



2023 – v1



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# HALL, RUSSELL & CO., LTD., SHIPBUILDERS, ABERDEEN, WW1 ROLL OF HONOUR.

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STANLEY BRUCE

Due to the age of the photographs in this book the majority of them are considered to be out of copyright.

*Front cover photograph - Hall, Russell WW1 Memorial Tablet. (S. Bruce).*

This book has been published on an entirely non-profit basis and made available to all online free of charge as a pdf. The aim of the book is to make the history of the **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** shipyard available to a wider audience.

If you have any comments regarding this book, or any further information, especially photographs of the men mentioned please get in touch. It would be historically good to have a photograph of all the men, and since this is an electronic edition, it will be possible to update and include any new information should it arise.

I can be contacted at [bardofthebroch@yahoo.com](mailto:bardofthebroch@yahoo.com)



**HALL, RUSSELL & CO., LTD.,  
SHIPBUILDERS, ABERDEEN,  
WW1 ROLL OF HONOUR.**

**Stanley A. Bruce,  
2023.**

First Digital Edition.

### **Copyright Terms**

You are free to digitally distribute or display this book in whole; or as individual pages, subject to the page header being retained on each page.

Whilst I have taken great care in preparing this publication, and researched as thoroughly as possible, I have of course relied on some previous historic information by others. Where conflicting information was found, I have added what seemed the most credible, at least to my mind, I therefore accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions and give no guarantee of accuracy.

I sincerely hope this publication is useful for educational and family history purposes.



**HALL, RUSSELL & CO., LTD.,  
SHIPBUILDERS, ABERDEEN,  
WW1 ROLL OF HONOUR.**

**BY**

**STANLEY BRUCE**

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## Introduction.

I think it's fitting to have this Roll of Honour sit alongside my other volumes of Aberdeen's shipbuilding history, as it gives the names of forty young shipyard workers as detailed on the **Hall, Russell** WW1 memorial tablet who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country and fought for freedom for us all. It also gives information on others who died, were wounded, gassed, or taken prisoner.



I say plus 'others' simply because it seems that more than 40 shipyard workers from **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** gave their lives in WW1. In this book you will find over 100 names. Why some of these men are not on the **Hall Russell Memorial Tablet** is a mystery to me. Perhaps they gave up their job in the yard, prior to enlisting, I don't know.

I have researched the national press for information and recorded what I found. To my mind it would have been good to have had a photograph of every man, but I didn't manage to achieve this, I only have a few, perhaps it's now unachievable. If you have any relevant photographs you would like to share, please don't hesitate to get in touch and I will include them.

On the memorial tablet it also states that *"471 men employed at these works' (Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.) took part in the Great War"*.

Out of the forty men named on the memorial tablet who were killed, more than half of them were apprentices.

Sons of the older shipyard workers also enlisted; I found reference to several in the local press articles, but I have not added any here. Casualties were felt by all generations in the shipyard as they were everywhere in the country.

On my travels of the Northeast of Scotland over the years, I've looked at a lot of local memorials commemorating the fallen of WW1 and WW2, and I've often thought about the others who served and survived. The wounded, or those taken as a prisoner of war; these guys although not making the ultimate sacrifice must have suffered immensely, some of them returned home invalided, and many had mental issues that remained with them for the rest of their lives. I have added information covering what I found during my research in local newspapers. Unfortunately, I cannot give a full comprehensive list of those wounded or taken prisoner of war, however, now that I have at least some sort of list written down, family historians or anyone with more information are free to contact me to expand it further.

Although shipyard workers became a reserved occupation, according to the memorial tablet 471 workers from the **Hall, Russell** shipyard still enlisted for service during the

war. Some were Territorials who were called-up at the outbreak of war, but many others volunteered.

Please note that there are some discrepancies that I found within the text, i.e., some of the descriptions of rank on the tablet differ from those in the press articles, some addresses differ etc. I have underlined these within the text.

Of course, the City of Aberdeen has its own War Memorial which was paid for by donations. According to the Press and Journal 15<sup>th</sup> November 1919, **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** donated £105 (Equivalent to approx. £4,500 in 2023) towards its construction. A description of the proposed memorial was given in the same press article, see my Appendix for details. The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives the names of 5,040 men who gave their lives during the war, including the men employed at **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.**

The men mentioned in this book experienced the horrors of war, many never returned, some came home wounded or invalided. My Great-grandfather Peter Bain (1882 to 1976) served in the Army Service Corps (A.S.C.) as a Lance-Corporal in WW1, but like many of the men who braved the First World War he never spoke much about it. I guess he preferred to forget about that awful experience, perhaps a way to deal with it, don't speak of it.

Many of the men included in this book fought in the trenches in France. To get an idea what a trench was like, the Gordon Highlanders Museum in Aberdeen has a replica one for you to explore. This replica trench is much better than I had imagined, I've seen photographs of men with 'Trench Feet' acquired from standing in mud and water for hours on end, the Gordon Highlanders trench has wooden planks to stand on, so no need to bring your wellies.

The Gordon Highlanders Museum also has many interesting Gordon Highlander related artefacts from WW1 and other periods. Eighteen out of the forty men on the **Hall, Russell** memorial tablet served in the Gordon Highlanders.

Of the 471 **Hall, Russell** workers who served in WW1, only a fraction are mentioned in this book. I haven't seen a list of all the names, I wonder if one exists.

***Stanley A. Bruce, BSc., I.Eng., I.MarEng., MIMarEST.***

***Shipbuilder, Hall, Russell Ltd., 1980 to 1991.***



## Reserved Occupations (aka Scheduled Occupations).

World War 1 commenced on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1914 and ended on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918.

For the first 18-months of the war Britain relied on volunteers to enlist. However, the Military Service Act which received royal assent 27<sup>th</sup> January 1916 (Came into effect 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1916) made all single or widowed men between the ages of 18 and 41 liable to Conscription. In June 1916, those liable for call-up was extended to all men in this age range. In April 1918, the upper age limit was lifted to 50 years old.

When conscription was introduced in January 1916, certain grades of workers were exempt from enlisting as they were needed to do work of national importance at home. Reserved occupations included farmers, doctors, clergymen, teachers, and industrial workers considered vital to the war effort, e.g., coal miners, train drivers, **skilled shipyard, steel and iron workers**, and employees in factories manufacturing military equipment and armaments.

Workers in 'Reserved Occupations' under the age of 25 years, could still be called-up; reason being these workers were less experienced and were perhaps not so valuable workers.

Some of the workers employed in Reserved Occupations were frustrated at not being allowed to enlist, while some of those in the armed forces resented them for not being conscripted.

Workers in 'Reserved Occupations' were issued with a certificate and were allowed to wear a metal badge showing they were 'On War Service', this was to avoid them being presented with a white feather which was used as a symbol of cowardice. I found some typical badges used early in the war, but I didn't establish which, if any of these were worn by Aberdeen shipbuilders.



*Examples of 'ON WAR SERVICE' badges, 1914, 1915, and 1916.*

**Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd**, being at full capacity during the war, often needed more workers, however they were very careful when advertising for new workers, basically to ensure they weren't employing men that were eligible to go to war, workers in 'reserved occupations' from other firms or workers on munition work . The following advertisement in the local press, is a good example of this.



*(Aberdeen Press and Journal, 28<sup>th</sup> October 1916).*

**Munition Work** – This came under 'The Munitions of War Act', passed 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1915. The Act brought private companies who manufactured munitions under the control of the government body, Ministry of Munitions. The Act suspended trade union activities or strikes, controlled wages and promoted the employment of women. It was a penal offence for any employee in a 'Controlled Establishment' to leave his current job, without a 'Clearance Certificate' from his employer. This made leaving a job very difficult, nigh near impossible.

See appendices for some press articles regarding **Hall, Russell** employees who appeared in munition tribunals held in Aberdeen.

## **Hall, Russell Co., Ltd., WW1 Memorial Tablet.**

This beautifully carved wooden memorial tablet was originally prominently positioned on the wall immediately to the left after you entered through the double doors into the foyer of the general office. Obviously placed there to show respect for those who gave their lives in the Great War. The plaque is now on a wall in a prominent position in the Aberdeen Maritime Museum.

**1922, 21<sup>st</sup> June:** The Aberdeen Press and Journal reported as follows: ***“HALL RUSSELL’S EMPLOYEES WHO FELL IN THE WAR. Memorial Tablet Unveiled.** No fewer than 471 men employed at the works of **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.,** shipbuilders and engineers, Footdee, took part in the war, and of that number 40 laid down their lives. A handsome war tablet, with the names of the fallen, was unveiled yesterday in a prominent position in the vestibule of the general offices of the firm by **Mr A. Hall Wilson** in presence of **Mr James Y. Hunter, Mr James H. Anderson, and Mr Francis Coutts,** the senior officials. The tablet, a beautiful specimen of carved workmanship, and designed and made by the firm, is surmounted with a laurel wreath and cross, the names under the *“In Memoriam”* being as follows: -*

### **ROYAL NAVY**

Seaman **James Rae**, painter assistant.  
Seaman **Alexander Ross**, fitter apprentice. (20)  
Artisan Engineer **James Wilson**, turner.

### **ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY**

Gunner **Alexander Forbes Bremner (Brebner)**, shipwright apprentice. (20)  
Gunner **Alfred Robert Fraser**, shipwright assistant. (19)  
Gunner **William Clyne**, plater assistant. (21)  
Gunner **Alfred Clark**, riveter apprentice. (22)  
Gunner **Thomas Cruickshank**, boilermaker apprentice. (20)  
Gunner **Peter Ross**, boilermaker apprentice. (21)

### **ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY**

Gunner **James Robb**, turner apprentice. (21)

### **ROYAL ENGINEERS.**

Sapper **Frederick Bowman**, turner apprentice. (21)  
Sapper **William Cassie**, brass-finisher apprentice. (22)  
Sapper **George Ewen**, plater apprentice. (29)  
Sapper **William McGill**, shipwright apprentice. (35)

I’ve added ages of the men in brackets after their names, where known.

### **ROYAL SCOTS.**

Private **William Byres**, riveter apprentice. (21)

Private **George Hay**, planer, boiler shop. (37)

### **ROYAL FUSILIERS.**

Private **William Ellington**, driller apprentice. (22)

Private **Arthur Robertson**, plumber assistant. (18)

### **GORDON HIGHLANDERS.**

Lieutenant **Peter Mitchell**, draughtsman apprentice. (22)

Lieutenant **William Adrian Davidson**, pattern-maker apprentice. (21)

Sergeant-Major **George Kennedy**, lodgekeeper. (44)

Private **Robert McWilliam**, pattern-maker. (24)

Private **Stewart Burnett**, shipwright apprentice. (20)

Private Harry **Graham Chittleburgh**, shipwright apprentice. (21)

Private **Thomas Cruickshank**, shipwright apprentice. (18)

Private **David Watson**, shipwright apprentice. (20)

Private **Thomas Annand**, shipwright assistant. (23)

Private **Thomas Milne**, joiner apprentice. (24)

Private **David Campbell**, plater assistant. (23)

Private **James Owen Evans**, plater assistant.

Private **Alexander Kinnear**, riveter assistant. (28)

Private **George Farquhar**, fitter apprentice. (20)

Private **William Duguid Teunon**, fitter apprentice. (19)

Private **James Norrie Thornton**, plumber assistant.

Private **James Duncan**, machineman. (25)

Private **William Reid**, hammerman.

### **KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS.**

Private **Alexander Sinclair**, caulker.

### **SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS.**

Private **Peter Duthie**, driller apprentice. (19)

### **MACHINE GUN CORPS.**

Private **Alexander Wilson**, shipwright. (21)

### **ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS.**

Private **Charles Milne**, riveter assistant. (21)

The press article also included a photograph of the tablet.

## **The Fallen from the Hall, Russell Memorial Tablet.**

The following names cover the forty men who gave their lives, as listed on the **Hall, Russell Memorial Tablet**.

**ANNAND, Thomas:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a Private.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice shipwright**.

**Killed in action**, on the 13<sup>th</sup> August 1915, Lance-Corporal Thomas Annand, 8<sup>th</sup> Gordon Highlanders, aged 23 years, second son of George and Maggie Annand, 19 Cotton Street – deeply regretted. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 19<sup>th</sup> August 1915).

Service No. S/1517.<sup>2</sup>

8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gordon Highlanders.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Hinges Military Cemetery, B. 2, France.<sup>2</sup>

Recorded as a Private on the Aberdeen City War Memorial.

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**BOWMAN, Frederick:** Served in the Royal Engineers as a sapper (401<sup>st</sup> Field Company, service No. 408058).

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice turner**.

**Sapper Fred Bowman**, Royal Engineers, has been admitted to a casualty clearing station in France seriously ill from gunshot wounds. Before the war he was an **apprentice engineer** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.**, shipbuilders. He is a son of the late Mr Thomas Bowman, cork manufacturer, Aberdeen, and of Mrs Petrie, 402 King Street, Aberdeen. He was mobilised at the outbreak of war as one of the Aberdeen Territorial Royal Engineers. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 1<sup>st</sup> November 1918).

Died of wounds on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, at a Casualty Clearing Station abroad, Sapper **Frederick Bowman**, Royal Field (late Fortress) Engineers, aged 21 years, second son of the late Thomas Bowman, cork manufacturer, Aberdeen, and of Mrs Elizabeth Petrie, 402 King Street, Aberdeen, and stepson of the late Private Alexander M. Petrie R.A.M.C., and brother of Mrs Isaac Hopkins, 43 Union Grove. *“Another life for Britain, another mother’s son.”* (Aberdeen Evening Express, 5<sup>th</sup> November 1918).

Service No. 408058.<sup>2</sup>

401<sup>st</sup> Field Company.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1918, aged 21-years.<sup>2</sup>

Buried at Raillies British Cemetery, France (F.14).<sup>2</sup>

Aberdeen City Roll of Honour has address as 252 King Street.

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**BREBNER, Alexander, Forbes:** Served in the Royal Field Artillery as a gunner.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice shipwright**.

Mrs Brebner has received information that her son **Bombardier A. F. Brebner**, R.F.A., died on 24<sup>th</sup> October from wounds received in action. He was in the Territorial artillery previous to the war, and was called up when war was declared. He was 20 years of age, and the only son of Mr and Mrs Brebner, 27 Huntly Street, Aberdeen, and grandson of Mr Alex. Forbes, joiner, Strachan. Before the war he was in the employment of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, shipbuilders, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 31<sup>st</sup> October 1916).

Service Number: 745.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Field Artillery, 51<sup>st</sup> Trench Mortar Batttery.<sup>2</sup>

Died 24 October 1916, age 20-years.<sup>2</sup>

PUCHEVILLERS BRITISH CEMETERY, V. D. 46, France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of George and Jane Brebner, of Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

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**BURNETT, Stewart Fraser:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a Private.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice shipwright**.

Private **Stewart Fraser Burnett**, 1/4<sup>th</sup> Gordons, has been killed in action. Private Burnett, who was 20 years of age, was a Territorial on the outbreak of the war. He was a shipwright to trade, and resided with his father, Mr William Smith Burnett at 18 Thistle Street, Aberdeen. Second-Lieutenant G. P. Geddes, writing to Mr Burnett said Private Burnett died fighting like a hero, and his loss would be a severe one to the platoon. (Aberdeen Press and Journal - Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1915).

Service No. 1364.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 25<sup>th</sup> September 1915 (Aged 20-years).<sup>2</sup>

4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Gordon Highlanders.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 38, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Mr. and Mrs. William Smith Burnett, of 545, Great Western Rd., Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>  
(Different addresses noted).

On the Aberdeen City Roll of Honour his name is spelt as Stuart.

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**BYRES, William:** Served in the Royal Scots as a private.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice riveter**.

**Killed in action**, on 10<sup>th</sup> June, **Private William Byres**, Royal Scots, aged 21½ years.

*Sleep on, dear Billy in a far-off grave,*

*A grave we may never see,*

*But as long as life and memory lasts,*

*I will remember thee.*

Inserted by his Sweetheart, J. Clapperton, 66 Virginia Street. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 10<sup>th</sup> July 1917).

The Aberdeen Press and Journal 9<sup>th</sup> July 1917 reported that he was the son of Mrs Byres, 47 Hutcheon Street, Aberdeen.

Service No. 115370.<sup>2</sup>

193<sup>rd</sup> Company, Labour Corps.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 11<sup>th</sup> June 1917, aged 21-years.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Andrew and Georgina Byres, of 1, Hanover Lane, Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 56, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

The Aberdeen City Roll of Honour has his address as 16 Shoe Lane, and date of death 10<sup>th</sup> June 1918.

### In Memoriam

**BYRES.** – In loving memory of Private William Byres, Royal Scots, who was killed in action in France on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June, aged 22½ years.

*The hardest part has yet to come,  
When this ruthless war is done,  
I will look in vain for Billie,  
Who will never return no more.*

Inserted by his sweetheart, J. Clapperon, 113 Gerrard Street, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 10<sup>th</sup> June 1918).

**BYRES.** – In loving and sacred memory of our dearly beloved son. **Private William Byres**, Royal Scots, late apprentice riveter with **Hall, Russell's**, who fell in action on 10<sup>th</sup> June 1917, aged 22½ years. (Article above gives his age as 21½ years, I guess he would have been 22½ years in 1918).

*Dear Billie, my son, it makes my heart sore,  
To think in this world we will see you no more;  
Dear son of my bosom, you sleep with the brave,  
Where no tears of a mother will drop on your grave,  
But unknown to the world you stand by my side,  
And whisper, "Dear mother, death cannot divide."  
When days are dark and friends are few,  
Dear Billie, how mother longs for you.*

Inserted by his father and Mother, also his Sisters and Brother Thomas Byres, somewhere in France, late of 47 Hutcheon Street, now 1 Hanover Lane. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 10<sup>th</sup> June 1918).

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**CAMPBELL, David:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **plater's assistant**.

Mr James Campbell, 42 Park Street, Aberdeen, has received official information that his youngest son, **Corporal David Campbell**, Gordon Highlanders, who was posted as

missing on September 25, 1915, is now reported killed on that date. **Corporal Campbell**, who was 23 years of age, was a well-known member of the Caledonian Golf Club. Another brother is serving with the Navy. (Aberdeen Evening Express - Tuesday 28 November 1916).

Service Number: 994.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 25<sup>th</sup> September 1915, age 23 years old.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 38, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

Son of James Campbell, of 169, Constitution Street, Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

*(Different addresses noted.*

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**CASSIE, William:** Served in the Royal Engineers as a **Sapper**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice brass-finisher**.

**Sapper William Cassie**, son of Mr William Cassie, 41 Summerfield Terrace, has been **missing** since August 14, 1917. Prior to the outbreak of war he was an **apprentice brass-finisher** with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.** (Aberdeen Weekly Journal - Friday 21 September 1917).

Previously reported missing on 14<sup>th</sup> August, 1917, now officially reported to have **died** on that date or since, **Sapper William Cassie**, R.E., aged 22 years, eldest son of William Cassie, blacksmith, 41 Summerfield Terrace, Aberdeen, and grandson of Mrs Finnie, 39 Huntly Street, Aberdeen. Dearly loved and deeply (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 6<sup>th</sup> April 1918).



**Sapper William Cassie (IWM).**

465<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers.<sup>2</sup>

Service No. 408039.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 14<sup>th</sup> August 1917, 21-years old.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Loos Memorial, Panel 4 and 5.<sup>2</sup>

Son of William and Mary Cassie, of 13, Canal Street, Woodside. Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

*(Different addresses noted.*

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**CHITTLEBURGH, Harry Graham:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice shipwright**.

In loving memory of our dear son, **Private Harry Graham Chittleburgh**, Gordon Highlanders, who **fell in action** on 26<sup>th</sup> September 1917, aged 21 years and 8 months.

*Gone is the joy and gone the light,  
His kindly presence ever gave;*



*We cannot take some summer flowers,  
To lay them there upon his grave.*

Inserted by his Father and Mother, Sister and Brothers, 204 Victoria Road,  
Torry. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 26<sup>th</sup> September 1918).

**1914, 20<sup>th</sup> November:** The Aberdeen Weekly Journal reported that **Harry G. Chittleburgh**, 204 Victoria Road, Aberdeen had enlisted with the Naval Brigade.

**1915, 30<sup>th</sup> April:** The Aberdeen Weekly Journal reported as follows: *“Information has been received in Aberdeen that **Private Chittleburgh**, of the 4<sup>th</sup> Gordon Highlanders, has been **wounded** in the trenches by a rifle bullet. He is now at Eastbourne recuperating. **Private Chittleburgh’s** mother resides at 11 Bon-Accord Street.”*

**1918, 1<sup>st</sup> May:** The Scotsman reporting on deaths of servicemen had the following:  
GORDON HIGHRS. – **Chittleburgh**, 43468, H. (Torry).

Service No. S/143468.<sup>2</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Gordon Highlanders.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium, Panel 135 to 136.<sup>2</sup>

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**CLARK, Alfred:** Served in the Royal Field Artillery as a gunner.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice riveter**.

**ACCIDENTALLY KILLED.** Driver **Alfred Clark**, R.F.A., (aged 22-years) who has died through an accident in France, was the second son of Mr and Mrs Clark, 65 East North Street, Aberdeen. Before joining up in September, 1914, he was employed by **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** as an **apprentice riveter**. A brother died of wounds, and another is serving in the Navy. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 17<sup>th</sup> August 1918).

‘A’ Battalion, 255<sup>th</sup> Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 1<sup>st</sup> August 1918.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Vertus Communal Cemetery, France (91).<sup>2</sup>

Son of William and Robina Clark, of 2, Constitution Lane, Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

*(Different addresses noted.*

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**CLYNE, William Mearns:** Served in the Royal Field Artillery as a gunner.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **plater assistant**.

“Mr and Mrs John Clyne, 125 West North Street, Aberdeen, have received official intimation that their son, **Private William Mearns Clyne**, was killed in action on 1<sup>st</sup> August by the bursting of a shell. **Private Clyne** was mobilised at the outbreak of war, when he was an **apprentice plater** with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.** Two brothers are serving – one in the Black Watch and the other with the mine-sweepers.” (Aberdeen Evening Express, 14<sup>th</sup> August 1917).

Royal Army Medical Corps, 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> (Highland) Field Ambulance.<sup>2</sup>

Service No. 303072.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 1<sup>st</sup> August 1917, aged 21-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 56, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Mr and Mrs John Clyne, of 152, West North Street, Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

*(Different addresses noted, the City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour has 125 West North Street as the address, so it's likely that 152 is a typo).*

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**CRUICKSHANK, Thomas S.:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a Private.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice shipwright**.

Mr Thomas Cruickshank, 46 York Place, Aberdeen, has received information that his son, **Drummer Thomas Cruickshank**, Gordon Highlanders, has died in hospital. **Drummer Cruickshank** was 18 years of age and was called up when war broke out. In junior swimming circles at Aberdeen he was well known, having won the trophy gifted by the School Board for the best boy swimmer in the city. In the same year he carried away the Bon-Accord Junior Championship. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1916).

Service No. 1590.<sup>4</sup>

'D' Company, 4<sup>th</sup> battalion, Gordon Highlanders.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 25<sup>th</sup> October 1916, age 18-years.<sup>2</sup>

Buried in Aberdeen (Trinity) Cemetery.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Thomas and Jane Cruickshank.<sup>2</sup>

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**CRUICKSHANK, Thomas, S. :** Served in the Royal Field Artillery as a gunner.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice boilermaker**.

Mrs Cruickshank, 7 Hanover Lane, Aberdeen, has received official intimation of the death at the front from wounds of her son **Sergeant T. Saddler Cruickshank**, of the 1<sup>st</sup> Highland Brigade Royal Field Artillery. **Sergeant Cruickshank**, prior to joining, was employed as an **apprentice boilermaker** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** He was 20 years of age. Major Garden in a letter to his mother, writes highly of the brave lad's ability and courage, and expresses the sincere regret of his comrades, with whom he was most popular. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 10<sup>th</sup> March 1916).

Service Number: 1277.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Field Artillery, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battery, Highland Brigade.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 26<sup>th</sup> February 1916.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Bronfay Farm Military Cemetery, Bray-Sur-Somme, I. A. 34, France.<sup>2</sup>

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**DAVIDSON, William Adrian:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a lieutenant.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice pattern-maker**.

**Died of wounds** in France, on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, **Second-Lieutenant William Adrian Davidson**, aged 21, eldest son of Alexander Davidson, Broomhill Park, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 6<sup>th</sup> July 1916).

Amongst those who were decorated by the King at Buckingham Palace Investiture on Wednesday were Captain William Davidson, Gordon Highlanders, who received the 'Military Cross and Bar'. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 14<sup>th</sup> December 1917).

Gordon Highlanders, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1916, age 21-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Morlancourt British Cemetery No.1, A. 30., France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Alexander Davidson, of Blythewood, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire.<sup>2</sup>

*(Different addresses noted)*.

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**DUNCAN, James:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a Private.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **machine man**.

**Aberdeen Guardsman Drowned.** Intimation has been received in Aberdeen that **Private James Duncan** of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Scots Guards, whose wife lives at 11 Duff Street, has been **drowned** in France. **Private Duncan** was a son of Mrs Antcliff, 3 Gilcomston Place, Aberdeen, and is one of five brothers who are serving with the colours, the others being Sergeant George Duncan, 2/4<sup>th</sup> Gordon Highlanders; Corporal William Duncan, Scots Guards; Bombardier Alexander Duncan, Royal Field Artillery, and Gunner Edward Antcliff, Royal Field Artillery. **Private James Duncan** was previously a **machine man** with **Hall, Russell and Company**, and being a reservist in the Scots Guards was called up on the outbreak of war. He was **wounded** at Neuve Chapelle, and only returned to the front about three weeks ago. He was 25 years of age. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 27<sup>th</sup> August 1915).

Service Number: 10239.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 16<sup>th</sup> August 1915.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Wizernes Communal Cemetery, E. 55, France.<sup>2</sup>

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**DUTHIE, Peter McGlashan:** Served in the Seaforth Highlanders as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice driller**.

Mr John T. Duthie, cooper, 75 Loch Street, Aberdeen, has been notified that his youngest son, **Signaller Peter McGlashan Duthie**, Gordons, was **killed in action** on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. He was 19 years of age and a native of Fraserburgh and formerly resided at Commerce Street with his parents. Before joining up a year ago he was employed at **Hall, Russell's** as an **iron driller**. His brother, Ludovic, who served his apprenticeship as compositor on the "Fraserburgh Herald", received dreadful injuries at the front two

years ago, and is making a very slow recovery. (Fraserburgh Herald and Northern Counties' Advertiser, 13<sup>th</sup> August 1918).

Service No. S/21317.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 1<sup>st</sup> / 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 20<sup>th</sup> July 1918, aged 19-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - La Neuville-Auv-Larris Military Cemetery, (A.16), France.<sup>2</sup>

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**ELLINGTON, William:** Served in the Royal Fusiliers as a private.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice driller.**

London Regiment, who has been missing since 26<sup>th</sup> October 1917, has now been **reported killed.** He was the son of Mr and Mrs Joseph Ellington, 16 Kintore Place, Aberdeen, and before the war was an **apprentice** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, shipbuilders, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1918).

Service No.: 248045.<sup>2</sup>

London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers), 2<sup>nd</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 26 October 1917, age 22-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 148 to 150, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Joseph and Jeannie Ellington, of 16, Kintore Place, Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

Aberdeen City Roll of Honour has address as 28 Northfield Place.

*(Different addresses noted).*

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**EVANS, James Owen:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a **Private.**

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **plater's assistant.**

**Private James Evans**, 1/4<sup>th</sup> Gordon Highlanders, **has died of wounds** received in action on the 6<sup>th</sup> June. **Private Evans**, who was a native of New South Wales, resided in Aberdeen for several years. He was well known in the city as a boxer, and it was he who challenged Motorman Fraser about two years ago, the match, which was fought at Torry, over ten rounds, resulting in a draw. Before the outbreak of hostilities, **Private Evans** was employed at **Hall Russell's** shipyards, and lived at 46 St Clement Street, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 30<sup>th</sup> July 1915).

Service Number: 1787.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 6<sup>th</sup> June 1915.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial – Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, VIII. A. 69, France.<sup>2</sup>

The Aberdeen City Roll of Honour confirms the above information.

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**EWEN, George:** Served in the Royal Engineers as a **Sapper**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice plater**.

**Private George Ewen, Sherwood Foresters**, who was **killed in action** on 30<sup>th</sup> July, was the third son of Mr John Ewen, 97 Park Street, Aberdeen. He enlisted in March, 1915, prior to which he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Company**. He was 29 years of age. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 21<sup>st</sup> August 1917).

Service No. 76160.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 4<sup>th</sup> August 1917.<sup>2</sup>

Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment), 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 41, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

Aberdeen City Roll of Honour has date of death as 31<sup>st</sup> July 1917.

*(Three different dates of death noted).*

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**FARQUHAR, George:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice fitter**.

**Peterculter, Killed — Private George Farquhar**, Gordons, son of Mr C. A. Farquhar, Craighton Schoolhouse. He enlisted in the Gordons in 1912, and was serving his **apprenticeship** as an **engineer** with **Messrs Hall, Russell**, Aberdeen, at mobilisation. His brother, Captain Alexander Farquhar, R.A.M.C., has been at the front for the past fifteen months. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 8<sup>th</sup> December 1916).

Service Number: 2525.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died 14<sup>th</sup> November 1916, age 20 years old.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Maily Wood Cemetery, Maily-Maillet, I. L. 12., France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of D. A. Farquhar, M.A., J.P. (Craighton Higher Grade School, Peterculter), and Eliza Jane Farquhar. Engineer apprentice.<sup>2</sup>

Aberdeen City Roll of Honour has address as Culter.

*(Slight difference note on father's name).*

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**FRASER, Alfred Robert:** Served in the Royal Field Artillery as a **Gunner**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **shipwright assistant**.

**Gunner Alfred Robert Fraser**, R.F.A., died from shell gas poisoning and influenza on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Before enlisting in 1915 he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 29<sup>th</sup> November 1918).

Service Number: 646091.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Field Artillery, "B" Battery, 315<sup>th</sup> Brigade.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1918, age 19 years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Mont Huon Military Cemetery, Le Treport, IX. B. 8B, France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Mr. and Mrs. James Fraser, of Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

Aberdeen City Roll of Honour has address as 27 York Place.

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**HAY, George:** served in the Royal Scots as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **planer** in the **boiler shop**.

Mr John Hay, 131 Park Street, Aberdeen, has been officially informed that his brother **Private George Hay**, Royal Scots, had **fallen in action** on 19<sup>th</sup> August. Deceased who was about 37 years of age was a reservist of the Royal Scots with whom he was in India. Before re-joining the colours on the outbreak of war, he was employed at the **boiler shop** of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company**. He saw much active service after going abroad, and was wounded on 27<sup>th</sup> September last year. Invalided home, he was back to his regiment before the New Year. (Aberdeen weekly Journal, 8<sup>th</sup> September 1916).

Service Number: 4389.<sup>2</sup>

11<sup>th</sup> Battalion Royal Scots.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 19<sup>th</sup> August 1916.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez, France (IV. D. 10.).<sup>2</sup>

Son of Mrs. Helen Rennie Hay, of Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

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**KENNEDY, George Farrar:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a **Sergeant-Major**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **lodgekeeper**.

Suddenly at Tillicoultry, on the 13<sup>th</sup> inst., **C.S.M. George Farrar Kennedy**, dearly beloved husband of Isabella Brown, 62 Urquhart Road, Aberdeen, deeply mourned. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 17<sup>th</sup> May 1918).

Service Number: TR1/16012.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 53<sup>rd</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

C.S.M. – Company Sergeant Major.

Died: 12<sup>th</sup> May 1918, age 44-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Aberdeen (Allenvale) Cemetery, C. 1136.<sup>2</sup>

Husband of Isabella R. Kennedy, of 62, Urquhart Rd., Aberdeen. Born at Leeds.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen War Memorial gives date of death as 13<sup>th</sup> May 1918.

An article in the Aberdeen Press and Journal, 24<sup>th</sup> October 1911 regarding a well-attended monthly concert held in the hall of the Gordon Highlanders' Memorial Institute, Belmont Street, Aberdeen states that **Sergeant George Kennedy** participated in the evenings programme of performances.

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**KINNEAR, Alexander:** served in the Gordon Highlanders as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **riveter's assistant**.

**ABERDEEN GORDONS KILLED.** It is with the deepest regret that I have to report the death of your brave husband last night, 14<sup>th</sup> May. about 6 p.m., whilst doing his duty in the trenches on --." These are the opening words of a letter which - Mrs Kinnear, 165 West North Street, Aberdeen, received today from Lieutenant W. Morrison, of the 1<sup>st</sup> Gordon Highlanders, intimating the death of her husband, **Private A. Kinnear**, of that regiment. "He was a good soldier, and did his duty faithfully to the last, and as his platoon officer," continues the letter. "Shall miss him very much, as well the men of the platoon, who considered him a good soldier and the best of comrades. He was shot in the head by a rifle bullet, and suffered no pain whatever. I assisted to carry him to a place of shelter, but he had already passed away before we lifted him. Death was instantaneous and I had his body carried back so that we could have a church service at the burial. Believe me, all join in sending you our heartfelt sympathy in this your sad hour of bereavement." Twenty-eight years of age, **Private Kinnear** had been nine years in the special reserve before being called up on the outbreak of war. In civilian life he was employed as a **holder-on**, and was working at **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Company's** yard when he re-joined the colours. He went to the front with a draft on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. He leaves a widow and four young children to mourn his loss. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 1<sup>st</sup> June 1915).

**"A GOOD SOLDIER AND THE BEST OF COMRADES."** Tribute to Aberdeen Gordon. "It is with the deepest regret that I have to report the death of your brave husband last night, 14<sup>th</sup> May about 6pm, whilst doing his duty in the trenches on ----." These are the opening words of a letter which Mrs Kinnear, 165 West North Street, Aberdeen, received today from Lieutenant W. Morrison of the 1<sup>st</sup> Gordon Highlanders, intimating the death of her husband, **Private A. Kinnear**, of that regiment. "He was a good soldier, and did his duty faithfully to the last, and I as his platoon officer," continues the letter, I shall miss him very much, as well as the men of the platoon, who considered him a good soldier and the best of comrades. He was shot in the head by a rifle bullet, and suffered no pain whatsoever. I assisted to carry him to a place of shelter, but he had already passed away before we lifted him. Death was instantaneous and I had his body carried back so that we could have a church service at the burial. Believe me, we all join in sending you our heartfelt sympathy in this your sad hour of bereavement."

Twenty-eight years of age, **Private Kinnear** had been nine years in the special reserve before being called up on the outbreak of war. In civilian life he was employed as a **holder-on**, and was working at **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company's** yard when he re-joined the colours. He left for the front with a draft on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. He leaves a widow and four young children to mourn his loss. (Aberdeen Evening Express - Monday 31 May 1915).

**KINNEAR.** – In loving memory of 4847 **Private Alexander Kinnear**, A Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Gordon Highlanders, who was killed at Hill 60 on 14<sup>th</sup> May 1915.

A friend in life and a hero in death,  
They miss him most who loved him best,  
Flowers may fade and leaves may wither,  
Some may forget, but we will never.

Inserted by Mother, Brother, Sister and Sister-in-law.

(Aberdeen Evening Express, 15<sup>th</sup> May 1916).

Service Number: 3/4847.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 38, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives address as 6 Darlington Place.

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**McGILL, William, Hendy:** Served in the Royal Engineers as a **sapper**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice shipwright**.

Died at Ashford Military Hospital, on 29<sup>th</sup> Oct., **William Hendry McGill**, aged 35-years, beloved husband of Sarah Ann Walker. Funeral from house, 46 York Place, Aberdeen, on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November, at 2pm, to Allenvale Cemetery. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 1<sup>st</sup> November 1918).

Service No. WR/339047.<sup>2</sup>

Pioneer, Inland Waterways and Docks, Royal Engineers.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 29<sup>th</sup> October 1918, age 35-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Aberdeen (Allenvale) Cemetery.<sup>2</sup>

Son of William Hendy McGill, of Leith, Edinburgh; husband of Sarah Ann W. McGill, of 126, Wellington Road, Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen War Memorial gives address as 46 York Place.

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**McWILLIAM, Robert:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **pattern-maker**.

Mr McWilliam, 44 Cotton Street, Aberdeen has received official notification that his son **Private Robert McWilliam**, Gordon's was killed in action on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July 1916. He was in his 25<sup>th</sup> year, and joined the Gordons in November, 1914. He left Bedford for France in February 1915. Prior to joining the Army, he was a patternmaker with **Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.** **Private McWilliam** was a Companion of St Clement Royal Chapter of Freemasons, No. 321. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 12<sup>th</sup> August 1916).

Gordon Highlanders, "C" Coy. 1<sup>st</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1916, age 24-years.<sup>2</sup> (The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1916).

Memorial - Serre Road Cemetery No.2, XX. F. 5., France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of William McWilliam, of 12, Duthie Terrace, Aberdeen; husband of Jane McWilliam, of 44, Cotton St., Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>



**MILNE, Charles:** Served in the Royal Army Medical Corps as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **riveter's assistant**.

**MILNE – Killed in action** on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 1917, Private Charles Milne, stretcher-bearer, R.A.M.C., aged 21 years, daerly beloved son of Mr and Mrs Milne, 7 Canal Terrace. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 6<sup>th</sup> August 1917).

Service No. 303025.<sup>2</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> (Highland) Field Ambulance.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 24<sup>th</sup> July 1917, age 22-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 56, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Margaret Milne, of 30, Nether Kirkgate, Aberdeen, and the late Alexander Milne.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives his address as 7 Canal Terrace.



**Private Charles Milne.**  
(Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 17<sup>th</sup> August 1917).

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**MILNE, Thomas, Brown:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice joiner**.

City Footballer Missing. Mr Hugh Milne, fishmonger, 160 King Street, Aberdeen has today received official information that his son, **Private Tom Milne**, of the 1/4<sup>th</sup> Gordons, has been missing since September 25. The War Office state that no further particulars are at present available. Previous to the war he was an **apprentice joiner** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company**. He is well known in the city as a football player in various junior clubs. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 8<sup>th</sup> November 1915).

Mr Hugh Milne, 160 King Street, Aberdeen, has been informed that his son, **Private Thomas Brown Milne**, Gordon Highlanders, was killed on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 1915. Private Milne was 24 years of age, and prior to joining was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.**, as an **apprentice ship joiner**. He was well-known in football circles. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 12<sup>th</sup> December 1916).

Service Number: 3253.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 25<sup>th</sup> September 1915, age 22-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 38, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives address as 162 King Street.

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**MITCHELL, Peter, H.:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a lieutenant.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice draughtsman.**

**Gallant City Officer's Death. - Second Lieutenant Peter H. Mitchell, Gordon Highlanders, who has died from wounds.** He was the second son of the late Mr Robert Mitchell, merchant, and of Mrs Mitchell, 29 Albert Terrace, Aberdeen, and was educated at Robert Gordon's College. Before joining the colours a month after the outbreak of war, he was engaged as a naval draughtsman with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.** He has seen a lot of hard fighting, and, it is

understood, his gallantry was recently the subject of a fine tribute by his men. Aberdeen (Weekly Journal, 21<sup>st</sup> September 1917).



*Lieutenant Peter Mitchell  
(Morgan).*

He joined the colours a month after the outbreak of war and went on active service in February 1915, and got his commission in August 1916. His elder brother, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. T. Mitchell, Gordon Highlanders, came home from Buenos Ayres to serve, and his younger brother, Private Andrew Mitchell, Canadians, is a prisoner of war in Germany. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 17<sup>th</sup> September 1917).

**GORDON'S BRAVERY. Posthumous Honour for City Officer. Second-lieutenant P. H. Mitchell,** Gordons has been awarded the 'Military Cross'. The official record of the act which gained the decoration says: - *"He led his platoon forward with splendid courage and ability, captured his objectives together with an officer, several of other ranks and two heavy trench mortars. At this point he was in advance of all other British troops in the neighbourhood, and by his dash and determination he enabled our advance to be continued without hindrance from the enemy."* (Aberdeen Evening Express, 14<sup>th</sup> January 1918).

Gordon Highlanders, 1<sup>st</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 14<sup>th</sup> September 1917, age 22-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Mendinghem Military Cemetery, VII. C. 6, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Johan A. Mitchell, of 29, Albert Terrace, Aberdeen, and the late Robert Mitchell.<sup>2</sup>

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**RAE, James:** Served in the Royal Navy as a **Seaman.**

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **painter assistant.**

**James Rae** drowned at sea, was second engineer on one of H.M. trawlers. Two years ago, he came from Toronto, Canada, and resided with his sister, Mrs Robertson, 125 Holburn Street, Aberdeen, before joining his vessel as a Naval Reserve man. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 29<sup>th</sup> June 1917).

Engineman, Royal Naval Reserve (RNR), service number: 4640TS.<sup>2</sup>

H.M. Trawler '**Fraser**'.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 17<sup>th</sup> June 1917.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Portsmouth Naval Memorial, 28.<sup>2</sup>

Aberdeen (Trinity) Cemetery, Screen Wall. D. 4. 1C.<sup>2</sup>

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**REID, William:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **hammerman**.

Mr George Reid, 87 Wales Street, has received intimation that his brother, **Private W. Reid**, Gordon Highlanders, has died of wounds in France. He leaves a widow and two of a family, who reside in Edinburgh. He enlisted on 16<sup>th</sup> October 1914, and previous to that date he was employed as a hammerman by **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.** (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 10<sup>th</sup> August 1916.

Service Number: 2774.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 30<sup>th</sup> July 1916.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Thiepval Memorial, Pier and Face 15 B and 15 C, France.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour states he died 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1916.

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**ROBB, James:** Served in the Royal Garrison Artillery as a gunner.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice** turner.

1918, 29<sup>th</sup> April: The Aberdeen Evening Express reported in its Northern Roll of Honour that **Gunner J. Robb**, R.F.A. was **killed**.

Service Number: 365040.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Garrison Artillery, 109<sup>th</sup> Siege Battery.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 5<sup>th</sup> April 1918, age 21 years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ribemont Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, II. E. 9, France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of James and Georgina Robb, of 75, Menzies Rd., Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

Aberdeen City Roll of Honour gives his date of death as 5<sup>th</sup> April 1917. (Seems that 1917 is incorrect).

The second 'Battle of the Somme' took place between 21<sup>st</sup> March and 5<sup>th</sup> April 1918.

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**ROBERTSON, Arthur:** Served in the Royal Fusiliers as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **plumber's assistant**.

Mrs Robertson, 9 Bannermill Street, Aberdeen, received official word today of the **death from wounds received in action** of her son, **Private Arthur Robertson**, Royal Scots Fusiliers. **Private Robertson**, who was only 18 years of age was employed in civilian life at **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company**. The intimation was accompanied by a letter from Lieutenant Shaw, expressing the regret of the lad's comrades at the early death of a promising young soldier. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 11<sup>th</sup> April 1916).

**Killed in action**, on 28<sup>th</sup> March, **Private Arthur Robertson**, Royal Scots, eldest son of Mrs Mary Robertson, 9 Bannermill Street, and grandson of Mrs Riach, Bucksburn, aged 18 years – sadly missed. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 14<sup>th</sup> April 1916).

Service Number: 20127.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Scots Fusiliers, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 28<sup>th</sup> March 1916, age 16-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, V. B. 23A, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Mrs. M. Robertson, of 9, Bannermill Street, Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives date of death as 27<sup>th</sup> March 1916 and address as 122 Park Street.



**Private Arthur  
Robertson.**

(Aberdeen Weekly  
Journal, 21 April  
1916).

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**ROSS, Alexander:** Served in the Royal Navy as a **Seaman**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice fitter**.

**Petty Officer Alexander Ross**, Hawke Battalion, Royal Naval Division (RND), son of Mr Donald Ross, 130 Victoria Road, Torry, was killed while on duty with a working party about midnight on 21<sup>st</sup> January. An **apprentice engineer** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company** when war broke out, he joined the Royal Naval Division, and he saw much active service with the Hawke Battalion. He was in Gallipoli for nine months before being invalided home, and, after re-joining, went to France. His officer writes that they had known him for a long time. He was one of the most promising petty officers he had, and his loss was deeply felt by all the company. The Scottish chaplain with the division, in extending his sympathy, says that all the officers he met spoke highly of **Ross**. He was 20 years of age. Two older brothers, Donald, who was in Post Office service at Peterhead, and William, who was similarly engaged at Inverurie are both in France with the Royal Engineers. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1917).

Service Number: Clyde Z/1267.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, Hawke Battalion. Royal Naval Division.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 21<sup>st</sup> January 1917, age 20-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ancre British Cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel, VII. E. 1, France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Donald and Margaret Ross, of 155, Hutcheson St., Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

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**ROSS, Peter:** served in the Royal Field Artillery as a gunner.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice boilermaker**.

Mrs Peter Ross, 23 Summerfield Terrace, has received intimation that her second son, **Driver Peter Ross**, R.F.A., has been **wounded**, and is lying dangerously ill in a hospital in London. Prior to enlisting in September 1914, he was an **apprentice boilermaker** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** He was well-known as a member of the Dee Swimming Club. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 13<sup>th</sup> December 1918).

**Died of Wounds. Driver Peter Ross, R.F.A.,** who **died** at Bethnal Green Military Hospital on 16<sup>th</sup> December of **wounds received in action** was the second son of Mr Peter Ross, 23 Summerfield Terrace. Prior to enlisting on 5<sup>th</sup> December 1914, he was an **apprentice boilermaker** with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.** He was well-known in swimming circles being a member of the Dee Swimming Club. An older brother served in the R.F.A., and is discharged. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 20<sup>th</sup> December 1918).

Service Number: 630738.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Field Artillery, 75<sup>th</sup> Brigade.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 16<sup>th</sup> December 1918, age 21-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Aberdeen (St. Peter's) Cemetery, WD. 26. 24.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Peter and Helen Ross, of 23, Summerfield Terrace, Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

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**SINCLAIR, Alexander:** Served in the King's Own Scottish Borderers as a Private.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **caulker**.

I could not find notification of his death in the local press.

Service Number: 23800.<sup>2</sup>

King's Own Scottish Borderers, 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 9<sup>th</sup> April 1917.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Arras Memorial, Bay 6, France.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives address as 11 West North Street, Aberdeen.

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**TEUNON, William Duguid:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice fitter**.

**Fell in action**, 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1916, **Private William Duguid Teunon**, Gordon Highlanders, aged 19 years, eldest son of the late John A. Teunon and Mrs Teunon, of 9 Beechgrove Avenue, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 12<sup>th</sup> August 1916).

Service No. 1523.<sup>2</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gordon Highlanders.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Serre Road Cemetery No.2, XX. F. 4., France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of John Alexander and Annie Duguid Teunon.<sup>2</sup>

City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives address as 45 Bonnymuir Place.

*(Different addresses noted)*.

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**THORNTON, James Norrie:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **plumber's assistant**.

**Died of wounds**, on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 1914, Private **James Thornton**, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Gordon Highlanders, beloved husband of Martha Mearns, 11 Princes Street, Aberdeen – deeply regretted. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 24<sup>th</sup> November 1914).

The Aberdeen Evening Express, 13<sup>th</sup> November 1914, also reported that he was a reservist, however also incorrectly stated that he worked for A. Hall & Co., shipbuilders, Aberdeen.

Service Number: 8868.<sup>2</sup>

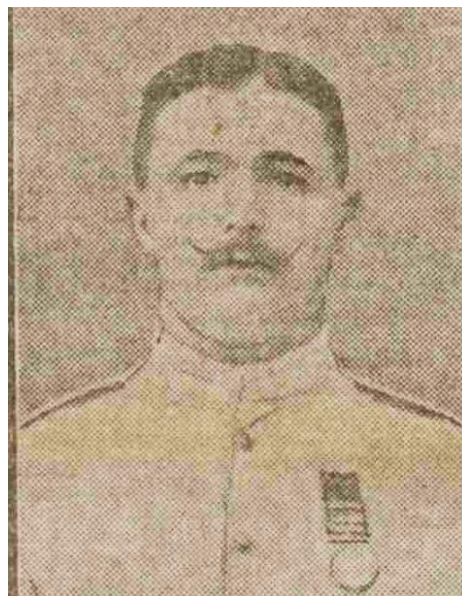
Died: 17<sup>th</sup> October 1914.<sup>2</sup>

Longuenesse (St. Omer) Souvenir Cemetery, I. A. 5, France.<sup>2</sup>

City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives address as 14 Links Street.

*(Different addresses noted)*.

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**Private James Norrie Thornton (8868)**  
1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Gordon Highlanders.  
*(Aberdeen Evening Express,  
14<sup>th</sup> November 1914).*

**WATSON, David:** Served in the Gordon Highlanders as a **Private**.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as an **apprentice shipwright**.

**Private David Watson**, Gordon Highlanders, was **killed in action** on September 15. He was the youngest son of Mr and Mrs Watson, 86 Constitution Street, Aberdeen, and prior to being mobilised at the outbreak of war was an **apprentice ship's carpenter**. **Private Watson** took a prominent part in Boys' Brigade work in the city, and before entering the army was a sergeant in the 19<sup>th</sup> Company. He was 20 years age. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1917).



**Private David Watson.**  
(Aberdeen Weekly Journal,  
5<sup>th</sup> October 1917).

Service Number: 200319.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, "B" Company. 1<sup>st</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 15<sup>th</sup> September 1917, age 20-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Hospital Farm Cemetery, E. 25, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

Son of John and Isabell Watson, 86 Constitution Street, Aberdeen, Scotland.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives address as 18 Park Street.

*(Different addresses noted).*

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**WILSON, Alexander:** Served in the Machine Gun Corps as a private.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **shipwright**.

Mr Wilson has got word that **Lance-Corporal A. Wilson**, his son, 22 years of age, has been **wounded** in France. He was connected with the machine gun section of the Gordons, and previous to joining the army about a year ago he was a ship carpenter in the employment of **Hall, Russell and Co.**, shipbuilders, Aberdeen. Mr Wilson has other two sons in the thick of the fighting, one being in the Royal Field Artillery and the other in the Gordon Highlanders. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 10<sup>th</sup> July 1916).

**Lance-Corporal Alexander Wilson**, machine gun section, who has been **killed in action**, was a **ship's carpenter** at **Hall, Russell and Co.** before the war. Twenty-one years of age, he was the son of Mrs M. Wilson, 30 Marischal Street, to whom has been forwarded a parchment earned by the lad for gallant conduct and devotion to duty during the battle of the Somme on 1<sup>st</sup> July. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 17<sup>th</sup> August 1917).

Service Number: 4105.<sup>2</sup>

Rank: Lance-Corporal.<sup>2</sup>

Machine Gun Corps (Infantry), 46<sup>th</sup> Company.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 1<sup>st</sup> August 1917, age 22-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 56, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives date of death as 1<sup>st</sup> August 1917, and rank as Lance-Corporal.

*Seems the **Hall, Russell Tablet** which reads '**Private**' is incorrect.*

During the 'Battle of the Somme' 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916, the British Army suffered their worst losses in one-day in their history.

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**WILSON, James:** Served in the Royal Navy as an Artisan Engineer.

At **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** he was employed as a **turner**.

Died suddenly, at the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen, on the 18<sup>th</sup>, **James Wilson, engineer**, dearly beloved husband of Bella McDonald. Funeral on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 3pm, from house, 19 South Constitution Street, to Allenvale Cemetery. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 19<sup>th</sup> October 1918).

Service Number: M/28524.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Navy, '**H.M.S. Victory**'.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 18<sup>th</sup> October 1918.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Aberdeen (Allenvale) Cemetery, H. 23.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives his address as 411 Holburn Street.

***That concludes the names of the forty shipyard employees commemorated on the Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd. Memorial Tablet.***

***The next section gives the names of other Hall, Russell employees who fell during the First World War, but are not on the Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd. Memorial Tablet***



*Two Gordon Highlander soldiers during WW1.*

*(Possibly in a training camp in Bedford, England before being deployed to France).*



## Names of Fallen Former Employees not on the Hall Russell Memorial.

The following articles regarding dead servicemen associated with **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** were found in local newspapers. Why these men are not on the **Hall Russell Memorial Tablet** I do not know.

**ALLAN, Gilbert, Stitt.** – **Died of Wounds.** Mr and Mrs William Allan, 125 West North Street, Aberdeen, have been notified that their son, **Private Gilbert S. Allan**, Black Watch, died of pneumonia on the 2<sup>nd</sup> inst. **Private Allan** enlisted on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1915, and was 18 months abroad. Before enlisting he was employed with **Hall, Russell Ltd.** (Aberdeen Evening Express, 12<sup>th</sup> December 1917).

Service Number: 10912.<sup>2</sup>

Black Watch (Royal Highlanders), 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1917, age 24 years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Sarigol Military Cemetery, Kriston, A. 107, Greece.<sup>2</sup>

Son of William and Margaret Allan, of 14, Fredrick Street, Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives address as 125 West North Street.

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**ALLAN, John** – Mrs Allan, 9 Justice Lane, Aberdeen, has today received official intimation of the death of her husband, **Private John Allan**, who **fell in action** on September 25. He was a reservist, and was called up at the outbreak of war. For several years he served with his regiment in India. On returning to Aberdeen he was employed in the yard of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company**, shipbuilders. **Private Allan** was home on furlough from the front six weeks ago. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 9<sup>th</sup> October 1915).

Service Number: 9376.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 25 September 1915.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 38, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

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**BEATTIE, William** – **Lance-Corporal William Beattie**, Gordons, who was **killed in action** on 31<sup>st</sup> July, was employed with **Hall, Russell and Co.** before the war. He was a son of Mrs Beattie, 57 Queen Street, Aberdeen, and was only 19 years of age. His officer writes of him that he had no better N.C.O. in the platoon. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 11<sup>th</sup> August 1917).

Service Number: 242056.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 31<sup>st</sup> July 1917, age 19-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - New Irish Farm Cemetery, XXVI. B. 6, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Margaret Beattie, of 57, Queen St., Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

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**BLAIR, John H.** – Information has been received by Mr and Mrs J. Blair, 7 Summerfield Place, that their youngest son, **Private J. H. Blair**, was **killed** in France on 14<sup>th</sup> November, 1916. He enlisted at the beginning of the war, and had been a year and seven months in France. Before enlisting he was employed with **Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.** (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 28<sup>th</sup> November 1916).

Service Number: 1546.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Army Medical Corps, 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> Highland Field Ambulance.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 14<sup>th</sup> November 1916.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - MAILLY WOOD CEMETERY, MAILLY-MAILLET, I. D. 5, France.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour confirms the above.

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**CAMERON, Ralph** – Mrs Cameron, 43 Hutcheon Street, Aberdeen, has been notified that her son, **Sapper R. Cameron**, R.E., has **died of wounds** in a casualty clearing station in France. **Sapper Cameron** joined up at the beginning of the war, and prior to enlisting he was an **apprentice engineer** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co., Aberdeen.** (Aberdeen Evening Express, 20<sup>th</sup> November 1916).

Service Number: 548.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Engineers, 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> Highland Field Company.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 15<sup>th</sup> November 1916, age 19 years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Varennes Military Cemetery, I. E. 63, France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Robert and Margaret Cameron, of 43, Hutcheon St., Aberdeen. Native of Aberlour, Strathspey.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives address as 66 Hutcheon Street, and date of death as 14<sup>th</sup> November 1916.

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**CAMPBELL, William** – **Private W. Campbell** (9982), 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Gordon Highlanders, was **killed in action** on 16<sup>th</sup> November. Campbell, who was a reservist, and was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company**, Aberdeen, was called up at the outbreak of the war. He had previously served seven years with the colours, five of which were spent in India. The widow resides at 55 Longacre, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 20<sup>th</sup> November 1914).

I couldn't find him in the CWGC website.

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour confirms the above press information.

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**CATTANACH, Andrew** – **Private Andrew Cattanach**, Gordons, son of Mrs Cattanach, 20 Schoolhill, Aberdeen, has been **killed in action**. Before enlisting he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, shipbuilders. Other two brothers, also the father, are still serving with the colours. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 16<sup>th</sup> September 1918).

Service Number: S/25081.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, "B" Company, 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 28<sup>th</sup> August 1918, age 18-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Vis-En-Artois Memorial, Panel 10, France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of David and Margaret Cattanach, of 20 Schoolhill, Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives his date of death as 26<sup>th</sup> August 1918.

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**CLARK, Peter Mckenzie** – Mrs Clark, 65 East North Street, has received official intimation that her son, **Peter McKenzie Clark**, Gordon Highlanders, who has been reported missing since 25<sup>th</sup> September, was **killed in action** on that date. He was only 18 years of age, and previous to enlisting was a **heater boy** with **Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.**, Footdee. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 1<sup>st</sup> December 1916).

Mrs R. Clark, 66 East North Street, Aberdeen, has received intimation that her son, **Private Peter McKenzie Clark**, 4<sup>th</sup> Gordons, is “missing”. Prior to enlisting **Private Clark** was a rivet-heater with **Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.** (Aberdeen Evening Express, 29<sup>th</sup> October 1915).

I couldn't find him in the CWGC website, however, he is listed in the City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour, address 65 East North Street.

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**COLLIE, William** – **Private William Collie**, Gordons, Aberdeen, has **died of wounds** received in action on 31<sup>st</sup> July. He was the eldest son of Mr and Mrs Collie, 60 Baker Street and was 31 years of age. Before joining he was a **labourer** at **Hall, Russell and Co.'s**. It was his third time at the front, and he was wounded when he entered the trenches on the last occasion. He leaves a widow and two children. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 27<sup>th</sup> August 1917).

Service Number: 200408.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 1<sup>st</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 24<sup>th</sup> August 1917, age 31-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, P. II. H. 9B, France.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives his address as 37 Loch Street.

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**DOUGLAS, William**. - **ABERDEEN MAN ON AMPHION**. – One of the stokers on the ‘Amphion’, **William Douglas**, was a son of Mr John Douglas green-keeper on the Aberdeen Links course. He was 20 years of age, and prior to joining the Navy was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell & Company's** shipbuilding yard, Aberdeen. (The Scotsman, 10<sup>th</sup> August 1914).

The Cruiser ‘**HMS Amphion**’ (3,390 tons) was built by the Pembroke Dockyard, Wales, and completed in 1913. She struck a mine off the Thames Estuary 6<sup>th</sup> August 1914 and 132 crew members were killed. **She was the first ship of the Royal Navy to be sunk in**

**the First World War.** The wreck site is designated under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986 as a Protected Place.

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**DUCK, John W.** – Seaman John W. Duck, Royal Naval Division, youngest son of Mrs Harrison, 57 Wellington Street, Aberdeen has been **killed in action**. Seaman Duck was 20 years of age, and prior to joining up was employed with **Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.**, shipbuilders, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1916).

Service Number: Clyde Z/790.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, Howe Battalion, R.N. Div.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 13<sup>th</sup> November 1916.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ancre British Cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel, I. A. 35, France.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour states DUCK, JOHN W., A.B., 58 Wellington Street, died 13<sup>th</sup> November 1916.

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**DUNCAN, John (Jack) Johnson** – Lance-Corporal John Duncan, Australians, previously reported missing, now reported **killed in action** on 16<sup>th</sup> April, 1917, was the son of Mr and Mrs Thomas Duncan, 149 Constitution Street. A younger brother, Robert, was drowned at sea on 6<sup>th</sup> July last, and an older brother was seriously wounded in November, 1916, and is still in hospital. He was 23 years of age, and a **plater's helper** at **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.** before going abroad. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 19<sup>th</sup> June 1917).

Service Number: 1931.<sup>2</sup>

Australian Infantry, A.I.F., 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 16<sup>th</sup> April 1917.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives - Australian Imperial Force.

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**FRASER, Robert** – Sergeant Robert Fraser, K.O.Y.L.I., second son of Mr and Mrs Fraser, 29 Cotton Street, has been **killed in action**. Before enlisting he was employed as an **apprentice riveter** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** A younger brother Alexander, was killed in August 1915, and three other brothers are still serving. **Sergeant R. Fraser** was well-known figure in junior football circles, and played for the Banks o' Dee. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 11<sup>th</sup> October 1918).

Service Number: 64224.<sup>2</sup>

King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 15<sup>th</sup> September 1918.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Pont-D'Achelles Military Cemetery, Nieppe, III. D. 26, France.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives Robert Fraser, Acting Sergeant. Acting normally refers to a temporary position.

**GEDDES, John** – **Private J. L. Geddes**, Gordons, son of Mr and Mrs J. Geddes, 9 Cross Street, Aberdeen, was killed in action on April 16. He was 20 years of age, and was wounded before. Prior to enlisting he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, Footdee. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 9<sup>th</sup> ay 1918).

Service Number: S/17103.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 16<sup>th</sup> April 1918, age 20-years.<sup>2</sup>

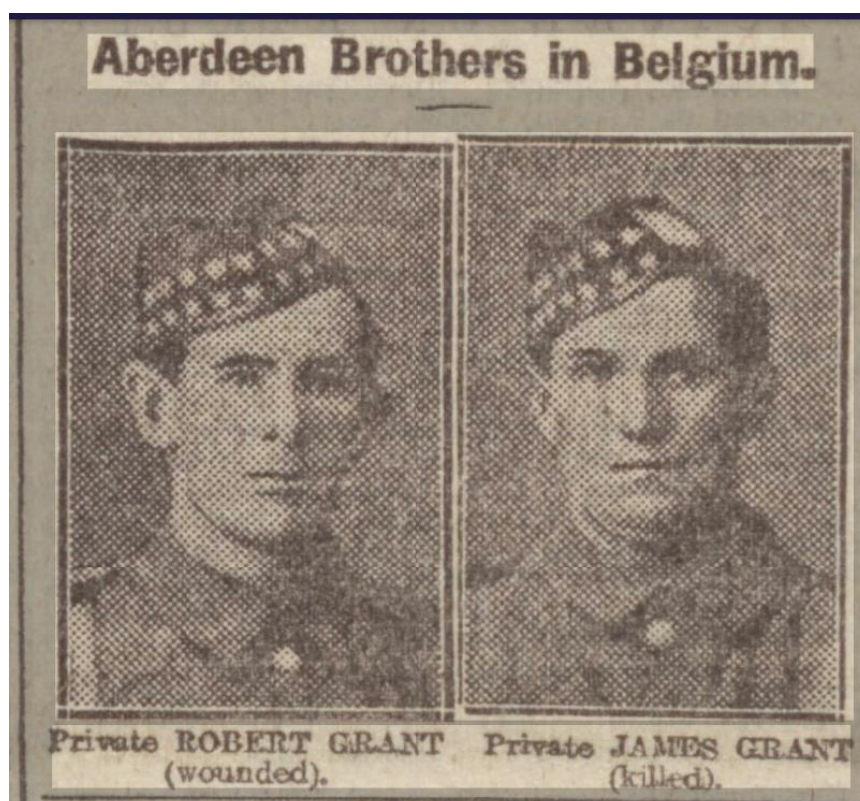
Memorial - Arras Memorial, Bay 8 and 9, France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of John and Annie Geddes, of 9, Cross St., Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour entry reads John T. Geddes.

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**GRANT, James** – Information was on Friday received in Aberdeen regarding the death of **Private James Grant** of C Company, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Gordon Highlanders. He was **wounded** on the 19<sup>th</sup> inst. at La Cleat in Belgium, and succumbed to his injuries in the field hospital there. Deceased was 30 years of age, and a widower. He resided at 18 Kidd Street, Aberdeen. Prior to his enlisting in the Gordons some months ago, he was engaged as a **steel worker** in the shipbuilding yard of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company**, Aberdeen. From Captain Alexander Lyon commanding C Company, Private Grant's mother has received a letter of sympathy in which the captain pays a high tribute to the deceased soldier. Private Robert Grant, brother of deceased and a member of the same company, was also wounded in the head at La Cleat. He is meantime residing at 31 Chapel Street, Aberdeen, and will return to the firing line a fortnight hence. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1915).



Grant Brothers. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1915).

Service Number: 2196.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders "C" Company 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 19<sup>th</sup> March 1915, age 30-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Wytschaete Military Cemetery, II. E. 1, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

Son of George and Margaret Grant, of 103, West North St., Aberdeen; husband of the late Joan Craigen Grant, of Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

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**HAY, William** – Intimation was received by his relatives in Aberdeen yesterday that **Sergeant William Hay**, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Gordon Highlanders, had been **killed in action**. **Sergeant Hay**, who was 23 years of age, belonged to Aberdeen, and before joining the Army was a **moulder** with **Hall, Russell and Co.** He served seven years with the colours, was a sergeant at Castlehill, and was well known in football circles. He had not been heard of since December 1914, and the official date of his death is given as the 14<sup>th</sup> of that month. Hay's other brother, Harry, has also been killed in action. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 12<sup>th</sup> January 1916).

Service Number: 264.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 14<sup>th</sup> December 1914.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 38, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>

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**JEFFREY, Peter** – Mrs Jeffrey, 29 South Constitution Street, Aberdeen, has been officially notified by the War Office that her son, **Private Peter Jeffrey**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Gordon Highlanders was **killed in action** on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 1914, having previously been reported missing from that date. Prior to enlisting in the Gordons, **Private Jeffrey** was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.**, shipbuilders. Other two brothers of Private Jeffrey are serving with the colours. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 21<sup>st</sup> February 1916).

Service Number: 3/5239.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1914, age 25 years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 38, Belgium.

Son of George and Mary Ann Germaine Jeffrey, of 29, South Constitution St., Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour has his date of death as 31<sup>st</sup> October 1914.

**MACDONALD, David** – **Signal Boy David MacDonald**, drowned off the ‘Iolaire’, was the son of Mr and Mrs John MacDonald, 53 Virginia Street, Aberdeen. He was 17½ years of age, and was before joining the ‘Iolaire’, was in the employment of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, as a “heater boy”. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 17<sup>th</sup> January 1919).



**Signal Boy, David MacDonald.** (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 17<sup>th</sup> January 1919).

I couldn't find him in the CWGC website.

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour describes him as a **signaller** in the Royal Naval Reserve, who died 1<sup>st</sup> January 1919.

Before the war the ‘Iolaire’ was known as the ‘Amalthea’, a luxury yacht. During WW1 it was used by the Navy for anti-submarine and patrol work. When she ran aground at Stornoway 1<sup>st</sup> January 1919, over 200 died, only 79 were saved, most of the passengers were Royal Navy Reservists who had served during WW1 and were returning home.

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**McGEE, William** – **Private William McGee**, Gordon Highlanders, aged 19 years, **killed in action**, was foster son of Mrs Neish, 37 Seamount Place, Aberdeen. Before enlisting he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company, Ltd.**, shipbuilders. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1917).

Service Number: 242098.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 17<sup>th</sup> May 1917.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial – Arras Memorial, Bay 8 and 9, France.<sup>2</sup>

His address on the City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour is 33 Seamount Place.

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**SINCLAIR, Harry** – **Private Harry Sinclair**, R.A.M.C., son of the late Mr Hendry Sinclair, blacksmith, has been **killed in action**. He was 32 years of age, and prior to enlistment resided at 56 Baker Street. He had been employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, shipbuilders. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 15<sup>th</sup> June 1917).

Service Number: 301319.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Army Medical Corps, 2<sup>nd</sup> / 1<sup>st</sup> Highland Field Ambulance.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 16<sup>th</sup> May 1917.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial – St. Nicolas British Cemetery, I. K. 11, France.<sup>2</sup>

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**STEPHEN, W.** – **Private W. Stephen**, Gordons, only son of Mrs Stephen, 12 Portland Street, has been **killed in action**. Prior to enlisting he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, as an **apprentice riveter**. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 12<sup>th</sup> August 1918).

Service Number: S/42376.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, "D" Coy. 1<sup>st</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1918, age 18-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial – Marfaux British Cemetery, V. B. 8, France.<sup>2</sup>

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**WEBB, Arthur** – According to the Aberdeen Press and Journal 14<sup>th</sup> October 1914 he was onboard the **missing and assumed lost** steam trawler ‘**Drumoak**’. He was a native of London, 25-years of age and came to Aberdeen about 5-years before. He was formerly employed by **Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.** as a **labourer**. He was married and had one child.

I could not find his name on the CWGC website nor in the City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour. The steam trawler the ‘**Drumoak**’ was part of the Royal Naval Reserve and was requisitioned by the Admiralty and converted to a minesweeper. Ironically, she sank after hitting a British mine on 5<sup>th</sup> October 1914.

The steam trawler ‘**Drumoak**’ (208 tons) was built by **Alexander Hall & Co.**, in 1902.

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**WEBSTER, William** – **Lance-Corporal William Webster**, Gordon Highlanders, son of Mr G. Webster, 113 Gerrard Street, Aberdeen, was **killed in action** on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Prior to enlisting, on the outbreak of war, he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 11<sup>th</sup> May 1917).

Gordon Highlanders, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1917, age 20-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial – Arras Memorial, bay 8 and 9, France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of George and Mary Webster, of 113, Gerrard Street, Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives address as 17 Jack's Brae.

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**WRIGHT, David** – Mrs Wright, 16 Links Street, Aberdeen, has received intimation of the **death from wounds** received at the front at Boulogne, of her son, **Private David Wright**, of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Scottish Rifles. Deceased, who was only 25 years of age, was formerly employed as a **borer** in the shipbuilding yard of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company**. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 27<sup>th</sup> March 1915).

Service Number: 10014.<sup>2</sup>

Cameronians (Scottish Rifles), "D" Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 12<sup>th</sup> March 1915, age 25-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial – Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, III. D. 3, France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of William and Anna Bella Wright, of 6 Links Street, Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour gives address as 83 Guestrow.



## Abbreviations.

A. B.	Able Seaman.
C.S.M.	Company Sergeant Major.
CWGC	Commonwealth War Graves Commission.
H.L.I.	Highland Light Infantry.
K.O.Y.L.I.	Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.
N.C.O.	Non-Commissioned Officer.
R.A.M.C	Royal Army Medical Corps.
R.E.	Royal Engineers.
R.F.A.	Royal Field Artillery.

## Bibliography

- 1 City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour.
- 2 Commonwealth War Graves Commission.
- 3 Many press articles as mentioned within the text.

## Websites

- 1 [www.electricscotland.com](http://www.electricscotland.com)
- 2 [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org)
- 3 [www.everyoneremembered.org](http://www.everyoneremembered.org)
- 4 [www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)
- 5 [www.astreetnearyou.org](http://www.astreetnearyou.org)
- 6 [www.researchingww1.co.uk](http://www.researchingww1.co.uk)
- 7 [www.greatwar.co.uk](http://www.greatwar.co.uk)
- 8 [www.gordonhighlanders.com](http://www.gordonhighlanders.com)

## Appendix A

### Wounded.

The following names are of the wounded former employees of **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.**, shipbuilders that I found in the local newspapers. Please don't consider this as an extensive list as there may be more.

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**ALLAN, J. – Sapper J. Allan**, Royal Engineers, who has been **wounded**, was an apprentice shipwright with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** before the war. His father resides at The Angle, Castle Terrace, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 26<sup>th</sup> April 1918).

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**ANNAND, A. - Gassed. Driver A. Annand**, R.F.A. (gassed) is a son of Mr and Mrs Annand, 19 Cotton Street. Prior to enlistment he was an **apprentice plater** with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.** His wife resides at 10 Gilcomston Park. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 6<sup>th</sup> September 1918).

I couldn't find him in the CWGC website nor on the City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour, perhaps he survived.

There is a **Thomas Annand** on the **Hall, Russell Memorial Tablet**, whose parents lived at the same address, so he may be his brother.

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**BLAIKIE, James – Private James Blaikie**, Aberdeen, Gordon Highlanders, has been wounded. Before joining he was a **moulder** with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Company**, shipbuilders. He is a son of Mrs Blaikie, 5 Schoolhill. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 27<sup>th</sup> April 1917).

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**BARRIE, Brodie.** – Information has been received by his relatives in Aberdeen that **A.B. Brodie Barrie**, R.N.D., was **wounded for the third time** on 25<sup>th</sup> February. Barrie was a blacksmith in the employment of **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.** before going on active service; and his relatives reside at 44 Jasmine Terrace, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 21<sup>st</sup> March 1918).

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**BRAND, T. S.** – Mrs Brand, 12 Hanover Street, Aberdeen, has been notified that her husband, **Private T. S. Brand**, 4<sup>th</sup> Gordons, has been **wounded** at the front and is now in a stationary hospital at St Omer. **Private Brand** was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, shipbuilders, prior to joining the Gordons. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 9<sup>th</sup> July 1915).

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**CLARK, Harry** – Private Harry Clark, London Scottish, son of Mrs Clark, 53 Guestrow, Aberdeen, has been wounded and is now in hospital in France. Before enlisting he was an **engineer** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co., Aberdeen**. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 1<sup>st</sup> July 1918).

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**CRAIB, Andrew** – Gunner Andrew Craib, Tank Corps, second son of Mrs Craib, 425 Holburn Street, Aberdeen, has been **wounded for the fifth time**, and is at present in hospital. In a letter from a member of the hospital staff it is stated that his left foot has had to be amputated. Before enlisting Gunner Craib was employed as a **labourer** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company**. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 4<sup>th</sup> December 1917).

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**DEAN, George, C.** – Sapper George C. Dean, R.E., Signaller, has been **wounded**, and admitted to a hospital at the base. **Sapper Dean** was mobilised at the beginning of the war, and was an **apprentice engineer** with **Hall, Russell and Co.** He is a son of Mr J. L. Dean, plumber, 32 Stanley Street, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 5<sup>th</sup> April 1918).

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**DEAN, James, L.** – Private James L. Deans, Royal Scots (**gassed**) is a son of Mr J. L. Dean, plumber, Queen Street. He was an apprentice engineer with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** His elder brother was wounded on 21<sup>st</sup> March. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 31<sup>st</sup> May 1918).

I have James Dean in this section, because I did not find his name in the CWGC website nor did I find it in the City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour, so he may have survived being gassed, although reading the press article my initial thoughts were that he had died.

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**DUFF, G.** – Sapper G. Duff, Royal Engineers, whose wife resides at 52 Constitution Street, Aberdeen, has been **wounded**, and is in hospital at Dundee. An **angle ironsmith** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, he enlisted in April 1915, and shortly afterwards went to the front. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 11<sup>th</sup> August 1916).

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**ELDRICK, Charles** – Gunner Charles Eldrick, R.G.A., who has been **gassed**, was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** before the war. His wife resides at 35 Park Street, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 20<sup>th</sup> April 1918).

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**ESSON, R.** – Sergeant R. Esson, R.G.A., has been **wounded** in the left hand, face and legs. Before mobilisation he was employed with **Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.** He is the son of the late David Paterson Esson, and of Mrs Esson, 50 Urquhart Road, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 13<sup>th</sup> September 1918).

See also article in my 'Military Medal' appendix.

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**FALCONER, J.** – Word has reached his relations in Aberdeen that **Lance-Corporal J. Falconer**, Highland Field Co., Royal Engineers, was **wounded** the other day in action at the front. The Lance-Corporal resides at 58 Urquhart Road, Aberdeen, and before the outbreak of war was an **apprentice moulder** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** Quite recently he was commended for conspicuous bravery in the field. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 20<sup>th</sup> November 1916).

**Aberdeen Sapper's Gallant Action.** – **Sapper J. W. Falconer**, 1/2<sup>nd</sup> Highland Field Company, R.E. has been informed by the officer commanding the 7<sup>TH</sup> Division that he has distinguished himself by conspicuous bravery in the field generally, and that his gallant action is recognised and greatly appreciated. **Sapper Falconer** resides at 88 Urquhart Road, Aberdeen, and previous to the outbreak of the war was an **apprentice moulder** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company.** (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1915).

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**FISHER, J.** – Information has been received that **Private J. Fisher**, Gordon Highlanders, has been wounded, and lies in hospital in Kent. This is the second time he has been **wounded**. Prior to joining the Army, **Private Fisher** was employed by **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co., Limited**, and resided with his sister, Mrs Robertson, at 31 Park Road, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1916).

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**FOREMAN, J.** – **Driver J. Foreman**, R.F.A., son of Mrs Foreman, 52 Virginia Street, has been **wounded**. Mobilised at the beginning of the war he was previous to that, an **apprentice plater** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 9<sup>th</sup> August 1918).

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**GARIOCH, E. M.** – **Bombardier E. M. Garioch**, R.G.A., who has been **wounded**, is the son of Mrs Garioch, 44A Powis Place. He is 19 years of age, and at the outbreak of war was employed with **Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Evening Express, 31<sup>st</sup> October 1917).

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**LEES, J.** – **Driver, Private J. Lees**, R.F.A., son of Mrs Lees, 27 Urquhart Road, has been **wounded in action**. Mobilised at the beginning of the war, he was prior to that an **apprentice engineer** with **Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 6<sup>th</sup> August 1918).

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**GIBBONS, Ben J.** – **Staff-Sergeant-Major Ben J. Gibbons** has been **wounded**. He is a son of Mr Ben J. Gibbons, late superintendent of the Aberdeen Sailors' Home and was a **joiner** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** before leaving Aberdeen for Belfast. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 27<sup>th</sup> April 1917).

**GOLDIE, R.** – Mrs Goldie, 28 Frederick Street, Aberdeen, has been notified that her husband, **Private R. Goldie**, Gordon Highlanders, has been admitted to hospital suffering from **wounds received in action**. Before enlisting **Private Goldie** was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1916).

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**GUYAN, J.** – News has been received that **Private J. Guyan**, of the 4<sup>th</sup> Gordon Highlanders, has been admitted to the General Hospital at Boulogne **suffering from illness**. He was previously in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion of the Gordon Highlanders, and on the outbreak of war was employed in the shipbuilding yard of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, Footdee. He resided at 5 Garvock Street. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 8<sup>th</sup> June 1915).

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**GUYAN, Walter.** – Mr Walter Guyan, fish market porter, 54½ East North Street, Aberdeen, yesterday received information that his son, **Private Walter Guyan**, of the 1<sup>st</sup> Gordon Highlanders, had been shot in the left arm by a German sniper in France, and now lies in hospital in England. **This is the third occasion on which this gallant Gordon has been wounded**. Prior to enlisting he was employed in the shipbuilding yard of **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.**, Aberdeen. **Private Guyan's** brother is serving with the R.F.A. in France. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 8<sup>th</sup> March 1916).

**Private Walter Guyan**, Gordon Highlanders, eldest son of Mr Walter Guyan, Fish Market Porter, 54 East North Street, has been **wounded for the sixth time**. He was previously employed as a labourer with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, Aberdeen. A brother is serving with the Navy. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1918).

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**LYON, Walter.** – **Private Walter Lyon**, Gordons, eldest son of Mr Lyon, Fish Market porter, 54 East North Street, has been **wounded in action**. Enlisting at the beginning of the war, he was previously employed as a labourer with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, Aberdeen. A brother is serving in the Navy.

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**McINTOSH, A.** – **Lance Corporal A. McIntosh**, Gordons, who has been wounded, was a **labourer** with **Hall, Russell and Co.** before the war. His wife resides at 2 Blairton Lane (late of 53 Longacre). **He has been three times wounded and once gassed**. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 28<sup>th</sup> March 1918).

**Private A. McIntosh**, Gordon Highlanders, who has been **wounded for the third time**, was employed with **Hall, Russell and Co.**, before enlisting at the outbreak of war. His wife resides at 53 Longacre, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 4<sup>th</sup> September 1917).

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**MITCHELL, J.** – Mrs E. Gaiters, 179 West North Street, has been notified that her son, **Private J. Mitchell**, 1/4<sup>th</sup> Gordon Highlanders, has been **wounded** on the right leg. Before the outbreak of the war, he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 12<sup>th</sup> October 1915).

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**MORRISON, James D.** – **James D. Morrison**, 1/2<sup>nd</sup> Highland Field Company, R.E., has been **gassed** and is in hospital in France. He is the son of Mr James Morrice, fish porter, 18 Links Street, Aberdeen. Before the war he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, as a **riveter**. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 5<sup>th</sup> October 1915).

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**PATTON, John.** – **Private John Patton (M.G.C.)**, eldest son of Mr John Patton, 41 Powis Place, Aberdeen, has been **wounded**. Before enlisting he was a **driller** at **Hall, Russell and Co.'s**, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 29<sup>th</sup> March 1918).

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**RIACH, Norman McLeod.** - **Private Norman McLeod Riach**, Seaforth Highlanders, son of Mr and Mrs Joseph Riach, 14 Roslin Street, has been **wounded**. He was an **apprentice boilermaker** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 19<sup>th</sup> April 1918).

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**ROBB, Alexander** – **Corporal Alexander Robb**, Seaforth's, **wounded for the third time**, is the husband of Mrs Robb, 17 Seamount Place, Aberdeen. Before Mobilising with the Territorials, he was employed by **Hall, Russell and Company**. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 30<sup>th</sup> May 1918).

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**ROBERTSON, C. H.** – **Private C. H. Robertson**, Scottish Horse, attached to the Black Watch, has been **wounded for the second time**. **Private Robertson** is a son of Mrs Robertson, 10 Watson Street, Aberdeen, and before the war was an **engineer** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 8<sup>th</sup> November 1918).

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**ROBSON, Ben.** – **Lance-Corporal Ben Robson**, son of Mr Robson, 25 St Clement Street, has been **wounded in action**, and is now in an English hospital. Before being mobilised **Lance-Corporal Robson** was an **apprentice moulder** with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.**, Footdee. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1918).

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**SANGSTER, Walter.** – Mrs Sangster, 13 Roslin Street, Aberdeen, has received notice that her son, **Sapper Walter Sangster**, Royal Engineers, has been **wounded by shrapnel** in the knee and now lies in hospital. **Sapper Sangster** was an old Territorial,

and before joining up was an **apprentice joiner** with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.** (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 24<sup>th</sup> November 1916).

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**SINCLAIR, George** – **Sergeant George Sinclair**, Canadian Scottish, son of Mr John Sinclair, 138 Victoria Road, Torry, has been **wounded for the second time**. He served his apprenticeship with **Messrs Hall, Russell**, Aberdeen, and later went to Canada, where he enlisted in 1915. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1918).

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**SMART, W.** – **Driver W. Smart** has been admitted into hospital suffering from **shrapnel wounds**. He is the eldest son of Mr and Mrs W. Smart, 4 Colville Place, Aberdeen, and prior to enlisting was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.** as a **riveter**. Two brothers are also serving. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 13<sup>th</sup> November 1918).

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**SMITH, J.** – **Private J. Smith**, Seaforth Highlanders, has been **wounded**. Before enlisting he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, and his wife resides at 44a Castle Street. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 5<sup>th</sup> April 1918).

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**SMITH, James** – **CITY FOOTBALLER WOUNDED**. **Lance-Corporal James Smith**, 12<sup>th</sup> H.L.I., whose home is at 18 Ashvale Place, Aberdeen, and whose father, Private F. Smith is serving at a home station with the 4<sup>th</sup> Gordons, has been **wounded** in Flanders. Joining the colours about fifteen months ago, he went to the front last autumn, and after a furlough at home returned to the field exactly a month ago. He was wounded on 8<sup>th</sup> February. Employed in the **boiler shop** at **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, he was one of the best-known junior footballers in the city, playing right half-back with the Favourites. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 15<sup>th</sup> February 1916).

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**SOUTER, Robert.** – **Private Robert Soutar**, of the Machin-gun Section of the 1/4<sup>th</sup> Gordon Highlanders, has been **wounded in action**. He is a son of Mr George Soutar, tailor and hatter, St Nicholas Street, and previous to the outbreak of war was finishing his **apprenticeship** as an **engineer** with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Company**. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 28<sup>th</sup> September 1915).

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**STEPHEN, Douglas** – Mrs Stephen, 40 Blackfriars Street, Aberdeen, has received word that her son, **Corporal Douglas Stephen**, Royal Engineers, has been **wounded**. He has been on active service in France since 1<sup>st</sup> January 1915, and prior to that was an apprentice engineer with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, Footdee. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 29<sup>th</sup> March 1918).

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**STOPPER, J.** – **Private J. Stopper**, Gordons, who has been **wounded**, was employed with **Hall, Russell and Co.** before the war. He is the son of Mrs Stopper, 58 Castle Street, and his father, Lance-Corporal John Stopper, is also in hospital through wounds. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 26<sup>th</sup> April 1918).

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**THOMPSON, Alexander F.** – **Private Alexander Thompson, R.A.M.C.**, who has been **wounded**, was in the employment of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** before the war. His Mother resides at 12 Marischal Street, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 19<sup>th</sup> April 1918).

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**WALKER, George** – Information has been received by Mrs Walker, 13 Shoe Lane, Aberdeen, that her son, **Private George Walker**, Highland Field Ambulance, was **wounded** on 23<sup>rd</sup> July. **Private Walker** has been in France for 15 months and before the outbreak of war he was employed as an **apprentice riveter** at **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company's** shipbuilding yard, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1916).

**MISSING, Private George Walker, R.A.M.C.**, is reported missing since 25<sup>th</sup> April. He was **wounded for the second time** on 22<sup>nd</sup> March. His wife resides at 9 Short Loanings. He is the eldest son of Mr A. Walker, R.N.D., and Mrs Walker, 13 Shore Lane. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 24<sup>th</sup> May 1918).

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**WALKER, William** – **Lance-Corporal, William Walker**, Gordon Highlanders, who is reported **wounded**, is a son of Mrs Walker, 3 Belmont Road, Aberdeen. He was formerly an **apprentice engineer** with **Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 4<sup>th</sup> November 1918).

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**WEBSTER, W. H.** – Information has been received by Mrs Webster, 17 Jack's Brae, Aberdeen, that her son, **Private W. H. Webster**, 1/4<sup>th</sup> Gordons, was admitted to Camiers Hospital on October 17, suffering from **gunshot wounds** in the right arm and right thigh. **Private Webster**, who was a Territorial before the outbreak of war, has been at the front since February. Previous to enlistment he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Evening Express, 5<sup>th</sup> November 1915).

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**WILKIE, William** – **Private William Wilkie**, 81 Urquhart Road, Aberdeen, **wounded** in the recent fighting, was employed prior to the war as a **moulder** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** Enlisting after the outbreak of war, he went to France a short time ago. He is a nephew of ex-Baillie Wilkie, Woodside.

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**WILSON, A.** – Mr J. Wilson, 30 Marischal Street, Aberdeen, has been notified that **Lance-Corporal A. Wilson**, his son, 22 years of age, has been **wounded** in France. He was connected with the machine gun section of the Gordons, and previous to joining the army about a year ago he was a ship carpenter in the employment of **Hall, Russell and Co.**, shipbuilders, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 11<sup>th</sup> July 1916).



*A couple of cheery Gordon Highlanders. (Gun Fire magazine No. 43, 1914).*

## Appendix B

### Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) Awards.



*Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM).*

The Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) was the second highest award for gallantry after the Victoria Cross. During World War 1, it was awarded to non-commissioned officers and soldiers for acts of exceptional distinguished conduct in the field. The medal was awarded between 4<sup>th</sup> December 1854 and 1993.

**DUNCAN, James** – Fitter-Sergeant James Duncan, R.F.A., son of Mrs David Duncan, 3 Hawthorn Terrace, Aberdeen, has been awarded the **D.C.M.** Previous to enlistment at the outbreak of war he was an **apprentice engineer** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co., Aberdeen.** (Aberdeen Evening Express, 27<sup>th</sup> June 1918).

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**British War Medal** – WW1 Campaign Medal, awarded for at least 28 days service (or less if killed) during 5<sup>th</sup> August 1914 to 11<sup>th</sup> November 1918. King George V on front and on the reverse, Saint George naked on horseback armed with a short sword. (Silver).

**Victory Medal** – Also awarded as above, to most who received the British War Medal. Winged figure of Victory on front. The Great War for Civilisation 1914-1919 reverse (Bronze).



## Appendix C

### Military Medal (MM) Awards.



*King George V, WW1 Military Medal (MM).*

The Military Medal (MM) was instituted during World War 1 as an alternative and lower award to the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM).

**ALLAN, William. – Gallant City Soldier. Private William Allan, R.A.M.C.,** son of Mr and Mrs Allan, Castle Terrace, Aberdeen, and a brother of Mr Allan, Fraserburgh Beach “Rescue” has been awarded the ‘**Military Medal**’ for gallantry. **Private Allan**, who was employed as an **apprentice riveter** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.**, shipbuilders, Aberdeen, before enlisting, had earned a high reputation in the city as a life-saver, having effected several gallant rescues of people from drowning. The last of his heroic actions happened just before war broke out in August 1914., when he, curiously enough saved the life of a German who had jumped into the river Dee to save a boy, but in the attempt got into difficulties. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 29<sup>th</sup> August 1917).



**Private William Allan.**  
(Aberdeen Evening Express, 29<sup>th</sup> August 1917).

He was wounded on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1917. His mother resides at 20 Castle Terrace. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 27<sup>th</sup> August 1917).

**BROWN, John. – Q.-M. Sergeant, John Brown**, R.A.M.C., third son of Mr Joseph Brown, plumber, 51a Chapel Street, has been awarded the **‘Military Medal’** for gallantry on the field in France. He has been at the front over three years and was formerly employed with **Hall, Russell & Co.**, shipbuilders, Aberdeen, as a **brass-finisher**. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 14<sup>th</sup> June 1918).

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**ESSON, Richard. – Sergeant Richard Esson**, R.G.A., who has been awarded the **‘Military Medal’** for gallantry in the field, has been in France for over two years, and before mobilisation was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.**, shipbuilders. He is the second son of the late Mr David P. Esson, **boilermaker**, and of Mrs Esson, 50 Urquhart Road, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 12<sup>th</sup> June 1918).

See also article in the wounded section.

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**HARCUS, Alexander. – To Receive Military Medal.** **Gunner Alexander Harcus** is to receive the **‘Military Medal’** in recognition of distinguished gallantry in the field. **Gunner Harcus** is married and his wife resides at 154 Wellington Road, Aberdeen. Before the war he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.** (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 21<sup>st</sup> September 1917).



**Alexander Harcus.**  
(AWJ, 21 Sept 1917)

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**ROSE, William** – Posthumous Award of M.M. Mr Charles Rose, 43 Commerce Steet, Aberdeen, has received the **‘Military Medal’** gained by his son the late **Private William Rose (“Buck”)**, R.A.M.C. **Private Rose** was killed on the 28<sup>th</sup> April of this year, and had been at the front since the outbreak of war. Before he was called up, he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** as a **riveter**. The medal was awarded to him for gallantry on the Somme. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal - Friday 30 November 1917).

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**THOM, James. – Private James Thom**, R.A.M.C., has gained the **‘Military Medal’** for distinguished conduct on the battlefield. **Private Thom**, who is the son of Mr and Mrs Thom, 98 John Street, Aberdeen, served in the Gallipoli campaign. Before enlisting, he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.** as an **apprentice riveter**. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 13<sup>th</sup> November 1918).

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**MELDRUM, H. – Private H. Meldrum**, Gordons, youngest son of the late Mr Peter Meldrum and Mrs Meldrum, 9 Princes Street, Aberdeen, has been awarded the ‘**Military Medal**’ for gallantry in the field. Prior to enlisting he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** engineers, Aberdeen. **Private Meldrum** is only 29 years Of age. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1918).

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**TREASURER, John – Corporal John Treasurer**, Canadians, has been awarded the ‘**Military Medal**’ for bravery under heavy shell fire. He was wounded on the leg August 15. Previous to going to Canada in 1914, he was employed at **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** His brother resides at 49 Wellington Street. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 25<sup>th</sup> October 1918).

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**WILSON, W. T. – Lance-Corporal W. T. Wilson**, Signal Company Royal Engineers (R.E.) has been awarded the ‘**Military Medal**’ for his gallantry in the field. He is the eldest son of Mr and Mrs W. Wilson, 15 Summerfield Terrace, Aberdeen, and has been with the Aberdeen Territorial R.E. since the commencement of the war, when he was mobilised. Before the war he was a fitter with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Co.** (Aberdeen Evening Express, 18<sup>th</sup> May 1918).



*Typical Sweetheart postcard sent from France during WW1.*

## Appendix D

### Prisoners of War.



*Most of the men depicted in the above group of prisoners of war interned at Friedrichsfeld, Wesel, Germany, hail from Bonnie Scotland. The photo was sent by **Private David Rough**, 4<sup>th</sup> Gordons. He resided at 69 Park Street, Aberdeen, and before the war was engaged as a **hammerman** with **Hall, Russell, and Co., Ltd.** **Private Rough** is the fourth figure from the left in the back row. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 1916).*

**CARROLL, James** – **Private James Carroll**, Gordon Highlanders, son of Mr P. Carroll, 23 Cotton Street, is a **prisoner of war** in Germany. He was in the employ of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** as a **moulder**. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 18<sup>th</sup> June 1918).

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**PETRIE, James** – **Private James Petrie**, Black Watch, is reported a **prisoner of war**. His father resides at 10 Yeats Lane, Aberdeen. Prior to joining up he was employed with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1918).

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**ROUGH, Alfred** – Mrs Horne, 69 Park Street, Aberdeen, has received official intimation that her son, **Private Alfred Rough**, R.A.M.C., has been missing since March 21, and is believed to be a **prisoner of war**. Before enlisting he was in the employment of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, as a **hammerman**. Another son was taken prisoner at the battle of Loos. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 26<sup>th</sup> April 1918).

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**SMITH, James – Lance-Corporal James Smith**, Gordon Highlanders, posted missing on 11<sup>th</sup> April, is a **prisoner of war** in Germany. A son of Mrs Smith, 4 Deer Road, Woodside, **Corporal Smith**, before enlisting, was an **engineer** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company**. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 4<sup>th</sup> June 1918).

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**TROUP, John – GARMOUTH.** – Mr and Mrs Troup, Station House, Garmouth, have received a postcard from their son, **Sergeant John Troup**, Seaforth's, saying he is a **prisoner of war** and unwounded. He was an engineer with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 21<sup>st</sup> June 1918).

**MISSING. GARMOUTH.** – **Sergeant, John Troup**, Seaforth's, son of Mr William Troup, stationmaster, Garmouth, is **reported missing**. **He has been wounded twice**. Before joining up he was an **apprentice engineer** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 31<sup>st</sup> May 1918).

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**WALKER, George – Private George Walker**, R.A.M.C., missing since 25<sup>th</sup> April, is now reported a **prisoner of war** in Germany. His wife resides at 9 Short Loanings. He is the eldest son of A.B. Alexander Walker, R.N.D., and Mrs Walker, 13 Shoe Lane, and before the outbreak of war was an apprentice riveter with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, shipbuilders, Aberdeen. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 28<sup>th</sup> June 1918).

## Appendix E

### Reported Missing.

I found the following articles in the local press. The names of these men are not on the City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour, so based on this, although reported as 'missing' in the local press, I assume they must have survived.

**CARROL, James S.** – **Private James S. Carrol**, Gordons, son of Mrs Peter Carrol, 23 Cotton Street, Aberdeen, is reported missing. Before enlisting he was employed as an **apprentice moulder** with **Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 10<sup>th</sup> May 1918).

He was taken as a **prisoner of war** – see my appendix on prisoners of war.

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**SKENE, Harry** – Mrs Skene, 25 Princes Street, Aberdeen, has received official intimation that her son, **Gunner Harry Skene**, R.F.A., has been **missing** since May 27. Before enlisting he was employed with **Hall, Russell and Company**. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 8<sup>th</sup> July 1918).

His name doesn't appear in the City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour, nor on the CWGC website, so I assume he survived.

## Appendix F

### Other Former Hall, Russell Employees who Died during WW1.

The following list of men, are those who I found articles for in the local press where it mentioned that they at one time, not immediately prior to going to war, but formerly worked at **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** Please don't treat as an extensive list, as it is more than likely that there are many more who served and were former employees.

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**BLAIKIE, James** – Mr and Mrs Blackie, 5 Schoolhill, Aberdeen, have received word that their son, **Lance-Corporal James Blaikie**, Gordons, was **killed** on April 16. Before joining up he was a **moulder** with **Hall, Russell and Co.**, and later on was acting as a postman at the General Post Office. He was over two years with the colours. Other two brothers are serving in France. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 26<sup>th</sup> April 1918).

Service Number: S/11413.<sup>2</sup>

Gordon Highlanders, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 15<sup>th</sup> April 1918.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial – Chocques Military Cemetery, III. C. 2, France.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour has his name spelt as Blaikie (The above press article had it as Blackie), and date of death as 15<sup>th</sup> April 1916, same date in CWGC website.

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**COUSINS, Andrew Auld** – **Private Andrew Auld Cousins**, Canadians, the fifth son of Mr James Cousins, boilermaker, 23 Park Street, has **fallen in action**. He was 25 years of age, and a **boilermaker** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, before going to Canada six years ago. He enlisted about 18 months ago, and went to the front in January. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1917).

Service Number: 690826.<sup>2</sup>

Canadian Infantry, 52<sup>nd</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 20<sup>th</sup> July 1917, age 25-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial – La Chaudiere Military Cemetery, Vimy, IV. E. 6, France.<sup>2</sup>

He is included in the City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour, with address as 7 Williams' Square, Footdee.

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**COUTTS, William** – **Private William Coutts**, London Scottish eldest son of Mr and Mrs Francis Coutts, 280 Great Western Road, Aberdeen, who was reported missing, is now officially reported as having been **killed** on July 1. Private Coutts, who was 34 years of age was educated at Gordon's College, and served his **apprenticeship** as an **engineer** with the firm of **Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.**, shipbuilders. After being several years at sea, he was engaged as an assistant with the late James Laing M.I.N.A.,



Aberdeen. At the time of the outbreak of war he was carrying on business as a consulting engineer and ship surveyor in London. Joining the London Scottish in 1915, he went to France in the following February. He was an associate member of the Institution of Naval Architects, London. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 13<sup>th</sup> April 1917).

Service Number: 5645.<sup>2</sup>

London Regiment (London Scottish), 1<sup>st</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916, age 34-years.

Memorial – Thiepval Memorial, Pier and Face 9 C and 13 C, France.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Francis and Elizabeth Coutts, of 280, Great Western Rd., Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

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**ELRICK, James – Sapper James Elrick**, Royal Engineers, who **died** at a general hospital abroad on the 21<sup>st</sup> curt., was the youngest son of Mrs Elrick and of the late Mr James Elrick, 7 Baltic Street, Aberdeen. He was 28 years of age, and served his **apprenticeship** as a **brass moulder** with **Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.** Before joining the Army in 1914 he was employed in Paisley. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 25<sup>th</sup> January 1918).

Service Number: 408145.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Engineers, 95<sup>th</sup> Field Company.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 21<sup>st</sup> January 1918, age 28-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial – Staglieno Cemetery, Genoa, I. A. 19, Italy.<sup>2</sup>

Son of James and Elspeth Elrick, of Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

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**LEGGE, G.** – Miss Kelman, Adelphi House, 51 Union Street, has received intimation of the death of **Private G. Legge**, Cheshire Regiment. **Private Legge** was **killed** on the 7<sup>th</sup> inst. at the front. Prior to joining up, he had been employed as a news-vendor, but before that had been engaged in the yard of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.** (Aberdeen Evening Express, 13<sup>th</sup> September 1916).

Service Number: 20793.<sup>2</sup>

Cheshire Regiment, 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 7<sup>th</sup> September 1916.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial – Faubourg D'amiens Cemetery, Arras, I. F. 60, France.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour incorrectly gives his date of death as August 1916.

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**McINTOSH, John – John McIntosh**, R.N.R., the youngest son of the late Mr James McIntosh, gas worker, 5 Baltic Street, Aberdeen, has **died from wounds** received in action at sea. He was 29 years of age, and from boyhood until he entered H.M. service on mine-sweepers two years ago he was engaged as a **holder-on** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, amongst whose employees he was well known. Two older brothers are also serving on mine-sweepers. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 15<sup>th</sup> June 1917).

Service Number: 2053/TS.<sup>2</sup>

Trimmer in the Royal Naval Reserve, H.M. Trawler '**Carew Castle**'.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 13<sup>th</sup> June 1917, age 29-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Aberdeen (St. Peter's) Cemetery, W.D. 32. 12.<sup>2</sup>

The City of Aberdeen Roll of Honour has address as 5 Williams' Square, Footdee.

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**SELLAR, Thomas H.** – Died at Newport News, USA, on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1918, **Thomas H. Sellar** (late of **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.**) seventh engineer, T.S.S. '**Transport**' – third son of Mr and Mrs Sellar, Kirkton Cottage, Nigg, aged 25 years. (Aberdeen Evening Express, 14<sup>th</sup> September 1918).

I couldn't find him in the CWGC website, I presume he was therefore in the Merchant Navy. Newport News on the Virginia Peninsula was established by the US Army as Hampton Roads, Port of Embarkation during WW1, and in August 1918 alone, 46,130 men left the port aboard 32 vessels bound for France.

I also presume the vessel he sailed on had another name other than '**Transport**', The name was likely censored due to the war.

*T.S.S. - Turbine Steam Ship.*

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**SUTHERLAND, William** – Information has been received that **Leading Stoker William Sutherland**, who was on board '**H.M.S. Queen Mary**', was **killed** in the Jutland Battle. He was the husband of Mrs Sutherland, Glenury Cottages, Stonehaven, by whom and one child he is survived. His mother resides at 29 Frederick Street, Aberdeen. **Stoker Sutherland** was in the Naval Reserve and was called up on the outbreak of hostilities. For two years before being called up he was employed in a distillery in Stonehaven, but for a long time he worked in the paint shop of **Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.**, shipbuilders, Aberdeen. He was a prominent member of the Highland Brigade Royal Field Artillery Band. (Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1916).

Service Number: 1007U.<sup>2</sup>

Royal Naval Reserve, served as leading stoker on **H.M.S. 'Queen Mary'**.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 31<sup>st</sup> May 1916, age 43-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Portsmouth Naval Memorial, 23.<sup>2</sup>

**SWAPP, John** – **John Swapp, marine engineer**, son of Mr Alexander Swapp, 37 Stanley Street, has been **lost at sea**. He served his **apprenticeship** with **Hall, Russell and Co.**, engineers. (Aberdeen Press and Journal, 16<sup>th</sup> May 1917).

Served in the Mercant Navy, as Third Engineer on the vessel S.S. '**Jose de Larrinaga**' (Liverpool).

Died: 28<sup>th</sup> April 1917, age 30-years.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Tower Hill Memorial, London, UK.<sup>2</sup>

Son of Alexander and Helen Swapp of 37, Stanley St., Aberdeen. Born at Aberdeen.<sup>2</sup>

**WOOD, Alexander – CITY TERRITORIALS KILLED IN ACTION, Two 4<sup>th</sup> Gordons Fall. FIRST TO MEET DEATH ON BATTLEFIELD. Letter from Colonel Ogilvie.** (Aberdeen Evening Express, 15<sup>th</sup> March 1915).



*Private Alex. Wood and Private John Smith.  
(Aberdeen Evening Express, 15<sup>th</sup> March 1915).*

Deep regret will be felt in the city of Aberdeen at the sad news we publish today of the death at the front of two privates in the 4<sup>th</sup> Gordon Highlanders – one killed outright by a shell splinter, and the other dying in hospital from a bullet wound. These are **the first of the City of Aberdeen Territorials to meet death on the battlefield** at the hands of the enemy, and their names:

**Private ALEXANDER WOOD** (a holder-on at **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.**), and

Private JOHN SMITH (apprentice stone-cutter at Balmoral Granite Works),

will head the roll of honour of City Territorials killed in action in the Great War. Both the young men had passed safely through the ordeal of serving in the trenches and were back in the reserve line when they received their fatal wounds.

**Colonel Ogilvie's Letters.** Lieut.-Colonel Ogilvie, the officer commanding the battalion, conveyed the intelligence of **Private Wood's** death to the young man's father, Mr John Wood, tailor, 2 Spring Garden, Aberdeen, in a letter in the following terms: -

My dear sir, - I am very vexed, indeed, to have bad news to give you. Your son was killed last night by shell-fire while in reserve. He had been in the trenches two nights, and in the reserve one night, and while standing preparing some food on a brazier in an old farmhouse he was killed by a splinter of a shell, which went through his heart. I feel very sorry for you all, and can only send you my sympathy. This is our first loss from actual fire. Of course, we cannot expect to come through the war without many such casualties. One consolation you have is that your son was a good soldier, and that he died doing his duty for his country. May you receive strength to go on without him from Him who alone can help in time of need, - Yours very sincerely. T. OGILVIE, Lieut.-Colonel.

**Private Wood**, who was 23 years of age, joined the 4<sup>th</sup> Gordons four years ago, his period of service being completed last month. When called up he was as keen as any member of the battalion. **Private Wood** was a “**holder-on**” in the shipbuilding yard of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company, Ltd.**, Footdee. Besides his experience in the Aberdeen shipbuilding yard. **Mr Wood** had been in English shipbuilding yards at Jarrow-on-Tyne and Hebburn near Jarrow.

The article also included a further letter (not included here) to Mrs Smith 24 Chattan Place, Aberdeen from Lieut.-Colonel Ogilvie regarding 20-year-old Private John Smith.

### **A. D. WOOD.<sup>2</sup>**

Service Number: 1107.<sup>2</sup>

Died: 8<sup>th</sup> March 1915.<sup>2</sup>

Memorial - Klein-Vierstraat British Cemetery, V. C. 24, Belgium.<sup>2</sup>



*Moffat Trench, Gordon Highlanders Museum, Aberdeen. (S. Bruce).*

## **Appendix G**

### **Commission for Aberdeen Engineer.**

#### **Aberdeen Evening Express, 7<sup>th</sup> June 1918.**

**Mr James Maitland Thomson, M.I.Mar.E.**, eldest son of the late Mr J. Thomson, Post Office, Bridge of Don, has accepted a commission as engineer-lieutenant in the Royal Naval Reserve. **Lieutenant Thomson** who served his **apprenticeship** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, was in the Indian Naval Transport Service, and, with the exception of a short furlough, he has been continuously engaged in conveying troops and munitions to the various fronts since the beginning of the war. He also saw service in connection with the conveyance of Indian troops to Burma in 1913. His two brothers, Robert and George, are also in the Navy.

## **Appendix H**

### **Appeal by Munitions Department.**

#### **Aberdeen Workers' Resolution.**

#### **Aberdeen Evening Express, 28<sup>th</sup> October 1915.**

Mr H. A. Watt, M.P. for the College Division of Glasgow, and Mr Theodore Chambers, representatives of the Munitions Parliamentary Committee, addresses a largely-attended meeting of the employees of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company**, shipbuilders, in the boiler-house at Footdee during the dinner hour today. **Mr A. Hall Wilson** presided, and was supported by other members of the firm – **Mr James Y. Hunter, Mr James Hall Anderson, and Mr F. Coutts.**

Mr Watt said they had been sent to deliver a double message – a message of thanks for what the workers had done in assisting the Munitions Department, and a request that during future months, they should exercise even greater energy in assisting the department to cope with the difficulties of the war.

Mr Chambers remarked that the twofold message he had to bring was one of encouragement on the one side, and of hop on the other.

**Workers' Resolve.** **Mr John Scott** moved the following resolution: - *"That we, the employees of **Messrs Hall, Russell and Company**, will, in the future, as in the past, continue to give of our best to support our comrades of the Navy, who are nobly keeping a guard and watch in the North Sea."*

**Mr Hugh Milne** seconded, and the resolution was carried with acclamation.

## Appendix I

### A Boilermaker's Health.

#### Aberdeen Evening Express, 17<sup>th</sup> May 1916.

**Colin Wilson, boilermaker**, applied for a **clearance certificate**. In his application he contended that **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, his employers, had unreasonably withheld one from him. His work was unsuitable for his health, as he was suffering from muscular stress and strain. He had been advised to leave the **boiler-making** trade and get work of a lighter character.

Two medical certificates were produced in support of the application.

**Wilson** explained the nature of his work and mentioned the weights of the iron plates and bars which he had to assist in carrying. He was only 112lb in weight. He had done his best to stick to the work, but had failed. He was like a round cog in a square hole.

**Mr J. F. Hunter**, of **Hall, Russell and Co.** said they always looked upon the work on which the man had been engaged as light work. He suggested that the case might be adjourned for a medical examination by the doctor appointed by the Ministry of Munitions.

The Tribunal agreed to an adjournment until Saturday forenoon in order that applicant might be examined by the Ministry of Munitions to advise the court in such cases.

The Aberdeen Press and Journal followed up the story when the Aberdeen Munitions Tribunal sat on Saturday morning, chaired by James Duguid as follows: *"A medical certificate was produced concerning **Colin Wilson, boilermaker**, who pleaded that he was suffering from muscular strain and stress on account of the work being too heavy for him. Dr Pirie, medical assessor, certified to the effect that, while applicant was small build, his weight of 8 stones 4 lbs. corresponded with it, and that, while his physique was not suited heavy lifting and the use of heavy hammers, if those causes of strain could be avoided would be quite capable of carrying on his occupation. A fellow-workman corroborated applicant's statement that the work was heavy, while the foreman with **Messrs Hall, Russell, and Company** said the work which **Wilson** was put to was regarded as light. **J. F. Hunter**, for the employers, stated that the firm could spare no men, and were getting soldiers back from the army. The Chairman, intimating the court's unanimous decision to refuse the application, said the assessors desired him to say that in their opinion **Wilson** had not. been getting work that was likely to hurt him. He had no doubt **Mr Hunter** would give the assurance that he would not be put on the heaviest work. **Mr Hunter** — I can give that assurance."*

## Appendix J

### Torry Canadian's Narrow Escape – Saved by Clasp Knife.

Stonehaven Journal, 10<sup>th</sup> August 1916.

**Private George Sinclair**, of the Canadian Scottish, has sent to his father, Mr John Sinclair, 138 Victoria Road, Torry, an exceedingly interesting relic of the battlefield, which is especially precious to him, because it was the means of saving his life.

**Private Sinclair** relates how a German sniper had been industriously plying his deadly trade and how several of his mates had been killed or wounded owing to his operations. Suddenly young **Sinclair** felt something like a punch on his side. Although he had felt no pain he had a look for the expected wound but could not discover that he had any injury.

It was a little time afterwards before he discovered the explanation of the peculiar sensation. In the pocket of his tunic was his substantial clasp knife, without which no Canadian is sent to the field, and outside of it was a bunch of half a dozen letters from home and a few photographs. Taking out the bundle from his pocket he found that the sniper's bullet had pierced right through the letters and the photographs but had been effectually brought up against the clasp knife.

It had struck the knife right in the centre of the handle, bending it inwards, and remained flattened in the hollow created by the impact. One of the blades was also smashed into two pieces. **Private Sinclair** may be forgiven for regarding his Canadian knife as made of 'some stuff' when it so effectively held back the German bullet, which, had it gone further, might well have cost the young soldier his life.

**Private Sinclair** has sent to his father the indented knife, flattened German bullet and letters as a memento of a singularly "close shave" on the battlefield.

Incidentally it may be mentioned that **Private Sinclair** and his pals have now good reason to believe that the German sniper has now "gone out of business." **Private Sinclair**, who went to Canada about four years ago, served his time as a **plater** with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co., Ltd.**, shipbuilders, and has two brothers serving – one at the front and the other at a station in England.

## Appendix K

### Aberdeen Weekly Journal, 24<sup>th</sup> August 1917.

#### Munitions Tribunal.

#### Decision Affecting Time-Expired Apprentices.

A sitting of the Aberdeen Munitions Tribunal was held in the Courthouse on Friday – Mr A. Tytler Nicol presiding.

**George Mackay, fitter**, in the employment of **Hall, Russell and Co.**, asked for a 'clearance certificate' on the grounds that, having just completed his **apprenticeship**, the refusal would prejudice his future, and if set up as a precedent would seriously affect the national interest. He also stated that the doctor had recommended him for lighter work and to go to sea, and that he had a job in view.

**Mr Hunter**, representing the firm argued that it was not in the nations interest to allow the applicant to go. It was not reasonable to take soldiers from the trenches to do this work, and let a young man away when newly out of his time. They had to win the war, and must have ships.

The Chairman appreciated the point, but found considerable difficulty in getting over Lord Dewar's decision in the Court of Session, which was binding on local Tribunals.

The representative of the apprentice claimed that it was in the national interest that the young man should go to sea as an **engineer**.

The Chairman said there was no overwhelming demand for engineers at sea; and the representative replied that his information was to the contrary.

A medical certificate was produced on behalf of the claimant, who said he was willing to be re-examined by Dr Pirie the certified surgeon.

The Chairman said both the assessors and he were of opinion that it was in the national interest that **Mackay** should remain with **Messrs Hall, Russell and Co.**, if remaining with them was not likely to injure his health. As to that, the Tribunal could say nothing until Dr Pirie had submitted his report. The case was accordingly adjourned for the doctor's report.

The Aberdeen Weekly Journal reported on the sitting of the Aberdeen Munitions Tribunal the following Tuesday, advocate A. Tytler Nicol presided and the case came to a conclusion as follows: *"A report by Dr Pirie, the medical officer under the Ministry of Munitions was now produced, and the Tribunal granted Mackay a clearance certificate so that he might be in a position to accept the lighter employment of an engineer at sea which had been offered him. The understanding, however, was that if for any reason he failed to obtain the situation he was seeking, he would return to his present work until he had got the employment at sea that he desired."*



## Appendix L

### City of Aberdeen - Proposed War Memorial.

**Aberdeen Press and Journal, 15<sup>th</sup> November 1919.**

**Appeal for subscriptions, Townhouse, 13<sup>th</sup> November 1919.**

The Citizens of Aberdeen have contributed generously to the numerous funds which were raised during the Great War, but the LORD PROVOST ventures to appeal for their sympathy and support in connection with the Memorial to be erected to those belonging the City and district who fought and died for their country.

For the proposed Memorial, which is intended to be symbolic of our gratitude, a design has been prepared by Messrs A. Marshall McKenzie and Son, Architects, Aberdeen. The shape which the memorial is intended to take is that of an imposing circular court or hall 50 feet in diameter and 60 feet in height, with pillars of granite of various kinds, and a domed roof decorated in mural painting, the floor being of dove and white marble.

According to the Press and Journal 15<sup>th</sup> November 1919, **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** donated £105 towards the erection of the Aberdeen City War memorial (Equivalent to approx. £4,500 in 2023).



*City of Aberdeen War Memorial, Cowdray Hall, Schoolhill / Blackfriars Street, AB10 1JQ. (S. Bruce).*

The War Memorial commemorates the fallen of WW1 and WW2.

The lion sculpture was designed by William MacMillan, A.R.A., and was sculpted in Kemnay granite by lead mason James Philip, assisted by George Cooper.

## Appendix M

### Aberdeen Evening Express - 19<sup>th</sup> January 1917.

#### Munitions Tribunal.

##### CITY SHIPYARD PIECEWORK GRIEVANCE.

A sitting of the Aberdeen Munitions Tribunal was held this afternoon in the Courthouse. Mr James Duguid advocate, presided. The employers' panel was Mr W. Tawse and the workmen's Mr A. Edward. **James H. Morrison** and **John Donald, holders-on** in a shipbuilding yard, complained that they had been refused their clearance certificate. Being piece-workers, they were kept on time-work, and sent home when the weather was bad, so that they could not make a livelihood.

"**Entitled to it**". Mr W. Mackie, boilermakers' delegate, Glasgow, argued that the men were entitled to their clearance unless the firm was prepared to give them piecework. The manager said the men were offered piecework, but they refused it. The firm could not carry out their programme of work if the men were taken away. It was not true that the men were sent home when weather was bad, and it was absolutely false that they could not make a livelihood. As to making a livelihood, **Morrison's** average for 25 Weeks had been £3 12s 1d, (£210) time and piecework combined. **Donald's** average had been £2 7s 4d (£135) and his highest pay for one week was £6 5s 5d (£360). **Donald** was 67 years of age. The Chairman - What is the rate per hour on time-work? The manager said it was 36s (??) odds. The men having answered several questions, the manager and Mr Mackie addressed the Tribunal.

**Court Refuses.** The Chairman said the Tribunal had carefully considered the matter and had made up their minds to refuse a clearance certificate in both cases. At the same time, the Tribunal had asked him say that so far the exigencies of the yard would allow of it, they would like the manager to give the men piecework when they could, and not put them off when it could be avoided. Of course, they fully recognised what the exigencies of a large yard such as the firms were, with a great number of men to control, but he was quite sure the manager would agree with the Tribunal that he would do his best to give the men no cause for complaint so far as they could avoid it.

The article doesn't tell us what shipyard in Aberdeen they worked for; however, it is a good example of workers failing to get a 'Clearance Certificate'.

Values in brackets are approximate equivalent values in 2023. 36s per hour equates to £103 per hour, so that is obviously incorrect. Perhaps it's meant to read 3s 6d per hour, which equates to approx. £8.80 an hour in 2022.

## Appendix N

### Aberdeen Munitions Tribunal.

#### Aberdeen Weekly Journal - 21<sup>st</sup> September 1917.

*A sitting of the Aberdeen Munitions Tribunal was held on Monday afternoon – Mr A. Tytler Nicol, advocate, presiding. Three **platers’ helpers** employed in a local shipbuilding yard – **John Bickersteth**, 47 Summerfield Terrace; **George Morrice**, 30 Miller Street; and **William Barclay**, 105 Bon-Accord Street – claimed their clearance certificates on the ground that they were not receiving the standard time wages for platers’ helpers. Mr A. W. Fraser, the trades union representative of the men, appeared on their behalf, and the firm was also represented. After hearing parties, the Tribunal held that it had been proved to their satisfaction that the men had been paid 35s 4d, and that that was the standard time wages for **platers’ helpers**. They therefor dismissed the claims and refused the leaving certificate...”*

(35s 4d is equivalent to approx. £93.35 in 2022).



Former **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.**, built Admiralty Strath Class Trawler HMT '**James Brodigan**' as A330 '**Woods**'. See Appendix P. (Photographer unknown).

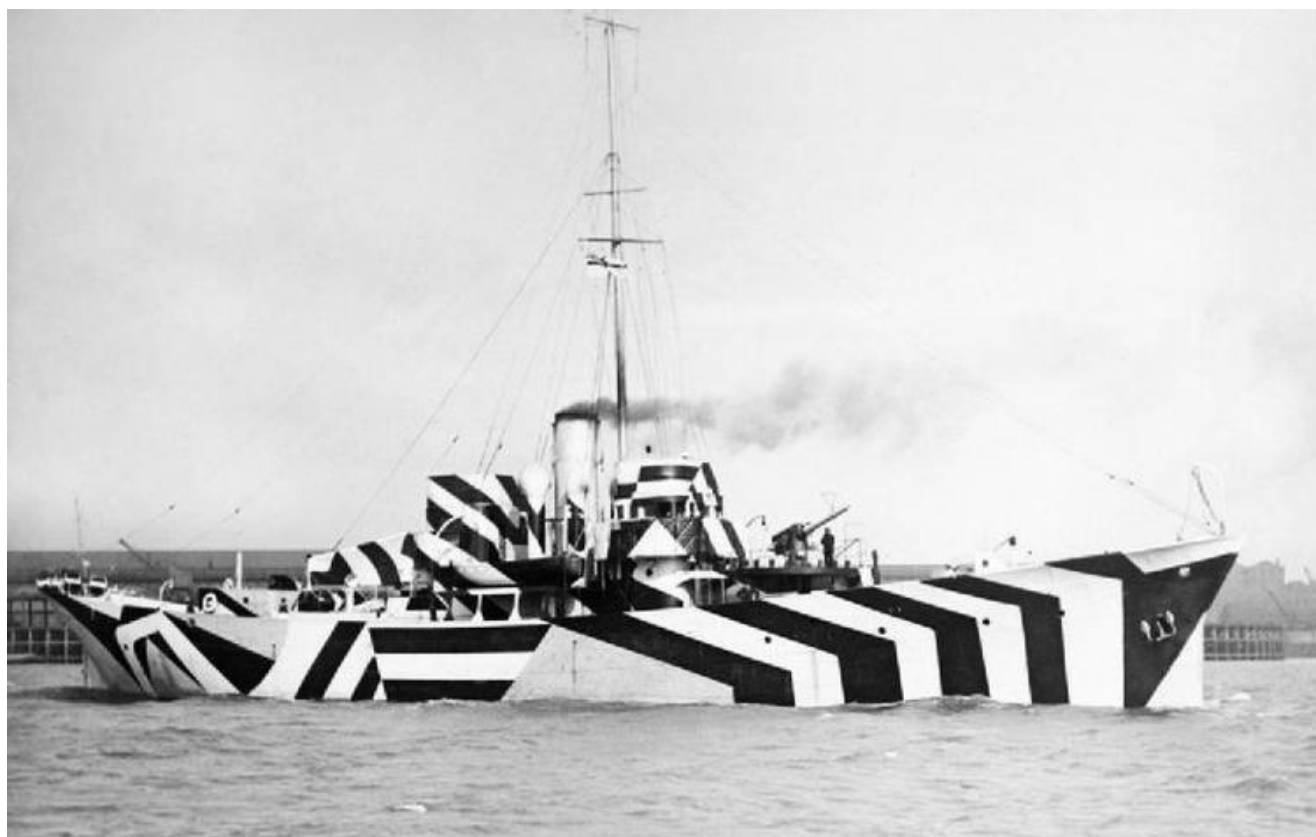
## Appendix P

### Admiralty Vessels built by Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd., during WW1

I thought it fitting to include a table here with the vessels **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** built during WW1. The men who worked on these didn't go to war, but did play their part, as the Admiralty needed ships and **Hall, Russell & Co., Ltd.** did their best to provide them. It seems however that things got off to a slow start, as the first vessels were completed in 1917, about halfway through the war. The majority of the vessels built were 'Strath Class' steam trawlers, 45 off them, that were used for activities such as mine-sweeping, tenders etc. There were two exceptions '**HMS Kilbride**' and '**HMS Kilburn**', both 'Kil Class' gunboats. These were specifically designed for anti-submarine warfare but were commissioned too late in the war to be used extensively in that role. An unusual feature of these vessels was that they were designed double-ended to confuse submarine observers, by this I mean they have a bow forward and aft. They were also painted in black and white, a bit like a zebra.

Yard No.	Name (Admiralty No.)	Vessel Type	Date
606	William Barlow (3646)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
607	John Bradford (3647)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
608	William Browning (3648)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
609	Richard Bennett (3649)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
610	Samuel Baker (3650)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
611	George Borthwick (3821)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
612	James Bentole (3622)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
613	Thomas Bird (3823)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
614	John Barry (3624)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
615	Thomas Bryan (3625)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
616	William Biggs (3626)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
617	John Brasket (3627)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
618	Samuel Barkas (3628)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
619	William Butler (3629)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
620	James Beagan (3630)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
621	Brazil Brasby (3631)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
622	William Barnett (3632)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
623	George Burton (3633)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1917
624	William Bond (3634)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
625	John Bell (3635)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
626	Joseph Burgin (3636)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
627	John Bowler (3637)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
628	Henry Butcher (3638)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
629	David Buchan (3639)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
630	William Barrow (3640)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
631	Timothy Brannon (3641)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918

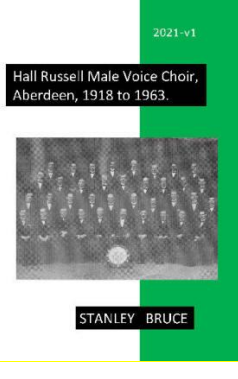
Yard No.	Name (Admiralty No.)	Vessel Type	Date
632	Bernard Boyle (3642)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
633	David Blake (3643)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
634	William Beaumont (3644)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
635	Samuel Benbow (3645)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
636	HMS Kilburn (F.4009)	Kil Class Patrol Gunboat	1918
637	HMS Kilbride (F.4007)	Kil Class Patrol Gunboat	1918
642	Thomas Burnham (4415)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
644	Thomas Barclay (4417)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
645	Richard Briscoll (4418)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
646	James Brodigan (4419)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
647	Edward Barker (4420)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1918
648	Jonathon Bazino (4421)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1919
649	William Bentley (4422)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1919
650	Peter Barrington (4423)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1919
651	Charles Blight (4424)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1919
652	Joshua Budget (4425)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1919
653	Richard Bowden (4426)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1919
654	John Britton (4427)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1919
655	Thomas Billincole (4428)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1919
656	James Bashford (4429)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1919
657	Michael Brion (4430)	Strath Class Steam Trawler	1919



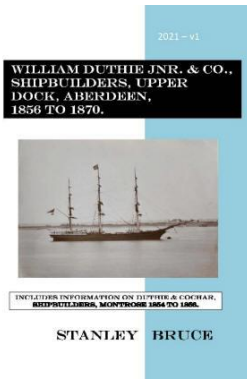
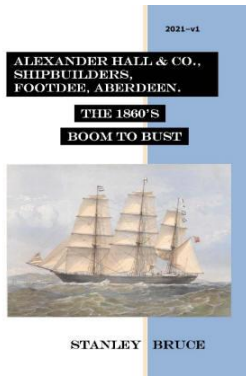
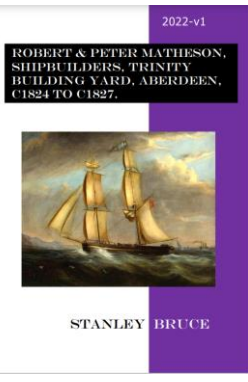
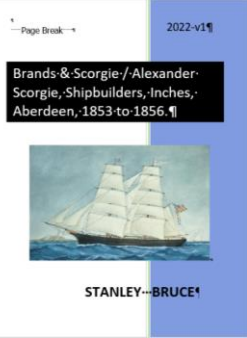

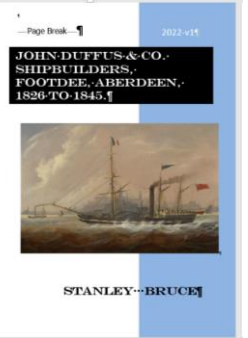
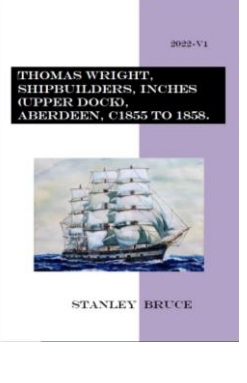
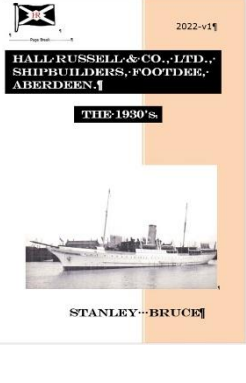
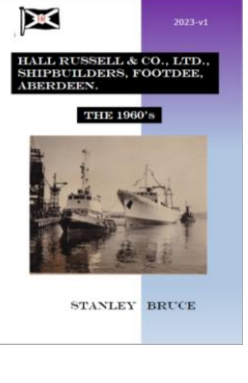
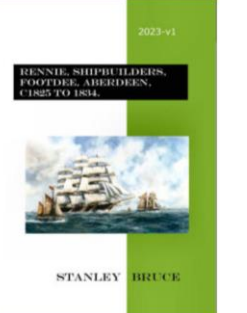
*A typical WW1 'Kil Class' gunboat. (Photographer unknown).*

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~~~~~ THE END ~~~~~