Andrew, was originally a cavalry man and transferred from the Lancers to the Black Watch, where as a bomber he won rapid promotion. His services with raiding parties were very conspicuous and he has frequently been complimented for his work at critical moments. He was awarded the medal for work performed last year. The company had been under heavy fire from trench mortars and rifle grenades, and the officer had been wounded. He took charge of the battery, and personally worked a trench mortar till the enemy fire was quietened. He has been sent to join a battalion in this country as instructor, prior to joining an officers training unit with a view to taking a commission.

Another recipient is Pte. W. Dobson, Royal Scots Fusiliers, whose parent's reside at North Glencraig. Pte. Dobson is one of a band of comrades who enlisted in the R.S.F. Early in the war, and has since taken part in many engagements.

Pte. J. McTurk, Royal Army Medical Corps, also a Military Medallist was for many years resident in Lochore, where he took an active part in religious work. By his own exertions and home study he befitted himself for missionary work, and ultimately was sent to a station in Shetland, which he vacated in order to carry out what he thought was his duty. Thus he joined the R.A.M.C.

Sergeant A.L. Brown, Machine Gun Corps, who was for a time resident in Glencraig, being employed as manager for Mr J. Hunter, merchant, has also been awarded the Military Medal for bravery and devotion to duty. During the "big push", the company had been severely hit, and there were many casualties amongst officers. Sergeant Brown was transferred to another section and given charge, and at one stage of the operations had five guns to control. He was afterwards complimented by the officers of the adjacent battalions for his work at critical moments. He had emigrated to South Africa but very patriotically resigned a good position there, in order to return home and do his bit for King and country.

Published 18th October 1916

GLENCRAIG MILITARY MEDALIST **DIES FROM WOUNDS**

It was with feelings of deep regret that the inhabitants learned that Mr and Mrs Robert Glencross, South Glencraig, had received official intimation of the death from wounds received in action of their son, Sergeant John Glencross, Military Medal, Royal Field Artillery. Sergeant Glencross landed in France with the original Expeditionary Force, and with the exception of twice, leave at home, he has been engaged in the hostilities all the time. His work with his battery has frequently been commented on by his superior officers and in addition to receiving the Military Medal he received a card of commendation from the Brigadier General for his "coolness and good example to the men while under heavy shell fire", and it was no surprise to learn that he had been offered, in 1915, a commission in Kitchener's Army, but on the advice of his superior officer he elected to remain with his battery, where further promotion under the usual conditions was practically assured. His letters home made most interesting reading, and were full of optimism as to the result of the war. It was only to be expected that Sergeant Glencross would prove so efficient a soldier, as the family, (both present and past generations), has ever shown the martial spirit, and one relative held the rank of Colonel. As an indication of his methodical ways, it might be mentioned that as time offered on active service he was compiling a diary of the war from his own experiences, and as seen from an artillery battery. He was of a most frank and amiable disposition, and greatly liked by all with whom he came in contact. Possessing a rich tenor voice he was in great demand at army concerts, and made a speciality of Scottish songs while dressed in Highland costume. The family being well known in the districts of Sanquhar and Cumnock, many messages of sympathy have been received from these places. A sad feature relating to the deceased may be recorded. I, is that, provided leave of absence was obtained from military duties was obtained, he would have joined in wedlock about Christmas, and arrangements were being made accordingly.

GLENCRAIG BLACK WATCH MAN KILLED **BROTHER SEVERELY WOUNDED**

Mr and Mrs J. Livingstone, Currie's Cottages, Glencraig, have been informed of the death of their son, Corporal John Livingstone, Black Watch. The deceased at the outbreak of war was a popular member of the local company of Fife's Own Territorials, and has done a great deal of good work with his regiment in France. The news was conveyed to the parents in a letter from Captain A.K. Watson, who wrote "He was killed in action last night (October 15th) while in charge of a post of great danger. He and those under him died nobly in a great cause, and we who were fortunate to escape injury are proud of the manner in which they upheld the honour of the Black Watch. He is buried near where he fell. Please accept my deepest sympathy in your great loss.

Intimation has also been received that another son, Pte. George Livingstone, Black Watch has been seriously wounded. Pte. Livingstone volunteered with the Scots Greys, and ultimately transferred to the Black Watch.

Published 25th October 1916

HOW SERGEANT J. GLENCROSS, MM, R.F.A. **MET HIS END**

Sergeant Andrew Glencross MM, Black Watch, has received the following letter from an officer of the R.F.A. Relating to the death of his brother, which was reported in a previous issue:-

54th Battery, 39th Brigade, R.F.A.

B.E.F. France. 25.10.16

Dear Sir, It is with deepest regret that I have to convey the sad news of the death of your brother. During one of our heavy bombardments, he was outside his own gun pit, when he was hit in the groin by a bullet from a "premature". Our medical orderly, who was talking to him at the time, immediately dressed the wound, and we lost no time in getting him to the nearest dressing station, and from there to the Military Hospital at -----, but despite every attention we learnt that he died the next day as a result of his wound, and they buried him in the military cemetery there. I would like to assure you how much we miss him. His place will be very hard to fill; his devotion to

duty; personal bravery, and fine example, were an inspiration to us all. I, personally, mourn the loss of an exceptionally competent N.C.O.. If I can offer you any consolation, it may comfort you a little to know that he died nobly serving his King and country. If there is anything further I can tell you, please write me, and believe me, yours in deepest sympathy.

Hy. Townsend, 2nd Lieutenant.

Sergt. Glencross, Glenraig. N.B. - *This indicates copy of letter to be displayed on unit notice board*

Published 8th November 1916

MILITARY MEDAL FOR LOCHORE MAN

Lance Corporal J. McGregor, Royal Scots, son of Mr John McGregor, Jessiefield, Lochore, has been awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty on the field. Lance Corporal McGregor and several of his comrades were out on important patrol work, when a few of the party were ambushed. McGregor went to the assistance of one of them, and while still under fire from the enemy he carried him safely back to the British lines. Lance Corporal McGregor was employed in Edinburgh when war broke out, and early enlisted in the Royal Scots.

BALLINGRY PARISH CHURCH LECTURES

Under the title "The Valley of the Shadow", Mr. Macdiarmid on Sunday last went over in graphic detail the events of the last week of Christ's life on earth, before his crucifixion. In this connection he discussed the visit to Zaccharius; the anointing of Christ's feet by Mary of Bethany, whom he said some people identify with Mary Magdalene, and the woman who was a sinner, anointed his feet before; the triumphal entry; the institution of the Lord's Supper; the betrayal; the trial first before the high priests, Annas and Caiaphas, then before the civil power, Pilate and Herod, and lastly the crucifixion. Crucifixion generally lasted two days; Christ died in six hours. He died of a broken heart, sorrowing for and bringing upon himself the sins of the whole world. During the evening the choir gave a fine rendering of the tune "Redemption", while Miss Robertson sang the solo "To the Hall of the Feast", and Miss Robertson and Miss Halliday gave as a duet "Jesus of Nazareth Passeth By".

MILITARY MEDALLIST'S WEDDING

On Wednesday afternoon in Edinburgh, Sergeant A.L. Brown, MM, Cameron Highlanders, attached Machine Gun Corps, at present on leave from the front, was joined in marriage to Miss L.I.G.M. Lawson, daughter of Mr Lawson, 4 Melgund Terrace, Edinburgh. Both parties are well known in the district. Prior to emigrating to South Africa, from whence he returned to do his part in the great war. Sergeant Brown resided at Glenraig. The bride is a member of Ballingry school staff and is well known in West Fife musical circles. The ceremony was performed by Rev. S. McLintock, West Linton, (uncle of the bride), assisted by Rev. J.R. Wilson, North Leith Parish. The bridesmaid was Miss Jessie Millar, Cowdenbeath; while Mr Bruce, Leslie, officiated as groomsmen. The bride wore a white silk crepe de chine dress and ivory silk veil (gift of the bridegroom), with a wreath of orange blossom. She carried a bouquet of white chrysanthemums and white carnations with streamers of Cameron tartan. After the ceremony a reception was held at the home of the bride's parents. The happy couple left for a short honeymoon prior to the return of the Sergeant to France.

Published 6th December 1916

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

GLENCRAIG MACHINE GUNNER KILLED

Mr and Mrs J. Millar, 61 South Glenraig, have been notified that their son, Pte. Henry Millar, Black Watch, attached to the Machine Gun Section, has been killed in action. The news was conveyed to the young man's wife, who resides in Cowdenbeath by an officer.

Published 20th December 1916

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

BALLINGRY NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

A meeting was held last Wednesday in Crosshill Public School to set in motion the formation of a local corps of volunteers, embracing the districts of Ballingry, Lochore and Glenraig. The Rev.

W.H. Macdiarmid presided. He stated that he had been in communication with Sir Robert Lockhart, who had expressed his willingness to address a public meeting and start the local branch. The meeting discussed the matter, welcoming a local effort on the score of personal convenience, local sentiment and patriotic duty. There were large numbers of exempted men in the community who must feel the patriotic appeal at this time to do their bit. The sacrifice was not great, but the need was pressing. It was decided to hold a public meeting on Wednesday, 10th January, in Crosshill Public School, when it will be found out what success the venture is likely to have, and when arrangements can be made for Sir Robert Lockhart's presence to start it. Meanwhile the members pledged themselves to make the matter known and to obtain support.-

MIDNIGHT RAID BY NEW ZEALANDERS **GERMANS KILLED, WOUNDED AND CAPTURED**

The following cablegram has been received from Mr Malcolm Ross, War Correspondent with the New Zealand forces:-

While the whole world was discussing the arrogant German peace proposals, New Zealanders were quietly planning a raid on the enemy front line and support trenches. This they carried out with brilliant success, entering his lines in several groups, killing and wounding fifty men and bringing back prisoners.

This they did, without preliminary bombardment, at midnight, and with the trifling loss of one killed and four wounded. The enemy trenches in many places were found to be in a deplorable condition, badly smashed by artillery and trench mortar fire, and waist deep in water, so that they cannot be held except by isolated posts.

Engineers who accompanied the raiders blew up a powerful pump and a section of tramway behind the German lines. One section of the raiding party, with 300 bombs, succeeded in killing and wounding twenty Germans. The enemy sent up flares and star rockets, and opened with machine gun fire, but the matter soon died away under bombs from our trench mortars.

Published 3rd January 1917

GLENCRAIG FOOTBALLER WOUNDED

Intimation has been received that Private Robert Woods, Royal Scots, has been wounded in action. His mother resides at Meadowfield Cottage, Glencraig. Private Woods is well known in Fife football circles, and was playing for Falkirk when he enlisted in a battalion of the Royal Scots, where he has been prominent in the regimental team which has earned a big reputation in the army.

Published 10th January 1917

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS **DIED OF WOUNDS**

Mr and Mrs Smith, Rosebank Cottages, Lochore, have been informed by wire that their second son, Pte. Edgar Smith, Black Watch, died at the clearing station on December 3rd from wounds received in action. It is about two years since Private Smith enlisted, and he had been at the front for 13 months. He was 23 years of age and prior to enlistment was employed as a grocer with the Kelty branch of the Co-operative Society. He was a grandson of the late Mr John Smith, Strathmiglo. The following letter has been sent to his parent's:-

Dear Mr Smith, It is with deep regret that I learnt a few days ago that your son, 3846 Pte. E. Smith, died of wounds on 3rd December last. Your boy was wounded while proceeding into the trenches on 30th November. We all regret losing such an excellent soldier. The fact that your son was selected as a battalion bomber bears ample testimony to the confidence placed in him. Officers, NCOs and men join me in sending you deepest sympathy in your sore bereavement. I can only express the hope that in your hour of sorrow you will derive some consolation from the knowledge that your boy rendered whole hearted service to the State in a time of crisis, and made the supreme sacrifice in defence of the best of causes. - Believe me, yours faithfully,

M. Munro, Capt. OC C Coy,
1st/7th Black Watch.

Published 24th January 1917

GLENCRAIG MAN RECEIVES COMMISSION

Cadet G.C. Clark, Officers Training Corps, second son of Mr J. Clark, J.P. Glencraig House, has been gazetted 2nd Lieutenant in the Gordon Highlanders, and has taken up duties with that regiment. Lieutenant Clark, prior to joining the O.T.C. was on the surveying staff of the Wilsons & Clyde Coal Coy. Ltd.

Published 21st February 1917

FATE OF SURVIVORS OF KUT **TERRIBLE PLIGHT OF THE PRIVATE SOLDIERS**

A correspondent of the Times wires:-

I am able to give, for the first time, I believe, some particulars of the fate of the British and Indian troops under General Townshend who surrendered last spring to the Turko-German force at Kut-el-Amara, on the Tigris.

The strength of this force was given at the time of about 10,000 men. After the surrender the Turkish government announced that General Townshend himself would be taken to an island in the Sea of Marmara, and treated in accordance with his rank. The other officers have also been interned near Constantinople, in Prinkipo island. These officers made a reasonably comfortable and expeditious journey from Bagdad to Constantinople.

The private soldiers however, have fared differently. They have been driven from lower Mesopotamia to Anatolia, a distance of nearly 1000 miles, in straggling detachments. A large batch of them arrived in Konia late in 1916 in a terrible plight. Hunger and destitution have taught them to what a low level, life may sink in Turkey. Their guards have been cruel, and they have suffered countless humiliations. At a few spots along their route they have come into contact with American Consuls and missionaries, who have helped them to the best of their ability. In many cases it has been the nursing of the sick and the feeding of the hungry. I know one American who is himself in hospital in Asia Minor as a result of his day and night labours for the British prisoners who were passing through.

According to latest information, the greatest concentration of these unfortunate victims of the war is at Konia, in the centre of Anatolia, formerly capital of the Seljuk Turks. This is the ancient city of Tconium, where the Apostle Paul suffered severe persecutions. His hardships, however, were slight in comparison with those which the British prisoners have undergone. Hungry, insufficiently clad or sheltered, they have suffered unspeakable the worst of all.

Turko-German officials have refused to allow the three Americans at Konia to minister at all to the needs of their English speaking fellows. After all local efforts have failed, the Americans sought the intercession of their Ambassador at Constantinople, but apparently in vain. In the villages round Konia are interned some 500 civilians of Allied nations.

Published 14th March 1917

LADY BAXTER'S SCHEME FOR **TRAINING DISABLED SOLDIERS**

Lady Baxter's scheme for the training of disabled soldiers, including the provision of a hostel for their accommodation at an estimated cost of £2000, has been under the consideration of the Statutory Committee under the War Pensions Act, and at a meeting of the Forfarshire Pensions Committee held in Forfar on Thursday, correspondence was submitted to show that slump-sum grants could not be given by the Statutory Committee, who pointed out that the cost of furnishing must be met totally.

Consideration of the matter was delayed pending a conference of Scottish Local Committees to be held next month.

Published 21st March 1917

CAVALRY AND GUNBOATS PURSUE TURKS **MANY PRISONERS TAKEN**

The Secretary of the War Office makes the following announcement:-

Telegraphing on February 27th, the General Officer Commanding the Mesopotamian Expeditionary Forces reported that throughout the day the pursuit of the beaten enemy has been continued by our cavalry and gunboats. A number of prisoners have been taken in the course of the

day's operations, together with at least 6 guns, 3 mortars, 8 mine throwers, 30 pontoons, much bridging material, a large river vessel and a quantity of equipment, arms and ammunition.

Published 28th March 1917

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

RECOMMENDED

Among the names of those who have been brought before the Secretary of State for War for valuable services rendered, is that of Sergeant Major Martin Halliday, Cameron Highlanders, Inverness. In March 1885, he joined the Camerons, and, after serving for over 22 years, he took up the appointment of janitor and compulsory officer to Ballingry School Board. On the outbreak of war, however, Sergeant Major Halliday offered his services as an instructor, and, rejoining his regiment, was promoted first class warrant officer. He has taken a prominent part in the training of the new Cameron regiments, and has executed work of such a high standard as to warrant his recommendation to the Secretary of State. Sergeant Major Halliday has three sons serving in the army – two in France and one in his own regiment.

Published 4th April 1917

LOCHORE CASUALTIES

Intimation has been received that Sergeant J.W. Harrison, Royal Scots, has been wounded, and has been admitted to a Base Hospital. Prior to enlisting Sgt. Harrison was a teacher under Ballingry School Board.

Published 18th April 1917

THE MILITARY CROSS

On Wednesday, Lieutenant James Gordon Bell was decorated by the King at Buckingham Palace with the Military Cross for his act of bravery at "Devil's Wood". Asked how he felt when he appeared before the King, Lieut. Bell said he was quite at home by the King's manner, and after pinning on the medal the doctor saluted and retired. We publish the following account of the doctor's act of bravery which gained him the medal. The extract is taken from the "Daily Sketch", of April 26th:-

"It is not easy to get Lieutenant James Gordon Bell, R.A.M.C. To tell the story of the gallantry which won him the Military Cross, and which was handed to him yesterday by the King at Buckingham Palace. He is a modest young Scotsman from Fife, with a gay smile that somehow emphasises his general air of quiet confidence and the reserve that goes with discretion. The story of his bravery goes back to Delville Wood, when, under terrible shell fire, he brought in eight men of the Highland Light Infantry, to which he was attached. The two and a half miles journey from the front line trenches to the rear was like a nightmare, but he still stuck to his patients. Then, although gassed and badly wounded himself, he sent on the stretcher bearers, and stayed behind to tend a number of men helplessly wounded. He stayed with them for six hours under a never-ceasing fusillade of rifle fire and artillery".

LOCHGELLY SOLDIER GAINS MILITARY MEDAL

Sergeant James Davidson, 4 Chapel Street, Lochgelly, (formerly of the Black Watch, and now transferred to the Royal Engineers), has been awarded the Military Medal for devotion to duty in dangerous circumstances. Sgt Davidson, who is very popular with the Black Watch and Engineers, was formerly mentioned in despatches, and received a parchment while serving with "Fife's Own".

MEN CALLED TO THE COLOURS

IMPORTANT NEW ORDER

In consequence of certain unavoidable delays which have arisen in setting up the machinery for the protection of men engaged in vital industries who come under the new schedule of protected operations, the Government have decided to postpone for one week, with the exception set out below, the recruitment of men who have been called to the colours and are under orders to report during the week beginning April 30th.

The schedule will come into operation on May 7th, not on May 1st, as set out in the schedule and

explanatory handbills already circulated. Men called up for military service on April 30th will therefore be required to present themselves at the place specified in the notice on May 7th, men called up for May 1st on May 8th, and so forth.

Instructions to this effect are being issued to all recruiting offices for communication to the men affected. The exception referred to above is that the postponement does not apply to men who have held an exemption granted at a Tribunal. These men will be required to report and on the date stated in their calling-up notices. Notwithstanding this announcement, any man who so desires may report in the ordinary course at the recruiting office. Until May 7th, the existing methods of protection will continue.

Published 2nd May 1917

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS
LOCHORE SOLDIERS' WIDOWS ENTERTAINED

The soldiers' widows residing in Lochore district were entertained by the Lochore Workers' Relief Fund Committee on Wednesday evening last. Several local gentlemen were present and addressed the ladies. As each lady left the hall she received a surprise packet of £2 as a gift from the fund.

DOMINO MATCH

A domino match was held in Hunter's Bar on Saturday by the local Shepherds and Masonic Lodges. The match resulted in a win for the Masons 10 to 8. Afterwards a presentation of song was carried out, the following contributing:-

Messrs. Salmond, Oates, Ross, Barclay, Severn. Howie, Russell, McKenzie and Hynd. Mr W. McKenzie presided. The main object of the gathering was to raise a fund for financial assistance for a mutual brother who recently met with an accident.

FATAL ACCIDENT

At the Mary Pit on Thursday afternoon a large fall came away from the roof, which seriously injured two men. One, Edward W. Austin, Lochleven Road, died an hour after removal to his home, and the other, John Bell, 20 Waverley Street, got severe injuries to his back and shoulder. He was removed to Dunfermline hospital.

SOLDIER KILLED

Pte. Robert Todd, Highland Light Infantry, whose wife resides at No. 2 North Glencraig, has been reported killed in action. He enlisted shortly after war broke out, and was employed at Glencraig Colliery. Pte. Todd has other two brothers (twins) serving; one in France, and the other severely wounded, necessitating the amputation of one of his legs.

SPECIAL CONSTABLES

The special constables in the district were summoned to a "test call" on Friday evening. After a rehearsal of the duties assigned to each, Sergeant Clydesdale explained many matters, and complimented the men on their speedy turnout. On the suggestion of the Sergeant, it was agreed to make application to the School Board for the use of the playground and hall, to drill in. Ex-Provost Garry proposed a vote of thanks to Sergeant Clydesdale.

CASUALTIES

Mr and Mrs Adams, Henderson Place, Crosshill, have been notified that their son, Sergeant A. Adams, Royal Scots, has died in a field hospital from wounds received in action. Deceased was employed at Glencraig Colliery prior to enlistment, and was held in high esteem by the officers and comrades of his regiment. In boxing competitions he took a prominent part, and in the welterweight competitions at the divisional sports he won two cups. Other two brothers are with the colours, one in the army and the other in the navy.

Mrs Clark, 135 South Glencraig, has been informed that her husband, Pte. J. Clark, Black Watch, has been killed in action on 9th April. He was previously wounded in June last year, and was again in the trenches in November. The officer commanding the company, to which deceased was attached, wrote conveying the sad news, and described Pte. Clark as a "fine fellow and liked by all, and fell doing his duty".

Pte. James Duncan, Cameron Highlanders, son of Mr James Duncan, Steading. Lochore, has

been killed in action. He enlisted early in the war, first in the R.A.M.C. From which he afterwards voluntarily transferred to Lovat Scouts. He was latterly attached to the Camerons. The sad news was received in a letter from the chaplain.

Published 9th May 1917

LIMBLESS SOLDIERS HOSPITAL

A Flag Day is to be held over the country on Saturday first in aid of the Princess Louise Scottish Hospital for Limbless Sailors and Soldiers. The hospital is situated near Glasgow. The flag day has been organised in the burgh by the Town Council, and they desire to appeal to the inhabitants for their generous support. A number of our local men who have been broken in the war have been treated at Erskine House, and, consequently, the appeal comes home with much force. A large number of ladies have offered their services, and all those who are willing to assist are requested to attend a meeting at the Town House on Friday evening first, at six o'clock, when the arrangements will be completed.

Published 16th May 1917

CASUALTIES

Mrs Macfarlane, 139 South Glencairg, has been informed that her husband, Pte. John Macfarlane, Black Watch, has been killed in action. He was, prior to enlistment, employed in Glencairg Colliery. The news was conveyed to the widow in a letter from deceased's company officer, who commented on his bravery, his obliging nature, and the fact that he was well liked by officers and men.

Published 23rd May 1917

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

PIT FATALITY

James McIntyre 31, pit repairer, residing at Bridge Row, Crosshill, met with an accident in the Mary Pit, Lochore, on Thursday evening. In course of his work he was buried by a heavy fall and severely injured internally. He died in the ambulance wagon while being conveyed to Dunfermline and West Fife Hospital.

GLENCRAIG MAN'S SUCCESS IN FRANCE

At a general inspection and horse show somewhere behind the lines in France, Wheeler Staff Sergt. Finnie A.S.C. Had three entries, and was successful in gaining three prizes - 1st for best superstructure on water cart; 2nd for water cart and pair of horses and 1st for general service wagon and horses. The latter also won the championship of the show. The Sergeant, who belongs to Glencairg, was also complimented by the General for the water cart exhibit.

COAL STEALING AT GLENCRAIG

At Dunfermline Sheriff Court on Thursday, before Sheriff Umpherston, Isabella Smylie, housewife, John Street, Crosshill, and Annie Elizabeth Moore, housewife, John Street, Crosshill, pleaded guilty of having stolen 28 lbs and 40 lbs of coal from a redd bing at Glencairg Colliery. The Sheriff said that the authorities had a lot of trouble with children going to these redd bings, which was a dangerous thing to do, and they could not keep the children away if their elders went. The sentence was a fine of 2s 6d in each case.

Published 30th May 1917

WAR MEDAL PRESENTATION

Mr Robert Glencross, Loft View, Glencairg, attended the presentation of war medals by His Grace, The Lord High Commissioner (The Duke of Montrose), and received the Military Medal gained by his son, Sergeant Jack Glencross, Royal Field Artillery. (since died of wounds).

WELL KNOWN FOOTBALLER KILLED

News has just come to hand that Pte. Peter Johnstone, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, has been killed in action. Pte. Johnstone is the well known football player, and has played for the Celtic for a number of years. He belongs to Glencairg and originally played for Glencairg Celtic. He was married and his wife resides in the district.

Published 6th June 1917

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

WAR HONOUR

Sergeant Andrew Glencross, Military medallist, Black Watch, son of Mr R. Glencross, Loftie View, Glencraig, has been promoted to Lieutenant on the field. As one of the 12th Lancers he landed in France with the original Expeditionary Force, and went through all the hard fighting during and after the battle of Mons. After trench warfare set in, he voluntarily transferred to the Black Watch as a private, but was quickly promoted to sergeant. With the exception of a short time, spent in training in special work in this country, and with the usual furloughs, he has been with the armies on active service continuously.

Sergeant Jas. Harramon, M.T. Army Service Corps, attached Red Cross Convoy Company, has been awarded the Military Medal. Previous to enlisting he was an oversman in the Glencraig Colliery,

Private J. Copland, Scottish Rifles, attached Royal Engineers (Old Row, Glencraig), was also recently awarded the Military Medal.

Published 13th June 1917

LOCHGELLY OFFICER AWARDED THE MILITARY CROSS

We are pleased to note that Lieutenant William Smellie, Royal Scots Fusiliers, has been awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous bravery at the battle of Gaza, Palestine. Lieut. Smellie, who is a son of Mr Wm. Smellie, janitor, has been over two years in the army, and he took part in the Gallipoli campaign. He gained much distinction there, and he was promoted from 2nd Lieutenant to 1st Lieutenant. Before joining the army he was a promising student, and it is gratifying to learn that he has gained this high honour.

Published 20th June 1917

MILITARY MEDAL FOR GLENCRAIG SOLDIER

Information has been received that Pte. John Graham, Essex Yeomanry, son of Mr and Mrs Alex. Graham, 40 North Glencraig, has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry during a "bombing affair". Pte. Graham was wounded in January last, and was several months in hospital. His father and a brother are also with armies on active service.

RED CROSS WEEK

The Lochore and Glencraig Red Cross week has realised the sum of £214.13s.9d, and the committee who organised the various events desire to thank all those who in any way contributed to the success of the week, which has so gratifying results.

LOCHORE SOLDIER RECEIVES COMMISSION

Corporal J. McGregor, Royal Scots, son of Mr John McGregor, Jessiefield, Lochore, having passed the necessary examination, has received a commission, and has been gazetted to a battalion of the Royal Scots. Lieut. McGregor has seen considerable service overseas, and received the Military Medal for gallantry.

Published 25th July 1917

HONOUR TO LOCAL SOLDIER

Mrs Dan Fraser, 32 Park Street, Crosshill, recently received word that he brother, Sergeant Christopher Schoolbread, had distinguished himself on the field on the 20th and 21st May, and now it is announced that he has won the Distinguished Conduct Medal. "7786 Sergeant Christopher Schoolbread, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders; for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in leading his platoon over ground exposed to heavy fire in order to establish connection with another unit. He later showed very great skill and initiative in forming a defensive flank, sending out reconnoitering parties, and personally posting snipers, proving himself of the highest value towards securing the safety of his unit and obtaining information". The gallant Sergeant, who worked at Glencraig Pit, originally belonged to Burntisland, and is an old campaigner, having served for 12 years in India and South Africa. Mrs Fraser's husband and son are also serving, the former in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and the latter in the Royal Garrison Artillery.

Published 1st August 1917

CASUALTIES

Ex Provost Garry has been informed that his son, Sergeant George Garry, Royal Army Medical Corps, has been wounded, and is lying in hospital. Sergt. Garry was well-known in the district, and enlisted at the outbreak of war. He has been in France for three years.

Pte. P. Wallace, Cameron Highlanders, has been admitted to a London hospital with severe gunshot wounds in the face and a fractured jaw. His wife and family reside at South Glencraig. Pte. Wallace is a native of Colinton, but was engaged at Glencraig Colliery prior to enlisting.

Pte. Samuel Tracey, R.A.M.C, Lochore, has been reported as killed by enemy aircraft on July 7th. Deceased went through the Gallipoli campaign, and prior to the war was employed at the Mary Pit.

Published 5th September 1917

FOUR TIMES WOUNDED

Mr and Mrs Livingstone, Currie's Cottages, South Glencraig, have received official intimation that their son Pte. George Livingstone, Black Watch, has been admitted to hospital suffering from gas shell wounds. Pte. Livingstone has been on active service for nearly 18 months, and in all has been four times wounded. An elder brother was killed in action

CHILDRENS GALA DAY REPORT

The financial statement of the Glencraig Colliery Workmen's Annual Children's Gala has been circulated among the subscribers, and shows the income (including balance of £6.1s.5d from previous year), to have been £59.10s.3d. Leaving a balance in hand of £3.0s.1d. The certificate of the auditors, William McKenzie and John McLeod, is appended.

COLONEL'S APPRECIATION OF A GLENCRAIG SOLDIER

Mr and Mrs Richardson, 64 South Glencraig, have received intimation that their son, Pte. John Richardson, Royal Scots Fusiliers, has been wounded. The Colonel commanding the battalion to which Pte. Richardson was attached, in a sympathetic letter to the mother, wrote as follows:-

This is just a line (as you will probably not receive the official notification for some days), that your son was wounded this morning soon after the battle began (Aug 22nd). I am very sorry indeed that I cannot tell you the exact nature of his wound, as the wounded are taken away so quickly in motor ambulance cars to the hospitals some miles back, so that I, have been unable to see him, but as far as I can make out from what another wounded man had told me of my other runner's (no doubt you will know your son was a runner – these are special picked men who take orders and messages both in action and out of action), I believe that his wound is not dangerous. I am writing this in the afternoon, and probably by this time he is on his way to some hospital at the coast in an ambulance train. When you hear from him please let me know, at once where he is. I took command of the battalion in June 1916, and I know that your son was a battalion runner for a long time before that, and I wish to tell you that in all my 20 years service as an officer to the Royal Scots Fusiliers, I have never had better men than your son and the other two runners who were wounded today. I could not want a more cheery or willing man, always clean and smart looking. I liked his look directly I saw him, and he has always done his duty extremely well, and the duty of runners is a very important one. The great thing is that he has been so lucky up till now in escaping being hit, and I hope he will be sent across to Scotland and get a good rest. I was very glad, indeed, that I was able to send him down to the Rest Camp near the sea.

CASUALTIES

Pte. Wm. Norman, Black Watch, has been admitted to the 53rd General Hospital in France, suffering from wounds to chest and wrist. His wife resides in South Glencraig.

MILITARY MEDAL

Sergeant George Mclean, Royal Scots, is announced as having been awarded the Military Medal. Sergt. McLean was a well-known footballer, and played for Raith Rovers before enlisting.

Published 26th September 1917

CASUALTIES

Mrs Laurence Brown, Ballingry School, has received intimation that her husband, Sergeant A. Laurence Brown, MM, Machine Gun Corps, has been admitted to a base hospital, with severe wounds to the right shoulder.

Mr and Mrs C. Currie, Orr View, Crosshill, have received unofficial intimation that their son, Pte. Jas. Currie, R.A.M.C, has died from wounds.

LECTURE

The first of a series of lectures and concerts under the auspices of the Lochore and Benarty Workmen's Institute was given on Friday last by C. Augustus Carlow Esq., His subject was entitled "Glimpses of the Russian Capitals". There was a large attendance, and the lecture proved very interesting.

IN AID OF LOCAL SAILORS' AND SOLDIERS' DEPENDANTS

A flag day, promoted by Ballingry District War Pensions Committee in aid of the special fund, which they have at their disposal for the relief of any special cases of distress that may arise amongst the dependants of local sailors and soldiers, was held on Saturday last when the sum of £10.10s.4d. Was realised.

Published 17th October 1917

CASUALTIES

Mrs Jobson, Dick's Buildings, Glencairg, has received official intimation that her brother, Lance Corporal John Garfield, Gordon Highlanders, has been admitted to a Manchester hospital with wounds to left arm, including a compound fracture. This is the second time he has been wounded.

SHEPHERDS' LODGE

The "Lochcraig" Lodge of Shepherds are still forging ahead. They have practically doubled their members in recent time, and for the first time in the district several ladies were initiated into the Order at the last meeting. It is intended that if sufficient ladies are forthcoming a ladies lodge may be formed.

GLENCRAIG SERGEANT WINS MILITARY MEDAL

Information has been received that Sergeant George Garry, R.A.M.C. Has been awarded the Military Medal for meritorious conduct. Sergt. Garry who is a son of ex-Provost Garry, enlisted three years ago, and has been in France for over two years. He has taken part in most of the important battles, and was wounded at Ypres. He is at present in a hospital at Warrington, England.

Published 24th October 1917

CASUALTIES

Mrs Carr, 56 South Glencairg, has received official intimation that he fourth son, Pte. Robert Carr, Black Watch, has been posted as missing on September 26th. At the outbreak of war he was in the Territorials. He was previously wounded, and is the third son to have appeared on the casualty list,

Intimation has been received of the death in action of James Smith, who prior to the war was employed ar clerk at the Mary Pit, Lochore. He enlisted a few days after war was declared and served in the R.A.M.C. At the time of his death he was attached to a line regiment with a view to taking a commission.

Mrs Robertson Henderson, Lochcraig, Glencairg, has been informed that he husband, Rifleman Neil Robertson Henderson, New Zealand Expeditionary Force, has been admitted to hospital, with severe wounds. This his second time wounded. Prior to emigrating he carried on a successful contractor's business at Lochcraig.

Mrs Brown, South Glencairg, has received official intimation that he son, Pte. John Brown, Black Watch, has been seriously wounded in action, and lies in hospital in France. This is the second time he has been wounded.

Published 31st October 1917

MINERS AND THE ARMY

On November 22nd 1917, an Order was made by the Home Secretary supplementing the provisions of the Order made on May 12th 1917, in the following terms:-

I hereby withdraw all certificates of exemption issued on the grounds of employment to persons of military age employed at coal mines. If of military age at that date and are engaged as winding enginemen, pumpmen, electricians, fitters and mechanics, including blacksmiths, joiners and waggon and tub makers and repairers.

The position now is that persons who were of military age on August 4th, 1914, and who have entered the coal mining industry since that date will be available for recruitment, subject to the following arrangements respecting applications for exemption:-

(A) Application may be made by a man to the Colliery Recruiting Court on the ground that a mistake has been made as to his age or the date of his entry into the coal mining industry, and that he is accordingly not covered by the terms of the Home Secretary's de-certification Orders of May 12th and November 22nd, 1917.

(B) Application by an employer to the Colliery Recruiting Court on the grounds mentioned in (A) or on grounds that the man is indispensable to the working of the mine, but an application on the ground of indispensability can only be made when a man is engaged as a stoker, or is in one of the excepted classes above mentioned, and is placed in the new medical grade two or three, that is to say, is not in the old medical category A. The word pumpmen only includes for this purpose, men engaged in working mechanical pumps.

(C) All such applications by or on behalf of a man to the Colliery Recruiting Court must be made not later than seven days from the issue of the notice calling the man up for service, and must be made on the special form provided for the purpose, Form 26, which can be obtained from the inspector of mines.

(D) The right of application to a local Tribunal on personal grounds in accordance with the regulations or instructions is of course not affected.

Published 12th December 1917

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

Pte. Henry Thomson, Kings Own Scottish Borderers, attached Royal Engineers, has been reported missing. Prior to the war Pte. Thomson was employed at Glencraig Colliery. He has been twice wounded. His wife and family now reside at Dalkeith.

MILITARY MEDAL FOR GLENCRAIG MAN

Pte. James Fleming, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, son of Mr John Fleming, North Glencraig, has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry in action. He has been twice previously wounded and had only recently returned to the front.

GLENCRAIG SOLDIER DIES OF WOUNDS

Mrs Haldane, Currie's Buildings, Glencraig has been notified that her son, Leading Seaman Anthony Haldane, Royal Naval Division, has died of wounds received in action. Previously the Admiralty had telegraphed that he had been removed to a Casualty Clearing Station and was dangerously ill. Shortly after he arrived, he succumbed to his wounds. Deceased went through the Gallipoli campaign. His brother was killed in action in 1915.

Published 19th December 1917

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

Private Lennox Fenton, KOSB, well known in local musical and golfing circles, has rejoined his battalion after a short leave home. He has been twice wounded, and was previously invalided from the Dardanelles suffering from enteric fever.

Published 6th February 1918

CROSSHILL MAN RECEIVES COMMISSION

Sergeant Clydesdale, Fife and Forfar Yeomanry, a son of Sgt. R. Clydesdale, Police Station, Crosshill, has been gazetted as Lieutenant. Lt. Clydesdale is presently serving in one of the Eastern theatres of war where he has seen considerable active service.

Published 20th February 1918

GLENCRAIG MEN GASSED

Intimation has been received that A.B. James Morris, Royal Naval Division, son of Mr. R. Morris, North Glencraig, has been admitted to hospital gassed. He was previously slightly wounded and went through the Dardanelles campaign. Private John Chalmers, Highland Light Infantry, has been admitted to hospital gassed and suffering from shell shock. He is a son of Mr. R. Chalmers, Artella Cottage, Glencraig. His wife resides in Tillicoultry.

Published 27th March 1918

LOCAL CASUALTIES - CARDENDEN

Intimation has been received by Mr & Mrs William Paterson, residing at 28 Dundonald Den, that their son, Gunner William Paterson, Royal Field Artillery, was killed in action on 28th March by a piece of shell striking him on the head, whereby he lived only a very short time. Previous to enlisting on 27th August 1914, he was employed at Bowhill Colliery. He went through the Dardanelles campaign, after which he was confined to hospital with dysentery for nine months. On his recovery he was sent to France and has been in the midst of several severe engagements. He was once wounded in the leg, and returned to France three months ago. He has a brother in the army, Sgt Alexander Paterson, R.F.A. Attached to the Royal Engineers, who was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for going out under heavy shell fire to repair telephone wires. He has eight years service, and was in South Africa when war broke out. He has also been in most of the engagements without receiving a scratch. His parents however, are rather anxious about him as they have not heard from him for some time, and any information would be gratefully received.

Private James Mathieson, Black Watch, whose parent's reside at 55 Dundonald Den, is presently lying in hospital suffering from bad legs. Pte Mathieson enlisted before he was 18 years of age.

Private Archibald Cook, Black Watch, whose parent's reside at Railway Cottages, Cardenden, has been wounded, and is in hospital in England. Pte Cook is in possession of the Military Medal for gallantry on the battlefield.

Mrs Mullen, residing at 28 Eleventh Street, Bowhill, has been informed by letter from a Lieutenant that he husband Pte John Mullen, Royal Army Medical Corps, was killed in action at Albert on 28th March. Pte Mullen enlisted immediately after war broke out, previous to which he was employed at Bowhill Colliery. He was engaged in a hospital in Rouen up till nine months ago, when he was transferred to the field ambulance. He belonged to Fauldhouse, Whitburn, and was a keen footballer having played for King's Park in 1912. He leaves a widow and five children between the ages of nine and one year, for whom the greatest sympathy is expressed.

Published 10th April 1918

LOCAL CASUALTIES - CARDENDEN

Information has been received by Mr James Kellock, Orrbank Cottages, Cardenden, that his third son, Gunner Campbell Kellock, 24 years of age, R.F.A. Was killed in action on 27th March by being severely wounded in the abdomen. Gnr Kellock enlisted in September 1914, and was drafted to France a year later, where he has been since. Previously he was employed at Bowhill Colliery and took a keen interest in football. He played centre-half for Lochgelly United and also Bowhill Thistle. Two English teams had their eye on him and had he been spared till after the war, no doubt he would have signed for either Blackburn Rovers or Bury.

Corporal Robert Allan, South Wales Borderers, whose parent's reside at Denview Cottage, Cardenden, has been wounded for the third time. He enlisted in January 1915, and has been in most of the important engagements.

Sergeant Charles Robertson, Black Watch, was wounded in the hand on 27th March, while his brother, Pte William Robertson, Gordon Highlanders, has been wounded in the knee. Pte William was in Australia when war broke out, and has nine years service. Both are son's of Mr Charles

Robertson, Belmont Cottage, Cardenden, who has another two son's in the army, one of whom has been wounded three times.

Published 24th April 1918

PRISONERS OF WAR

A.B. William Reidy, Royal Naval Division, son of Mr W. Reidy. 27 South Glencairg, and Pte James Reddington, Connaught Rangers, who resided at 54 Park Street, Crosshill, have intimated to their relatives that they are prisoners of war, unwounded.

Published 8th May 1918

MILITARY FUNERAL

On Saturday, Corporal Kane, Flockhouse, was buried with military honours in Ballingry Cemetery. He had died in hospital of wounds received in action. Cpl Kane had seen much service, and had been awarded the Military Medal with Bar, and the Distinguished Conduct Medal. There was a large turnout of mourners and at the graveside the "Last Post" was sounded.

Published 22nd May 1918

CASUALTY

Acting Sergeant Andrew Steele, Black Watch, son of Mr and Mrs Steele, 71 North Glencairg, has been posted as missing on April 10th. Being a Territorial he was mobilised with others at the beginning of the war, and has seen much active service with "Fife's Own" battalion. In peacetime he was employed at Glencairg Colliery. Another brother is on active service.

LIEUTENANT GLENCROSS NOW REPORTED KILLED

Lt. Andrew Glencross, M.M., Black Watch, who was previously reported in our columns as missing, is now reported by his battalion chaplain as killed in action. He wrote as follows:-

I am sorry to tell you that the uncertainty as to the fate of your son, Lt Glencross, has been settled by the discovery of his body. He had died fighting bravely at Givenchy. I buried him this morning at Windy Corner, where the bodies of 14 officers and men of the Black Watch lie in a row in a small cemetery. It is a touching sight and self sacrifice in a brilliant defence of an important place. I can only express my deep sympathy with you in the loss of so bright and brave a son. You have the consolation of knowing he did not die in vain, and if his life was short, it ended gloriously.

Published 29th May 1918

LIEUTENANT CLYDESDALE

Lt R Clydesdale, Black Watch, m son of Sgt Clydesdale, Police Station, Crosshill, is presently home on furlough after three years service with the forces in an Eastern theatre of war.

CASUALTIES

Pte George Stark, Royal Warwickshires, son of Mr and Mrs Stark, Jessiefield, Lochore, has been admitted to a London hospital with severe chest wounds. Pte Stark enlisted early in the war in Motor Transport, and saw service in France and Italy. He was previously employed with the Lochgelly Co-operative Society at the Lochore branch.

CHILDRENS TREAT

A public meeting in connection with the annual treat to school children was held in the Gothenburg Hall on Wednesday evening, Mr J. Hyde, President, presiding. It was intimated that there was a balance in hand of £60, and agreed that the usual function be held on Saturday 6th July, previous to closing the schools for summer vacations. A large committee was elected to carry out the arrangements.

LOCHORE CHILDREN'S GALA

The annual gala of the Lochore children was held on Saturday last. There was a large turnout of children at Ballingry School playground when the procession was marshalled, accompanied by brass and pipe bands, paraded through the principal thoroughfares of the village, and finished at Craigie Park. Each child received the usual gifts, and a large programme of sports was most successfully carried through.

DCM FOR GLENCRAIG SOLDIER

Mr and Mrs Samuel O'Hare, 21 North Glencraig, have received word that their son, Lance Sergeant Daniel O'Hare, has won the Distinguished Conduct Medal, for gallantry displayed by him in the field in a great offensive from 21st to 26th March. This brave lad at the outset joined up with the 1st/7th Black Watch (Territorials) and has been throughout on active service.

Published 19th June 1918

LOCHGELLY LAD WINS MILITARY MEDAL

Mrs Bell, Waverley Street, Lochore, has received information that her husband, Lance Corporal C. Bell, King's Own Scottish Borderers, has been awarded the Military Medal. Captain Brown in writing to L. Cpl Bell says:-

As the battalion is at present in the line, and the Commanding Officer is unable to congratulate you in person, he has great pleasure in forwarding the ribbon for the MM for your splendid work in the recent raid. The Divisional and Brigade Commander's also wish their congratulations be conveyed to you. The Major General also says: "I have read with much pleasure the reports of your regimental commander and brigade commander regarding your gallant conduct and devotion to duty in the field on 26th May, and have ordered your name and deed to be entered in records of the 29th Division". L Cpl Bell, who is a son-in-law of Mr Leishman, Auchterderran Road, enlisted in 1915, and soon afterwards was sent to the front. He was twice wounded, although only slightly.

Published 26th June 1918

LOCAL SOLDIER WINS DCM

Corporal James Yarley, Black Watch, whose parent's reside at Alma Cottage, Jamphlars, has been awarded the DCM for gallantry. The following is an account of his bravery:-

"When in charge of a party in a raid on the enemy's trenches, he made a very determined effort to get through the enemy's wire. When ordered to withdraw in order to allow the wire to be blown up, he lay down so close to the charge, that his right arm was injured by the explosion. He nevertheless led his men into the enemy's trenches, reached his objective, and inflicted casualties on the enemy. He showed splendid dash and leadership throughout. By the wounds referred to, Cpl Yarley has lost two fingers which may prevent him carrying on his civil occupation as a joiner.

Published 3rd July 1918

CASUALTIES

Mrs Rowan, 184 South Glencraig, whose son, Pte G. Rowan, Gordon Highlanders, was previously reported missing in November, has been informed by the military authorities that an official list of dead sent from Germany, dated 13th May 1918, contains the following reference to Pte G. Rowan, Gordon Highlanders. "Disc received from SI (Central Officer of Effects) without further details – 7/3/1918".

Published 17th July 1918

PRISONERS OF WAR EXCHANGE

Chief Points of Agreement

The Hague.

The first agreement signed by the British and German delegations on July 14th on the subject of prisoners of war deals principally with the following points:-

Repatriation of prisoners of war and civilians and internment in neutral countries, the extension of existing arrangements, subsequent arrangements regarding sick and wounded prisoners of war, and other mutual arrangements.

Treatment of prisoners of war and interred civilians, general arrangements, protection after detention of prisoners of war remaining in the territory of operations, news concerning detention, hygienic arrangements for attendance, feeding arrangements, punishment. Relief Committees's communication with supervising bodies, parcels and postal communication, publication, arrangements made in camps, and application of arrangements to civilian prisoners.

The Dutch Foreign Minister stated at the meeting at which the agreement was signed, that in view of the economic distress prevailing among the Dutch people the Government, although still

willing and ready to afford hospitality to prisoners of war, felt itself obliged to make to co-operation dependant upon certain reservations of an economic and financial nature

Published 7th August 1918

CASUALTIES

L Cpl Robert Graham, RN, son of Mr and Mrs Graham, 40 North Glencairg, has been wounded in the chest and admitted to a Cheshire hospital. Second time wounded. Father and brother also on active service.

Cpl Peter Aird, Gordons, wounded in shoulder. Second time wounded. Wife resides at 40 North Glencairg.

Pte Lennox Fenton, KOSB, killed in action, son of late Walter Fenton, St Andrews and Mrs Fenton, 102 North Glencairg. Deceased was twice previously wounded and while in civilian life, took great interest in local musical and golfing affairs.

Published 14th August 1918

CASUALTIES – CARDENDEN

Information has been received by Mr and Mrs Angus Kirk, Bowhouse, Dothan, that their son, L Cpl Alexander G. Kirk, Gordon Highlanders, has been killed in action.

Sgt James Wallace, Black Watch, who resided with his aunt in Cardenden, has been killed. Previous to enlisting three years ago, he was employed at Brigg hills Colliery.

Pte James Wallace, Black Watch, whose parents reside at Double Block, Cardenden, has died in India from dysentery and gastric enteric fever. He joined the army six years ago and has been twice wounded.

The parents of Sgt William Brady, Cameron Highlanders, who reside at Westfield Rows, have been informed that he is a prisoner of war in Germany. He was reported missing in April last.

Published 21st August 1918

CASUALTIES

Pte Robert Carr, Royal Highlanders, son of Mrs Carr, 57 South Glencairg, who was reported missing on 26th September 1917, is now officially presumed dead. Pte Carr leaves a wife and four of a family. This is the third brother in the family to fall in action.

Lt. S. Clark, Gordon Highlanders, is reported dangerously wounded, and has been admitted to a Casualty Clearing Station in France. Lt Clark is the second son of Mr J Clark, JP, Glencairg House, and was previously employed on the surveying staff of the Wilsons and Clyde Coal Co. He was for a time attached to the Royal Engineers before being transferred to the Gordon Highlanders. An elder brother is serving with the RAF in an Eastern theatre of war.

Published 4th September 1918

LOCHGELLY CASUALTIES

Pte William Marnoch, Black Watch, is reported wounded, and has been admitted to a hospital in France. Pte Peter Marnoch, Scots Guards, his brother, is also reported seriously wounded and is at present lying in a hospital in England. Their parents reside at 16a Melville Street. Both joined up in 1914 and the latter was gassed in September of last year. The two brothers are well known in Lochgelly having both played for Lochgelly United Football Club.

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

CASUALTIES

Sgt R. Clydesdale, Crosshill Police Station, has received official notification that his son, Lt R Clydesdale, Fife & Forfar Yeomanry, attached Black Watch, has been admitted to a base hospital suffering from gunshot wounds in arms and legs. Lt Clydesdale enlisted early in the war and saw considerable service in the Eastern theatre of war. He was gazetted 2nd Lt while serving with the forces in Palestine.

Published 11th September 1918

OFFICER DIES OF WOUNDS

It was learned with regret in Glencaig on the morning of Tuesday of last week, that Lt S Clark, Gordons, son of Mr J Clark, JP, Glencaig House, had died in a London hospital from wounds received in action in August. Lt Clark was reported dangerously ill on admission to the Casualty Clearing Station, where he was immediately operated on. He was latterly transferred to London. A further operation was necessary, but owing to his weak condition the surgeons were denied the opportunity of undertaking it. Lt Clark's remains were brought to Glencaig on Thursday forenoon, and the funeral (private) took place to a West of Scotland cemetery on Saturday.

Published 25th September 1918

BOWHILL CASUALTY

Information has been received by Mr and Mrs Gourlay, residing at 3 Seventeenth Street, Bowhill, that their second son, Cpl Lawrence Gourlay, Army Service Corps MT, died on 26th September in a hospital in Boulogne, as the result of an accident he received the previous day in France. Cpl Gourlay enlisted in May 1915 at which time he was employed at Bowhill Colliery, and previous to that was a member of Leith Police. He has been three years in France, and very strange to say he was expected home this week on furlough. He was a tall, stalwart soldier, and of a very quiet disposition. He was an enthusiastic footballer and golfer, and played for a Aucterderran team. Two cousins have made the supreme sacrifice during this war and another is a prisoner. No particulars are yet to hand as to how the accident happened, the parent's having been informed by telegram.

MILITARY MEDAL

Mrs Blain, 11 Union Street, has been informed that her husband, Sergeant Alexander Blain, Royal Scots Fusiliers, has been awarded the Military Medal for gallant bravery in the field. Sgt Blain enlisted early in the war, and was stationed for over two years in Egypt where he was wounded about a year ago. Afterwards he was transferred to France.

Published 2nd October 1918

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

CASUALTIES

Pte Archibald Allan, Black Watch, who has been admitted to an English hospital with wounds received in action, is a son of Mr and Mrs Allan, 88 North Glencaig. An elder brother is a prisoner of war in Germany

GLENCRAIG INSTITUTE

Much enthusiasm presently exists amongst the members of Glencaig Institute. The place was recently closed for a week or two to allow of the place being painted. The re-opening marked the beginning of billiard and domino tournaments which drew large entries. The hall too has just undergone a renovation process. It is pleasing to hear that the Institute membership is always increasing and everything points to a most successful winter.

GLENCRAIG CADET DECORATED

Cadet William Dobson, Lance Sergeant, RSF, was decorated at Gales Camp with the Military Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal. Much to his surprise the General of the Scottish Command, who decorated him, was no less than the Colonel who commanded his battalion at the Battle of Loos, and he at once recognised him. After a cordial hand shake the decoration took place with hearty congratulations. Cadet Dobson enlisted when war broke out, and has seen continuous service in France with the 7th battalion Royal Scots Fusiliers until recommended for his commission. He is now in training at the Cadet School at Gales. He is the third son of Robert Dobson, 30 North Glencaig.

SCOTSMEN CAPTURED AT MONS RETURN HOME FROM GERMANY

Some 560 repatriated British military prisoners of war arrived in London on Saturday night, having landed at Boston, Lincolnshire, earlier in the day. The arrivals included a number of Scottish soldiers captured in the retreat from Mons. The party included 90 cot cases. Large crowds awaited the returned prisoners, who were loudly cheered, and presented with flowers and cigarettes. The Irish Guards Band played patriotic music.

Published 16th October 1918

LOCHGELLY CASUALTIES

Mrs Crawford Wright, 66 South Street, has been informed by a chaplain that her son, Driver Crawford Wright, Royal Field Artillery, has had his left leg amputated at a hospital in France. A miner, he enlisted at the beginning of the war and has been three years in France.

Lt. James Melville Dewar, Black Watch, has been killed. He received his commission in November 1914, went to France after the Battle of Loos, was gassed the following spring, saw service on the Salonika front, and returned to France in July of this year. He was the only son of Mrs Dewar, Queen Anne Street, Dunfermline and a grandson of the late Provost Melville of Lochgelly. He was a graduate of Edinburgh University and a teacher in George Heriot's School Edinburgh.

Pte James Mathieson, Seaforth Highlanders, Main Street, is reported wounded in the arm and is lying in Paisley hospital. He enlisted seven months ago and has been eight weeks in France.

Pte David Shand, Seaforth Highlanders, is reported as having been gassed.

Mrs Sneddon, 37a Hunter Street, has received information that her husband Pte George Sneddon, Scots Guards, has been killed. He enlisted four years ago and has been over three years in France. He belonged to Newtongrange where he worked as a shaftsma

AUCHTERDERRAN NEWS

CHILDREN'S TREAT

At a meeting of the School Children's Treat Committee held in the Gothenburg side hall on Wednesday evening, the balance sheet, submitted by Mr R.S. Watson, Treasurer, showed a balance of £27.9s.

CONCERT AND FLAG DAY

Under the auspices of the Scottish Discharged Sailors and Soldiers Federation, Auchterderran Branch, a grand concert was held in the Gothenburg Hall on Wednesday when there was a large turnout.

CASUALTIES

Information has been received by Mr John Black, 2 Alexander Place, that his brother, Pte David Black, Canadian Engineers, died in a training camp at St John's, Quebec on 28th September from blood poisoning. Pte Black was only three weeks in the army and emigrated about eight years ago. He worked in the mines both in Canada and the United States of America. He was well known in the district as a footballer, being a member of Auchterderran team. He was 32 years of age and a son of the late Mr David Black, Westfield Rows, and Mrs Black, Alexander Place who died about two years ago. Much sympathy is expressed to his sister's and brother's, two of the latter being on active service.

Published 30th October 1918

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

PRISONER OF WAR RETURNS

The first prisoner of war to arrive home in the district is Pte Robert Armour. He was serving with the Canadian Engineers, and has had over two years of German camps. His mother resides at Greenfields, Lochore.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of my dear son Leading Seaman Alex Haldane, Royal Naval Division, who died of wounds in France on the 1st December 1917. Also his brother James, Royal Scots, who was killed in action in France on the 27th August 1915. Deeply mourned.

*Though earthly ties are broken,
In life we'll meet no more,
My heart is with my own dear sons,
On yonder distant shore.
The God who gave hath taken,
and Heaven my dear sons, have won;
Although my heart is broken,
Thy will O Lord be done.*

Inserted by their loving Mother, Sisters and Brothers-in-law
(Frank on active service), Currie's Buildings, Glencraig.

*We hoped for them returning,
We longed to clasp their hands;
But God postponed our meeting
Till we meet in a better land.*

Inserted by their loving Sister and Brother (on active service)
Mr and Mrs Joh Fraser, Currie's Buildings. Glencraig.

*When we were all together.
The years may wipe out many things,
But this they'll wipe out never-
The memory of the good old times*

Inserted by their loving Sister and Brother,
Mr and Mrs Crawford, 21 Station Road, Lochgelly.

OUR HEROES GRAVES

It is officially stated that a meeting of the Imperial War Graves Commission was held, when the members had before them, two important questions; first, the bringing into cemeteries of bodies buried in isolated graves on the battlefield, and secondly, the exhumation of bodies, whether in isolated graves or cemeteries, in order to transfer them to their native countries.

The Commission recognised the existence of a sentiment in favour of leaving the bodies of the dead where they fell, but, in view of the actual conditions, found it impracticable. Over 150,000 such scattered graves are known in France and Belgium. In certain districts they are thickly strewn over areas measuring several miles in length and breadth. These areas will shortly be restored to cultivation or possibly afforested, and the bodies cannot remain undisturbed. They must therefore be removed to cemeteries, where they can be reverently cared for.

Accordingly they resolved to apply to the French Government for permission to gather these bodies into cemeteries as close as possible to the places where they lie. It was announced that the army was arranging for this work to be done by the comrades of the fallen. The reasons against the removal of the bodies to their native countries appeared overwhelming.

Published 4th December 1918

SAD DEATH OF A LOCHGELLY SOLDIER

Alex Laird, a well known Lochgelly lad, died at his home in David Street late on Thursday night. He had returned from France a fortnight previously after serving continuously there for over

four years. Deceased enlisted at Kitchener's first call for recruits. Joining the Army Service Corps, he was drafted to France after a few weeks training, and went through all the hardships and perils, the hopes and disappointments, of those early days, and left to resume work in the pits after the final victory. He had a splendid record in France, and was highly esteemed by officers and comrades. It is worth mentioning that from the beginning to the end he retained the same pair of horses, a record that is almost unique. A few days after his return home he was seized with influenza. Weakened by his long war service, he was unable to withstand the attack, and though everything was done to save him, he passed away on Thursday night at the age of 26. It was perfectly obvious that the disease has affected him before he left France.

Sandy Laird was a lad whom everybody liked. Quiet and unobtrusive in his manner, he did his duty faithfully as a son, as a citizen, and as a soldier. When the news of his death became known there was a widespread feeling of grief. To his bereaved mother and family, so proud to receive him back after his honourable service, and so soon, alas, to lose him again. The deepest sympathy is felt all over the town. The funeral took place on Monday to Lochgelly Cemetery and was largely attended.

Published 11th December 1918

DARING DEEDS REMEMBERED

The honours list for the Parish during the Great War will compare very favourably with any other Parish in Scotland. Although there are none who have gained the coveted VC, all other honours have been awarded to our gallant lads. Another two have to be added to the list. L Cpl William Raeburn, Royal Scots Fusiliers, whose wife, a Lochgelly woman, resides at Bowhouse, Dothan, Cardenden, has been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal. He led his section brilliantly, and by bombing the enemy some 200 yards down a trench, enabled a block to be formed without interruption. Later on, when enemy trench mortars opened on the block, L Cpl Raeburn went out with three men and rushed them, killing the team and bringing in two mortars. Again, later on, he went out with two men and brought in the dead body of his Company Commander, as well as several prisoners, thereby showing a splendid example of coolness and daring. L Cpl Raeburn enlisted in March 1915, at which time he was a miner at Bowhill Colliery. He was severely wounded by the bursting of a chalk mine, and his wife was wired for, but he is now in England and recovering satisfactorily. He was in Egypt when he performed this daring deed. He is the only son of Mr Wm Raeburn Balgreggie Farm.

Second, Cpl Archibald Cook, Royal Engineers, whose wife resides at Mid Row, Cardenden, has been awarded the Military Medal for mine lifting under heavy shell fire. Cpl Cook enlisted when war broke out, previous to which he worked at Bowhill Colliery. He has been gassed twice and has a brother who was discharged after over three years in the army.

Published 18th December 1918

AUCHTERDERRAN NEWS **MILITARY MEDALLIST**

Another local hero has distinguished himself on the battlefield. Lance Bombardier Henry Jenkins, RFA, has been awarded the Military Medal for meritorious work in Salonika during the Bulgar "push" last September. Previous to enlisting Jenkins was employed at Bowhill Colliery, and resided with his sister, Mrs Biggar, Gammie Place, whose husband has also been in the service since war broke out.

MILITARY FUNERAL

The remains of Cpl John Davidson, RAMC, who died at his home, 51 Dundonald Den, after a few days illness, were laid to rest in Bowhill Cemetery on Friday with military honours. A firing party of the KOSBs from Dunfermline, accompanied by their Pipe Band attended, and fired three volleys over the grave, and the bugler sounded the last post, which was most impressive. There was a large turnout of mourners including a large company of local soldiers in khaki, some on furlough and others waiting on their discharge. Cpl Davidson who was 25 years of age, enlisted in November 1914, previous to which he was employed at Dundonald Colliery. Most of his service was spent in German East Africa, where he suffered from black water fever and malaria. On his

arrival home he took a relapse and died as stated. Much sympathy is felt for the bereaved parent's, who, after the armistice was signed, were looking forward to their son's return to civil life, after suffering the hardships of military life in war.

Published 15th January 1919

DEATH OF SCOTS GUARDSMAN

Much sympathy was expressed for Mr and Mrs Philp, Belmont Cottages, Cardenden, when it became known that their eldest son, Gdsm Robert Philp (22), Scots Guards, had died after a brief illness at Havre, France, of pneumonia. Gdsm Philp enlisted three years ago, previous to which he was employed at Bowhill Colliery. He was a fine make of a soldier being 6 feet 4 inches in height, and stout built. He spent two years in France, during which he was engaged in several fierce battles, but came through them all scatheless, only being once gassed.

MILITARY MEDAL

At the presentation of military decorations held at Edinburgh Castle last week, Mrs McLay, Glencraig, was presented with the Military Medal gained by her son, the late Sgt George McLay, Royal Scots. Lieutenant General Sir F.W.N. McCracken handed over the decoration.

Published 22nd January 1919

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE NEWS

WAR MEMORIAL

A meeting of those interested in the providing of a war memorial for the district was held on Friday evening in Crosshill Picturedrome. There was a fair attendance, and Mr G. Garry, County Councillor, presided. After an exchange of views the meeting formed itself into a committee. Local bodies and those with various interest in the district are to be invited to send representatives to join the committee. A further meeting will be held to consider what form the memorial may take.

Published 5th February 1919

BENEFIT CONCERT AT LOCHORE

The Lochore Picture Hall was filled to its full capacity on Tuesday evening, when an excellent concert was given under the auspices of Ballingry Horticultural Society. The Rev. W.H. Macdiarmid, who occupied the chair, intimated that this was the first concert the society had ever ventured upon, and expressed his gladness at seeing such a large turnout. A most enjoyable programme was sustained by the following:- Miss J. Mitchell, Soprano. Miss A. Wilson, Contralto. Mr J. Kirk, Bass. Mr J. Kennedy, Tenor. Mr Frank Stewart, Comedian. Bremner Family, Musical Entertainers, and Mr George Gibb, Accompanist. The fine solo singing of the Misses Mitchell and Wilson was greatly appreciated by the audience, and they were both compelled to respond to encores. Mr Kennedy received a great ovation for his excellent singing of "The Lass of Ballochmyle", while Mr Kirk was deservedly encored for each of his contributions. The violin and dulcimer selections provided by Mr Frank Bremner and his two son's was a great treat, and the organisers are to be congratulated on securing the services of such a talented trio. Mr Frank Stewart. A comedian of no mean ability, evoked loud laughter with his comic songs and humorous recitations. All the various items were splendidly executed.

Published 20th March 1919

MILTON OF CROSSHILL, GLENCRAIG

FOR SALE, by Private Bargain, Property belonging to Mr James Main, and occupied by him and tenants. The property consists of 5 dwelling houses, byre, stable, boiler house, milk house, harness room, &c Extent of Feu about 3 roods. Feu Duty: £4.9s.6d. Excellent opportunity for dairyman.

Apply to Mr Main, who will show the premises, or to Messrs A. Malcolm & Co. Solicitors, Lochgelly and Dunfermline.

Published 23rd April 1919

LOCHORE

WELCOME HOME

A most enjoyable entertainment was given in the Catholic School on Friday evening to the discharged soldiers and their wives. The Rev. James Mulhearn, who presided, welcomed back the "boys who had fought and won", to which Lt. Courtney suitably replied. An excellent supper was provided, while songs were rendered during the evening by Miss Roden, Mrs Bannan, Mrs Gentiles, Mrs Brannan. Also Messrs Stuart and McCann. Later in the evening a dance was held in the school hall. The arrangements were in the capable hands of the Misses Langan, Roden, Butler, also Mrs Hughes, Brannan, Murphy, McCormick, Bryce and Duffy.

FOOTBALL MATCH

Excellent weather prevailed on Saturday afternoon, when Ballingry Boys' Brigade and Rosyth Red Triangle played their return fixture at Crosshill, under the charge of Mr James Finnerty. The Brigade were strongly represented by Goodwin, McCallum, Murray, McClelland, Scott, Russell, J. Ross, George, Dunn, S. Ross, and Breslin. The following did duty for Rosyth:- Barry, Kidd, Shergold, Barnett, Calver, Warburton, Hekrews, Ceray, Ness, McKee and Blackburn.

During the first half both teams played an excellent game, with the homesters slightly superior. The second half saw a fine rally on the part of the visitors, who were somewhat unfortunate in losing by four goals to one. After the match both teams adjourned to the U.F. Church Hall, where an excellent tea was served by Mrs George, Miss Effie Donaldson and Miss Agnes Dewar.

Published 28th May 1919

GLENCRAIG AND LOCHORE WAR MEMORIAL

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the Picture House, Crosshill, on SUNDAY, 8th June, at 5pm, for the purpose of considering what steps, if any, should now be taken in connection with the above. A large attendance earnestly requested.

Wm. WILSON. Hon Secy

Published 4th June 1919

GLENCRAIG PIPE BAND

The above band has been in abeyance since war broke out, although some of the members played much at the front and elsewhere. A reconstruction is expected shortly. A public meeting will be called in the near future by Mr Glencross, Chairman of the old band. Get your chanter ready, you have the talent.

WAR MEMORIAL

A public meeting of the above was held in the Picture House, Crosshill, on Sunday last, Mr G.B. Garry in the chair, the object being to consider the best scheme to dispose of the fund in hand. It was stated that the response in the district had been of a lukewarm nature and that further endeavour was necessary if they were to suitably recognise the memory of those who had made the supreme sacrifice from amongst them. A further effort will now be made, and it was proposed that a district bowling green would be suitable, with a memorial erected inside. The district would require such like and the moralising affect of a well conducted club would do away with much of the gambling and other undesirable ways of spending the leisure time at the disposal of the workers of a mining district such as Glencraig, Crosshill and Lochore.

LOCHORE

CHILDREN'S GALA DAY

In connection with above. A committee under the chairmanship of Mr Wm Morton was held in the Institute on Sunday when final preparations were made for Saturday first.

WALTZING COMPETITION

A waltzing competition held in the Workmen's Institute on Saturday evening resulted in Miss Lizzie Stewart and Mr Robert Henderson being declared winners.

PIT ACCIDENT

A distressing accident occurred on the Mary pithead on Saturday, as the result of which Agnes Bruce (18), residing in Montrose Street, now lies in a serious condition. It appears that the girl attempted to pass through the revolving doors, situated at the pit mouth, while they were in motion, and became wedged against an adjoining building. After being extricated, the girl was conveyed home where, on being examined by Dr Todd, she was found to be suffering from serious injuries to the side and hands.

WIFE ASSAULT

Before Sheriff Umpherston at the Sheriff Court on Friday, David Storrar, miner, in custody, appeared on a charge of having, at his residence, Dick's Cottage, Lochore, struck his wife on the face and body with his fist, and committed a breach of the peace. Accused, who pleaded guilty, stated he had adrop of drink and did not know what he was doing at the time. The Sheriff – I am not sure whether I should not send you to prison without the option of a fine. Thirty shillings or twenty days.

WAR MEMORIAL

A public meeting, for the purpose of considering what steps, if any, should be taken in connection with the local war memorial, was held in the Picture House on Sunday. Mr George Garry presided over a large attendance. The erection of a monument met with strong disapproval on the ground that it was not a thing of public utility. A suggestion by Mr King, representing Lochgelly Co-operative Society, that the memorial take the form of a bowling green, with a brass tablet or small monument erected therein, received strong support. After a lengthy discussion, Mr King's proposal, was unanimously adopted. A vote of confidence in the local committee was passed, to which, a further addition was made in the person of Mr Joseph Westwood.

Published 11th June 1919

THE ATLANTIC AIR FLIGHT

Captain John Alcock (a native of Manchester) and Lieutenant Arthur W. Brown (born in Glasgow), are the first British airmen to fly across the Atlantic and the first men to make the direct flight over that ocean. Their triumph was achieved in a Vickers-Vimy machine.

Leaving St John's, Newfoundland, on Saturday afternoon, they landed at Clifden, County Galway, on Sunday afternoon, having accomplished the journey in 16 hours 12 minutes. According to the airmen they were constantly in thick fog and mist. At times they found themselves flying at a height of 11,000 feet and at others about 10 feet from the water. The airmen landed in a bog slightly damaging the machine. They were so tired out and saturated with rain, it is stated, that though having a sufficient supply of petrol they chose not to go on to Brooklands (England). Both will share in the £10,000 Atlantic Flight prize offered by the Daily Mail.

Although the flight across the Atlantic was accomplished a fortnight ago by the American seaplane NC4, to Capt Alcock and Lt Brown falls the distinction of having made the first direct flight.

TALK FOR THE TIMES

LOCAL WAR MEMORIALS

Lochore and Glenraig folks have definitely committed themselves to a War Memorial scheme. They are showing too, a fine unanimity in the matter, the reflex of a healthy public opinion. They mean to honour their gallant dead.

The scheme of a bowling green and clubhouse will serve the double purposes of a memorial and public utility. There is no better pastime for a miner than bowling. After a day's work in the pit, none but the young lads are able for violent exercise. Yet exercise of the lungs is needed in the purer atmosphere above ground, and the mild pastime of bowling provides this.

Instead of one green however, they should aim at two, one for each township. One green would become overcrowded, which is bad for the green, as well as inconvenient for the players.

Published 18th June 1919

LOCHORE MINERS ON STRIKE

In accordance with a resolution passed at a large meeting of the Lochore miners held in the Picture Hall on Sunday, the Mary Colliery was thrown idle on Monday. It appears that the men employed in No 5 section are unable to earn a fair day's wage owing to bad "cleek", due to the bad condition of drawing roads, braes, etc. The majority of the men in this section of the pit, are only able to earn an average wage of six shillings per shift. It was felt that drastic action was necessary to remedy this state of affairs. Subsequently a further meeting was held on Monday evening, at which Messrs Robertson, Lee and Connelly were present on behalf of the men, while Mr Carlow Reid represented the colliery owners. Mr Reid, in addressing the men, stated he was quite willing to consider and meet their demands, justly and honestly. Messrs Robertson and Lee then urged the men to return to work, and await Mr Reid's settlement. Asked as to what he considered a fair day's wage for the men concerned, Mr Reid refused to state, and on a motion being put to the meeting, it was resolved to remain idle, until the men receive their wages arrears which they consider due.

Members of the local Committee had an interview with Mr Carlow Reid yesterday forenoon with a view to settling the dispute. The colliery agent stated that he had been in communication with his superior's at Leven and they had instructed him to refuse the men's demands until they resumed work. This was before the large meeting of the men and the latter reaffirmed their previous resolution to remain idle.

Published 9th July 1919

LOCHGELLY LAD REPORTED KILLED

Mrs Webster, 11 Hunter Street, has received official intimation that her husband, Cpl Donald Webster, 1st/7th Black Watch, who was missing on 21st March, 1918, is now reported killed on that date. Cpl Webster was a member of the local Territorial company, and was mobilised when war broke out. He went to France with the battalion. He was wounded and invalided home in the end of 1916, and was for a period on musketry instructional staff of the 4th Black Watch at Ripon. In 1917 he went out again with a draft. Cpl Webster, who leaves a widow and one child, was a splendid man and a fine soldier. Of a quiet and unassuming nature he was of the type that everybody liked. There will be general regret among his old comrades at the definite news of his death and sincere sympathy for his widow and relatives.

INVESTITURE AT BOWHILL

A public investiture took place in the Gothenburg Picturedrome, Bowhill on Monday evening, when Sir William Robertson, Dunfermline, Lord Lieutenant of the County, presented decorations to the two local heroes in presence of a large gathering. In the absence of Dr Walker, who was otherwise engaged, Rev John Fulton, U.F. Church Manse, Cardenden, occupied the chair, and in a few remarks introduced Sir William and called upon him to present the decorations.

Sir William, who was dressed in his official uniform, upon rising to speak, was received with loud cheering.

Sergeant Martin McCormack, RFA., 26 Eleventh Street, Bowhill, was the first to be decorated. In doing so, Sir William said:- On 14th August 1917, at Ypres, while directing the line of fire, the Sgt jumped into the gun pit under a heavy shellfire and rescued several wounded comrades and risked his own life, for which he was awarded the Belgian Medal Militaire.

Sgt William Dower, Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, 40 Dundonald Den, was twice wounded and mentioned in despatches for valuable work at Ypres on 31st July 1917. He was also mentioned in the King's New Year list of honours, and received the Meritorious Medal on 1st January 1918, for valuable and all round efficient work during his service in the army. Sgt Dower received the Military Medal for bravery and devotion to duty on the battlefield.

Lady Robertson very gracefully pinned the medals on the gallant men, each receiving a loud cheer. Sir William then gave an appropriate speech at the close of which he was loudly applauded.

Rev John Fulton proposed a vote of thanks to Sir William, which was heartily responded to, while Mr Adamson asked a vote of thanks to Lady Robertson, and Mr Wallace asked that a similar compliment be paid to the Chairman. The singing of "They are Jolly Good Fellows" and the National Anthem brought a most interesting ceremony to a close. Sir William was accompanied on

the platform by Lady Robertson, Mrs Fulton, UF Church Manse, Rev John Fulton, J.B. Wallace, Blyth Davidson, Wm Stewart, A.B. Simpson, M. Adamson, Sgt McCormack and, Sgt Dower.

Published 16th July 1919

THE LOCHORE STRIKE
COLLECTION FOR THE WIVES AND CHILDREN

The strike situation, as described in last week's issue, remains practically unchanged. The Company show no inclination to concede the men's demand, while the men themselves are confident that they will win. In the course of the past week a Strike Committee was formed for the purpose of assisting the local committee in propaganda work and other matters pertaining to the dispute. Deputations consisting of pit-head girls and others were appointed to visit Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy, Leslie and other places for the purpose of soliciting financial aid from those engaged in the textile industry. Members of the strike committee visited most of the mining centres during the week-end with the same object. The combined efforts of the pit-head girls and committee, along with contributions received from other sources, resulted in the sum of £450 being raised.

A meeting of the men was held in the Institute on Saturday afternoon to consider the distribution of this sum. After various suggestions had been put forward it was eventually decided that each worker receive 5s, the remaining amount, about £200, to be allocated amongst the children. The committee were thus able to give each child 2s 6d. A large number of men have been deputed to visit various parts of the country in order to collect funds to enable them to continue the struggle. Those wishing to help by donations or otherwise are asked to communicate with the secretary, Mr John Taylor, Montrose Street.

Published 23rd July 1919

HONOURS FOR THE BLACK WATCH
BIG LIST OF MILITARY MEDAL AWARDS

The London Gazette notifies the award of the Military Medal to the under-mentioned Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the Black Watch:-

S/4872 Sgt J. Gourlay, 8th Batt., Cupar. 290295 Sgt G Menzies, 7th Batt., Newburgh.
S/9335 Sgt G Wilson, 7th Batt., Dunfermline. S/5475 Cpl (Act. Sgt) J Kay, 7th Batt., Dysart
290997 Cpl T Muir, 7th Batt., Cardenden. 292870 Cpl (L Sgt) J Paterson, 7th Batt., Lumphinnans
S/15787 Cpl W Simpson, 6th Batt., Dunfermline. 265503 Cpl (L Sgt) J Symon, 6th Batt., Strathmiglo
315560 Pte JB Allan, 13th Batt., Aberdour. 290076 Pte Anderson, 7th Batt., Kirkcaldy.
203517 Pte J Barclay, 6th Batt., Dysart. 2909606 Pte T Brodie, 7th Batt., Kilconquhar.
291006 Pte (A L Cpl) D Davie, 7th Batt., Lochgelly. 1122 Pte D Fernie, 1st Batt., Kirkcaldy.
S/15011 Pte (A Cpl) J Fleming, 7th Batt., Dunfermline. S/25153 Pte E Flood, 6th Batt., Newmills.
290268 Pte (A L Cpl) K Foster, 7th Batt., Kilconquhar. S/15102 Pte J Fulton, 1st Batt.,
Auchtermuchty.
S/19995 Pte A Grieve, 6th Batt., Kirkcaldy. S/12209 Pte WJ Lochtie, 6th Batt., Aberdour.
267925 Pte T Mathieson, 7th Batt., Methil. S/42122 Pte AH Millar, 7th Batt., Kirkcaldy.
350858 Pte (A L Cpl) WN Pryde, 7th Batt., East Wemyss. S/41911 Pte T Methven, 51st Batt.,
Kirkcaldy.

BAR TO THE MM

A bar to the MM is awarded to the following:-

57277 Sgt A Todd, 74th Fd Ambulance, RAMC, Cowdenbeath.
275122 Sgt J Johnson, 7th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, Kelty.
S/3170 Pte R Henderson, 7th Royal Highlanders, Buckhaven.
141196 Pte T Methven, 51st Batt, Machine Gun Corps, Cowdenbeath.

THREATEND STRIKE AT GLENCRAIG **DIFFICULTY OVERCOME**

The Hours Arranged

At a meeting of the miners employed in Glencraig Colliery on Sunday last it was decided that unless the management conceded their request with regard to hours that the colliery should come out on strike.

A deputation was appointed to meet the manager and explain the demands, He granted two shifts at their terms to allow him to discuss the situation with Mr Telfer, the general manager at Glasgow, on Monday morning, when he would give his reply from the Company.

The reply was that they were to carry out the terms of the notice posted. This was not accepted by the men, with the result that at a large meeting on Monday forenoon, the men re-endorsed their former finding and remained idle on Monday back shift.

At another meeting on Monday afternoon, which was the largest seen for some time, a resolution was moved by Mr Glencross, and seconded by Mr McGinlay, that they loyally carry out the Sankey Report and the recommendation of the Miners Federation, and that the situation be discussed with the manager on the question of the time of lowering and raising the men; also that the starting and stopping time should be in direct connection with that time. A deputation again waited upon the manager and laid the request in front of him, with the result that arrangements were arrived at which meets the situation. The hours are from 5.25am till 1.35pm (forenoon shift), that is seven hours from 6am till 1pm; back shift is from 1.35pm till 8.35pm; the night shift is from 9.40pm till 5am. This was accepted, and the night shift continues, with the alternative shifts on Tuesday.

Published 30th July 1919

LOCHORE STRIKE **WORK RESUMED**

Arrears Paid after Monday's Shift

Our Lochore correspondent writes:- After six week's duration, the Lochore strike has now come to an end. The men have decided to return to work on the assumption that the wage agreed on between Mr Adamson and Mr Carlow Reid will be found acceptable by the men affected. At a special Executive Board meeting held in Dunfermline last Tuesday it was resolved by a large majority to urge the Lochore men to accept this new offer, but in the event of a refusal, a county ballot be taken. Mr Robertson, Dunfermline, and Mr Smith, Methil, visited Lochore the following day and advised the strikers to comply with the recommendation of their Executive. After discussion it was decided by a small majority that the pit remain idle.

Perceiving that the result of the county ballot would not be known for at least three weeks, thus entailing further privation and sacrifice on the homes, the local committee called a meeting on Friday to ascertain whether the men were prepared to face this axiom or go back to work.

A deputation consisting of Messrs Connelly, Ross, Macdonagh and Mackie visited Dunfermline on Saturday to see if the Executive could grant financial assistance to the Mary Pit workers in order to alleviate, to a small extent, the hardship which has prevailed in the district during the past few weeks. Mr Wm Adamson, who received the deputation, stated that he would place the matter before a special Board meeting today (Wednesday).

There was a fairly large turnout of men when work was resumed at the Mary Pit on Monday. It will probably be about a month before work returns to normal, owing to the neglected state of the underground workings. Those employed in No 5 Section were made up to an average wage of £1.

Published 20th August 1919

LOCHORE **NEW PIT**

After being in abeyance during the past few weeks, sinking operations have again started at the new pit belonging to the Fife Coal Co. Mr Andrew Pettie, Crosshill, is in charge. The pit-head framework is built of reinforced concrete, and is considered to be the first of its kind in Scotland.

SOLDIERS' WELCOME HOME

A movement is at present afoot in the district, under the auspices of the Kelty and Lochgelly

Co-operative Women's Guild (Lochore Branch), to entertain and welcome home the returned soldiers belonging to the locality. A working committee, on which the various friendly societies and kindred organisation are to be represented, is being formed to carry out the scheme. We trust it will receive the support and practical sympathy of the general public.

FINANCIAL GRANT TO MARY PIT WORKERS

At an Executive Board meeting in Dunfermline last Thursday, a request by the Mary Pit workers for pecuniary assistance to mitigate the hardship caused by the recent strike was considered. It was agreed to grant the sum of £4 to full members of the union; £2 to half members; £2 to female workers, and 8s to each child. The money was paid over on Saturday by members of the local committee.

Published 27th August 1919

ORIGINAL POETRY

To the Memory of Lochgelly Soldiers

THE DYING SOLDIER

Mother, I've just been wounded,
I cannot live so long,
So I am sending this message to you,
Full of my love so strong,
Around the guns are roaring,
The stars shine through the night,
From Heaven the rain is falling,
Just here's an awful sight.
Yet I seem to hear no tumult,
I seem to feel no pain
Because in fancy I'm with you
in our dear old home again.
I hear the church bells ringing,
I see our garden fair,
But of all its lovely flowers,
Mother, thy face is the fairest there.
Mother, the mists are gathering,
My strength is failing fast,
Yet, always remember, dear one,
My love is true to the last.
When God calls you, mother,
Have no fear of death's dark night,
Because I'll be the first to kiss you
At the gate of eternal light.

Lochgelly Laddie.

Published 1st October 1919

CONCERT IN AID OF DEMOBILISED SOLDIERS

In pursuance of their laudable object to provide a treat for all discharged and demobilised men in the Lochore and Glenraig area, in the month of November, the members of the Kelty and Lochgelly Women's Guild (Lochore Branch), held a successful and splendid concert last Wednesday, over which the Rev. W.H. Macdiarmid, JP, Chairman of the War Pensions Committee, presided. Considering the strike of the previous week, there was an excellent audience. The Chairman, on behalf of the community, thanked the Guild for their thoughtful act and congratulated their office-bearers, especially Mrs Gibb, Mrs Veitch and Mrs Butters on their success in raising, up to date, £156; but more contributions would still be welcomed. Mr Terris, Chairman of Kelty Co-operative Society, and Councillor Millar, Lochgelly Co-operative Society, and Mr Moffat, Secretary of the Discharged and Demobilised Soldiers Federation, gave brief addresses, and the first class

programme was carried through and greatly appreciated:-

Quartette, "A Regular Royal Queen", Miss Mitchell; "Angus Macdonald", Mr Kennedy; "The Lea Rig" and "Ballochmyle", Miss Wilson; "Doon the Burn", Misses Mitchell and Wilson; "The Keel Row", Miss Michie, Danseuse; Piper, Mr Dall; Mr Kirk "Deathless Army" and "Hurrah for the Highlands"; Clarinet solos, Mr Penman; Comedian, Mr Biggans, one of whose pieces was "Rationing" by Councillor Millar. Miss Michie obtained great applause by her splendid dancing.

Published 15th October 1919

SCOTTISH JUNIOR CUP – FIRST ROUND

Glencraig Celtic 6 - Windygates Rangers 1

The replayed tie of the above cup took place at Glencraig on Saturday before a large turnout. Teams:-

Celtic: Muir, McLeary and Gilmartin; Wands, Martin and Russell; Bauld, Stewart, Moffat, McGurk and Kirby

Rangers: Sharp, Wallace and Walker; Taylor, Rae and Lowther; Robb, Stewart, Cowan, O'Donnell and Fisher.

The Rangers' goal was early in danger, and Walker deflected Bauld's cross for a corner. There were early indications of a strenuous contest, and just to show that there were two sides in the argument the Celtic had Sharp running on to clear. The Celts, once they had got the road are not easily denied. They try an invasion by the right on this occasion and it proves successful. Stewart diddles Walker nicely and passing to Moffat the latter opens the scoring 15 minutes after the start. It is a fine shot, and Sharp, although touching the ball, is unable to stop its progress into the net. Then, Stewart comes along with a goal for Windygates. Before half-time Martin, at centre-half puts the Celtic on the lead with a regular daisy-cutter. Stewart shortly afterwards added a third goal for his side.

Half-Time: Glencraig 3 - Windygates 1.

The second half was characteristic by a considerable amount of liveliness and the Celtic were now much more dangerous. Moffat led many exciting raids and within five minutes Moffat had the Windygates goalkeeper beaten for the fourth time with a splendid shot from a beautiful pass from Bauld. This was cheering business for the Celts, who were now showing something like their correct form. At the same time Windygates had also their spell of aggressive work. From a lovely pass from Kirby, McGurk added a fifth goal. At this stage temper began to creep into the game but the referee held them well in hand. Moffat added a sixth for his side. The Rangers once more rallied but the Glencraig defence proved too strong for them.

Published 5th November 1919

KELTY, LOCHORE AND GLENCRAIG WOMENS' GUILD WELCOME HOME

About 280 men were entertained to supper, held in the Institute Hall, Glencraig, kindly granted by the Institute Committee. Rev. W.H. Macdiarmid welcomed the men on behalf of the Women's Guild and made a brief remark as to how they had arranged such a treat and how well it had been carried through by the following ladies:- Mrs Guild, Secy; Mrs Gibb, Chairwoman; Mrs Butters, Treasurer; also all members of Committee. He also paid a high tribute to the men who had served their King and country so nobly in her hour of need. He pointed out that almost 200 from this district, out of 1000, enlisted. It was something to be regretted and something to be proud of. After supper, a programme was contributed by the following artistes:- Mrs Anderson, Miss Halfpenny, Mrs Hall, Mrs Harrower, Mr Michie, Mr Arnott, Mr Kilpatrick, Mr Ewan, Mr Ross and Mr Reddington. Others represented were Lochgelly Co-operative (2 members), Kelty (2), Glencraig Institute (2), Dr. Sinclair and R. Stewart Esq., Mary Pit, Lochore. An assembly was successfully carried through, music being supplied by Messrs Davis Band. Mr Moffat intimated that widows and orphans of Glencraig and Lochore district would be entertained on the 20th November, but further particulars would be given as to where it would take place and also the hour.

Published 12th November 1919

LIST OF LOCAL MEDALLISTS

Henry Beveridge (R.H.) M.M.
William Campbell (R.H.) D.C.M.
John Tremble (R.H.) Croix De Guerre
Mathew Davidson (R.E.) M.M. & Bar
William Wilson M.M.
William Pratt (R.E.) M.M.
David Pratt (R.A.M.C.) M.M.
Andrew Pratt (S.G.) M.M.
Thomas O'Dea (R.H.) M.M.
John Davis M.M. & Bar
Hugh Kane M.M. & D.C.M.
James Finerty (T.F.) M.M.
John Copland (R.E.) M.M.
Peter Cardly D.C.M.
Henry Herd (S.G.) M.M.
Andrew Stewart (R.N.D.) M.M.
Dan Brown (D.F.) M.M.
John Graham M.M.
George McLay (R.S.) M.M.
John Glencross (R.F.A.) M.M.
Andrew Glencross (R.H.) M.M.
William Dobson (R.S.) M.M. & M.S.M.
Chris. Shoolbread (A. & S.H.) D.C.M.
Robert Dall (H.L.I.) M.M.
George Bruce (R.N.D.) M.M.
Arthut Neilson D.C.M. & M.M.
Daniel O'Hare (R.H.) D.C.M.
Christopher Bell (R.H.) D.C.M., M.M. & Bar
John Blackwood (R.N.D.) M.M.
James Harrower (M.T.) M.M.
Henry Monaghan (R.A.M.C.) M.M.
John Orchison (R.H.) M.M.
John Keith (R.H.) M.M.
Peter Henderson (R.E.) M.M.
Alex T. Green (H.L.I.) Croix De Guerre
George Garry (R.H.) M.M.
Archibald Rymer (R.H.) M.M.

Abbreviations - Addendum

DCM is the Distinguished Conduct Medal second only to the Victoria Cross, was awarded to all ranks for exceptional bravery.

MM is the Military Medal awarded to warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and other ranks for gallantry in action against the enemy. It ranked below the DCM.

MSM is the Meritorious Service Medal awarded for services in connection with the war or for gallantry but not in face of enemy

R.H. = Royal Highlanders (Black Watch).

H.L.I. = Highland Light Infantry.

A. & S.H. = Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders

R.F.A. = Royal Field Artillery

R.S. = Royal Scots

S.G. = Scots Guards.

D.F. = Defence Force.

T.F. = Territorial Force

R.A.M.C. = Royal Army Medical Corps.

R.N.D. = Royal Naval Division

R.E. = Royal Engineers

*** M.T. = Mechanical Transport**

*** (Normally Army Service Corps).**

Published 19th November 1919

LOCHORE

Assembly

Over forty couples occupied the Institute floor on Thursday evening, when a grand dance was held under the auspices of the local R.C. Dramatic Club. Drama, elocution, etc., formed the theme of a brief speech by Mr John Bolan, Lochgelly, who presided. Excellent music was supplied by Findlay's Band, while Messrs J. Bryce and L. Dignan acted as MCs. In the course of the evening songs were given by the Misses McDonough, Morris and McCulloch, and Messrs Robertson and Brannan. A highly amusing sketch, entitled, "The Daft Porter" was contributed by Messrs Stewart and Hughes, which was greatly enjoyed, as likewise was a recitation, "Gon-ga-dean," given by Mr J. Bolan. The purveying was assigned to D.C.I. And in its collocation, sufficiency, and serving it gave the highest gratification.

Published 31st December 1919

FOOTNOTE

I have scanned the archives of the Lochgelly Times and tried to be as accurate as possible. However, I hope these extracts will give you an insight into what happened in the Benarty area during the years 1914 to 1919. Though a war was being fought in many countries several extracts will show you that, at home, life had to go on as normally as possible, though sadly, many extracts show casualties of war.

David H Blane

Researcher 2014

EXTRACTS FROM WEST FIFE ECHO **MARCH 1915 – OCTOBER 1918**

Patriotic Lochore Family

Lochore has another example of loyalty and patriotic devotion to show in the fact that five sons of Mr Birrell Davidson are at present serving their King and Country:-

Birrell Davidson - 10th Black Watch
Henry Davidson - 10th Black Watch
George Davidson - Argyle & Sutherland Highlanders
Matthew Davidson - Black Watch (Wounded)
James Davidson - Scots Guards

Published 17th March 1915

Patriotic Glencraig Family

Mr James Allan, Old Row, Glencraig, claims the honour of having five sons in the colours:-

James Royal - Naval Reserve
Frank - Black Watch
Sinclair - Royal Scots Fusiliers
Charles - Coldstream Guards (since died of wounds received in Flanders)
Thomas Scots Guards

Published 18th August 1915

Fife Footballer Wounded

Private James Finerty, Royal Dublin Fusiliers, has been reported wounded at the Dardanelles on August 11th. The information was reported to his wife who resides at Milton Rows, Crosshill. Originally with Glencraig Celtic he subsequently entered the senior ranks with Lochgelly United where he earned the reputation of being the best custodian in the second league. His brother William has been in the trenches for some time.

Private Robert Woods, Royal Scots, has been wounded in action. His mother resides at Meadowfield Cottage, Glencraig. He was well known in Fife football circles and was playing for Falkirk when he enlisted.

Published 28th August 1915

Casualties

That Glencraig and Lochore district has borne its share in the recent battle in France is confirmed by the many reports that arrive daily of casualties amongst local men. At the outbreak of war a large number of men connected with juvenile football teams engaged in the Royal Scots Fusiliers in a body and that this regiment has been in the thick of the fighting is reflected in the casualties:
Wounded:

Jas. McEwan (Lochore) – Scots Guards
John Jackson (Glencraig) – Black Watch

**John Casey (Glencraig) – Black Watch
Thomas Robertson (Lochore) – Black Watch
A. Henderson – (95SG)**

**Ed. Campbell (Lochore) – Argyle & Sutherland Highlanders
Arthur Farmer (Lochore) – Cameron Highlanders (2nd time)
Archibald McLeish (Glencraig) – Cameron Highlanders**

Royal Scots Fusiliers:

**George Marshall (Lochore)
J. Galloway (Crosshill)
Ed. Thomson (North Glencraig)
Dan Anderson (Glencraig)
F. Donnachie (Crosshill)**

Considerable doubt exists to the fate of two other RSF men, Alex. Wilson and Wm. McAleer respectively reported missing and killed.

Published 13th October 1915

Men Wounded 1915 – 1918

**(Black Watch), J. Hall (Crosshill), 1915. J. Coats (Glencraig) 1916.
John Brown 2nd time (SG) 1917. George Livingston (Glencraig) 4th time, 1917.
Henderson Shimman (98NG) 3rd time, 1917. George Rowan (164SG) 1917.
Wm. Hodge (91SG) 1916. John Quinn (Lochore) 1916. Andrew Stalker
(Glencraig) 1916. Robert Graham (40NG) 1916. J. Casey (Lochore) 1916.
R. Duffy (Glencraig) 1916. William Norman (Glencraig) 1917. R. Wallace (SG)
1917. James Finerty (Royal Dublin Fusiliers) 1915. (Cameron's) R. Wallace
(SG) 1917. Patrick Murphy (Lochore) 1915. William Aird (Glencraig) 1916. D.
Haldane (Glencraig) 1916. (Royal Scots) J.W. Morrison (Lochore) 1917. S.
Stewart (Lochore) 1916. Robert Woods (Glencraig) 1917. J. Grieve (Glencraig)
1916. Lawrence Brown MM. (Lochore) 1917. George Stark (Lochore) 1918.
Peter Aird, 2nd time, 1918. (Scots Greys) Alex. Hutt (Glencraig) 1918. (Scots
Guards) And. Marshall (Glencraig) 1918. Michael Cooney, 2nd time, 1917.
(RFA) John Lynch 1918. (RAMC) George Garry (Lochore) 1917. (Seaforth's)
R.G. Danskine (Glencraig) 1916. (A & SH) John Fleming (SG) 1917. J. Kelly
1916. David Wilkie 1916. G. Davidson, W. Ferguson, J. Muir, P. Kelly (All
Lochore) 1916. G. Logan (Lochore) 1917. J.M. Noble (Lochore) 1917. (Royal
Scots Fusiliers) John Richardson (64SG) 1917. William Morris 1916. (Gordons)
John Caufield, 2nd time, 1917. (Dublin Fusiliers) W. Connolly (Lochore) 1917.**

Patriotic Lochore Family

Mr & Mrs Dalglish, Lochore, have four sons on active service in France

**Private Thomas – Army Service Corps
Corporal Richard – 9th Royal Scots
Private Andrew - 3rd Gordon Highlanders
Private William - 1st Scots Guards**

Published 6th December 1915

From Lochgelly Times & Advertiser

In the Lochore and Glencraig area out of a population of 7000 people, 1000 have enlisted in the colours.

28 have been killed, 4 died in service and five are missing.

Published 11th January 1916

Lochore and Glencraig

In the building up of Britain's new armies, Lochore and Glencraig have equalled, if not surpassed any district in Scotland in the number of sons that she has given to the cause of the empire. Many families have suffered severely, and amongst those who have given and suffered, the family of Mr & Mrs Peter Reid, 5 Park Street, Crosshill is worthy of a mention. Mr & Mrs Reid has three sons at the front while Mrs Reid has also three brothers and a brother-in-law at the front. All three sons have been wounded, John (wounded twice), David (a Company Sergeant Major), James (Corporal). All three sons are progressing as favourably as can be expected.

Published 6th August 1916

Awards

Private John Orchison, Black Watch, eldest son of the late William Orchison and Mrs G. Anderson, 36 South Glencraig, has been awarded the Military Medal and promoted to Corporal for distinguished conduct and service in the field.

Published February 1917.

Mr & Mrs Glencross, Glencraig, attended a presentation of war medals by his Grace the Duke of Montrose and received the Military Medal gained by their son Sergeant Jack Glencross RFA, since died of wounds received.

Sergeant George Garry RAMC, previously wounded at Ypres and subsequently wounded was presented with the Military Medal at a hospital in Warrington, England.

Private Joh Graham, Essex Yeomanry, son of Mr & Mrs Alex. Graham, 40 North Glencraig, has been awarded the Military Medal. His father and brother are also on active service.

Published 6th June 1917

Sergeant James Harrison, MT, Army Service Corps, has been awarded the Military Medal for distinguished bravery. He was previously an oversman at Glencraig Colliery.

Sergeant Matthew Davidson, Loch Leven Road, Lochore, has been awarded the Military Medal for distinguished bravery in the field. He joined the Black Watch but transferred to the Royal Engineers. Extract from 27th February 1918, Sergeant Davidson awarded a Bar to his Military Medal.

Sergeant McNeil, Lochore, of the same company awarded the Military Medal.

Private John Copeland, Scottish Rifles (Cameronians), attached to the Royal Engineers, husband of Mrs Copeland, 19 South Glencraig, has been awarded

the Military Medal. He was formerly employed in Glencraig Colliery.

Published 4th July 1917

Corporal J. McGregor, Royal Scots, son of Mr J. McGregor of Lochore has passed the necessary exams and received his commission. Lieutenant McGregor has been gazetted to a battalion of the Royal Scots. He has seen considerable service overseas and received the Military Medal for gallantry.

Published 21st July 1917

Honour for local soldier

Sergeant Christopher Shortbread, Argyle & Sutherland Highlanders has been awarded the D.C.M. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He was previously employed at Glencraig Colliery. Sergeant Shortbread is the brother of Mrs Dan Fraser, 32 Park St, Crosshill. Mrs Fraser's husband and son are in the army. The former in the A & SH, the latter in the Royal Garrison Artillery.

Published 1st August 1917

Mrs A Pratt, Thelma Cottages, Crosshill, has received information that her husband Private Andrew Pratt, Scots Guards, has been awarded the Military Medal. He enlisted three years ago and has been on active service for two years.

Ballingry School Janitor Honoured

In the list of officers and others whose services have been brought to the notice of the War department is included Sergeant Major Halliday, Cameron Highlanders. The officer thus honoured was janitor and compulsory officer at Ballingry school. He rejoined his old regiment shortly after war broke out and has three sons serving with the colours.

Private W. Campbell, Argyle & Sutherland Highlanders, Lochore, has gained the Distinguished Service Medal "For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty". When his company was advancing to the attack, it came under heavy fire from a machine gun, 100 yards away. On his section commander becoming a casualty, just before reaching the gun, he with the utmost gallantry, leapt into the trench, seized and overturned the gun. His gallantry was worthy of the highest praise.

Published September 1917

Private James Fleming, Argyle & Sutherland Highlanders, whose parents reside in North Glencraig has been awarded the Military Medal. Pte Fleming has twice been wounded.

Private Andrew Stewart, third son of Mr & Mrs Andrew Stewart, John St, Crosshill, has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry.

Published November 1917

Lieutenant Andrew Glencross M.M. 1st Trench Mortar Battery attached to Black Watch was officially posted missing on the 18th April 1918. Son of Mr & Mrs R. Glencross, Lofty View, Glencraig, he had been on active service since the outbreak of the war and possessed the Mons Ribbon. He was with the cavalry in the early part of the war but transferred, at his own request, to the Black Watch. He rose through the ranks to sergeant and was awarded the Military Medal.

An elder brother, Sergeant John Glencross M.M. Royal Field Artillery, 54th

Battery, 39th Brigade, was killed in action on the 2nd October 1916 and a younger brother Bombardier Robert Glencross, RFA, has been in a London hospital with severe arm wounds.

Funeral

Corporal Hugh Kane D.C.M. M.M. & Bar, Flockhouse, Ballingry, was buried with military honours in Ballingry Cemetery on Saturday last. He died in a military hospital from wounds received. Corporal Kane had seen much service.

Published 18th May 1918

Awards

Lance Corporal C. Bell, Kings Own Scottish Borderers, (Lochore) has been awarded the Military Medal.

Sergeant James Harrower, Army Service Corps, husband of Mrs Harrower, North Glencraig, now serving with the Red Cross Convoy Company, has been awarded the Military Medal.

Published 9th October 1918

Cadet William Dobson M.M. Late Royal Scots Fusiliers, who was recently awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, was presented with these medals. Cadet Dobson enlisted when war broke out and has seen continuous service with his battalion in France. He was latterly recommended for a commission and is now in training. He is the third son of Mr Robert Dobson, 30 North Glencraig.

Mr & Mrs Samuel O'Hare, 21 South Glencraig, have been informed that their son L/Cpl Daniel O'Hare has been awarded to D.C.M. For gallantry in the field in the great offensive of March 21-25 1918. This brave lad joined 1st/7th Black Watch and has been through some very big engagements.

NOTE

Under the heading Casualties there are various numbers and letters in brackets. I presume these indicate house number and village such as (64NG) = 64, North Glencraig. (SG) could be interpreted as Military = Scots Guards. Or Village = South Glencraig.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1924.

UNIQUE WAR MEMORIAL AT LOCHORE.

IN MEMORY OF MARY PIT WORKERS.

ELOQUENT SPEECH BY LORD

HIGH COMMISSIONER.

Great interest was taken in the unveiling of a War Memorial at Lochore on Saturday, in memory of the seventy-six Mary Pit workers who sacrificed their lives in the defence of their country's honour.

The memorial is in the form of a huge white marble tablet in Lochore Workmen's Institute, placed on the interior east wall of the reading room. It is of chaste design, and was supplied by Mr Murdoch, sculptor, Kirkcaldy. It is seven and a half feet in length and three and a half feet broad. At the top, above the names of the fallen, is a cross and crown intersected, and at the bottom the inscription, "Faithful Unto Death". Encircling the tablet is a fine representation of a trailing vine, and this gives the memorial a beautiful finish.

A large number assembled to witness the ceremony, Mr Robert Stewart, Lochore House, manager of the Mary Pit, was Chairman, and was accompanied to the platform by Mr James Brown, M.P., (Ayrshire), Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly; Mr C.A. Carlow, of the Fife Coal Company; Mr and Mrs Kirkwood McNeil, Cowdenbeath; Mr John Ford, Crossgates; Mr Kennedy, secretary of the Fife Miners' Welfare Fund Committee; Mr J.K. Park, Ballingry Schoolhouse; County Councillor George Garry; Dr and Mrs Todd; Dr and Mrs Sinclair; Rev. George and Mrs Scanlon, Ballingry Manse; Miss J. Larnoch, District Nurse; Mr Robertson, Fife Coal Company Architect; and Mr Robert Penman.

A verse of the 100th psalm was sung, and prayer was led by the Rev. Mr Scanlon. The Chairman intimated apologies for absence from Mr Wm. Adamson, M.P., and from Mr Carlow Reid. Mr Adamson was extremely anxious to be present at this gathering, but a prior engagement in his capacity as Secretary for Scotland, demanded his presence at this hour in the South of Scotland. Mr Reid, who was looking forward to taking part in this function, has unfortunately taken ill and is confined to bed.

However, he proceeded, we are exceedingly fortunate, through the influence of our member of Parliament, in having with us to-day a very notable and welcome personage in Mr James Brown, M.P., who has made history in being the first commoner for centuries to be appointed to the high position of Lord High Commissioner of His Majesty in Scotland.

This memorial, which is about to be unveiled, he continued, is unique in many respects, and is probably the first colliery memorial to be erected in Fife, if not in Scotland. The funds for its purchase were raised through the efforts of the workers and their committee.

The Patriotism of the Miners.

The mining industry has reason to be proud of its patriotism in the early and critical days of the War. Indeed, so many miners voluntarily rushed to the Army, that those in authority had latterly to send many back to carry on the industry which was vital to the success of the war.

Lochore's Record.

I venture to claim that no district in the country had a better record in this respect than Lochore. Over 400 men enlisted from the Mary Pit, which was roughly around 50 per cent of the workers. The fact that this memorial has inscribed on it the names of no less than seventy-six heroes who fell during the war indicates in a striking manner our patriotism in our country's time of trial. We are proud of the fact that so many of our lads answered the call of their country, and it has been an honour and a pleasure to be associated with a scheme, which has for its object, the perpetuation of the memory of these splendid lads, whose graves are now scattered all over the world. I have now much pleasure in calling upon our honoured and much respected friend, Mr Brown, M.P., to address the gathering. (Loud applause.)

Sweet and Sacred Memories.

Mr Brown said many present would, like himself, be struggling with feelings which could scarcely be held in check. Sweet and sacred memories of our blessed dead are softening our hearts and thoughts and emotions are constantly with us however well we may hide them from the world.

In the providence of God we arrive at this day to do honour to our glorious dead. Over five years have passed since the bugles sounded peace to a war-weary and stricken world, and it may be that we are better able to-day than we were then to understand and to place the true value on the sacrifices of our boys and men who laid down their lives on the alter of their country.

Wounds may be re-opened to-day, and fresh tears may be shed when we look on the names written on this memorial stone of ours. Our spirits may be chastened and cast down when we remember what these men and boys were to us, whose remains lie in every part of the world to which they carried our victorious arms; but it will not be all sorrow and sadness, for we will be sustained and uplifted by the memory of their steadfastness and courage, and of their faithfulness, even unto death; and we will be encouraged and enabled to go forward hopefully through the darkness that surrounds us to the light of better and brighter times that lie ahead.

That we have hope of better and brighter times to come is due to the valour of that great army of men and lads who, from every part of our mighty Empire, flocked to the colours to defend and maintain the honour of our plighted word.

The appeal was made on behalf of suffering and outraged peoples, and never in the annals of mankind was an appeal responded to more spontaneously and heroically, giving proof again, if proof be needed, that the heart of the British race is sound.

These remembrances are a common bond throughout our great Commonwealth. These memorials are our endeavour to give expression to our gratitude and love for our fallen heroes. They are erected in the market-places of our town and cities, and they stand on our village greens; they nestle in the glens and crown the hillsides, so that the passer-by may not forget the sacrifice of our valiant sons; and with humble and contrite hearts we gather here to-day to unveil and to dedicate and consecrate our own memorial to our own men and boys who left our own homes to fight for King and country.

"The tumult and the shouting dies,

The captains and the Kings depart;

Still stands thy ancient sacrifice,

An humble and a contrite heart!

God of the nations hear us yet;

Lest we forget ! Lest we forget !"

It is right and proper for us to dwell on what the sons of the British race have done for the liberties of the world. And heaven is more real to us to-day and is nearer now that our loved ones have gone home, and we realise more intensely the longing and the truth of the poet's song -

"Oh, it's hame, hame, hame, hame fain would I be;

Oh, It's hame, hame, hame to oor ain countree!

"The great are a' gane, a' wha ventured to save;

The new grass is springing on the tap o' their grave !

But the sun through the mirk blinks blythe in oor e'e.

I'll shine on ye yet in oor ain countree."

That is what the unveiling of this memorial stone means for us; not death, but life; not tears and sorrow only, but hope and joy and pride; hope and joy that we shall see them again and pride in the achievements of our brave sons, for surely theirs was the greatest achievement in all the world's history. This stone will be the trysting place of their spirits and ours. Every name on it inspires us to go forward. We must be worthy of our heroic men. We tried to live worthily through those heart-searching years, we must not, we dare not be unworthy of them now.

To live carelessly and heedlessly when the world is crying out for strong men and women to help and to save it from despair is surely a betrayal of our trust. To refuse to take our part in the reconstruction of the world and of our country; to bear malice or suspicion or hatred would be a complete frustration of everything for which our gallant men laid down their lives.

For God's sake do not let us belie the faith of our boys who died in the full belief that they had fought for these high ideals. Let us so live and act now that we will not need to be ashamed to meet them on the other side, when "God shall have wiped away all tears from our eyes." To them was given the toil and the pain; and to them was given the grace and the courage to lay down their lives in defence of weaker peoples. To us in giving the cross of bereavement, of living, of longing, of waiting, of working, which we must accept. Though the cross may be heavy we must not shrink from it, but bare it bravely to the end.

*"O cross that lifted up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory, dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red,
Life that shall endless be."*

Nurse Larnoch, Lochore, was called on to unveil the memorial and, after she had drawn aside the veil, she gave expression to some graceful phrases. dedicating it to the glory of God and to the memory of those who had made the supreme sacrifice.

Meantime the ex-service men of the district and the local police constables had mustered in front of

the hall and, immediately the memorial was unveiled, they filed in and passed the memorial to their comrades, giving the salute of "eyes right". The Pipe band meanwhile played a lament. Dr Sinclair, an ex-officer, who has taken a deep interest in the ex-service men of the district, placed their memorial wreath at the base of the tablet, and a large number of other wreaths were also deposited. As the wail of the pipes died away, "The Last Post" was sounded on the bugle. It was altogether a very impressive interlude.

Mr Charles Augustus Carlow was asked to address the gathering. He paid a high compliment to the speech delivered by Mr Brown, and expressed his sympathy for the bereaved.

Proceeding, he said he had frequently been asked to meeting at Lochore and had always done his best to attend. Some of those were social meetings and some serious, but he had never been at one which had affected him so deeply or made such an impression on his mind. The memorial would ever remind them all of those brave men who gave their lives so that we might live. (Applause.)

Mr J.K. Park proposed a vote of thanks to Nurse Larnoch, Mr Brown, and Mr Carlow. Referring to the former, he said they had seen her that day in a new phase, and they all admired the very graceful way she had done her part They congratulated Mr Brown on the high position to which he had been called in the Church of Scotland, and were sure he would fill it with credit to the Church and to himself. Mr Brown was in a special way able to speak on such an occasion as the present because he too suffered by the loss of a son in the war. Referring to Mr Carlow he said they knew him well. To-day they had him mingling with them in their sorrow. In the course of further remarks, Mr Park said he keynote of the whole proceedings had been "Duty". (Applause.)

County Councillor George G. Garry, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, said Mr Stewart had proved an ideal Chairman for such an occasion. (Applause.)

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After the ceremony, those who had taken part in the ceremony were entertained to tea in one of the rooms of the Institute, Mr Stewart presided.

Short speeches were made by County Councillor Garry, who said he had been assured that the district would double its size in the next few years; and by the Rev. Mr Scanlon who, as the son of a miner and one who had worked in the mines himself, said he was already in love with the district and its people.

Mr Fallen proposed the health of Mr Brown, M.P., and that gentleman in reply, said not only the Ayrshire miners but the colliery owners as well had congratulated him upon his appointment as Lord High Commissioner. Although his appointment was made through the Prime Minister, it had been recommended by Mr Wm. Adamson, the Secretary for Scotland. When Mr Adamson was working as a brusher, and he was doing his duty as a pitman in Ayrshire the two had been friends, and during the time they had been in Parliament together they had occupied the same room. They had lived together far more peaceably than man and wife (Laughter). He hoped that the result of the present negotiations regarding miners wages would be an agreement which would avoid the necessity of the fighting and disastrous stoppages which took place from time to time. (Applause.)

