# The Anthology of Bagpipe Music and Military History

Collection 2 – World War One Volume 2: Leaders and Heroes

#### **COVER PAGE**

King George V of England awarding the Victoria Cross to a soldier during WW!. The Victoria Cross (VC) was awarded 628 times to 627 recipients for action in the First World War (1914–1918). The Victoria Cross is a military decoration awarded for valor "in the face of the enemy" to members of armed forces of some Commonwealth countries and previous British Empire territories.



# The Anthology of Bagpipe Music and Military History

# Collection 2 World War One Volume 2: Special Occasions

Transcribed and assembled by

Lieutenant Colonel Milan J. Kobulnicky US Army Special Forces Retired

Williamsburg, Virginia USA

and

Dr. Peter L. Heineman

Council Bluffs, Iowa USA

And with the exceptional help from

John Hayes, London, England, Lindon Irish Pipes and Drums

and

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jay Leasure, US Army Retired

Strasburg, Colorado, USA

and

So many other distinguished pipers from around the globe

Dedicated to the "Greatest Generation" who are quickly and have almost faded into a new story. Their sacrifice preserved the "better nature" of our common humanity. "We pipe in the "Footsteps of Giants"

First Edition

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#### **OVERVIEW**

This anthology covers military history as told through the lens of bagpipe music, its composers, and the tunes they honor and remember.

The Anthology comprises eight collections:

Collection 1: Pre-World War One (1750 through 1905)

Volume 1: 1750 to 1900 Wars in North America

Annex A: History of US Military Pipe Bands

Volume 2: Wars on the Continent (Napoleon and Crimea)

Volume 3: India and Afghanistan

Volume 4: Africa and Boer War

Collection 2: World War One

Volume 1: The Battles (1914 to 1918 and Occupation)

Volume 2: Leaders and Heroes

Volume 3: The Military Units (Army, Navy and Air Force)

Volume 4: Special Occasions (Anniversaries and Memorials)

Collection 3: World War Two

Volume 1: Northern Europe

Volume 2: Africa

Volume 3: Far East, China, Burma, India, New Guinea

Volume 4: Italy

Volume 5: Leaders and Heroes

Volume 6: Anniversaries and Memorials

**Collection 4:** Post World War Two (1950 to present)

Collection 5: Regimental Marches and Duty Tunes

Volume 1: United Kingdom

Volume 2: Canada, South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, USA

Collection 6: Special Collection

- Prisoners of War
- Paratroopers/Commandos
- 51<sup>st</sup> Highland Division

Collection 7: Military Units (Army, Navy and Air Force)

Collection 8: Piobaireachds (1750 to Present)

#### **INTRODUCTION**

World War 1, Volume 5, begins our time remembering the leaders and heroes of the "Great War" who arose to defy Kaiser Wilhelm's desire to expand his German Empire and vision of European dominance and the world saw the tragic results. It was the "Great War" only in the incredible rise of men's courage and folly.

Our story begins with the United Kingdom's war time leader, King George the V of England, and his Royal Family and then to the famous generals, nicknamed "Donkeys" by their "Lion-Hearted" men as the generals failed to understand courage was not the answer to the rapid rise of deadly modern technology on the battlefield.

We then cover some of the most inspiring stories of leaders and heroes next beginning with colonels, then lieutenant colonels, majors, captains, lieutenants, drum majors, world famous pipe majors, sergeants, corporals, pipers, privates and civilians, all who were honored to have pipe tunes written about them in the years that followed. They were the officers, noncommissioned officers, soldiers and pipers who were in the trenches and then the first ones out front into the insanity of "No Man's Land."

Pipers also remembered Nurse Edith Cavell for her heroic story to care for any soldier, no matter their nationality, and her tragic ending in German custody and also one of their most famous comedians Harry Lauder. A pipe tune lark brings to memory the exploits of the feared Red Baron as the only German honored here with a pipe tune.

Looking back through historical national and regimental archives, family libraries, and what is available to most historians, most information is over 100-years old, the stories on the tunes and even their composers are fading into history. In some cases, it was only possible to determine the person the tune is named for or composer served during the Great War and simply was remembered by a piper with a tune. Their stories are now clouded in past history and not available in basic academic research.

This generation of leaders and heroes has now faded away and no one portrayed in this volume remains with us. Some here also served honorably in the Boer War and also World War Two. The tunes here now continue to retell their stories, sacrifices, courage beyond measure and inspirational leadership in the darkest of times mankind has brought upon himself to that time in our history. And now let us introduce these leaders and heroes and their pipe tunes in hope they bring a moment of inspiration to all pipers today. Now...to the pipes.

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## King George The Fifth's Welcome to France

King George V served as a figurehead for the nations of the British Empire throughout the war. He and his wife, Queen Mary, provided inspiration and support for both the armed forces and the civilian populations through hundreds of official visits and their own family's service and self-sacrifice.

The war directly affected the Royal Family in many other ways. The king's two eldest sons both served in uniform: the Prince of Wales, the later Edward, Duke of Windsor (1894-1972), in a staff position with the army behind the Western Front, Prince Albert, the future George VI, King of Great Britain (1895-1952), on HMS Collingwood during the Battle of Jutland. Anti-German hysteria in Britain led the king to change the name of his dynasty from the House of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, a legacy of the marriage of his grandmother Victoria, Queen of Great Britain (1819-1901), to the quintessentially English House of Windsor. He also implemented an austerity regime in the Royal Household and rarely wore anything during the war other than military uniform. To his regret, he allowed himself to be talked into giving up alcohol for the duration to set an example for factory workers.

George V took his ceremonial duties seriously. To see to it that the civilian war effort was properly recognized, he created the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire and passed out thousands of honors, while often pressing his government to recognize individual acts of bravery that came to his attention. Along with Mary, Queen, Consort of George V, King of Great Britain (1867-1953), he made hundreds of official tours to review troops, inspect factories and shipyards, and visit hospitals. On a tour of the Western Front, he was thrown from a horse and injured to the point that he endured pain and discomfort for the rest of his life. It did, however, gain him release from his temperance pledge.

The state visit of King George V and Queen Mary to Paris in April 1914 acted as a formal marker of the Entente Cordiale and was – despite the increasingly unavoidable signs of the imminent European war – a great success. 'The weather was glorious (summer weather)' wrote Queen Mary, 'the Bois looking too lovely, chestnuts out & flowers [...] It has been a curious & interesting experience & shows anyhow that the French people wish to be on good terms with us'.

The photograph is a group shot of a number of Allied officers with King George V of Britain (1865-1936) who is standing third from right in the front row. George V, who reigned from 1910 to1936, visited the Front on several occasions. This sort of official occasion would have been intended to cement the sometimes strained relationships of the Allied commanders. George V was aware of the potential difficulties of his close ties with the German royal family. In 1917 he changed the family name from Saxe-Coburg-Gotha to the more English-sounding 'Windsor'.



#### King George The Fifth's Welcome to France March













## King George Fifth's Welcome to the Battlefield

The tune, *King George Fifth's Welcome to the Battlefield* was composed by Pipe Major John Balloch. Balloch was born in 1860. On the outbreak of WW1, when aged 54, he had the distinction of enlisting in the army with his son Donald.

He joined the army in 1878 as a piper in the 57th Brigade, which comprised the 42nd and 79th Highlanders, and played his pipes with the leading company of the 79th in the battle of Tel-el-Kebir during the famous charge, and right through the Egyptian Campaign, 1881-84, where he was conspicuous as a piper. When Balloch first took the shilling in 1878, there were only five kilted regiments in the Army. These were the 42nd (Black Watch), 78th Seaforth Highlanders, 79th Cameron Highlanders, 92nd Gordon Highlanders, and 93rd Sutherland Highlanders.

He transferred as Pipe Major to the1st Battn. K.O.S.B. in 1886, and led the pipers of that battalion on the expedition to Upper Burmah. Under General Penn Symons, who was killed at the battle of Dundee in the South African War, Balloch saw active service in the Chin Lushai Expedition. He was also on active service in the Great War.

Piping was not his only pastime. While in India he took a keen interest in rifle-shooting, and, in addition to winning the prize for the best shot in his Regiment, was one of the successful team in the competition for the Cup presented by the Commander-in-Chief (Lord Roberts) and open to the whole of India.



By the time Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee was celebrated, Balloch's eminence as a piper was widely recognized, and he was selected to take charge of the massed pipers who played to Queen Victoria at the pavilion at Aldershot in 1897. On the occasion of the presentation of Colors to the Territorial Battalions he had also the honor of playing the massed Detachments to the field.

Balloch retired in 1899, and became Pipe Major to the 5th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Greenock).

In 1914 rejoined his old regiment and was posted as Pipe Major 8th Battalion King's Own Scottish Borderers, with which he served in France from July 1915-18, when he was invalided home. Even then he was not allowed to be lost to the army, for the 9th Officers' Cadet Battalion of Gailes appropriated the services of the distinguished Pipe Major.

John Balloch died on September 3, 1947, Thomson Home, Rothesay on the Isle of Bute at 86.















#### HRH Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll



Princess Louise, Duchess of Argyll (Louisa Caroline Alberta) was born March 18, 1848, the sixth child and fourth daughter of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert.

Before her marriage, Louise served as an unofficial secretary to the Queen from 1866 to 1871. The question of Louise's marriage was discussed in the late 1860s. Suitors from the royal houses of Prussia and Denmark were suggested, but Victoria did not want her to marry a foreign prince, and therefore suggested a high-ranking member of the British aristocracy. Despite opposition from members of the royal family, Louise fell in love with John Campbell, Marquess of Lorne, the heir of the Duke of Argyll. Victoria consented to the marriage, which took place on March 21, 1871. After a happy beginning, the two drifted apart.

In 1878, Lorne was appointed Governor General of Canada, a post he held 1878–1884. Louise was viceregal consort, starting a lasting interest in Canada. Her names were used to name many features in Canada, including Lake Louise and the province of Alberta. Following her mother's death in 1901, she entered the social circle established by her elder brother, the new king, Edward VII. Louise's marriage with Lorne survived thanks to long periods of separation; they reconciled in 1911, and Louise was devastated by Lorne's death in 1914. After the First World War she began to retire from public life, undertaking few public duties outside Kensington Palace.

Princess Louise died at the age of 91, on December 3, 1939 at Kensington Palace.

The tune, *HRH Princess Louise Duchess of Argyll* was composed by Pipe Major John McLellan of Dunoon in honor of Pricess Louise's appointment as Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment in 1914.

Pipe Major John McLellan DCM of Dunoon (1875-1949), became Pipe Major with the 8th Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders in 1919, just after World War I ended, following James Wilson and, before Wilson, Willie Lawrie in the role. Before the 8th Argylls, McLellan was a piper the Highlight Light Infantry in the Boer War, during which he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry in battle. "DCM" often deservedly accompanies his name, and also distinguishes him from other prominent John Mac/McLellans in piping.

In addition to composing music, McLellan was a recognized poet, and would often add lyrics to his compositions which entered the public domain in 2019, 70 years after his death.





#### **HRH Princess Mary March**



On November 20, 1918, Princess Mary became the first member of the royal family to visit France following the Armistice. She visited centers associated with Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps or Voluntary Aid Detachment Units, and hospitals with wounded soldiers. Princess Mary's public duties reflected her concerns with nursing, the Girl Guide movement, and the Women's Services. Mary, Princess Royal and Countess of Harewood (Victoria Alexandra Alice Mary) born April 25, 1897, was the only daughter of King George V and Queen Mary, the sister of kings Edward VIII and George VI, and aunt of Elizabeth II.

During World War I, Princess Mary visited hospitals and welfare organizations with her mother; assisting with projects to give comfort to British servicemen and assistance to their families. One of these projects was Princess Mary's Christmas Gift Fund, through which a total of £100,000 worth of gifts was sent to serving British soldiers and sailors for Christmas,1914.



She married Henry Lascelles, Viscount Lascelles (later the 6th Earl of Harewood), in 1922. Mary was given the title of Princess Royal in 1932. During the Second World War, she was Controller Commandant of the Auxiliary Territorial Service. The Princess Royal and the Earl of Harewood had two sons, George Lascelles, 7th Earl of Harewood, and The Honorable Gerald Lascelles.

On March 28, 1965, the Princess Royal had a fatal heart attack during a walk with her elder son, Lord Harewood, and his children in the grounds of the Harewood House estate. She was 67 years old.

The tune, *HRH Princess Mary March* was composed by Pipe Major John A. Dunbar of the 2nd Royal Scots. Dunbar was a product of the Army school of Piping. The School has for many years enjoyed a world wide reputation amongst Pipers and the teaching there has produced and nurtured some of the great players of this century. Ironically however, the Army can claim little credit for the establishment and development of this unique facility and behind the efficient, modern, military teaching of the Great Highland Bagpipe lies a romantic and quite remarkable story.

Then Sergeant J. A. Dunbar, 2nd Royal Scots, was the first lowlander to attend in the spring of 1911.



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#### The Duchess of Montrose



Mary, Duchess of Montrose was born on November 1, 1884 in London. She was the only child of William, 12th Duke of Hamilton (1845–95) and Mary Montagu (1854–1934).

Mary was 10 years old when her father died in May 1895. Women were unable to inherit the Hamilton estates and titles at this time, and the 12th Duke's fourth cousin Alfred Douglas-Hamilton (1862–1940) became the 13th Duke of Hamilton. However, Mary's father had made special provisions for her. While Alfred inherited much of the Hamilton property and assets, the 12th Duke's will explicitly left Brodick Castle, the family estates on Arran and the Easton Park property in Suffolk in trust for Mary.

Mary and James, Marquis of Graham and the future 6th Duke of Montrose (1878–1954) married on June 14, 1906, uniting two of the most prominent aristocratic families in Scotland. The ceremony took place at St George's Church, Hanover Square, London and was attended by King Edward VII as well as various members of the aristocracy.

Following the outbreak of the First World War, the Grahams, like most British families, became heavily involved in the war effort. Easton Park was turned into a Red Cross hospital under the management of Mary's mother, who was said to have been so committed that she only left the site twice between September 1914 and January 1919. In Scotland, James became a Commander of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve (he was partially deaf and therefore never called for active service) and was responsible for naval recruiting. Mary worked as a nurse at Bellahouston Hospital before moving to Brodick to create an auxiliary Red Cross hospital in Lamlash.

Mary died on February 21, 1957, aged 72. Following her death, the castle, its garden and a considerable portion of the collection were accepted by the Treasury in lieu of death duties and transferred to the National Trust for Scotland.

The tune, *The Duchess of Montrose* was composed by Pipe Major William Fergusson. Willie Fergusson (1885 – 1949) was born in Arbroath. As a youth, and now living in Glasgow, he became a pupil of Farquhar MacRae. He firstly was in a Boys' Brigade band but ran away from home and tried to join the Scots Guards. Being under age his father was sent for and he was taken home.

As soon as his age permitted he joined the 7th Battalion Highland Light Infantry the Pipe Major where MacRae was PM. This was most probably the reason for his choosing that regiment. In 1914, MacRae resigned from the HLI and formed the City of Glasgow Pipe Band and later in the same year WW1 was declared. Fergusson was made Pipe Major of the 7th Battalion HLI at the age of 29.

He served in Flanders, Gallipoli and Palestine, then, following the Armistice in 1918, he restarted the City of Glasgow band Farquhar MacRae having died in 1916. The band included five ex-Army pipe majors. His skill in setting chanters and drones, along with his teaching ability, was rewarded when they won the coveted World Championship title at Cowal in 1919.



Confusion reigned however because newspaper reports incorrectly attributed the winning title to the City of Glasgow Police Pipe Band. Fergusson decided to rename the band in order to avoid further confusion. In honor of his friend and teacher Farquhar MacRae, and with the grateful support of the Clan MacRae Society, the band became The Clan MacRae Society Pipe Band. The date was May 1, 1920 and Major MacRae–Gillstrap, the MacRae Clan Chief and owner of Eilean Donan, the famous castle on Loch Duich, agreed to be their patron.

Under Fergusson's leadership the Clan MacRae band went on to win the World Championship four times and become runners-up three times between 1921 and 1927. Another honor was that the band were the first ever to do a radio broadcast.

In 1929, Fergusson, a carpenter to trade, had a serious accident at work falling thirty feet down a stairwell. He gave up the leadership of the band and went of to convalesce in Canada. He later returned to Scotland and died in 1949 at the age of only 64.



Ferguson was one of the great pipe band leaders but his other major legacy to piping were his compositions. In 1939 he compiled a collection of music entitled 'Fergusson's Bagpipe Melodies'. It contained 55 tunes mostly of his own composition. For some reason he chose not to attribute composers' names to any of the tunes, so it is difficult to ascertain which were in actual fact his own works, or merely his own settings or indeed tunes by other composers.



The Duchess of Montrose



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## The Canadian's Farewell to Lord Byng of Vimy

Known to friends as "Bungo", Field Marshal Julian Hedworth George Byng, 1st Viscount Byng of Vimy, GCB, GCMG, MVO (September 11, 1862 – June 6, 1935) served as Governor General of Canada, the 12th since the Canadian Confederation.

Byng was born to a noble family at Wrotham Park in Hertfordshire, England and educated at Eton College, along with his brothers. Upon graduation, he received a commission as a militia officer and saw service in Egypt and Sudan before enrolling in the Staff College at Camberley. There, he befriended individuals who would be his contemporaries when he attained senior rank in France. Byng commanded the Canadian Corps on the Western Front from May 1916 to June1917.

Following distinguished service during the First World War—specifically, with the British Expeditionary Force in France, in the Battle of Gallipoli, as commander of the Canadian Corps at Vimy Ridge, and as commander of the



British Third Army—Byng was elevated to the peerage in 1919. In 1921, King George V, on the recommendation of Prime Minister David Lloyd George, appointed him to replace the Duke of Devonshire as Canada's governor general, a post he occupied until the Viscount Willingdon succeeded him in 1926. Byng proved to be popular with Canadians due to his war leadership, though his stepping directly into political affairs became the catalyst for widespread changes to the role of the Crown in all of the British Dominions.

On June 14, 1926, Canada's governor general, Lord Byng of Vimy, arrived at Bonaventure Station with Lady Byng for a farewell visit. The couple had been serving in Ottawa since 1921, and the time for their return to Britain was approaching. The vice-regal couple were then driven to Ravenscrag, where they were staying. The mansion, on Pine Ave. W., was the home of Sir Montagu and Lady Allan. During their four-day stay, the couple attended a whirl of events, including a Citizens' Farewell Ball at the Mount Royal Hotel to which tickets were sold. Some 500 people attended.



After his viceregal tenure, Byng returned to the UK to be appointed Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis and was promoted within the peerage to become Viscount Byng of Vimy. Three years after attaining the rank of Field Marshal, he died at his home, Thorpe Hall on June 6, 1935.

The tune, *The Canadians' Farewell to Lord Byng of Vimy* was composed for the event by Pipe Major John Gillies. John Gillies was born April 13th, 1873 in Baillieston, Scotland, approximately 10km east of Glasgow. In 1892 he joined the Scots Guards as a piper, and during the Second Boer War (1899-1902) he went into action as a Pipe Sergeant. Gillies was promoted to Pipe Major in 1902. Returning from South Africa, Gillies was appointed the pipe major of the 3rd Battalion Scots Guards, serving in that capacity from Dec. 15th, 1903 until Sept. 30th, 1906, when the 3rd Battalion was disbanded. He was then appointed pipe-major of the 1st Battalion Scots Guards, a position he would hold until Jan. 31st, 1911. All told, he would serve with the regiment for eighteen and a half years. One particularly notable moment from late in his career with the Scots Guards occurred when, as the senior pipe-major in the British Empire, he led the massed pipe bands through the streets of London for King Edward VII's funeral procession in 1910. When the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada were organized in late 1910, efforts were immediately made to form a first-rate pipe band. W.M. Crawford, a wealthy Vancouver businessman from Fifeshire, took it upon himself to convince John Gillies to come to Canada to organize and lead the Seaforth's pipe band. Attracting a pipe-major of Gillies' stature was a major coup for the young regiment, and in very short order Gillies would mold the Seaforth's into one of the premier pipe bands in Canada.



Gillies was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal at the end of the war; in addition to his work at the Front, the citation notes "he has maintained a high standard in training his band at all times." This "high standard" was on display in a competition held in 1918 at Tinques, France when the Seaforths were ranked as the best pipe band in Canada and third best in the British Empire.

Gillies was held in such universal esteem that when the Seaforth Highlanders were reorganized after the First World War, Gillies was given regimental number "1" on the regiment's nominal roll.

On April 19, 1944, Pipe-Major Riddle and his Lovat Scouts pipe band visited Vancouver, and were invited to an evening of entertainment in the Sergeant's Mess. Retired Pipe-Major John Gillies was in attendance, and was asked to say a few words. He spoke of his time in South Africa when he first met members of the Lovat Scouts, and said that is was possible he had then talked to men who might possibly be the fathers, or perhaps grandfathers of the men present. Gillies recalled his boyhood in Scotland, his fondness then of watching the ships sail in and out of the harbor, and, noting the Lovat's were a long way from home, he wished them "God speed."

Enjoying the evening's entertainment, and smoking his pipe, John Gillies suddenly collapsed. A few moments later the medical officer announced that "Pipie" had passed on.

The Canadians' Farewell to Lord Byng of Vimy



#### **Baron Byng of Vimy**

The tune, **Baron Byng of Vimy** was composed by Pipe Major Lachlan Collie who was the uncle of Pipe Major William Ross Scots Guards. Collie emigrated to Canada in 1882, to Winnipeg, and was Pipe Major to the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada, headquartered there. Born in 1858, he lied about his age so that he could serve in the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF).

#### Baron Byng of Vimy

PM Lachlan Collie



#### Brigadier General Ronald Cheape of Tiroran

George Ronald Hamilton Cheape, 2nd of Tiroran, Isle of Mull, and of Wellfield near Strathmiglo, Fife, was born on February 20, 1881 in Burntisland District, Fife, Scotland, the son of George Clerk Cheape and his wife Maud Mary Hemming. He was educated at Trinity College, Glenalmond, Perthshire and HMS Britannia Royal Naval College, (Modern Brittania Royal Naval College, Dartmouth), but decided on a career in the Army. Cheape served in the Boer War 1900 – 1902; World War I, (was GOC 86 Brigade 1917 – 1919); Brigadier General, Brevet Lt. Colonel 1st Dragoon Guards, Lt. Colonel 7th Bn. Black Watch 1920 – 1922. He was awarded the Croix de Guerre, DSO and Bar 1918, MC and Companion of the Order of St Michael & St George (CMG). Cheape was commissioned in the King's Dragoon Guards after the South African War. In WWI, he commanded the 7th Battalion, The Black Watch at the Battle of Beaumont Hamel and subsequently commanded the 86th Infantry Brigade until the end of hostilities. was originally formed from regular army battalions serving away from home in the British Empire. It was assigned to the 29th Division and served on the Western Front and the Gallipoli Campaign and in Egypt during the First World War. The story is told that he led his Brigade into Cologne at the close of hostilities with his Piper, Duncan Lamont, playing *The Mucking of Gordie's Byre"*. He married Margaret Bruce Ismay, elder daughter of (Joseph) Bruce Ismay, chairman and managing director of the White Star Line, (of 'Titanic' fame).



Cheape (left) learned pipes in Mull from notable pipers such as Duncan Lamont. and encouraged piping throughout Mull. He organized Pipe Major William Ross to tour in Mull and the Uists to teach piobaireachd and to raise standards of piping in Hebridean communities where tradition must had been strong. He died April 29, 1957 in Kenya and is buried in Forest Road Cemetery, near Nairobi, where his grave is marked by a small memorial stone. The tune, **Brigadier General Ronald Cheape of Tiroran** was composed by <u>Pipe Major William Ross</u>. Brigadier General Ronald Cheape of Tiroran

March



#### Lord Kitchener of Khartoum



Field Marshal Horatio Herbert Kitchener, 1st Earl Kitchener (June 24, 1850 – June 5, 1916) was an Irish born senior British Army officer and colonial administrator. Kitchener came to prominence for his imperial campaigns, his involvement in the Second Boer War, and his central role in the early part of the First World War.

At the outset of the First World War, the prime minister, Asquith, quickly had Kitchener appointed Secretary of State for War; Asquith had been filling the job himself as a stopgap following the resignation of Colonel Seely over the Curragh Incident earlier in 1914. Kitchener was in Britain on his annual summer leave, between June 23 and August 3, 1914, and had boarded a cross-Channel steamer to commence his return trip to Cairo when he was recalled to London to meet with Asquith. War was declared at 11pm the next day.

Against cabinet opinion, Kitchener correctly predicted a long war that would last at least three years, require huge new armies to defeat Germany, and cause huge casualties before the end would come. Kitchener stated that the conflict would plumb the depths of manpower "to the last million". A massive recruitment campaign

began, which soon featured a distinctive poster of Kitchener, taken from a magazine front cover. It may have encouraged large numbers of volunteers, and has proven to be one of the most enduring images of the war, having been copied and parodied many times since. Kitchener built up the "New Armies" as separate units because he distrusted the Territorials from what he had seen with the French Army in 1870. This may have been a mistaken judgement, as the British reservists of 1914 tended to be much younger and fitter than their French equivalents a generation earlier.

Kitchener sailed from Scrabster to Scapa Flow on June 5, 1916 aboard HMS *Oak*. He had lunch with Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, commander-in-chief of the Grand Fleet, on board his flagship HMS *Iron Duke*; Kitchener was keen to discuss the recent Battle of Jutland and stated that he was looking forward to his three-week diplomatic mission to Russia as a break from domestic pressures. He then set out for Russia on board the armored cruiser HMS *Hampshire*. At the last minute Jellicoe changed *Hampshire*'s route on the basis of a mis -reading of the weather forecast and ignoring (or not being aware of) recent intelligence and sightings of German U-boat activity in the vicinity of the amended route. Shortly before 7:30 pm that same day, while steaming for the Russian port of Arkhangelsk during a force 9 gale, *Hampshire* struck a mine laid by the newly launched German U-boat *U-75* (commanded by Kurt Beitzen) and sank west of the Orkney Islands. Recent research has set the death toll of those aboard *Hampshire* at 737. Only twelve men survived. Among the dead were all ten members of Kitchener's entourage. Kitchener himself was seen standing on the quarterdeck during the approximately twenty minutes that it took the ship to sink. His body was never recovered.

King George V wrote in his diary: "It is indeed a heavy blow to me and a great loss to the nation and the allies." He ordered army officers to wear black armbands for a week.

Lord Kitchener of Khartoum

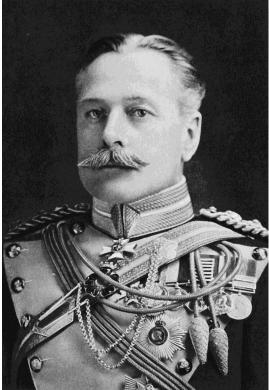
March



#### Earl Haig of Bermerside

Field Marshal Douglas Haig, 1st Earl Haig, KT, GCB, OM, GCVO, KCIE (June 19, 1861 – January 29, 1928) commanded the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) on the Western Front from late 1915 until the end of the war. He was commander during the Battle of the Somme, the Battle of Arras, the Third Battle of Ypres, the German Spring Offensive, and the Hundred Days Offensive.

His military career included service in the War Office, where he was instrumental in the creation of the Territorial Force in 1908. In January 1917 he was promoted to the rank of Field Marshal, subsequently leading the BEF during the final Hundred Days Offensive, when it crossed the Canal du Nord and broke through the Hindenburg line, capturing 188,700 German prisoners. This campaign, in combination with the Kiel mutiny, the Wilhelmshaven mutiny, the proclamation of a republic on November 9, 1918 and civil unrest across Germany, led to the armistice of November 11, 1918. It is considered by some historians to be one of the greatest victories ever achieved by a British-led army.



He was nicknamed "Butcher Haig" for the two million British casualties endured under his command. The Canadian War Museum comments: "His epic but costly offensives at the Somme (1916) and Passchendaele (1917) have become nearly synonymous with the carnage and futility of First World War battles."



The tune, *Earl Haig of Bemerside* was composed by Pipe Major James Robertson. Robertson was born in August 1886 in Portsoy, Banffshire, and grew up in Lanarkshire, where he began to learn the bagpipes aged fifteen from Pipe Major William Sutherland of Airdrie. In 1906, he enlisted in the Gordon Highlanders, and was promoted to Lance Corporal in 1912, and then to Pipe Corporal in 1913. In August 1914, he was sent to France with the 1st Battalion of the Gordons as part of the British Expeditionary Force. Two weeks later, only two of the eighteen pipers in the Battalion had escaped death or capture, and James Robertson spent almost the entire war as a prisoner.

After serving in Malta and then being based in Aberdeen, he left the military in 1927, and worked as a janitor at the Banff Academy until 1953, and was a Special Constable in Banff, achieving the rank of Sergeant. He was also involved in the Turriff and District Pipe Band.

Robertson died in 1961 at the age of 75.

















#### **Colonel Robert Bruce**, DSO

Colonel Robert Bruce (second from left in photo below) was deputy Lord Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire. Bruce graduated as MA at Aberdeen University in 1893 and then as MD in 1899. He practiced medicine in Cults, Aberdeen for many years, but prior to 1914 he joined a Territorial battalion of the Regiment and from 1915-1917 as a serving Lieutenant Colonel he commanded the 7th Gordons with great gallantry being decorated with the DSO.

The 7th (Deeside Highland) Battalion were a unit of the Territorial Force with their headquarters in Banchory. When war broke out, they had just departed for annual camp and were recalled at once. They moved from their HQ to France in May, 1915. The Division concentrated in the area of Lillers, Busnes and Robercq and were rushed to the defense of Ypres, being in action until May 19 when they moved to Estaires on the River Lys. They were renamed the 152nd Brigade, 51st (Highland) Division. They were in action in the Battle of Festubert and the Second Action of Givinchy before moving south to the Somme; taking over the line near Hamel. In 1916 they were in action in the Battles of the Somme. They also took part in the Arras Offensive, The Battle of Pilkem Ridge, The Battle of Menin Road Ridge, and the Camrai Operations. Later, they were in action at The Battle of the Tardenois, The Battle of the Scarpe, The Pursuit to the Selle, and the Final Advance in Picardy.

Later in life, he was to be created a Companion of the Order of the Bath for his services to the Territorial Army. He died in 1949.

The tune, Colonel Robert Bruce, DSO was composed by Pipe Major George Cruickshank of the Gordon Highlanders.





## Colonel Douglas Baird, DSO



General Sir Harry Beauchamp Douglas Baird KCB CMG CIE DSO (April 4, 1877 – July 2, 1963) was a British officer in the British Indian Army. Baird was born in Kensington, London, the son of Scottish Colonel Andrew Wilson Baird and Margaret Elizabeth Davidson. He was educated at Clifton College and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst.

Baird was commissioned on the unattached list of the Indian Army on January 20, 1897. He served on the Western Front in World War I becoming commanding officer of the 1st/8th Battalion the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in 1916 and then as a General Staff Officer first with 51st (Highland) Division and then with the Cavalry Corps before becoming commander of 75th Infantry Brigade in 1918.

After the War Baird became a General Staff Officer at 4th Indian Infantry Division in India, Brigadier-General on the General Staff with the Baluchistan Force and then commanding officer of the 28th Punjabis. He then became Commander of the Zhob Brigade in November 1920, Colonel on the Staff at Army Headquarters, India in 1923 and Commandant of the Senior Officers' School, Belgaum in 1924.

Baird went on to be Deputy Adjutant and Quartermaster-General in India in July 1929 and General Officer Commanding the Kohat District in December 1930. Then he became General Officer Commanding the Deccan District in 1932 and General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Eastern Command in April 1936 before retiring in April 1940.

The tune, **Col. Douglas Baird, DSO** was composed by Pipe Major William Lawrie (1881-1916) was born into a slate quarrying family in Ballachulish, Argyll and was the son of Hugh Lawrie, (Eòghann Thomais Uilleam) who gave him his first lessons on the Highland bagpipes at the age of seven. He later received lessons from John MacColl of Oban.

In 1910 he became the second piper ever to win the gold medals at the Northern Meeting and Argyllshire Gathering in the same year. He was a friend and contemporary of G.S. McLennan, and they travelled to competitions together and shared prize money.

Lawrie spent some time as piper to the Earl of Dunmore, and also as piper to the Colonel MacDougall of Lunga.

In 1914 he became Pipe Major of the 8th Argyllshire Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and served with them in France from 1915 to 1916 when he became ill as a result of trench conditions. He was invalided to England where he died in the Third Southern General Hospital in Oxford, possibly as a result of contracting pneumonia and pleurisy in the trenches and then meningitis after being admitted to hospital. A 'marbhrann' (Gaelic for lament) was written upon his death by the Islay bard Duncan Johnston who was a close personal friend.



His bagpipes are now on display in The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Museum in Stirling Castle, along with his service medals and the Gold Medals he won at Oban and Inverness.



## **Colonel Ian Campbell of Airds**



Niall Diarmid Campbell, 10th Duke of Argyll (S), 3rd Duke of Argyll (1872 - 1949) was the only son of Captain Lord Archibald Campbell, second son of George Campbell, 8th Duke of Argyll, and his wife Janey Sevilla Callander of Craigforth and Ardkinglas.

He was educated at St George's School Ascot and went then to Charterhouse School, Godalming, Surrey, England. Niall Diarmid Campbell graduated from Christ Church, Oxford University, Oxford, Oxfordshire, England, in 1896 with a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.). He was admitted to the The Honorable Society of the Middle Temple, commonly known as the "Middle Temple" on November 1,1894 and withdrew without being Called to the Bar in 1917.

On May 2, 1914, he succeeded his uncle John Campbell, 9th Duke of Argyll as 10th Duke of Argyll (S), 3rd Duke of Argyll.

Following his inheritance, His Grace became Honorary Colonel of the 8th Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders until his retirement in 1929. The 1/8th (The Argyllshire) Battalion landed in France as part of the 152nd Brigade in the 51st (Highland) Division in May 1915 for service on the Western Front.

He was additionally Honorary Colonel of the 15th (Canadian) Argyll Light Infantry. Having been previously a Deputy Lieutenant from 1914, he funded the creation of the Inveraray Bell Tower, in memory of the Clan Campbell members who died in the First World War. The whole Inveraray Bell Tower project cost over £21,000 in 1921 (£1,093,818 or \$1,447,688 in March 2022). His support didn't stop with the Bell Tower. The Inveraray church owes much to the generosity of Niall, 10th Duke of Argyll who took great interest in both the worship and the business affairs of the church. His gifts included several beautiful sets of vestments, the tabernacle, sanctuary lamps, candlesticks, the oak settle and many other furnishings.

He was appointed HM Lord Lieutenant of Argyllshire in 1923, an office he held until his death in 1949. The 10th Duke was one of a long line of Campbells to hold the position of Lord Lieutenant of Argyllshire and later Lord Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute.

The tune, Colonel Ian Campbell of Airds was composed by Pipe Major John McLellan.

**Colonel Ian Campbell of Airds** 



VOL. 2-Leaders and Heroes

#### **Colonel Lumsden DSO**



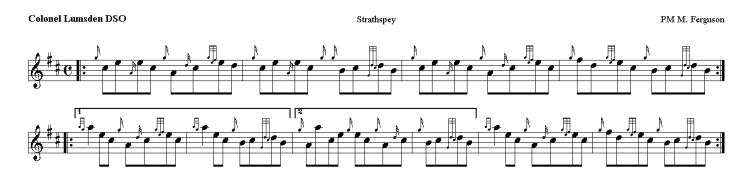
Lt. Col. William Vernon Lumsden( January 1, 1887 - December 28, 1966 ) LT. DSO, MC was commissioned into the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders as a 2nd Lieutenant on 11/12/1907. He was promoted to Lieutenant on 20/5/1908, temporary Captain on 12/9/1914 and Captain on 12/12/1914. He qualified to instruct at a qualifying range taking (mekometer) class at School of Musketry at Hythe in 1912.

He sailed with 1st Bn. to India in 1909.

He was seconded to the Machine Gun Corps as a Brigade Machine Gun Officer on May 15,1915 and served with the Machine Gun Corps until February 5, 1916. He was promoted to Temporary Major in the MGC on May 15, 1916. From June 19 until July 30, 1917 he was Acting Lieutenant Colonel. William transferred to a Service Battalion of the Scottish Rifles (Cameronians) and became a Temporary Lieutenant Colonel on April 7,1918.

On October 9, 1919 Lumsden relinquished his temporary rank of Lieutenant Colonel and was reinstated to the rank of Temporary Major while commanding A Company In the Tank Corps on October 24, 1921. On June 26, 1923 he rejoined the Argylls and served with the 9th Battalion. He became a Major on April 7, 1924. At some point he also became Adjutant of the Battalion, as it is recorded he relinquishes the appointment of Adjutant on March 16,1925. He then listed on the Reserve of Officers as lieutenant colonel March 20, 1930.

He drowned whilst walking his dogs beside the river Dee on Sluie Estate where he lived.



### Col. Ramsden DSO, MC, 15th HLI



Major General William Havelock Chaplin Ramsden, CB, CBE, DSO, MC (October 3, 1888 – December 16, 1969) in Chester, Cheshire, England, the son of Reverend Henry Plumptre Ramsden and Ethel Frances Alice Havelock, William Ramsden was educated at Bath College and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, where he was commissioned as a second lieutenant into the West India Regiment on October 5, 1910. Promoted to lieutenant on October 2, 1912, Ramsden served in the First World War with the 2nd Battalion of his regiment, initially in the Cameroons and in Nigeria with his regiment and then, from March 19, 1916, as a captain in the East Yorkshire Regiment. He served with the regiment on the Western Front, in France and Belgium, where he was awarded the Military Cross (MC) while attached to the 35th Battalion of the Machine Gun Corps (MGC), and was promoted to the temporary rank of major on February 16, 1918.

Between the wars Ramsden remained in the British Army, reaching the rank of lieutenant colonel by 1933, and securing command of the 1st Battalion, Hampshire Regiment in 1936. He was on active service on operations in Waziristan and Palestine during this period and was mentioned in dispatches. He went on to be Commander of the West Lancashire Area in 1939.

Ramsden fought in the Second World War, commanding the 25th Infantry Brigade during the fighting in France in May 1940 as part of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF). Mentioned in dispatches for his services, on December 12, 1940 he was promoted to the acting rank of major general and was appointed General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the 50th (Northumbrian) Infantry Division in succession to Giffard Martel. The division, which left England in mid-1941, fought well in North Africa the following year. Ramsden, "a lean Yorkshireman, steady and forceful, who always wore a huge automatic taken from a German officer in the previous war", was promoted to command XXX Corps in July 1942, which post he held until September 1942.

Returning to England after being succeeded by Oliver Leese as GOC XXX Corps, he was given Bernard Montgomery's old command, the 3rd Infantry Division, in December 1942, holding this post until December 1943 when succeeded by Tom Rennie. From early 1944 he was dispatched to the Sudan and became Commandant, Sudan Defense Force, later commanding British Troops in Sudan and Eritrea. He retired from the army in 1945.

The tune, *Col. Ramsden DSO, MC, 15th HLI* was composed by Pipe Major Young Gilbert. Gilbert was born March 31, 1872 at Durris in Kincardine. He served in the 15th, 16th, and 17th Battalions of the HLI as well as the 1st Battalion Seaforth Highlanders.. He is recorded as being a sergeant in the 17th HLI (presumably as Pipe Major) between September 12, 1914 and November 22, 1915.



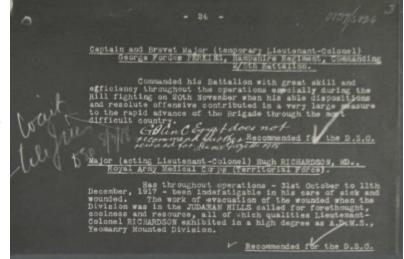
## **Colonel Richardson DSO's Farewell to St. Andrews 1919**

Colonel Richardson (July 6, 1873—June 19, 1951) DSO who was born in India, educated at Edinburgh Academy, Henderson Row, Edinburgh, and graduated in medicine at University of Edinburgh, South Bridge, Edinburgh . He came to St Andrews as a general practitioner prior to the First World War, having served in the Boer War and it was in South Africa that he met his wife, then a nursing sister with the fighting services.

On the outbreak of war in 1914 he joined the R.A.M.C. and served with great distinction in Lord Allenby's Jerusalem campaign, in the course of which he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order.

On his return to civilian life, Colonel Richardson joined the teaching staff of the medical faculty of the University as a temporary lecturer in anatomy. He also served for a number of years as Commissioner of Medical Services with the Ministry of Pensions.

On his retiral he continued to reside in St Andrews and took a keen interest in ex-Servicemen's organizations,



including the British Legion. During the Second World War he was local representative of the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families' Association. He was a keen golfer in his younger days and was member of the The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews, St Andrews, Fife.

Colonel Richardson, died at 77 years of age. His elder son, Colonel Frank M. Richardson, also served in the Middle East and won the D.S.O., during the Second World War. The younger son, Mr. Hugh Edward Richardson, O.B.E., C.I.E., was a political representative of the Indian Government in Lhasa, Tibet.



The tune *Colonel Richardson DSO's Farewell to St. Andrews 1919* was composed by Pipe Major Andrew Kirk (left). Kirk joined the Black Watch about 1899, served in South Africa and in WWI. In 1924, Kirk formed the 1st St. Andrews Boy's Brigade Pipe Band and was their PM until 1952.

Col. Richardson DSO's Farewell to St. Andrew



#### Col. Sir Bruce Seton of Abercorn Bart, CB



Brevet Colonel Sir Bruce Gordon Seton (1868 – 1932), C.B., the ninth Baronet of Abercorn was both the son and grandson of soldiers. He entered the Indian Medical Service as a Surgeon Lieutenant in 1892. He served on the North-West Frontier in the Waziristan campaign of 1894-95 where he was severely wounded. He also received a medal in the Tochi campaign of 1897-98. During his time in India Seton rose to hold the appointment of Deputy Director-General of the Indian Medical Service in a career that spanned over 20 years. He became a Brevet Colonel on June 13, 1913 and during the War served as the commanding officer in charge of the Kitchener Indian Hospital at Brighton. Colonel Seton eventually retired from the Army in May 1917.

During his tenure as the commanding officer of the Kitchener Indian Hospital Colonel Seton may have been a strict disciplinarian but we also see another side of the man and his attitude towards Indians.

Knowing how important a role religion played in the lives of the Indian patients at his hospital, Colonel Seton had a Gurdwara set up for the Sikhs and ensured that they were provided with the Guru Granth Sahibs. Colonel Seton also requested the Imam of the Woking mosque to visit the Kitchener hospital to discuss setting up a mosque for the Muslim patients.

When the honor of Indian soldiers fighting on the frontlines in France was questioned by the military authorities suspecting that the cases of self-inflicted wounds were more common among Indian soldiers. It was Colonel Seton who on his own initiative undertook a top-secret medical study based on 1,000 wounded Indian soldiers admitted to the Kitchener hospital. Colonel Seton chose wounds for study which were most likely to be self-inflicted: wounds to the hand, of the arm and forearm, and wounds of the leg and foot. Colonel Setons findings indicated that the incidences of such wounds were by mere chance and statistics showed that the occurrences of such wounds among the Indian soldiers were no higher than among soldiers of other British regiments in the war.





Col. Sir Bruce Seton of Abercorn Bart, CB



#### Col. W. Green, DSO

Following schooling at Fettes College, Edinburgh, Scotland, and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, William Green was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Black Watch on August 11, 1900. Promoted to lieutenant on November 12, 1901, he served with the 1st battalion in the Second Boer War between 1901 and 1902, earning the Queen's Medal with clasps 15, 16, 25, 26. He stayed in South Africa until the war ended in June 1902, and returned home on the SS Kinfauns Castle in October that year. In November 1907, he was promoted to captain and between May 1908 and February 1912, he was an adjutant in the Territorial Force.



Green served in World War I, and was posted in France and Belgium three times (August to October 1914, December 1914 to May 1915, and April

1916 to November 1918). Promoted to major on September 1, 1915, he was posted as the brigade major of the Home Forces between November 1915 and April 1916. He was then transferred to the 9th Battalion of the Royal Scots as a temporary major, before promotion to be temporary lieutenant-colonel two months later. He was a brigade commander in France from April 15, 1918. Green had been wounded twice during the War, and was mentioned in dispatches five times. He received the Distinguished Service Order with two bars, the Belgian War Cross and the French Legion of Honor (4th Class).

On New Years Day 1919, Green was promoted to brevet lieutenant colonel. After completing a two-year course at the Staff College, Camberley in 1920, he was appointed a general staff officer in the Defense Force (April to July 1921) and then the London District (July 1921 to December 1922). On January 1, 1923, he was appointed an instructor at the Senior Officers School in Woking, where he stayed until September 1925. From 1928 to 1931 he commanded the 2nd Battalion of the Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire). On February 2, 1928, he was promoted to substantive lieutenant-colonel, and on July 1, 1931, he was promoted to colonel (with seniority from January 1, 1923) and appointed a general staff officer with the Southern Command. Having served there for two years, he was appointed a brigade commander of the 9th Infantry Brigade on July 21, 1933. He was promoted to major-general on March 1, 1935 and went on half-pay in June of that year, but returned to full pay in March 1938, when he was appointed a commander of the South-Western Area. He was appointed a Companion of the Order of the Bath in 1937 and retired from the army in 1940, shortly after the outbreak of the Second World War, and died on December 4, 1947, at the age of 65, in Farnborough, Hampshire.



The tune, *Col. W. Green, DSO* was composed by George S. Cockburn (left). Cockburn was born in Craigmillar in Edinburgh in 1897. He was tutored in piping by his father and on leaving school began work at Murray's Brewery in Craigmillar. At the outbreak of war in 1914, although only 17, he volunteered and was enlisted into the 9th Battalion Royal Scots – "The Dandy 9th" as they were known. Having served throughout the war in France and Belgium he returned to Murray's after hostilities ceased where he ultimately became Transport Manager.

He became a member of the Highland Piping Society in Edinburgh and over the years won all the Society's trophies. He was a gifted pibroch player and second to none at playing for Highland dancing. He attended the various Highland Gatherings, Oban being his favorite, and won numerous medals in the competitions. During the Second World War he was Pipe Major of the Edinburgh Home Guard Pipe Band.



#### Col. W. M. Thomson



Lieutenant General Sir William Montgomerie Thomson KCMG CB MC (1877–1963) was a senior British Army officer who became military governor of Baku in 1918.

In 1897 he joined the Seaforth Highlanders. He served in Sudan in 1898. During the First World War he commanded the 1st Seaforth Highlanders in France and Mesopotamia between 1915 and 1916, 35th Indian Brigade between 1916 and 1917, and 14th Indian Division between 1917 and 1918. Between September 1918 and May 1919 he commanded the North Persia Force and then British forces in the South Caucasus.

On November 16, 1918, in Bandar-e Anzali, Thomson met with Nasib Yusifbeyli, Musa bey Rafiyev and Ahmet Ağaoğlu, representatives of Musavat, the governing party of the Azerbaijan Democratic Republic (ADR). He outlined his goals as (i) ensuring the evacuation of military units of the Ottoman Army and the ADR from Baku, (ii) preventing Armenian troops from entering Baku, (iii) creating a British administration of local militia, (iv)

facilitating the supply of oil from the Baku oilfields for the British, and (v) securing the eastern terminus of the Transcaucasus Railway. He denied that the British would interfere in internal affairs: "The principle of selfdetermination of peoples decided at the Paris Peace Conference from which Azerbaijan will not be excluded".

Thomson arrived in Baku the next day with about 2,000 soldiers of the British Indian Army and a detachment of Russian troops commanded by Nikolai Baratov. This was greeted with enthusiasm by the Russians of Baku. One of Thomson's first actions was to order the removal of the flag of the ADR. He also spoke in praise of Russia, declaring "The Allies cannot return home without restoring order in Russia and placing her in a position to again take her proper place among the nations of the world."

Thomson went on to become commander of the 154th Infantry Brigade in April 1920, General Officer Commanding the Presidency and Assam District in November 1924 and General Officer Commanding the 51st (Highland) Division in June 1925.

Thomson retired from the British Army in 1934. He was given the Colonelcy of the Seaforth Highlanders in 1939, holding the position until 1947.

He died on July 23, 1963. He is buried in Kinloss Abbey but is also memorialized on a family stone within the eastern enclosure at St Machar's Cathedral.

The tune, *Col. W.M. Thomson* was composed by Pipe Major David B. Mathieson. Mathieson was born in 1883. He rejoined the 1st Seaforths in 1909 as PM, thence to India, then France where he was wounded and won the Distinguished Conduct Medal.



#### Colonel Robin Campbell, DSO



On May 16,1917, at 3.30 a.m., the Germans, under cover of an exceedingly heavy barrage, counter-attacked the sector of the front under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Robin Campbell, D.S.O., of the 8th A. & S. H. At the time of the assault a relief was in progress on part of the sector, and the situation resolved itself into a matter of withstanding the strong attack and at the same time carrying out relief. In the heavy fighting which ensued, Colonel Campbell found himself forced back from the Chemical Works to the south side of the railway by 4 a.m. Gathering every available man, including men from Headquarters in the quarry, he resolved to chance an attack. He re-formed his line, with the 6th Seaforths on the right and the 8th Argylls on the left; and mounting to the top of the railway embankment, he personally led the attack forward from there. Rifle grenades were used with much effect in forcing the enemy out of the shellholes, and he drove his way forward again until once more the enemy had been swept from the Chemical Works. For his personal gallantry and leadership Colonel Campbell was awarded a bar to his D.S.O.



# Colonel Charles Ogsten, CB, CMG, DSO-The Gordon Highlanders



Brigadier-General Charles Ogston CB CMG DSO (September 14, 1877 – November 10, 1944) was educated at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst and commissioned a second lieutenant in the Gordon Highlanders in November 1897. He served on the North-West Frontier of India from 1897 to 1898 and took part in the Tirah Campaign under Sir William Lockhart. Promoted to lieutenant on July 21, 1899, he was later the same year sent to South Africa to serve as an intelligence officer in the Second Boer War. He took part in the Relief of Kimberley (February 1900), including the Battle of Magersfontein (December 11, 1899), followed by fighting in the Orange Free State from February to May 1900, including the Battle of Paardeberg (February 18-27, 1900). In May 1900 he was posted to the Transvaal Republic, where he took part in the occupied areas, including the Battle of Bergendal (August 1900) and fighting near Lydenburg. He was promoted to captain on January 22, 1902, and following the end of hostilities in early June 1902 left Cape Town on board the SS Orotava, arriving at Southampton the next month.

He served as adjutant from January 1906 to January 1909, and attended the Staff College from January 1910.

He then served in a series of staff appointments, as a deputy assistant adjutant and quartermaster-general from August 1912, assistant quartermaster-general (as a temporary lieutenant-colonel) from January 1916, and deputy adjutant and quartermaster-general (as a temporary brigadier-general) from October 1918. He was promoted temporary major in August 1914 and substantive major in 1915. During his active service in the First World War he was mentioned in dispatches, and he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) in June 1915, promoted brevet lieutenant-colonel in January 1917, and appointed Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) in 1918. He was also appointed Commander of the Italian Order of Saints Maurice and Lazarus, and awarded the French Croix de Guerre and the Italian Croce di Guerra.

He served in South Russia during the Russian Civil War in 1919, for which he was appointed Companion of the Order of the Bath (CB) in November 1919.

He was promoted substantive lieutenant-colonel in December 1920 and colonel in April 1923. He served as assistant adjutant-general from April 1923 and deputy director of recruiting and organization at the War Office (with the temporary rank of colonel on the staff) from 1924 to April 1925, when he retired with the honorary rank of brigadier-general.

The tune, Colonel Charles Ogsten, CB, CMG, DSO was composed by Pipe Major James Robertson.



### **Colonel Maclean of Ardgour**



The tune, **Colonel Maclean of Ardgour** was composed by <u>Pipe Major John</u> <u>McLellan</u> of Dunoon for Colonel John Hew Maclean, 16th Laird of Ardgour (December 1, 1880—May 27, 1930). Maclean was commissioned in the 2nd Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in 1899 and served with them in India and South Africa. In WWI, he served with his Battalion at Mons and Le Cateau, where he was taken prisoner and spent three years in captivity. At the end of the war he was posted ti the Staff of Headquarters Scottish Command and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel on the reserve in 1922. He also served as J.P. for Argyllshire.

The music of John McLellan is part of every piper's repertoire. "Lochanside," "The Highland Brigade at Magersfontein," "The Road to the Isles" and "South Hall" are staples written by creative genius, who was born in 1875 in Dunoon, Scotland. At age eight, after his father died, he moved with his family to his mother's native the Isle of Jura, eventually returning to Dunoon.

He joined the Highland Light Infantry at the age of 17 in 1892. The H.L.I. saw service in Crete, during the rebellions there, before moving to Egypt. In 1899, the HLI were bound for the South African War as one of the units of the Highland Brigade. It was at one of these famous actions that he received the Distinguished Conduct Medal.



**Colonel Maclean of Ardgour** 



#### Colonel G. A. Rusk, DSO



George Archer Rusk (d. 1982) was first commissioned in 1915. He served with The Black Watch during the First World War and was awarded the Military Cross. During the Second World War he was Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion at the Breakout from Tobruk, November 21, 1941, for which he received the Distinguished Service Order. He was a Trustee of The Black Watch from 1948 until his death in 1982.



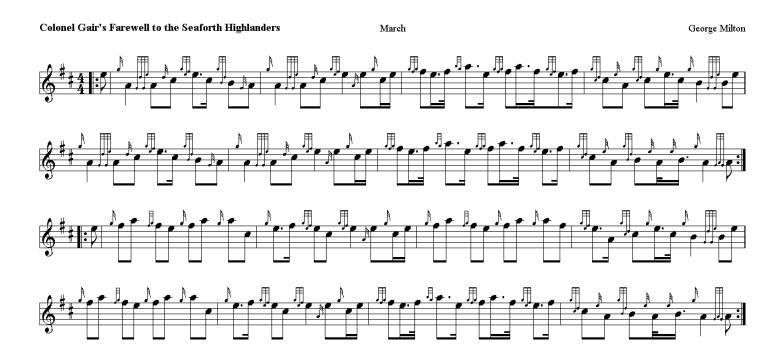
#### **Colonel Gair's Farewell to the Seaforth Highlanders**

Sinclair Gair, CBE, DCM, TD had a notable career of 50 years in the Seaforth Highlanders. He joined the 78th Highlanders (ross-shire Buffs) in 1874, earning the DCM as RSM of the 2nd Seaforth in the South African War, was commissioned as QM of the 3rd (Morayshire) Volunteer Battalion Seaforth highlanders in 1902, and commanded the 6th (Morayshire) from 1921-1924.

After his service, he was appointed Honorary Sheriff Substitute of Inverness, Moray and Nairn in 1925 and was Superintendent of the Spey Fishery Board.

Gair died at Braeside Mayne Road, Elgin, on December 21, 1939 aged 83.

The tune, **Colonel Gair's Farewell to the Seaforth Highlanders** was composed by George Milton of the Seaforths. Milton became piper to the MacDougalls of Lunga after the First World War.



Another tune dedicated to Colonel Gair was composed by Pipe Major George Peters of the Highland Light Infantry; *Colonel S. Gairs Welcome to 5th (Res.) Battn. HLI.* 



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#### Col B. Lannowe DSO

Brigadier General Edmund Byam Mathew-Lannowe CMG, DSO, was born on June 29, 1875 in the Presidency of Bombay in India. He attended Oxford Military College and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. From there he was gazetted as a second lieutenant in the Royal Regiment (West Surrey) on September 28, 1895, having passed his examination with "Honors".

Mathew-Lannowe was promoted to lieutenant on May 18, 1897, and travelled with the regiment to India where he fought on the North West Frontier in 1897–98 as part of the Malakand Field Force and the Tirah campaign. On December 1, 1902 he was promoted to captain and appointed adjutant to the 1st Battalion, stationed in Peshawar. He served as adjutant until November 1905.

In 1909 he graduated from the Staff College in Quetta and joined the 1st Secunderabad Brigade as brigademajor in October of that year. He moved to the 3rd Lahore Division as GSO2 in February 1912 and returned to his regiment in October 1913.

Edmund's regiment was in the United Kingdom when Britain declared war in August 1914, and he went to France with the British Expeditionary Force. Now Major Mathew-Lannowe, he was injured in September 1914 at the Battle of the Aisne. He was not able to redeploy until July 1915, when he was appointed brigade-major of the 101st Brigade (New Army) following his recovery.

He returned to France in March 1916 with the 39th Division of the New Army as GSO2. In this capacity he was with the division during the Battle of the Somme, the Battle of Ancre, the Battle of Ancre Heights and the Battle of Thiepval.

It was at this point that Edmund was appointed to the role of Superintendent of Training at the Bovington Tank Centre in the UK. There was an interlude in this when he served at the War Office as chief staff officer to the Director General of the Tank Corp, Sir John Capper. He was sent back to Bovington in August 1918 at Commandant of the training center till August 1919.

Further to his work with the Tank Corp he served on the Ministry of Munitions, Small Arms Committee. His work was recognized with the award of the Distinguished Service Order in 1917 and the Order of St. Michael and St. George in 1918.



He took command of the 2nd Battalion of The Queen's Royal Regiment in 1920. Serving in India, he commanded the Waziristan Force during the Wana Expedition. He was mentioned in dispatches for his service. His service ended in October 1931 when he retired with the honorary rank of brigadier-general. He remained on the reserve list and liable to recall until 1935 when he reached the age limit.

He died at his London nursing home On January 15, 1940 of bronchial pneumonia at the age of 64.



### **Colonel Duff's March**

Brigadier General Alexander Gordon Duff was born August 14, 1856 in Nairn, Highland, Scotland. Duff was commissioned into The Black Watch in 1875 and commanded the 1st Battalion from 1902 to 1906 in Edinburgh and Fort George. He embarked with the 1st Battalion as it departed for overseas duty in 1882; partaking in the Egyptian Expedition of 1882-1884, and being present at the battles of Tel-el-Kebir, Teb, and Tamai, and in the Sudan Expedition of 1884-1885.

When the Battalion finally returned to Scotland twenty years later, Duff was one of only three men who had remained with the Battalion throughout.

Duff died January 12, 1937 at the age of 80 and is buried in the Saint John Episcopal Graveyard in Edinburgh.

The tune, *Colonel Duff's March* was composed by Pipe Major John MacDonald.

MacDonald transferred [to the Black Watch] from the Inverness Militia in 1865. Piped his battalion through the jungle warfare, which ended in



Coomassie and Amoaful. At Tel-el-Kebir, El Teb, and Tamai he played the regimental charge. In 1885, while stationed at Cairo, he completed twenty-four years' service and retired. For fifteen years thereafter was pipemajor of a Volunteer battalion, and a constant competitor at the Northern Meetings.



Colonel Duff's March



#### **Bonnie Auchentorlie**

The tune, *Bonnie Auchentorlie* (also spelled Auchentoolie) was dedicated to Colonel Fergusson-Buchanan on September 2, 1916.

George James Ferguson-Buchanan (formerly George James Ferguson) (1862-1928) of Auchentorlie was Justice of the Peace for Co. Dumbarton, late Major and Hon. Lt. Col. of the 3rd Battalion of the Scots Fusiliers, formerly A.D.C. to the Governor of Bombay, Major Army Reserve, served in the Royal Scots Fusiliers in South Africa, Member of the Royal Company of Archers. He assumed in 1890 the additional name Buchanan on succeeding to Auchentorlie.

**Bonnie Auchentoolie** 

March



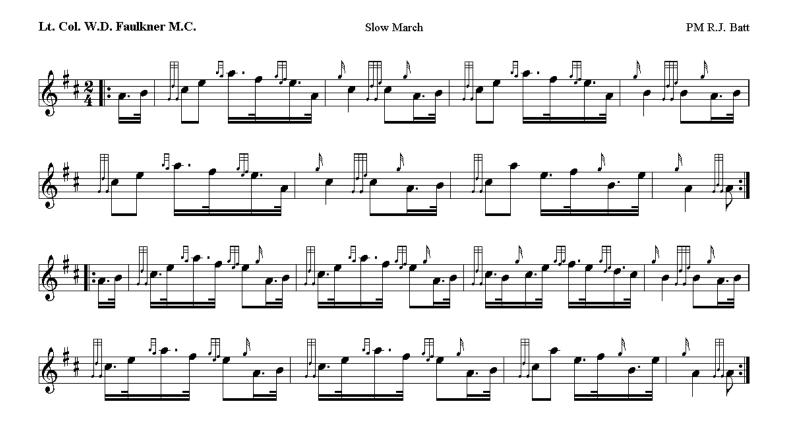
### Lt. Col. W.D. Faulkner, MC

Walter Douglas Faulkner joined the Irish Guards from Sandhurst early in 1917 and went to France in September of that year, where he served with the 2nd Battalion for the rest of the War, being awarded the M.C. in 1918. After a distinguished military career, which included the adjutancy of his battalion and the appointment of Commandant at the Guards Depot, he was given command in 1938 of the 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, who were at that time serving in Palestine. It was then that his powers of leadership, which were always so apparent, were given full scope. He was a magnificent commanding officer during through troublous and difficult times. Always calm and with excellent judgment, he inspired complete confidence in all who worked with him, and the added reputation which the Irish Guards gained in Palestine was in no small measure due to the skill and leadership of their commanding officer.



Lt. Col. W.D. Faulkner, Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion 24th Guards Brigade, was killed on April 10, 1940 age 42 when the transport ship (HMT Chobry) was bombed by a force of Heinkel bombers.

The tune was composed by Color Sgt. R.J. Batt, who was Pipe Major of the 1st Battalion from 1939–40.



### Lt. Col. The Hon. E.O. Campbell's Welcome to the 8th Seaf. Hrs.

The Hon. Eric Octavius Campbell (December 3, 1885—June 4, 1918) was a Lieutenant Colonel with the 8th Battalion, Seaforth Highlanders and recipient of the DSO and Bar. After going to Eaton, Campbell passed into the Army through the Militia, being gazette to the Seaforth Highlanders on December 20, 1905.

The 8th (Service) Battalion, Seaforth Highlanders was raised at Fort George in September 1914 as part of Kitchener's Second New Army and joined the 44th Brigade, 15th (Scottish) Division. The Battalion landed at Boulogne-sur-Mer in July 1915.

At the outbreak of the war, Campbell went to France as adjutant of the Second Battalion. He was awarded the DSO on February 18, 1915 and was wounded at St. Julien on April 25, 1915. He was employed as Brigade Major from January 3, 1915 to September 24, 1916; his service being rewarded with a brevet majority on June 3, 1916.

Campbell was in the hospital in France towards the end of 1918 and on return to duty in November went to the Second Battalion but resumed the



appointment of Brigade Major to the 44th Infantry Brigade on January 22, 1917. He returned to regimental duty on May 27, 1917 and for a short time commanded the Second Battalion. On October 20, 1917, he was given command of another battalion of the Seaforths, which he retained till the middle of May, 1918 when a breakdown in health, due to nearly four years of active service, compelled him to go to the hospital. He arrived home on May 25, having been repeatedly wounded, but returned to duty immediately as he was only bruised by a shell fragment. He is mentioned in dispatches for a third time in May, 1918 and a bar to his DSO was awarded on June 3, 1918.

He died of a cerebral hemorrhage on June 4, 1918 in a hospital in London. He was 33.



Lt.Col. The Hon. E.O. Campbell's Welcome to the 8th Seaf. Hrs.



#### Lt. Col. N.A. Thompson's Farewell to the 8th Btn. Seaforth Hdrs

Colonel Noel A. Thompson, CMG, DSO (front row center in photo below), served in the 8th Battalion Seaforth Highlanders. The tune, Lt. Col. N.A. Thompson's Farewell to the 8th Btn Seaforth Hdrs (and later re-titled to Col N.A...) was composed by Pipe Major John Haywood of the 8th Battalion Seaforth Highlanders.



Photo, by Ellisti & Yry. OFFICERS OF THE R. BATTALION MEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS.

Col., new Brig-General, N. A. THOMSON, C.M.G., D.S.O., Log. Horsony, Officer, Pranow, Communition

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S. M. L. Nivolano, L. Le. D. R. Oversteiner, 5. Le. D. R. Oversteiner, 5. Le. D. Bandarder, C.L. Land, MacAsher, M. M., A.K. K. O. Pergenenni, E. Le. John F. Konnedy,
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Theorem, G.A.D., C.M.G., C.O., 4. Capt. Harry Manuel, T. Capt. A. G. Ravashelli, E. Capt. George Matrixy, J. Le. J. Myles.

Lt.Col. N.A. Thompson's Farewell to the 8th Btn Seaforth Hdrs.



# Lt. Col. R.J.L. Ogilby, DSO

On the morning of December 9, 1917, after Turkish troops move out of the region after only a single day's fighting, officials of the Holy City of Jerusalem offer the keys to the city to encroaching British troops.

The British, led by General Edmund Allenby, who had arrived from the Western Front the previous June to take over the command in Egypt, entered the Holy City two days later under strict instructions from London on how not to appear disrespectful to the city, its people, or its traditions. Allenby entered Jerusalem on foot—in deliberate contrast to Kaiser Wilhelm's more flamboyant entrance on horseback in 1898—and no Allied flags were flown over the city, while Muslim troops from India were dispatched to guard the religious landmark the Dome of the Rock.

Colonel Robert James Leslie Ogilby, DSO, DL (1880–1964), was a senior British Army officer who commanded a battalion of the London Scottish Regiment in the First World War and was later the regiment's Honorary Colonel. Having joined the General Reserve of Officers immediately following Britain's declaration of war against Germany, he was appointed a temporary Captain in his old regiment, the Irish Dragoons, in February 1915. By May 1916 he had been promoted Major and was second-in-command of the 7th Battalion of the Norfolk Regiment when engaged in heavy fighting during the Battle of the Somme. He was advanced to Lieutenant-Colonel in the same year and in September was given command of the 2nd/14th London Regiment, the London Scottish. In November he led this Territorial battalion, part of the 60th Division, to reinforce the allied army on the Salonica front.



The battalion saw action during the Second Battle of Doiran, and Ogilby was mentioned for gallantry in General Milne's half-yearly dispatches of March and October 1917. By the latter date he had already spent three months with his

unit in Egypt and Palestine; he was mentioned for his service in the latter theatre in General Allenby's dispatches of January 1918. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) in the same month.

As part of 60th Division, Ogilby's battalion saw considerable action in Palestine (where its soldiers accounted for two of the three Victoria Crosses won by men of the London Scottish) and made an important contribution to carrying the British line forward from Beersheba to Jerusalem. After the Battle of Jerusalem the battalion, headed by its pipes, was the first to enter the city as a formed body.

St Andrew's Church, Jerusalem was later built as a tribute to Scottish soldiers who fell in the Palestine campaign, and Ogilby was present when the memorial for the London Scottish casualties was unveiled there in 1934.

Leaving Palestine and returning to France in June 1918, Ogilby's battalion was in action during the Advance in Flanders as part of the 30th Division, contributing to the capture of the Dranoutre Ridge in August. For his "very fine work" in the latter operation Ogilby was mentioned in Field Marshal Haig's dispatches and awarded a bar to his DSO. The award citation referred to the "particularly fine example of energy and fearlessness he set to his men at a critical time" and to the value of his personal reconnaissance which led to adjustment of his dispositions and enhanced ability to withstand counter-attack.

Ogilby's battalion was attempting to bridge the River Scheldt when the November Armistice was announced. He relinquished his command in January 1919 and was awarded the Belgian Croix de Guerre in March. He retired from Territorial service in July, retaining his rank of lieutenant-colonel.

#### Lt. Col. R.J.L. Ogilby, D.S.O.

March

2nd Btn. London Scottish Entry into Jerusalem December 9th, 1917



## Major John McLennan, The Gordon Highlanders



#### The tune, *Major John McLennan, The Gordon Highlanders*, was composed by George S. McLennan in honor of his favorite cousin, Major John MacLennan, a great character who was Regimental Sergeant Major of the 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders in the Boer War when he received the Distinguished Conduct Medal and who was commissioned as a Quartermaster in the Regiment in 1902. Major MacLennan was injured in France in 1916 as a result of a fall from his horse which had been startled by shell fire. MacLennan was evacuated to a wartime hospital where he was frequently visited by G.S. He died August 11, 1916 in what was then the music room of the Girl's High School, Albyn Place, Aberdeen.

George Stewart McLennan was born on February 9, 1883 in Edinburgh, the eighth of their nine children. Many of his ancestors on both sides of the family were prominent pipers. Among his half-siblings was Gold Medal winner Donald Ross McLennan. George suffered from polio as a child, and could not walk until the age of four and a half.

McLennan began receiving piping tuition from his father at the age of four, and later received tuition from his uncle

Pipe Major John Stewart, and in Highland dancing from his cousin William McLennan. He made rapid progression, winning the Amateur National Championship at the age of nine, and was invited by Queen Victoria to play for her at Balmoral Castle.

His father enlisted him in the Gordon Highlanders in October 1899 in order to prevent him from joining the Merchant Navy, and he became Pipe Major of the 1st Battalion in 1905, one of the youngest ever in the British Army.

McLennan was successful in solo competitions, and won the Gold Medal at the Argyllshire Gathering in Oban in 1904 and at the Northern Meeting in Inverness in 1905, and the Clasp at Inverness for former winners of the Gold Medal in 1909, 1920 and 1921. McLennan had a close friendship and competitive rivalry with Willie Ross, and he travelled to competitions and shared prize money with William Lawrie.

He married Nona Lucking on April 3, 1912, and together they had two sons, George (1914–1996) and John (1916–1940), who both became pipers with the Gordon Highlanders.

McLennan was posted at the depot in Aberdeen until 1918, when he was sent to the Western Front to succeed Pipe Major Tom Henderson who had been killed. In May 1918 he collapsed and required fluid to be drained from his lungs in a field hospital. When the war ended he was posted back to Aberdeen, and after he was discharged in 1922 he started working in Aberdeen as a bagpipe maker. At the time there were several other prominent musicians in the city, including fiddler James Scott Skinner.

He died on May 13,1929 of lung cancer after a long period of ill health connected to the makeshift operation. 20,000 people lined the route of the procession to Aberdeen station at his funeral on June 4, before he was interred at Newington Cemetery in Edinburgh.

#### Major John Mc Lennan, The Gordon Highlanders















#### Major C.M. Usher, OBE

Colonel Charles Milne Usher (September 6, 1891—January 21, 1981), D.S.O., O.B.E., Chevalier Legion d'Honour, Croix de Guerre with Palm, Citoyen d'honneur of the Town of Caen, commanded the 1st Battalion of the Gordons and, for his work at Dunkirk, when he organized the defense of a line vital for the evacuation of the British Expeditionary Force, he was awarded the DSO. He returned to the Continent again with the troops invading Normandy.

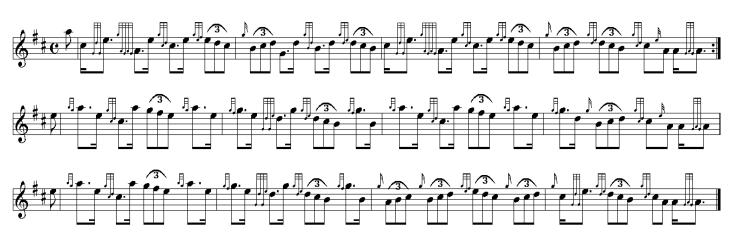
Educated at Merchiston Castle, Edinburgh, and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, Col. Usher joined the Gordon Highlanders in 1911. After the Battle of Mons, in the First World War, he spent four-and-a-half years as a prisoner-of-war in Germany. He gained the Mons Star and two other medals.



The strathspey, *Capt. C.M. Usher's* was composed by Pipe Major James Duff. Duff was born in 1875, joined the Gordons in 1891, then to Argylls, then the Royal Scots in India and finally to the 2nd Bn Gordons during WW1. He was captured and interned in Holland in 1914 where he formed a pipe band from internees. He was on the first SPBA panel of judges in the 1930s.

Capt. C.M. Usher's

PM James A. Duff





*Captain CM Usher's Reel* was composed by James Robertson. Born in Bannffshire on August 23, 1886, Robertson began learning pipes at the age of 15 from P/M William Sutherland of Airdrie.

In 1906 he enlisted in the Gordon Highlanders, where he would befriend and come under the influence of the great G. S. McLennan, the greatest Gordon piper of all. G. S. taught Robertson from 1906 to 1913, recommended him for promotion to Lance Corporal in 1912, and oversaw his advancement to Pipe Corporal in 1913.

Just before the Great War, he attended the Military School of Piping at Inverness under John MacDonald of Inverness, where he certainly would have studied piobaireachd, and became the tenth graduate of what would come to be known as the Army School of Piping.

In August 1914 he went with the 1st Battalion of the Gordons to France as part of the British Expeditionary Force.

In April of 1918 he was exchanged as a prisoner and the next year he rejoined the 1st Battalion in Limerick. But it was during his incarceration as a POW in 1915 that he composed his best known tune, "Farewell to the Creeks." It was about the Creeks of Portknockie, where he used to holiday at his uncle's. Many years later he spoke be still being in possession of the piece of yellow blotting paper onto which he first transcribed the tune, apparently while he was in solitary confinement.

A champion boxer in the regiment as a young man, he was respected as a pipe major, a piper and a soldier, though the war and his foreign service perhaps robbed him of his due as a competitive player.

After serving in Malta and finally at the depot in Aberdeen, he retired in April, 1927 and worked as a janitor at the Banff Academy until 1953. He also served as a Special Constable in Banff, achieving the rank of Sergeant. He died in 1961.

**Editor's Note**: while strathspeys are reels are common throughout the Anthology, it is rare that an individual has both tune formats in his honor.

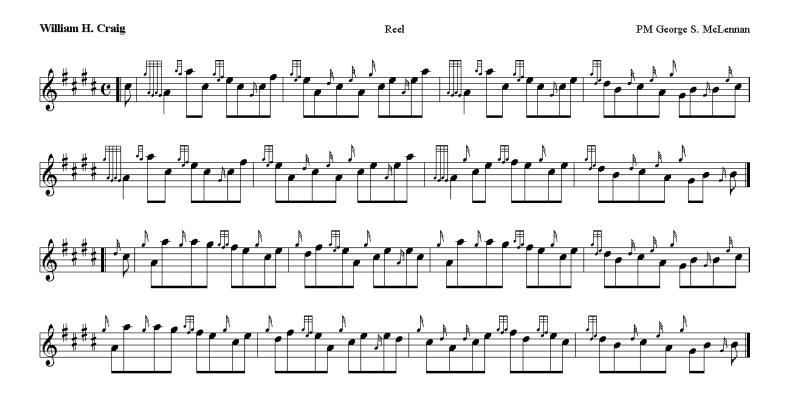


The march, *Major C. M. Usher, OBE* was composed by <u>Pipe Major George S. McLennan</u>. Usher was also a keen piper and was taught by both George S. and his father John McLennan. GS promised Charles Usher a tune once he received his promotion to Major and it is probably the last tune that GS composed.



# William H. Craig

The tune, *William H. Craig* by <u>Pipe Major George S. McLennan</u> was named for a fellow Gordon Highlander who served as a regular soldier in both World Wars and rose from Private to Major. Craig was a close friend of the composer having served together in Cork and Colchester.



## Major Moir of Villeveque



Major Robert "Bobby" G. Moir was destined for the Army, and joined before the War received his military training at Sandhurst. Early in the war, Colonel Robin Campbell DSO was the commanding officer of the Argylls. He was involved in heavy fighting in May 1917 and personally led a counter attack which swept the enemy out of their positions. He was awarded a bar to his DSO and John MacLellan wrote a tune for him, a 3/4 march called Colonel Robin Campbell DSO. John MacLellan also wrote a 6/8 march for another Argylls officer also from Alloa, Lt J C Buchan VC who died of wounds on March 22, 1918.

In October 1917 Lt. Colonel James Robert Macalpine-Downie of Appin became the commanding officer. He had previously been in command of the battalion of reinforcements and replacements stationed in the UK. In an attack on battalion HQ at Villevegue, west of Saint Quentin, Colonel MacAlpine-Downie was killed on March 121, 918, the first day of a German offensive. Major Moir commanded the remains of the battalion until they were pulled out of the line five days later, having lost C Company and suffered 542 casualties. He was awarded the DSO, 'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in temporary command of a battalion. Both in attack and defense he has done consistently well, and kept his battalion up to a high standard of fighting spirit, so that they have not lost a position.'

He was wounded for a second time in August 1918 and finished the war as Major Moir MC DSO. He became commanding officer of the Argylls in 1919. During World War II he was a Brigadier. He and his wife were reported missing in Singapore and spent the rest of the war in a prison camp. He died in 1965.

The tune, Major Moir of Villeveque was composed in his honor by Pipe Major John MacLellan.



# Major Byng M. Wright

Byng Montgomery Wright, VD, JP county Argyll, Clerk of Lieutenancy for Argyll (appointed 1903), served in A Company of the 5th Volunteer Battalion The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders from 1890 to 1908 and then in

the 8th Battalion of that Regiment until 1913. He was made honorary Major of the Battalion and awarded the Volunteer Decoration. Major Wright died, March 1, 1915.

The tune, *Major Byng M. Wright* was composed by Pipe Major John MacColl (1860 -1943).

The 4th son of Dugald MacColl, a tailor and an excellent piper from Kentallen, he distinguished himself from his piping brothers by a desire not just to do well, but to be the best. He would excel not just at composing, but as a piper, a fiddler, a Highland dancer and an athlete.

Instruction came initially from his father, and then from the famous pipe music editor and player Donald MacPhee (1841-1880) and finally from Pipe Major Ronald MacKenzie of the Black Watch (1842-1916), who won the Prize Pipe at Inverness in 1873 and the Gold Medal there in 1875. His initial forays into competitive piping starting when he was 17 in 1877 were not particularly successful. He was competing against piping immortals like Robert Meldrum and John MacDougall Gillies and success was not immediate. But in 1880 he became piper to MacDonald of Dunach and was able to devote his life to piping. He won the Gold Medal at Oban the next year, the Prize Pipe at Inverness in 1883, the Former Winners' Gold Medal at Inverness in 1884, the Clasp at Inverness in 1900 and first prize at the Paris Exhibition in 1902.

He served as Pipe Major of the 3rd Battalion of the Black Watch and after that with the Scottish Horse. He trained pipers and taught piobaireachd for the Piobaireachd Society.

Around the turn of the century he, Willie Lawrie and G. S. McLennan revolutionized the composition of light music, and in particular took the competition march form to a level that has not been equaled.

His piobaireachd playing received mixed reactions. He won the major prizes, but never dominated the piobaireachd lists as he could in the light music, where he was considered the best march player of the time. Some thought his piobaireachd playing lacked the expressive feeling of his light music, but John MacDonald of Inverness called one of his performances of "I Got a Kiss of the King's Hand" at Birnam Games "one of the most harmonious performances I have ever listened to." He composed three piobaireachd, two of which (*Lament for Donald MacPhee* and *N.M. MacDonald's Lament*) won composing contests, and the third of which has been lost.

In 1908 he gave up the games circuit and joined the Glasgow firm of R. G. Lawrie as the manager of their new bagpipe making branch. John MacDougall Gillies was similarly in charge of Henderson's pipemaking shop, and as a result, some of the greatest sets of pipes ever made came from these two firms during this time. MacColl retired from Lawrie's in 1936. During those first few decades of the 1900s, he and MacDougall Gillies – who died in 1925 – helped build the Glasgow piping community into a center of piping excellence that has continued to this day.

Major Byng M. Wright



### Major Manson's Farewell to Clachantrushal



David Manson was born on July 22, 1867 at Cromarty. He enlisted in the Seaforth Highlanders in 1887 and served for 7 years. He emigrated to Canada in 1895 where he worked as a customs officer and served with the 5th Regt Militia (Royal Highlanders of Canada), being Pipe Major from 1897-1907. In World War One he re-enlisted in September 1914, giving his year of birth as 1872 and served with the Canadian Infantry as Pipe Major from February 1915 to October 1917 in France. He was commissioned Captain and Quartermaster and rose to Major. During the 1930s he visited Lewis where he became a friend of PM Donald MacLean of Lewis and spent some time in Glasgow where he attended events run by the Scottish Pipers' Association. After the Second World War he returned to Glasgow for several years during which he attended many piping events, becoming a popular figure of the local piping scene. Major Manson was closely associated with the College of Piping in its early years, serving as a vicepresident from 1944 until he died. His help and encouragement did a great deal to promote the initial growth of the organization. After his return to Canada he had continued to take an active interest and to improve relationships between the two countries. During his time in Glasgow he worked as a silversmith in association with the bagpipe makers, Peter Henderson Ltd, making silver mounts for bagpipes and silver for sporrans, sgian dubhs, cap badges, shoe and belt buckles and kilt pins. He died in Canada on February 5, 1959.

The tune, *Major Mason's Farewell to Clachantrushal* was composed by Pipe Major John MacLean of Lewis when MacLean was a POW. MacLean was born April 23, 1900 in the solitary house on the small tidal island of Kirkibost, North Uist, where his father, Angus, was the herdsman.

He joined the Ist Battalion Gordon Highlanders in 1918 (his army record states that, like his father, he was a farm servant) and was posted to Turkey. He left them in 1921.

After five years in and around Glasgow involved in various unskilled work, he joined the Scots Guards in 1926. By 1928 he was Pipe Corporal in the 1st Battalion under Pipe Major John D. MacDonald from Melness in Sutherland.

In 1933 he was promoted to Pipe Major of the 2nd Battalion Highland Light Infantry (74th Highlanders). This promotion effectively finished his competing career. He saw out the next five years' in active service in India and the North West Frontier with a year in Palestine and Egypt.

In 1943, he returned home with the HLI as Home Defense forces and to prepare for the Normandy landings. By the Normandy invasion, he was no longer Pipe Major of the 2nd Battalion but Company Sergeant Major of HQ Company, 1st Battalion HLI, part of Montgomery's 21 Army Group. He returned home in 1946, as Regimental Sergeant Major of the 71st Primary Training Centre and Depot at Maryhill Barracks, Glasgow. There he kept his pipes going and was known as "Pipey".

Maclean left the army in 1948 with 25 years outstanding service behind him, and became an employee of the Bank of Scotland. For the rest of his life, he was a judge at both solo and RSPBA competitions. He also taught individually and was tutor to the Glasgow Academy cadets' pipe band for many years.

He died at home in 1971 the day before his 71st birthday.

Major Manson's Farewell to Clachantrushal

March



### Major Fletcher's Welcome to the 5/6 Royal Scots

Major Ernest Fletcher was second in command at Gallipoli when the Battalion landed on the peninsular. He was awarded the MC. He took temporary command of the 5th Manchesters on October 21, 1915

The 21st (Wigan) Lancashire Rifle Volunteers, later the 5th Battalion, Manchester Regiment, was a unit of Britain's Volunteer Force and Territorial Army recruited in and around Wigan. It served as infantry in Egypt, at Gallipoli, and in some of the bitterest battles on the Western Front in the First World War. Its Second Line battalion was virtually destroyed in the German spring offensive of 1918.





#### **Major Ross**

Dr. Donald (Major) Ross was Physician Superintendent of the Argyll and Bute Hospital from 1914-1946 and was Medical Officer in the 8th Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Built as the Argyll District Asylum, the hospital opened in 1863 and was the first district asylum to be built in Scotland following the 1857 Lunacy (Scotland) Act. It served as a territorial support hospital during the First World War.



The tune, *Major Ross*, was composed by Pipe Major Neil Crawford of the 8th Argylls and PM of the Mid Argyll Pipe Band. The band was formed in the 1920's in Argyll (The Mid Argyll Pipers Society prior to this) winning one of its first prizes at the worlds in 1930 under PM Crawford.

**Major Ross** 



74

# Captain Norman Orr Ewing



Norman Archibald Orr Ewing was born November 23, 1880 in Knockdhu, Argyllshire, Scotland. He served in the Scots Guards from 1900 until 1919. His family was deeply rooted in rural central Scotland. His ancestry included descent from Alexander Ewing, born at Balloch around 1660, and a maternal lineage from a Campbell of Dunstaffnage (the "Orr" had been adopted by the first baronet, Sir Archie, MP for Dumbartonshire, shortly after creation of the baronetcy in 1886).

Ewing began WWI by being attached to the 1st Battalion of the Irish Guards in October of 1914 and was awarded the DSO for his gallantry under fire. He was the most senior officer left alive and unhurt during a vicious attack by four German divisions, and took command of what was left of the battalion, around 160 men of all ranks (down from over 800 the week before). The line was near breaking-point by then, but company after company delivered what blow it could, and fell back, shelled and machine-gunned at every step, to the fringe of Zillebeke Wood. Here the officers, every cook, orderly, and man who could stand, took rifle and fought; for they were all that stood there between the enemy and the Channel Ports. They just wouldn't be broken, and the line, such as it was, held.

Their Brigadier, Lord Cavan, wrote on November 20 (1914) to Captain N. Orr-Ewing, commanding the Battalion: "I want you to convey to every man in your Battalion that I consider that the safety of the right flank of the British section depended entirely upon their staunchness after the disastrous day, Nov. 1. Those of them that were left made history, and I can never thank them enough for the way in which they recovered themselves and showed the enemy that the Irish Guards must be reckoned with, however hard hit.

Sir Norman was the 4th Baronet of Orr-Ewing, retired with the rank of Brigadier General.

The tune, *Captain Norman Orr Ewing* was composed by Pipe Major William Ross. The name was later changed to *Captain Norman Orr Ewing* following Ewing's promotion

William (Willie) Collie Ross M.V.O, M.B.E. was undoubtedly one of the greatest pipers Scotland ever produced. Born in 1878 in Glenstrathfarrar in The Highlands to Alick Ross and Mary Collie, he was one of a family of three sons and three daughters. William enlisted into the Scots Guards in 1896 and saw service in the Boer War and the Great War of 1914-1918. Promoted to Pipe Major of the 2nd Battalion in 1905, his brother Alick was to become Pipe Major of the 1st Battalion - a unique situation. William was invalided out of the army in 1919, suffering from acute rheumatic disorder following a hard life in the trenches. In 1920 he became Director of the Army School of Bagpipe Music and took his office and residence in Edinburgh Castle. His record in competitive piping was unique; Gold Medal - Inverness 1904, Gold Medal -



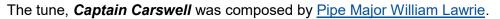
Oban 1907, Open Piobaireachd winner in 1907, 1912 and 1928, winner of The Clasp in 1905, 1906, 1907, 1910, 1912, 1919, 1928 and 1931. As the former winner of the March, Strathspey and Reel at Oban and Inverness he was champion 11 times. Many regarded him as the world's greatest piper, a brilliant player, teacher and composer. He published 5 books of pipe music, which are used all over the world.

Captain Norman Orr Ewing



# Captain Carswell

William Alexander Carswell, MC, was acting Corporal in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in 1917 and later Captain in The Black Watch (Royal Highlanders). He became ill while fighting with his unit in France in World War I and was invalided back to England, but did not recover. He died March 21, 1918.; he was one of three brothers from the family that were killed in WWI. Their names are recorded on the Argyllshire war memorials.





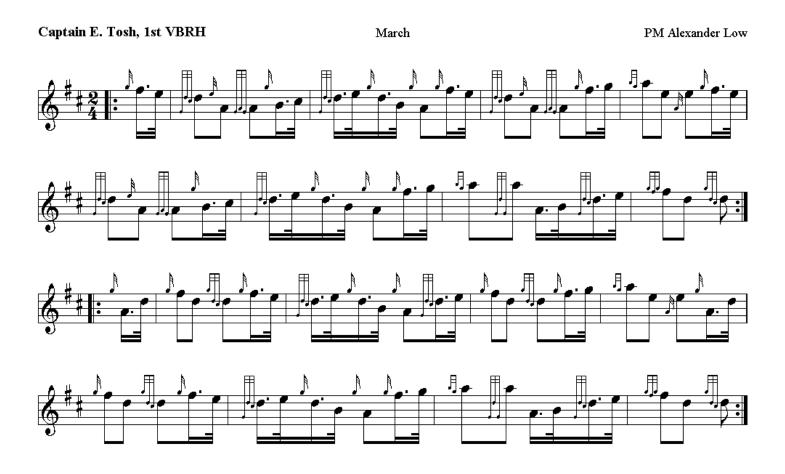
### Captain E. Tosh, 1st VBRH

Major (George) Elmslie Tosh, 4th Battalion Royal Highlanders Black Watch, was killed in action, September 25, 1915 at Loos, aged 43 years.

Elmslie became a partner in his father's accountancy firm. He was also involved with the Volunteer and Territorial Movement in Dundee. During the Boer War, Elmslie (then a Lieutenant) had taken out the 2nd Detachment of the Dundee Volunteers (Royal Highlanders) to South Africa. He had formerly served as a trooper in the Natal Mounted Police. During the Boer conflict, he was selected to command draft for 1st Volunteer Company attached to the 2nd Black Watch. He received the South African Medal with clasps for Cape Colony, Orange Free State and Transvaal. On return to Dundee, he continued in business as an accountant and was made an honorary Burgess of Dundee.

He enlisted in the (4th) Black Watch, Royal Highlanders, becoming an army major, going out to France in February 1915. He was engaged in the Battle of Loos in September of 1915 when he was killed in action. He is buried at Pont-du-Hem Military Cemetery, La Gorgue, France.

The tune, *Captain E. Tosh, 1st VBRH* was composed by Pipe Major Alexander Low. Low became Pipe Major of the 4th Battalion Black Watch and was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for his bravery at the Battle of Neuve Chapelle.



# Captain G.C.S. MacLeod

Captain George Charles Sholto MacLeod was born at Sylhet, Assm on June 28, 1877. At the age of nineteen, he joined the ranks of the Army in which he served for over three and a half years.

He took part in the South Africa War from 1800 to 1900, serving in the Ladysmith Relief Force and taking part in the operations of January 17-18, 1900 and in the action at Spion Kop. He also took part in the operations of February 5-7, 1900 and in the action at Vaal Krans; also in the operations on Tugela Heights, where he was severely wounded.

For his services, he was mentioned in Dispatches and received the Queen's medal with two clasps and the medal for Distinguished Conduct in the field.

He received his commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the Lancashire Fusiliers in May, 1900 and was promoted Lieutenant in 1901. In April 1905, he obtained special promotion to the Hampshire Regiment, as Captain, and in June, 1908, he was transferred to The Black Watch with the same rank. He served with the Egyptian Army from 1906 to 1908.



MacLeod transferred into The Black Watch from the Hampshire Regiment and proceeded to France with the 1st Battalion in August 1914. He was wounded in France in November 1914 and later taken prisoner at Bethune on May 13, 1915.

Captain MacLeod died in the hospital at Bethume on May 9, 1915, at the age of 37 suffering from shrapnel wounds.



The tune, *Captain G.C.S. MacLeod* was composed by Pipe Major Angus R. MacLeod in 1909. MacLeod enlisted into the 1st Battalion in 1901 but later transferred to the 2nd Battalion. He was wounded at Neuve Chapelle. He was Pipe Major of the 2nd Black Watch from 1919 to 1925, then served with the Liverpool Scottish until discharge in 1938. He was one of the three 2nd Black Watch pipers to survive the Great War. He died in the 1960s.

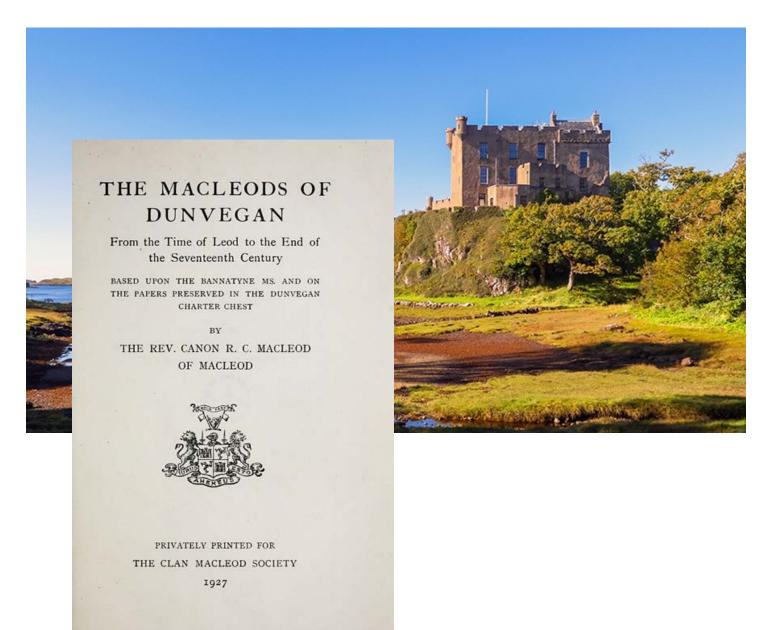
Pipers of The Black Watch at Richebourg



#### Captain R.C. MacLeod, 6th Btln. Royal Scots

#### Another tune by Pipe Major Angus R. Macleod is Captain R.C. Macleod, 6th Btln. Royal Scots.

The Reverend Cannon Roderic Charles MacLeod (1852-1934) served in the 6th Battalion Royal Scots. The 6th Battalion, Royal Scots, was a unit of Britain's part-time Territorial Force. Beginning as a Volunteer unit formed from teetotalers in the city of Edinburgh in 1867, it later became affiliated to the Royal Scots. During World War I it served in the Senussi Campaign and on the Western Front. McLeod was later the Honorary Secretary for the Clan MacLeod Society and a prolific author.





# Captain C.R. Lumsden

Captain Charles Ramsay Lumsden (1880–1914) served in the Seaforth Highlanders. Lumsden was the son of Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Lumsden of Balmedie and had served in the South African War. He was one of five brothers in the Army, of whom only two survived. Major Harry Tailyour Lumsden, the eldest, of the Cameron Highlanders, was accidentally killed while in the Royal Flying Corps. Captain Ernest Francis Lumsden, served in the Mechanical Transport, Army Service Corps, while the fifth, Captain William Vernon Lumsden, was a machine gun officer with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Captain Lumsden was killed in action at Mons, August 26, 1914, aged 34. His name is inscribed on the La Ferte-sous-Jouarre Memorial.

The tune, *Captain C.R. Lumsden* was composed by <u>Pipe Major George</u> <u>S. McLennan.</u>





















# Captain Noel Chavasse VC

Captain Noel Godfrey Chavasse, VC & Bar, MC (November 9, 1884 – August 4, 1917) was a Medical Officer of the 1st Battalion The Liverpool Scottish. His skill and gallantry were legendary.

The Battle of Guillemont saw acts of heroism by Chavasse. In 1916, he was hit by shell splinters while rescuing men in no-man's land. It is said he got as close as 25 yards to the German line, where he found three men and continued throughout the night under a constant rain of sniper bullets and bombing. He performed similar heroics in the early stages of the offensive at Passchendaele in August 1917 to gain a second VC and become the most highly decorated British officer of the First World War. Although operated upon, he was to die of his wounds two days later in 1917. He was awarded a posthumous bar to the Victoria Cross for his continued gallantry. Only two others have been similarly honored by a bar to the Victoria Cross

In 1979, "V" (Liverpool Scottish) Company 51st Highland Volunteers erected a memorial to Captain Chavasse at Forbes House, Liverpool. Pipe Sergeant Glyn Pritchard of the Liverpool Scottish composed the tune, *Captain Noel Chavasse, VC* for the occasion.





















# Capt. T. MacWhirter MC 9th Batt. Gordon Hdrs.

Major Thomas MacWhirter was killed on the Arras Front, April 27, 1917. The 9th Gordons were the Pioneer Battalion of the 15th (Scottish) Division. MacWhirter was wounded twice and was awarded the MC.

The tune, *Capt. T. MacWhirter 9th Batt. Gordon Hdrs* was composed by piper McKay Tait.



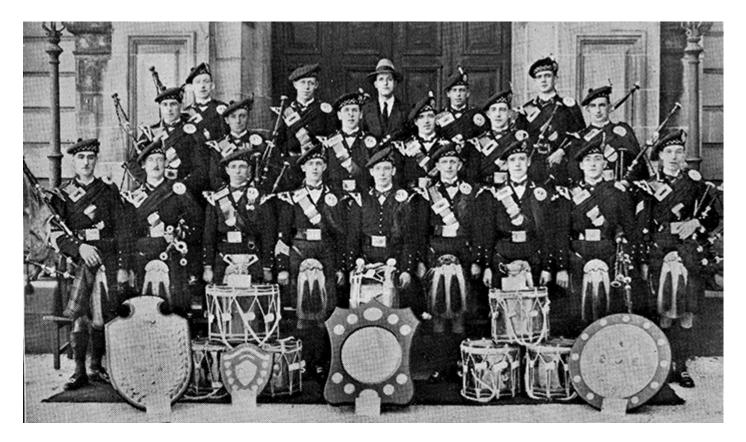


## Capt. Duncan MacRae of Ballimore

Captain Duncan McRae of Ballimore (1890-1966) was an Argyll man, son of the renovator of Eilean Donan Castle - John Macrae-Gilstrap who died in 1937. The castle passed on to his son, Captain Duncan Macrae whose enthusiasm for the project did not match that of his father, and whose family chose to occupy their other estates, rather than Eilean Donan

Captain Macrae served with the Seaforths in India and then with the Royal Flying Corps. He was taken prisoner by the Turks.

The tune *Capt. Duncan MacRae of Ballimore* was composed by Pipe Major George D. MacDonald. George Donaldson MacDonald was born in 1885 in Dunoon. He lived in Stirling as a boy and served with the 7<sup>th</sup> Argylls during the South African war. He served as Pipe Major of The Royal Scots during the 1914-18 War and afterwards became Pipe Major of the Millhall band (photo below) with which he had won the World Championship three times, in 1924, 1926 and 1930.



In 1930 he became Pipe Major of the 8th Argylls and began work on publishing a collection of tunes composed by members of the 8th. George D MacDonald was the compiler of the *Fifth Cowal Collection*, (1958) and Pipe Major of the Dunoon Ballochyle Pipe Band. He died at Dunoon in 1961.

Capt. Duncan MacRae of Ballimore





















## Capt. McDermot's Farewell to Bungalor

Captain Robert Keith McDermot (right) was born April 8, 1885, the second son of Walter McDermott, a mining engineer from Barrs Green, Sevenoaks. (Robert) Keith and his older brother, Edward, and several cousins were all in Daviesites. Keith was in the 4th XI Football team and the Harpies Cricket team and he played both Football and Cricket for his House team; he was a House Monitor during his final two quarters. He went on to Oriel College, Oxford, gaining an MA, and he became a Barrister of Inner Temple in 1908; he was a member of Rosslyn Park Rugby Club.



McDermot joined the 1/4th Seaforth Highlanders in France November 29, 1914 as a newly commissioned 2nd Lieutenant; he was invalided home with frostbite in both feet in late January 1915, but returned to active service in March 1915. He went out to Mesopotamia and was wounded again in December 1916, convalescing at Amara.

McDermott was killed in action at Beit-lid, near Messudiyeh, Palestine on September 20, 1918.

The tune, *Capt McDermot's Farewell to Bungalor* was composed by John Mackenzie.



Capt. McDermot's Farewell to Bungalore

March



#### Snoopy vs. The Red Baron

Captain Manfred Albrecht Freiherr von Richthofen (May 2, 1892 – April 21, 1918), known in English as Baron von Richthofen or the Red Baron, was a fighter pilot with the German Air Force during World War I. He is considered the ace-of-aces of the war, being officially credited with 80 air combat victories.

Originally a cavalryman, Richthofen transferred to the Air Service in 1915, becoming one of the first members of fighter squadron *Jagdstaffel 2* in 1916. He quickly distinguished himself as a fighter pilot, and during 1917 became the leader of *Jasta 11*. Later he led the larger fighter wing *Jagdgeschwader I*, better known as "The Flying Circus" or "Richthofen's Circus" because of the bright colours of its aircraft, and perhaps also because of the way the unit was transferred from one area of Entente air activity to another – moving like a travelling circus, and frequently setting up in tents on improvised airfields. By 1918, Richthofen was regarded as a national hero in Germany, and respected by his enemies.



Richthofen was shot down and killed near Vaux-sur-Somme on April 21,

1918. There has been considerable discussion and debate regarding aspects of his career, especially the circumstances of his death. He remains one of the most widely known fighter pilots of all time, and has been the subject of many books, films, and other media.

"**Snoopy vs. the Red Baron**" is a novelty song written by Phil Gernhard and Dick Holler and recorded in 1966 by the Florida-based pop group The Royal Guardsmen. The song was recorded at the Charles Fuller Productions studio in Tampa, Florida, and was released as a single on Laurie Records. Debuting at #122 on the Bubbling Under the Hot 100 on December 10, 1966, the single skyrocketed to #30 on December 17, 1966, shot up again to #7 on December 24, 1966, and peaked at #2 on the Hot 100 during the week of December 31, 1966; made #6 on the *Record Retailer* (UK) chart in February 1967; was #1 in Australia for 5 weeks from February 1967; and #1 for 3 weeks in Canada. On the Hot 100, "Believer" at #1 kept "Snoopy" at #2 from reaching the Hot 100 summit from December 31, 1966, through January 21, 1967, after which "Snoopy" fell off while "Believer" stayed at the top for another 3 weeks. The song sold close to three million copies.

After the turn of the century In the clear blue skies over Germany Came a roar and a thunder men had never heard Like the scream and the sound of a big war bird Up in the sky, a man in a plane Baron von Richthofen was his name Eighty men tried, and eighty men died Now they're buried together on the countryside

#### Chorus:

Ten, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty or more The Bloody Red Baron was rollin' out the score Eighty men died tryin' to end that spree Of the Bloody Red Baron of Germany In the nick of time, a hero arose A funny-looking dog with a big black nose He flew into the sky to seek revenge But the Baron shot him down--"Curses, foiled again!

#### Chorus

Now, Snoopy had sworn that he'd get that man So he asked the Great Pumpkin for a new battle plan He challenged the German to a real dogfight While the Baron was laughing, he got him in his sight

That Bloody Red Baron was in a fix He'd tried everything, but he'd run out of tricks Snoopy fired once, and he fired twice And that Bloody Red Baron went spinning out of sight













# Lieut. John Macpherson (DCM) Welcome Home

Lieutenant John Macpherson (born 1873) served with the Lovat Scouts during the South Africa Campaign. In 1916, the Lovat Scouts formally became the British Army's first sniper unit, then known as "sharpshooters". Macpherson's citation for his DCM reads, *"For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He has rendered very valuable and conspicuous serve as a sniper. On one occasion, during an attack by our troops which was checked by enemy gunfire, he dashed forward through an intense barrage, and, establishing himself single-handed in a shell hole, engaged the enemy snipers and machine gunners until dark. His services on patrol have also yielded valuable results, and his example of coolness and resource has been worth of the highest praise."* 



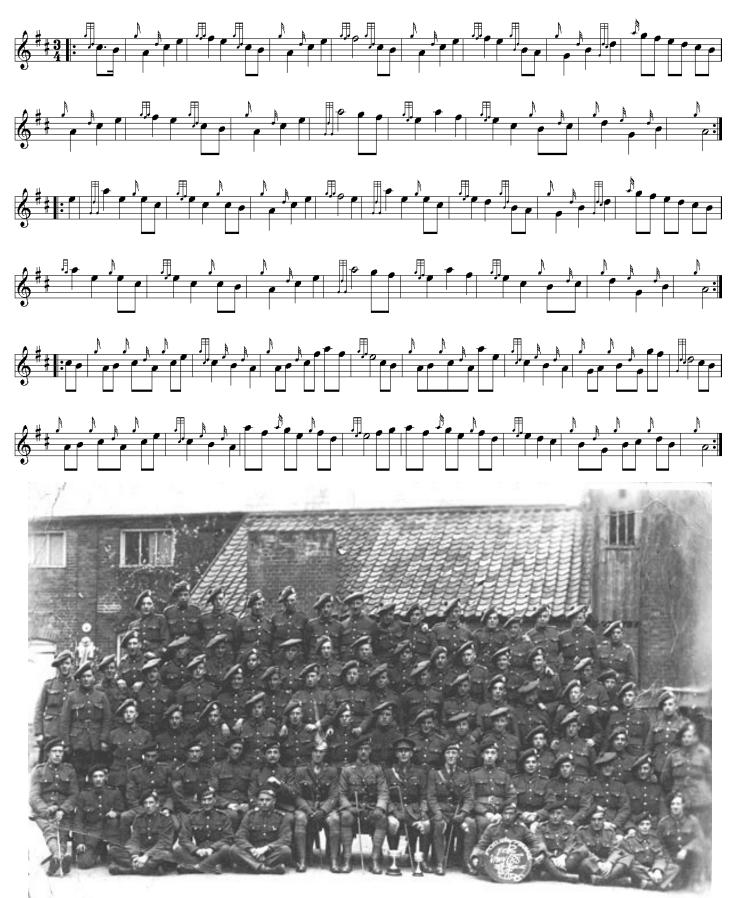
The tune, *Lieut, John Macpherson's (DCM) Welcome Home* was composed in 1919 by Cuthbert C. Selby. Cuthbert Challis Selby (1895-1968) was born in Lumsden in Southland, the youngest of nine children of an English migrant family. Although there does not appear to have been any pipers in the family a number played the piano, including Cuthbert, but it was the bagpipes that became his instrument of choice. His first teacher was Pipe Major C W Wilson in the Invercargill Pipe Band in 1911.

When the Great War started in 1914 he was only 19 years old but enlisted at the first opportunity in April 1915 a couple of months before his 20th birthday. Soldiers were not allowed to take musical instruments with them but family tradition suggests Selby smuggled his bagpipes on board the troop ship only to have them discovered by an officer who threw them overboard.

Selby was involved in the Gallipoli campaign but his war was a very short one as he was invalided out and returned to New Zealand in March 1916. For him the war was over but the health problems as a result of his war service were not. The Selby family believe that he had been gassed but research by the McCanns suggests this may not have been the case. His active service was spent in the Middle East and those who suffered from gas poisoning served in France. Throughout his life he suffered from arthritis, rheumatism and sciatica and he believed they were caused by his experiences during the war.

Selby was actively involved in piping throughout his life and played in many solo competitions with a high level of success. Although the prize money would not have been great it would have eked out money earned from other activities.

Selby started composing early in life as some tunes are dated 1914. Twenty-two of his compositions are known to exist as well as a number of other people's compositions that he arranged for the pipes.



# Lieut. Geoffrey Ottley 2nd Batt. Scots Guards Farewell to France



Killed in action aged 18 at Festubert ay the First Battle of Ypres, Lieutenant Geoffrey Claude Langdale Ottley, DSO, son of of Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Ottley, K.C.M.G, C.B., M.V.O., led his platoon out to take on a German machine gun which was causing great losses to the attacking companies in front. He was hit in the neck, fell, got up again and led his men on, falling again near the German line. He died three days later, a month short of his nineteenth birthday, and remains to this day the youngest ever winner of the DSO. He is commemorated at Fort William (St Andrew) Episcopalian Churchyard, Scotland.

The tune, *Lieut. Geoffrey Ottley 2nd Batt. Scots Guards Farewell to France* was composed by <u>A.T. Cameron</u>; a fellow Scots Guardsman.

#### Lieut. Geoffrey Ottley 2nd Batt. Scots Guards Farewell to France

A.T. Cameron



#### Lt. Edward Brown



Before the war, Edward Brown was a member of the Lisnagarvey Hockey Club and employed at Messrs. William Henry & Company, Brunswick Street, Belfast, Ireland. Brown was a member of the South Atrim Volunteers (Ulster Volunteer Force) and was the signaling instructor at the Old Town Hall. He was commissioned on November 16, 1914 and promoted to Lieutenant on April 1, 1916.

For a time, he served with the 11th Battalion Royal Irish Rifles (RIR) although he did not embark with them for France in October, 1915. Subsequently posted to the 18th Battalion RIR, attached to the 2nd Battalion RIR, he was wounded slightly during the attack on Messines Ridge on June 7, 1917; taking over command of his company after his captain was hit.

He and his battalion were in the front line trenches an Bellewarde Ridge (near Ypres) as part of the Battle of Passchendaele. He was probably fatally wounded on August 7, 1917 during one of the frequent German artillery bombardments of their trenches. Brown was carried back to the Field Ambulance Station known as "The Huts", at Dickebusch near leper/Ypres, where he died of his wounds. He was 25.

The Huts, whose name comes from the long line of huts alongside the road which were used to accommodate field ambulances, later became the Huts Cemetery. After the war, the Brown family paid for the epitaph, *Make Them to be numbered with the Saints*" inscribed on his headstone.

The tune, *Lt. Edward Brown* was composed by Pipe Major Harry Stevenson in memory of his wife's uncle.

Stevenson began piping around his 12th birthday. His father was Pipe Sergeant in the East Belfast Pipe Band and was his principal tutor, a very thorough and patient teacher. In his long piping career, he only played in three bands: East Belfast 1957-59, Armstrong Memorial 1960-1975, and his local Boys Brigade – 77th Belfast Company. He then returned to Armstrong as their Pipe Major for 4 years (1978-81) when he finally stopped band playing.

His litany of accomplishments include winning All Ireland in 1966; winning Grade 2 at the Worlds in Hazelhead Park Aberdeen in 1970; taking the band to 6th place in the Scottish Championships in 1980; winning the Ulster Senior in 1964; third in the Open Strathspey & Reel at the Aboyne Games in 1967; and first at the 1969 Ayreshire, Dumfriesshire & Gallowway Branch solos.

An RSPBA judge and frequent lecturer, his collection of music published and unpublished—contributed greatly to the efforts of this anthology.















## Lieutenant J.C. Buchan VC



John Crawford Buchan (October 10, 1892 – March 22, 1918) was born in Alloa, Clackmannanshire, Scotland, the son of the local newspaper editor. Buchan was 25 years old, and a second lieutenant in the 7th Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's), British Army, attached to 8th Battalion during the War, and was awarded the VC for an act he performed on March 21, 1918 east of Marteville, France. He died the following day, 22 March 1918.

His citation reads: For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty. When fighting with his platoon in the forward position of the battle zone, 2nd Lt. Buchan, although wounded early in the day, insisted on remaining with his men, and continually visited all his posts, encouraging and cheering his men in spite of most severe shell fire, from which his platoon was suffering heavy casualties. Later, when the enemy were creeping closer, and heavy machine-gun fire was raking his position, 2nd Lt. Buchan, with utter disregard of his personal safety, continued to visit his posts, and though still further injured accidentally, he continued to encourage his men and visit his posts. Eventually, when he saw the enemy had practically surrounded his command, he collected his platoon and prepared to fight his way back to

the supporting line. At this point the enemy, who had crept round his right flank, rushed towards him, shouting out "Surrender." " To hell with surrender," he replied, and shooting the foremost of the enemy, he finally repelled this advance with his platoon. He then fought his way back to the supporting line of the forward position, where he held out till dusk. At dusk he fell back as ordered, but in spite of his injuries again refused to go to the aid post, saying his place was beside his men. Owing to the unexpected withdrawal of troops on the left flank it was impossible to send orders to 2nd Lt. Buchan to withdraw, as he was already cut off, and he was last seen holding out against overwhelming odds. The gallantry, self-sacrifice, and utter disregard of personal safety displayed by this officer during these two days of most severe fighting is in keeping with the highest traditions of the British Army.

He is buried at the Roisel Communal Cemetery Extension, Roisel, Somme, France. His medals are in the collection of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders Museum, Stirling Castle, Scotland.

The tune, Lieutenant J.C. Buchan VC was composed by Pipe Major John McLellan of Dunoon.



















## George S. McLennan

As noted previously, George Stewart McLennan (February 9, 1883 – May 31, 1929) was a successful solo piper, as well as a pipe major and composer. He enlisted into the Gordon Highlanders and rose through the ranks; becoming Pipe Major of the 1st Battalion in 1905 at the age of 21, one of the Army's youngest pipe majors ever.

McLennan was posted at the depot in Aberdeen until 1918, when he was sent to the Western Front to succeed Pipe Major Tom Henderson who had been killed. During the latter stages of the First World War, GS served in the trenches and became ill, in May 1918 playing "A" company over the top then collapsing. He returned to duty, however, and used to make reeds in the trenches for his fellow regimental pipers. He was discharged from the Army in 1922 while based at the Gordons' depot in Aberdeen, but his ill-health would never leave him, ultimately contributing to his death at the age of only 45.

Following his Army service, GS remained in Aberdeen, where his family were settled, and where he established a pipe-making business.

Two tunes are presented here in his memory. The first is a slow air by an unknown composer.



George S. McLennan

Slow Air

## G.S. McLennan's Reel



The tune, *G.S. McLennan's Reel* was composed by Pipe Major John Brown. It was Pipe Major Brown that ceded the reins to a young George S. McLennan in 1905.

Brown was born in Ayrshire in 1865, the son of John and Margaret Nicol, and enlisted, age 19, in The Gordons in October of 1885 at Glasgow. He was posted to the 2nd Battalion on Guernsey in the Channel Islands.

In late 1886, having transferred four days previously to the 1st Battalion, he was sent to Malta where the battalion was stationed until 1888. In late 1888, Brown embarked for the East Indies, arriving at Colombo, Ceylon on December 6. Throughout 1889 and 90, he served for the most part with the detachment at the old Dutch fort of Trincomalee.

In January of 1892 the battalion embarked, picked up the company at Trincomalee and landed at Karachi on the 17th. From there it proceeded to Umballa and for the next few years their stations on the northern frontier included Subathu, Rawal Pindi, Thobba, a hill station near Murree, Janbatai Kotal and Umballa.

Brown was appointed Piper on January 4, 1892 but reverted to Private on February 19, 1893. The following day he was appointed an unpaid Lance-Corporal. On October 1, 1894 he was appointed a (paid) Lance-Corporal then the following August, Corporal.



He took part in operations with the Chitral Relief Force during the spring and summer months of 1895. On August 30, Brown was promoted Sergeant and appointed Sergeant-Piper (Pipe Major) of the 1<sub>st</sub> Battalion. In May of 1897 he was permitted to re-engage to complete 21 years with the Colours.

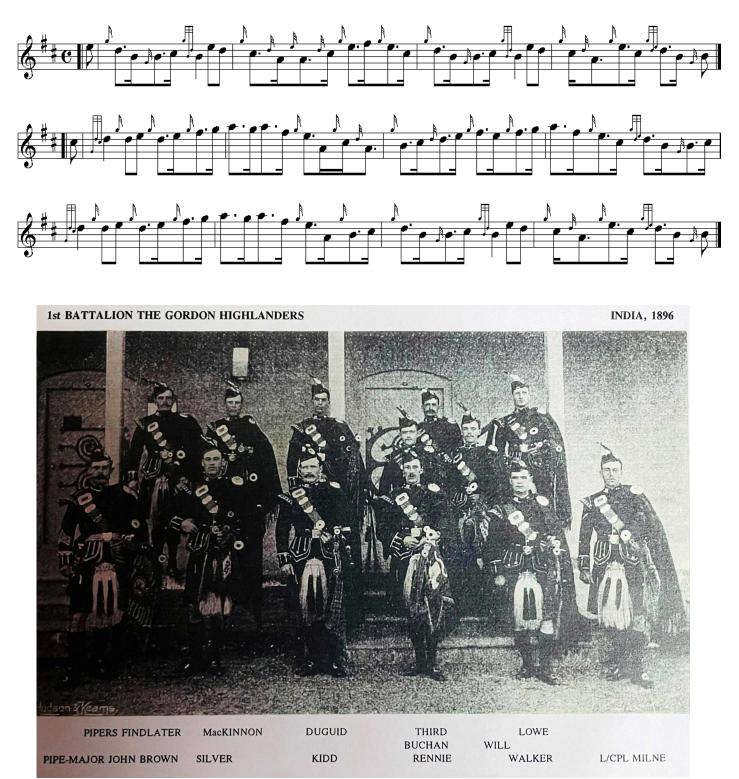
During 1897-98 he took part in the Tirah Expeditionary Force including the action on Dargai Heights on October 20, 1897. In November of 1899 the battalion had left Edinburgh and embarked for the Boer War in South Africa. They took part in the drive toward Kimberly and the disastrous battle of Magersfontein on December 11. Sergeant-Piper Brown also served with the battalion during the battle at Paardeberg in

February and the actions at Johannesburg and Belfast in May and August, 1900.

On return to Scotland from South Africa in October 1902, Brown remained on Home Stations, including Glasgow and Cork, Ireland until his discharge in 1910. He was promoted to Color Sergeant on March 7, 1905 and transferred four months later on Permanent Staff (PS) to the 3rd (Militia) Battalion. In November of 1906 he received 38 deferred payment for completion of 21 years service and was permitted to extend his Army Service beyond his 21. In 1909 he was awarded the Medal for Long Service and Good Conduct, A.O. and again transferred on P.S. to the 6th (Banff and Donside) Battalion (TF). He took his discharge to pension at Perth on the 12th October the following year. Brown's conduct upon discharge was noted as "exemplary."

#### G.S. McLennan's Reel

PM John Brown



### Pipe Major William Ross' Farewell to The Scots Guard

As noted earlier, <u>William (Willie) Collie Ross</u> M.V.O, M.B.E. was undoubtedly one of the greatest pipers Scotland ever produced. Ross won many of the top prizes of the day: Gold Medal at the Northern Meeting (1904); Gold Medal at the Argyllshire Gathering (1907); Former Winners Clasp, Northern Meeting (1905, 1906, 1907, 1910, 1912, 1919, 1923, 1928).

During the Great War he was wounded by shrapnel and eventually invalided back home. After the War, he was the principal instructor at the Army School of Piping in Edinburgh Castle for many years.

He also collected and set 240 tunes into the 5 volumes of *Pipe-Major W. Ross's Collection of Highland Bagpipe Music.* 





#### Pipe Major William Ross' Farewell to the Scots Guard

Trad.

## Pipe Major William Lawrie's Favorite

As noted earlier, <u>Pipe Major William Lawrie</u> (1881-1916) started to learn pipes at the age of seven under the guidance of his father Hugh. When his obvious talent became apparent he was sent for full formal instruction to that master piper of Oban, John MacColl. A dedicated and enthusiastic pupil, his long hours of hard graft and practice, combined with his natural ability, paid off and he became a very successful and highly respected competitor at all the principal Highland Gatherings. He took top honors at both the Argyllshire Gathering (Oban) and the Northern Meeting (Inverness) in 1910, and in the following year again at Inverness he set a record which stands to this day by lifting all the first prizes including the Clasp for Former Gold Medal Winners. Among his adversaries were such notables as John McDonald and P/M G. S. McLennan of the Gordon Highlanders. He could also number P/M Willie Ross amongst his very good friends and the fact that he was personal piper to both the Earl of Dunmore and Colonel McDougall of Lunga was a clear indication of the esteem in which he was held.



In 1912, after a period with the Ballachulish Volunteers, came the crowning accolade, he was appointed Pipe Major of the 1st/8th Battalion of his county Regiment, the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. At the outbreak of WW1 P/M Willie Lawrie was among the first to volunteer for active service and following a period of training at Bedford, in England, he went to France with the 8th Argyll's. The appalling conditions of trench warfare, combined with prolonged piping on long marches, took their toll. He became seriously ill and was returned to England where after a few months, despite valiant efforts by medical staff, he died in an Oxford Hospital at the age of only 35, sending a shock wave of sorrow through the piping world both at home and abroad.

His pipes are on display in the Argylls Museum, Stirling Castle.



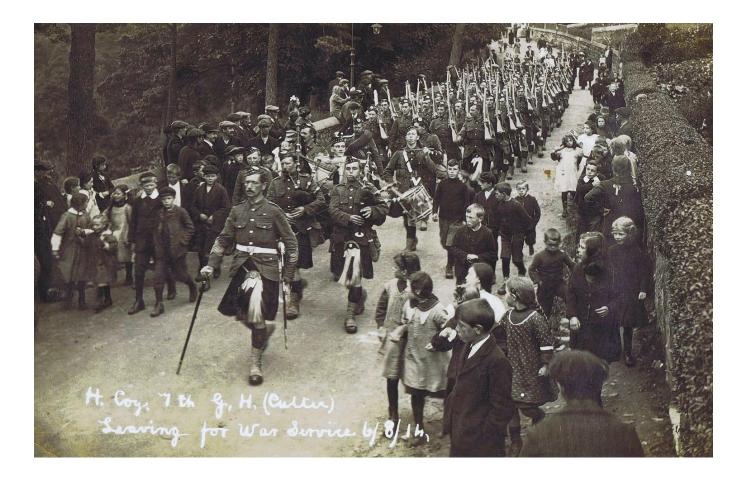
Pipe Major William Lawrie's Favorite



# Pipe Major J. Laurie

James McIntosh Laurie (b. 1884) joined the Gordon Highlanders in 1899 and transferred to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in 1908, where he was appointed Pipe Major two months later. He held this post until 1922. He was the first Pipe Major to land in France during the Great War in August, 1914. Laurie was a pupil of George S. McLennan's and in 1913 he won the last Gold Medal at Inverness before competitions were suspended for the war. He also won the Strathspey and Reel and was second in the Marches that year.

The tune, *Pipe Major J. Laurie* was composed by <u>G.S. McLennan</u> on St. Patrick's Day 1909.



















## Pipe Major Donald MacLean

This larger-than-life piping character was known variously as "Big Donald MacLean" and "Donald MacLean of Lewis," as recalled in Donald Mac-Leod's popular 6/8 march. References in piping books to "Pipe Major Donald MacLean" are generally to him.

Born in 1908, his interest in the pipes began in 1916 when his older brother Murdo took up the instrument to help in the recovery of a lung wound suffered in the Great War. Donald borrowed his brother's chanter and soon both were being taught by Peter Stewart of Barabhas.

He joined the Seaforth Highlanders at age 18 in 1926 and was posted to Aldershot, where he came under the strong influence of Pipe Major, D. R. MacLennan, half-brother of the famous G. S. In 1931, while a Corporal with the 1st Seaforths, he earned his Pipe Major's Standard Certificate at the Army School of Piping under Willie Ross and became pipe major of the 2nd Battalion Seaforths in 1936 – the youngest pipe major in the Brit-ish army at that time. His piping pedigree would also include piobair-eachd studies with Angus MacPherson, son of Calum Piobaire. Donald MacLeod started him on piobaireachd during the war as a way to strengthen his fingers for light music playing. Big Donald became later became particularly well known as a march player.

On June 12, 1940, he, along with the likes of Donald MacLeod, John Wil -son, George McIntyre and many other pipers in the 51st Highland Division, were captured in France at St. Valery. He would spend the next five years as a prisoner of war in Germany and Poland. It was during this time that he wrote his famous competition march "Major David Manson at Clachantrushal" on a practice chanter borrowed from fellow piper Alex



Craig. David Manson was a retired officer of the Canadian army who worked as a Glasgow silversmith. He had visited Donald's home before the war and gave him a set of engraved silver pipes. "Clachantrushal" refers to a monolith – said to be the largest standing stone in Scotland – that stands near the home.

At war's end he took over the Scottish Command School of Piping, then moved to the Highland Brigade training school, finally retiring from the army in 1948 after 22 years. Though he was famous in military piping circles, he was little known outside of that realm. He was renowned for his powerful fingers and robust instrument, which only he could blow. He won the Gold Medal at Oban in 1951 and at Inverness in 1953 and later become a regular adjudicator at the games and major gatherings.

He was an excellent Highland dancer, and he taught piping and dancing in Skye for some years before being offered the job of managing instruments at the R. G. Lawrie company in Glasgow. Ads for this company during the 1950s and 1960s feature Donald MacLean's iconic photo, unmistakable because he played with his right hand on top.

On August 29, 1964, after attending the Cowal games, he collapsed on the street in the town of Innel-Ian near Dunoon. Resuscitation efforts failed and he died before the ambulance arrived. He was 56.



The tune, *Pipe Major Donald MacLean* was composed by Pipe Major Peter Roderick MacLeod. (1879-1965).

Born in Aird Uig on the island of Lewis on December 13, 1879, Peter R. MacLeod came to Glasgow around 1900, where he worked as a shipwright at Connells Shipbuilders a few miles west along the River Clyde, and at Fairfields in Govan.

He joined the Territorial Army in the early 1900s. This could have been the 3rd Lowland Rifle Volunteers. In 1903 he was under the leadership of Pipe Major Edwin J. McPherson who was appointed the Pipe Major of the newly formed band. Pipe Major McPherson was described as a man of fine physique, a splendid piper, and an unusually competent instructor. He soon raised the Battalion Pipe Band to a high level of efficiency, and in 1906 he had the satisfaction of winning the Argyll Shield at Cowal in the first 'World Championship' competition open to every band in Scotland.

The Territorial Army was reformed in 1908 when some units were joined together to form the 7<sup>th</sup> Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). Peter Macleod is listed as a piper in the regiment at this time under Pipe Major McPherson.

Mobilized in 1914, the regiment was sent to Catterick camp in Yorkshire. In 1915, the regiment was sent out to Gallipoli along with the 8th Cameronians another Territorial regiment. After heavy losses in battle the regiments were joined together for a while and other units were formed as the war progressed. After Gallipoli, the Cameronians served in Egypt, Sinai, and on the Western Front. Peter MacLeod was with them in Egypt and Gallipoli and was discharged in 1919 after the war.

He continued working as a shipwright until about 1927 when he was involved in an industrial accident while helping fit a deck hatch. His right leg became entangled in the gearing of a winch, necessitating amputation. He would not work again until 1941 when he returned to the shipyards working on until his retirement in 1955. He was fitted with an artificial leg but was in pain from the injury for much of his life.

In total Peter MacLeod had three sons and three daughters, three pipers and three pianists. His sons Hector, Iain and young Peter all played the pipes, and his daughters Dora, Georgina and Christina played the piano. Peter's wife also played the piano, so you can start to see what a musical family the MacLeods were and how they became the source of so many pipe tunes. It is believed there were over 200. His sons Hector and Peter also composed, young Peter's work being well known.

Despite his pain and uncomfortable existence, he never stopped writing and lived until he was 87. Peter MacLeod died at the Erskine Old Soldiers Hospital near Renfrew on June 16, 1965.



## Pipe Major Peter R. MacLeod

The tune, *Pipe Major Peter R. MacLeod* was composed by Peter R. MacLeod, Jr. (1916-1972). PM Peter R. Macleod (Senior) had 3 sons, Hector, Ian, Peter (Junior) and 3 daughters Dora, Georgina and Christina. Hector, the eldest eventually gave up serious piping, was a notable composer and died in 1979. Ian became Pipe Major of the 9th Highland Light Infantry (Glasgow Highlanders) and was wounded in the 2nd World War losing the use of his "E" finger. He continued to play, however, by substituting the little finger of his left hand in place of it. Peter (Junior) was taught exclusively by his father from boyhood (first being given a chanter at 3 years old) and was recognized as a top-flight professional player at the tender age of 12.

According to Peter Macleod Jr, his father was an unknown quantity as a composer before 1928, when he produced his son before the best pipers in the world. From that time on his status as a knowledgeable man of piping never dimmed and he established himself as one of the truly prolific and good composers of this century.

Peter MacLeod Jr. was the equal of his father as a composer, and superior as a player. Though he never pursued the major prizes with the determination of his peers, he nonetheless placed well at major events against the best players of the day.



He burst on the composing scene in 1931 at the age of 15 by taking 2nd prize in the Cowal Gathering composing competition.

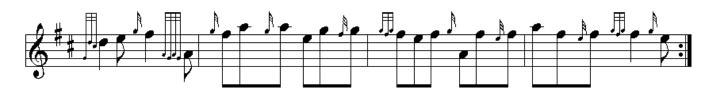
From 1938 until 1955 he lived in Bulawayo, southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), where he worked at odd jobs but continued actively as a piper and composer.



Jig















## Pipe Major R. Meldrum's Welcome to the Cameron Highlanders

Robert Meldrum (1851-1941) was a formidable performer, an influential mind, and a much loved piping figure.

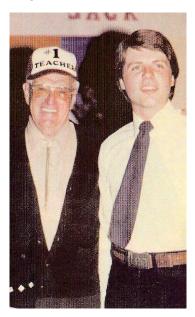
He was born in Tomintoul, Banffshire on May 13, 1851, and in 1868, at the age of 16, he enlisted in the 78th Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs). He was transferred to Halifax, Nova Scotia the following year. He was taught by a succession of great pipers: Malcolm MacPherson (Calum Piobaire), Pipe Major Willie Murray and Pipe Major Ronald MacKenzie of the 78th, nephew of John Ban MacKenzie. MacKenzie was his pipe major in Canada.

He served with the 78th until 1873, when he purchased his discharge, then he joined up again three months later. In 1875, he was appointed Pipe Major of the 93rd Highlanders, becoming, at the time, the youngest pipe major in the British army. He had been recommended for the post by Uilleam Ross, piper to Queen Victoria, who held Meldrum in such high esteem that he hoped for him to be his successor as Queen's piper.

From 1887, he was Pipe Major of the 3rd Cameron Highlanders until he retired in 1892. From that time until the outbreak of the Great War, he served as piper to the Earl of Ancaster at Drummond Castle. He would



rejoin the Camerons in 1914. During the war years he formed a pipe band with the 3rd Special Reserve Battalion at Invergordon, consisting of wounded soldiers returning from the trenches. He was discharged in 1917 at age 65, and later became piping instructor at Queen Victoria School in Dunblane, teaching the sons of Scottish soldiers. He eventually retired to Inverness where he became pipe major of the Royal British Legion Pipe Band.



Stringent military life restricted his opportunities to compete, and he certainly would have achieved more fame as a competitor had he been able to travel regularly to the games. But his success was still impressive. He won the Prize Pipe at Inverness in 1884 (an ivory set made by Uilleam Ross). He won the Gold Medal at both Oban and Inverness in 1886, and the Clasp at Inverness in 1902. As the years went on, he became renown for maintaining a high standard of performance at an advanced age. He continued to compete until near the end of his life, and was second in the Clasp when he was in his 80s.

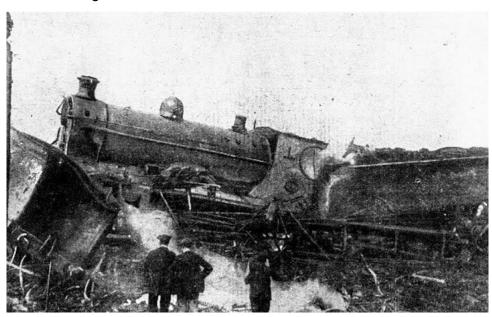
The tune, *Pipe Major R. Meldrum's Welcome to the Cameron Highlanders* was composed by Jimmy McMillan (1911-2005) - shown left with a young Jack Lee in 1981. Although born in Campbeltown, Scotland, McMillan emigrated to Victoria BC as a boy where he learned his piping. As a solo competitor Jimmy was very successful in British Columbia and won all the top prizes. had the rare honor of being selected for not one, but two, Pipe Major's courses at Edinburgh Castle with the great Pipe Major William Ross.

Pipe Major R. Meldrum's Welcome to the Cameron Highlanders (1914)

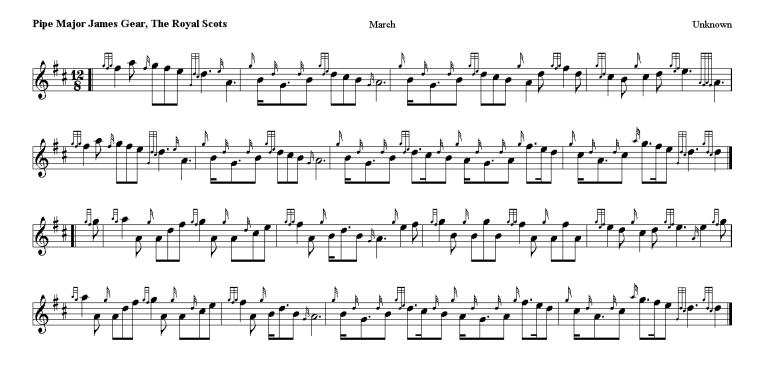


### Pipe Major James Gear, The Royal Scots

Pipe Major Gear of the Royal Scots was killed at the Gretna Rail Disaster on May 22, 1915 along with 214 of the Lieth-based 7th Battalion Royal Sots Territorial Force, who were heading to Liverpool before sailing for the front lines at Gallipoli. Gear was Janitor at Lorne Primary School before moving his janitorial duties to Leith Academy in 1912. Gear had a distinguished military career, serving in the Boer War and in India.



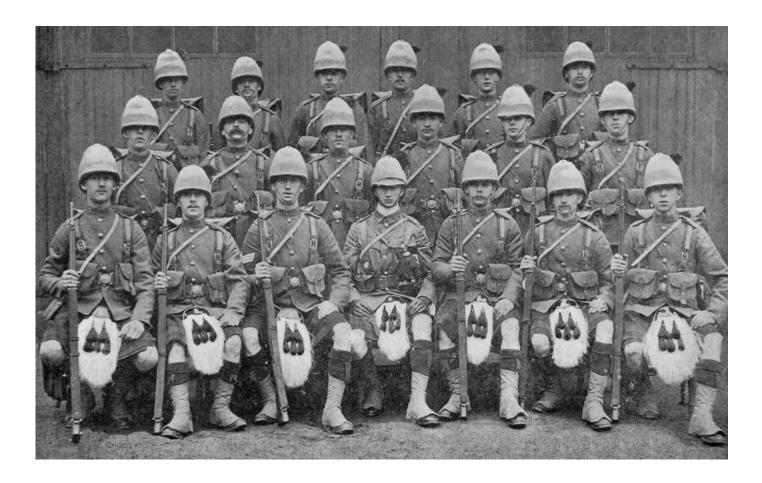




## Pipe Major William Bain

William Bain enlisted into the 42nd in April 1880 and was appointed Pipe Major in 1886. After transferring to the Volunteer Battalion Royal Highlanders, he re-enlisted on the outbreak of World War 1, serving as a company sergeant major. A noted judge of piping, he died in Dundee in 1923.

The tune, *Pipe Major William Bain* was composed by <u>Pipe Major Angus MacLeod</u>.



Pipe Major William Bain



#### PM Robert MacKenzie, DCM

Pipe Major Robert Mackenzie was one of those long-serving regular soldiers who had completed his service with the Colors and taken his discharge to a Chelsea Hospital out-pension many years before the commencement of the First World War. Yet, for patriotic and moral reasons, at an advanced age, and of his own free will, he re-enlisted at the outbreak of war in 1914.

As a member of a family of Highlanders, it is likely that his father had taught him to play the bagpipes. However, in 1876 he ceased to be a Private Soldier



on appointment as a Regimental Piper. Two years later he bought himself out of the Army at Dublin for the then hefty sum of £18. His reasons are obscure, but a possible explanation is that he had been refused permission to marry. He married very soon after obtaining his discharge from the Seaforths and immediately reenlisted in The King's Own Scottish Borderers. More than 16 years of his life was spent soldiering in India; and he also served at Gibraltar and during the Egyptian and Sudan Campaign of 1885- 1891, when he was in action with his Regiment at Gemaizah in 1888. He was discharged in the rank of Sergeant-Piper at Berwick-on-Tweed on October 22, 1896 after 24 years' service.

According to family legend, Robert held the British Army in very much affection, and this is evidenced by his re-enlistment in his old Regiment on the outbreak of hostilities in 1914. He explained this act to his wife and family by saying that he could no longer endure piping drafts of young soldiers to the local station on their way to war and felt impelled to share their fate. Just over a year later, at the Battle of Loos, Robert Mackenzie died of wounds while serving with the 6th Battalion K.O.S.B. He was then nearly 60 years of age.

But the character of the man shines through a few lines written about him and the action at Loos in the Regimental History of the Borderers. At dawn on September 25, 1915, his battalion was a small cog in the gigantic wheel of the British offensive about to be launched against the German positions. The enemy trenches lay a couple of hundred yards away. In a deafening and hellish prelude to the British assault, they were being bombarded and reduced to a shambles by the awesome firepower of the guns of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, in order to soften opposition and cut the protecting wire. High-explosive and gas shells were being used, and the whole of the German line was in eruption from incessant explosions of thousands of missiles.

In the certainty that an assault was imminent, enemy artillery was viciously counter-shelling the British lines, and a deathly hail of shells exploded on the Borderers' positions and those of neighboring battalions as they awaited the signal to go over the top. When it came, the Scots scrambled from their trenches and disappeared into the heaving earth, smoke and gas of No Man's Land and towards the chattering and scything fire of German machine guns. Robert Mackenzie stood atop the parapet piping his battalion into the attack until he fell mortally wounded. The Borderers' attack and those of many battalions in other sectors were disastrous failures, although not from any lack of courage. Despite the scale and intensity of the British bombardment, it had failed to breach the German obstacles. The men who had survived to reach the wire found it un-cut and were slaughtered as they attempted to cross. The. 6th K.O.S.B. lost two-thirds of its strength. All its officers and 630 non-commissioned officers and men had been killed, wounded, gassed or drowned in the mud in little more than a matter of minutes.

Of Robert Mackenzie and the part he played in doing his duty, the Regimental History describes him as the finest and grandest old man in the Regiment, who continued piping the men over the parapet until shot in both legs, he could play no more: it adds that he died of his wounds, having well deserved the Victoria Cross. No officers remained to recommend him. Instead, on October 15, 1915, he received a posthumous Mention in Dispatches. It was awarded, according to the citation, for gallant and distinguished service in the field.

The tune, *PM Robert MacKenzie, DCM* was composed in 2023 by Yves Holbecq,. Holbecq lives in Coullemont in Northern France, a small village located close to the famous battlefields of Arras and Amiens. He was a sports teacher and served as a corporal in the French Air Force. Both of his grandfathers served during the Great War; both wounded but survived the war and his father served also in beginning of WW2--a family tradition of service. Holbecq is the treasurer of the Piper's Memorial of Longueval (Somme), piper of the RB Legion North France Branch, Honorary Member of the Tyneside Scottish Regiment and represents the 4th Battalion,



Cameron Highlanders for memorial events. He began piping in 1997 and today is the Pipe Major of the Battle of the Somme Pipe Band which is dedicated to keeping the memory alive of all the soldiers and officers who fought to liberate his country. He has composed more than ten tunes in this Anthology that are dedicated to remembering the stories of WW1 and WW2.



## Piper Willie Scott (Tyneside Scottish)



Piper William – 'Willie' – Alexander Scott, a soldier in the 2nd Tyneside Scottish (21st Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers) was killed on July 1, 1916 during the disastrous first day of the Battle of the Somme. The attack was astride the Albert-Bapaume Road, center of the British trenches opposite the village of La Boisselle.

The young piper made it all the way to the German front line before he was shot and killed still carrying his pipes on the first day of the battle.

The Tyneside Scottish suffered the worst losses of any brigade on that day, losing between 2,288 and 2,438 men. It is believed the pipes were passed down from Alexander Scott, who was a piper with the Tyneside Scottish in the late 19th/early 20th century, to his son William Alexander Scott .

The tune, *Piper Willie Scott (Tyneside Scottish)* was composed by Pipe Major David M. MacMurchie.

David 'Blue' MacMurchie was born in 1957 in Western Australia, a third generation piper. At the age of 19 he left Australia to serve as a piper in the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards. He attended the Senior Pipers Course in Edinburgh Castle (1977) and was recommended for the Pipe Majors Course from which he graduated in 1983 with a double "A" pass. He was also awarded The Institute of Piping Senior Teacher's Certificate and the Graduate Certificate.

Following his army career, he returned to Australia to become the instructor of the Western Australia Police Pipe Band during which time he received the Advanced and Instructor's Certificate from the Australian Pipe Band College (1985).

He started his own business under the name of "Scotland Australia" making bags, reeds, chamber and small pipes before returning to Scotland in 1990 to set up his business which expanded in 1993 to become MacMurchie Bagpipe Makers of Edinburgh.

He joined the Lothian and Border Police Pipe Band for four years and then the Black Bottle Whisky Pipe Band—both Grade I. Over the years, he has competed as a soloist, with Grade I bands, and judged piping competitions in Scotland, Australia and Hong Kong.





















### Piper S. Leask, 48th Canadian Highlanders

The 48th Highlanders of Canada was founded in 1891, when the Toronto Scottish community succeeded in their efforts to have a Highland regiment in their young city. The Regiment has remained a Militia (Reserve) infantry regiment located in downtown Toronto ever since.

The 15th Battalion (48th Highlanders of Canada) went overseas with the first Canadian contingent in October 1914 equipped in uniforms paid for by the Regiment. The 48th recruited three battalions, the 15th and two reinforcement battalions, 92nd and 134th. Facing the first gas attack of the war at the Second Battle of Ypres on April 24, 1915, the 48th were ordered to stand to the end. They did, losing 664 Highlanders, killed, wounded or prisoners of war. The 15th Battalion continued to the war's end in battles including the Somme, Passchendaele and Vimy Ridge, earning 21 Battle Honors. 1,625 Highlanders were killed in action.

At the very commencement of the Forty-Eighth the pipers were there. Samuel Leask was a piper in the 48th when Farquhar Beaton was Pipe Major. Leask was also on the 48ths rifle team.

The tune, *Piper S. Leask, 48th Canadian Highlanders* was composed by fellow piper Frank Ritchie who was in the pipe band with Leask when Beaton was Pipe Major.





#### **Duncan Lamont**



Duncan Lamont (1894–1973) was born and raised at Pennycross, Pennyghael, Ross of Mull, and was a postman and piper. He came from a family of seven sisters and three other brothers. He was a son of the Anne McDonald (1860– 1936) and John Lamont (1855–1939), a well-known piper and fiddler whose services were sought both far and wide at all social functions in the district.

Lamont received his early tuition from his father while still at school. On leaving school he went as an apprentice gardener to Gruline, Mull, and there he came under the guidance of Angus Livingstone, who took him in hand and gave him considerable help. From Gruline, Lamont went to the mainland and during the First World War enlisted in the 5th Scottish Rifles. During the war he became batman to Brigadier General Ronald Cheape of Tiroran and had the distinction of playing the General's Infantry Brigade over the Old Bridge into Cologne. After demobilization, he returned to Mull and entered the services of General Cheape as gardener and piper.

Lamont was one of the guiding forces when the Pennyghael Pipe Band was formed and under his tuition the band played at Tiroran Games, Tobermory Games and many other functions around Argyllshire. In 1935, Lamont joined the pipe band of the 8th Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, T.A. He proceeded to France with the Battalion at the outbreak of the Second World War and just before Dunkirk was sent down to the base on special duty. As he was due to return to the unit in a matter of days he naturally left his own set of pipes behind at the H.Q. Company while at the base. The evacuation of Dunkirk came on with all its attendant chaos, the result of which was that Duncan was not only separated from his unit but also his pipes. Lamont was evacuated to England and went home on leave. He was reunited with his set of pipes when his friend Roddy Beaton, Bunessan, handed them back to him!

Lamont first competed at the Alloa Games in 1914 and continued competitive piping from then on.

The reel was composed in 1942 when Pipe Major Donald MacLeod and Duncan Lamont, who was then serving in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, were attending a month's course with P/M William Ross MBE at Edinburgh Castle. Duncan Lamont was bold enough to say to PM Willie Ross: *'That's not the way you used to play Bonnie Anne 20 years ago'.* 

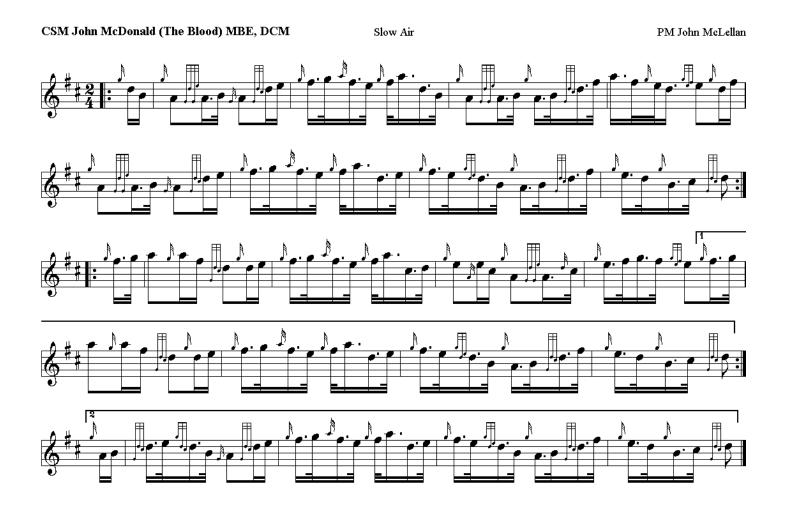
Donald MacLeod composed the tune, **Duncan Lamont** that evening to mark this effrontery. Next day, however, Ross was after a tune for his latest book and MacLeod offered him 'Duncan Lamont'...Willie accepted it grudgingly with the remark: '*Could you not find a better name for it*?'



### CSM John McDonald (The Blood) MBE, DCM

John MacDonald (1888-1930) of Ballachulish, Argyllshire enlisted on September 2, 1910. He was a long serving and much-decorated Company Sergeant Major of the 8th Argylls during the War and subsequent peace.

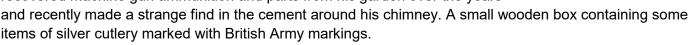
The tune, CSM John McDonald (The Blood) MBE, DCM was composed by Pipe Major John McLellan.



## Sgt. Robert Hendrie's March

Sergeant Robert Hendrie of the Machine Gun Corps died in September 1918 and is buried in the small village of Coullemont in the Picardy region of Northern France. His is the only war grave in the churchyard. Coullemont is a tiny place, barely a hamlet of perhaps 30 houses and a population of105 souls. It lies on the fertile edge of the high chalk downs that surround the town of Arras in the Pas de Calais in northern France. The village itself was not directly involved in the war on the western front but it acted as a billet and rest area for those men who waited to go up into the hellish trenches only a few miles away.

The tune, *Sgt. Robert Hendrie's March* was composed by <u>Pipe Major Yves</u> <u>Holbecq</u> in 2015. Holbecq, who lives in the village and who set out to find Sgt Roberts descendants, lives in a house which was there during the war. He has recovered machine gun ammunition and parts from his garden over the years





#### Sgt. Robert Hendrie's March

PM Yves Holbecq

## Sergeant John Stewart MacMurchie, DCM, MM

Sergeant John Stuart MacMurchie joined Royal Army Medical Corps thence to 1st Black Watch. He is commemorated in Dundee Congregational Church, Constitution Road, and in the Roll of Honor in Sydney Morning Herald August 6, 1917. He was the son of Archibald MacMurchie, an Australian bridge builder.

He left Aldershot with 1st Black Watch in 1914. His D.C.M. was won as a drummer with the 1st Black Watch at Kruiseke on October 27, 1914, when on four occasions he conveyed very important messages under heavy shell fire. He returned to the front in 1915 and was mentioned in dispatches at Loos, then received the Military Medal that October for rescuing a wounded officer. He was again wounded himself. Later when promoted sergeant in the 8th BW, 9th Division

He was decorated with the Distinguished Conduct Medal and the Military Medal by Lord French at Dunfermline.

The circumstances attending this brave soldier's death are exceptionally pathetic. The chaplain, in a letter to Sergeant MacMurchie's father, states that he had been kept out of the last action the battalion was in, and was living at the transport lines, where a man was as reasonably safe as anyone could be in the midst of war. But the unexpected happened. A German airplane flew over the lines, and dropped a bomb which hit the bivouac in which he and others were sleeping. Death in his case and that of two others was



John Stuart MacMurchie

instantaneous. "It is peculiarly tragic," says the chaplain, "that one who has come through so much on active service and who has always behaved with such conspicuous gallantry should perish so far back from the lines as the result of what we regard as merely a chance."

Sergeant John Stuart MacMarchie DCM MM



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The tune, *Dugal MacColl's Farewell to France* was composed by <u>Pipe Major John MacColl</u> to commemorate the safe delivery from WW1 of his son who served in the Royal Army Medical Corps.



#### Pvt. William Albert Lee

The tune *Private William Albert Lee* was composed by Willie McColl. Private Lee was his wife's grandfather who was wounded at the siege of Kut Al Amara. The siege of Kut Al Amara (December 7, 1915 – April 29, 1916), also known as the first battle of Kut, was the besieging of an 8,000 strong British Army garrison in the town of Kut, 100 miles south of Baghdad, by the Ottoman Army. In 1915, its population was around 6,500. Following the surrender of the garrison on April 29, 1916, the survivors of the siege were marched to imprisonment at Aleppo, during which many died. It has been called the worst defeat of the Allies in World War I. Ten months later, the British Indian Army, consisting almost entirely of newly recruited troops from Western India, conquered Kut, Baghdad and other regions in between in the Fall of Baghdad.



### Private Ross Tollerton, VC

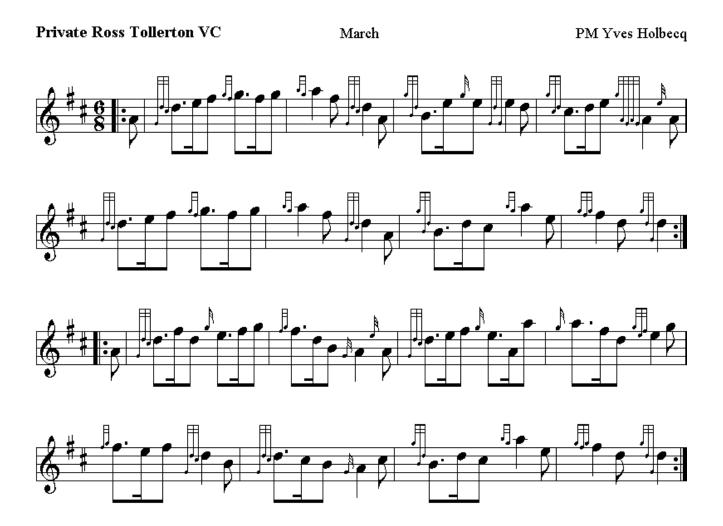


Ross Tollerton VC (May 6, 1890 – May 7, 1931) was 24 years old, and a private in the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, British Army during the First World War when the following deed took place for which he was awarded the VC.

On 14 September 1914 at the First Battle of the Aisne, France, Private Tollerton carried a wounded officer (Lieutenant J. S. M. Matheson), under heavy fire, as far as he was able, into a place of greater safety. Then, although he himself was wounded in the head and hand, he struggled back to the firing line where he remained until his battalion retired. He then returned to the wounded officer and stayed with him for three days until they were both rescued.

Tollerton never recovered from his injuries and died at age 41 from stomach cancer in 1931. His Victoria Cross is displayed at the Highlander's Museum, Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Camerons), Fort George, Inverness-shire, Scotland.

The tune, Private Ross Tollerton, VC was composed by Pipe Major Yves Holbecq.

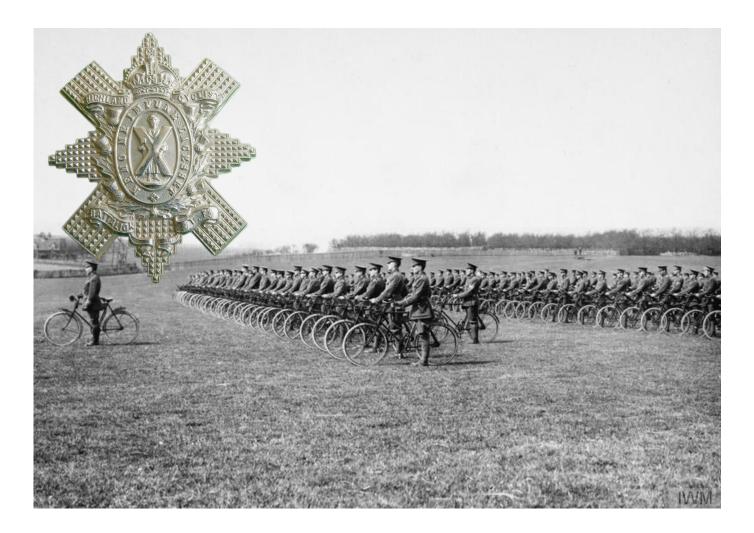


#### Alexander MacDonald's Favorite

The tune, *Alexander MacDonald's Favorite* was composed by Pipe Major Alexander MacDonald . MacDonald was born in Dunfermline and was a miner before enlisting in the Highland Cyclist Battalion during WWI.

The Highland Cyclist Battalion was one of several cyclist corps within the British Army. With origins dating back to 1860, as part of the Volunteer Force and offering an alternative means of transport to the horse, it became an independent unit in 1908. During the Great War three Highland Cyclist Battalions were deployed. At the outbreak of war in August 1914 the First Battalion was headquartered at Hunter Street Drill Hall in Kirkcaldy. There were eight companies within the First Battalion: A Company – Kirkcaldy, B Company – Cowie, C Company – Tayport, D Company – Forfar, E Company – Dunfermline, F Company – New Scone, G Company – East Wemyss, and H Company – Bannockburn. In 1909 it became an independent unit and served in the United Kingdom throughout the First World War. In 1920 it was converted as part of the Highland Divisional Signals.

MacDonald later served with The Black Watch. In 1920 he enlisted as a regular soldier and was posted to the 2nd Battalion. He served briefly as Pipe Major in 1930 and was then posted to the 1st Battalion in India in 1932. He went to France with the Battalion after being taken prisoner at St. Valery-en-Caux in June 1940, was interned at Camp 9C (Mulhausen).





# The Elphin Lads



The Elphin Lads refers to two members of C. Company of the 1/5th Seaforths—Donald Campbell and Hugh Fraser—from Elphin who were killed in the War. They are commemorated on the Lochinver Memorial (left).

The tune, *The Elphin Lads* was composed by Pipe Major Colin Thomson (1869-1933) - bottom.

Thomson was a prize-winning piper around the turn of the last century, and a well known reed maker of the day, though he is likely best remembered as the subject of this great competition march. Thomson was born in Resolis on 8 March 1869, the son of Ferryton crofter Colin Thomson and Drumcudden domestic servant Christina Sutherland.

He would have been exposed to bagpipe music from an early age. At this time, no festive occasion would be complete without music provided by fiddles and pipes. A mile east from Cullicudden, Roderick Mackenzie, crofter and piper, had settled in Alness Ferry, and three of his sons, Kenneth, Alick and Roderick, contemporaries of Colin, were great pipers and frequently appeared at competitions. In later life, Colin and in particular Alick Mackenzie (1869–1898) of Alness Ferry would often be seen in the prize-lists together. Alick, a gold clasp winner at Inverness, died young of tuberculosis, like most of the Alness Ferry family, a fate which escaped Thompson himself.

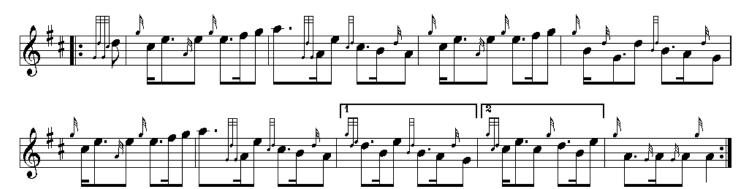


He joined the Seaforths in 1889, giving his trade at that time as "coachman." In 1894, he was transferred to the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, as Sergeant Piper. After 18 years of service in the Seaforths and the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, he retired from the army. By this time his home was in Golspie, and he became Pipe Major with the 1st Sutherland Volunteers. He signed up as a territorial with the 5th Seaforth Highlanders in 1908. In the following period, 1909 to 1912, the papers are just filled with his successes at various highland gatherings, and his activities as a Pipe Major.

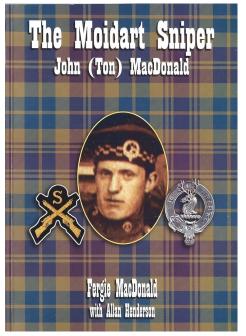
He was on active service during World War 1 as Sergeant Piper from August 5, 1914 through to March 6, 1919 when he was discharged as "No longer physically fit for War Service." He suffered from rheumatism. He died when under anesthetic during an operation in the Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh.









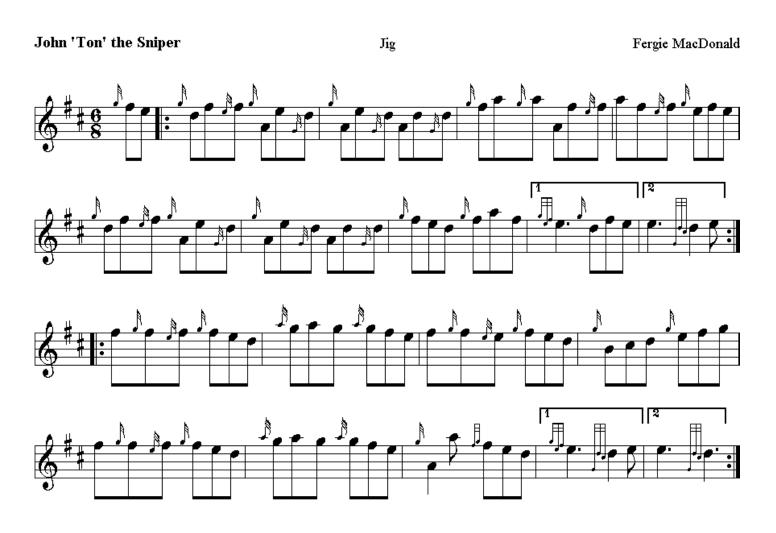


# John "Ton" the Sniper

John (Ton) MacDonald (1893-1988) was from a small crofting community in Moidart. During the Great War Ton MacDonald was one of the men who went to Hunstanton. His subsequent career took him through the Dardanelles, a spell out of the Army, and back in to again serve with the Scouts. MacDonald was like all of the Lovat Scouts at that stage, Territorial Force, and was entitled to be discharged at the end of his enlistment. He then returned to Moidart, to wait until the army wanted him back.

When he was recalled, because of the good reputation which he had made in the Dardanelles, he was posted to the Lovat Scouts Sharpshooters, a Sniper unit which had been set up by the 14th Lord Lovat who had recruited the original Scouts.

The tune *John 'Ton" the Sniper* was composed by his son, Fergie Macdonald.



#### Lewis F. Beaton

Lewis Beaton served in Gallipoli and in Palestine under Pipe Major Ferguson and became Pipe Major of the 7th Cameronians. After the war he co-founded the Scottish Piping Society of London and worked as a dentist in Twickenham.

The Scottish Piping Society of London joined this list of organizations of exiled Scots in 1932. Founders included President Lewis Beaton, former pipe major of the 7th Cameronians, David Ross, winner of the Gold Medal at the Northern Meeting in 1929, Andrew Bain of the Metropolitan Police, Pipe Major J.B. Robertson, Scots Guards, and Dr William MacPhail.

Although various meetings were held in 1932, no recorded minutes exist in the SPSL archives. The Society's first annual competition was held on November 12, 1932. There were three piping events, as well as dancing competitions for the Highland Fling and Foursome Reel. Most of the pipers competing were either serving with the Black Watch or Scots Guards.

Since 1932 the Society has held an annual competition, with the original event consisting of the ceol mor (piobaireachd), and ceol beag, as well as two dancing events. Previous annual competitions have been held at venues including Kensington Town Hall, Glazier's Hall and Hampton Court. The current home of the annual competition is The Caledonian Club in Belgravia (London). The historic competition is a prestigious annual event in the solo piping calendar,



attracting the top solo bagpipers from across the world to competition each November. The highest honor is the Bratach Gorm event, which is only available to those who have won the Highland Society of London's Gold Medal at the Argyllshire Gathering (Oban) or the Northern Meeting (Inverness) or former winners of the Gillies Cup. The last competitor to win the Bratach Gorm (2019) was Callum Beaumont

As well as the annual competition, the Society runs member competitions, recitals and a 'Strictly Come Piping' social event each December. Additionally, the Society runs the piping events at the Harpenden Highland Games each September.



Lewis F. Beaton

March



## **Private Richard Maybin**

Private Richard Maybin was originally from Lisnamurrican, Broughshane, Co. Antrim in Northern Ireland but like many of his generation left and settled in Canada (Saskatoon). With the outbreak of the First World War, he enlisted in the 1st. Canadian Mounted Rifles at Manitoba as part of the Canadian Expeditionary Force.

After landing in France on September 22, 1915 they soon found that the foul muddy conditions of the Western Front made their horses a hindrance and by January 1916 the Canadian Mounted Rifles, complete with pipes & drums were dismounted and reorganized as infantry. In the run up to the Somme offensive the Canadians entered battle at Mount Sorrel on June 2, 1916 and Pte. Maybin, aged 21, was killed that day.

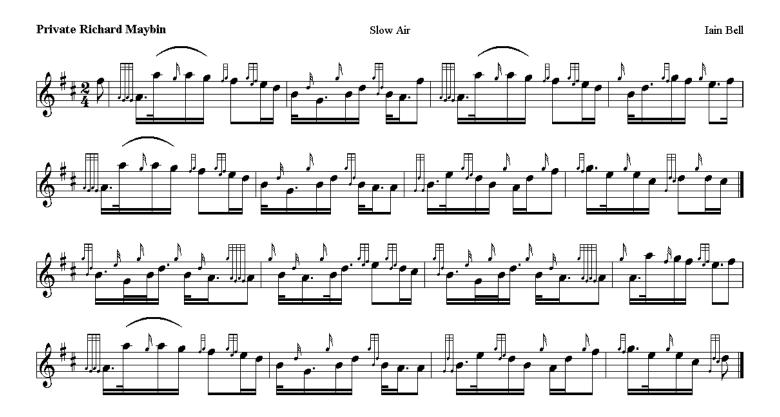


His personal effects and his bagpipe were returned to his grieving mother, Margaret Maybin at Lisnamurrican where they lay

concealed in a trunk in her attic for more than half a century before being re-discovered and restored by Harold Bennet of Carricklongfield, Dungannon.

Maybin is commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing in Ypres, Belgium and also at 1st Broughshane Presbyterian Church.

The tune, *Private Richard Maybin*, was composed by Iain Bell. Bell is a piper, composer, and tune book publisher and the creator of the Donald Drone cartoon series featured in Piping Times magazine.



### Private Robert Hastie's Farewell



Private Robert Hastie (1893-1918) was born in Mataura, Gore District, Southland, New Zealand . He died September 2, 1918 (aged 25) of disease while returning from France.

By 1914, New Zealand had been actively preparing for war for five years. In Europe, the darkening geopolitical skies of the century's first decade had led all the major powers to gear up for a conflict. Since 1907 Britain had been lining up its dominions to assist in a major war, and New Zealand agreed to play its part. From 1909 it undertook a major reorganization of its military forces to bring them into line with British practices and formations so its fighting units would slot seamlessly into a British expeditionary force.

The pre-war preparations allowed the Defense Department to quickly and efficiently create an expeditionary force in 1914. A 1400-strong Samoan Expeditionary Force was dispatched almost immediately, and volunteers flooded Defense Department offices in the hope of becoming one of the 8000 men needed for the Main Body of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force (NZEF) that was expected to be sent to Europe.

The department obtained much of the necessary equipment from the Territorials, and moved quickly to purchase other items or find people willing to donate them. Each military district accommodated its section of the Main Body in a temporary camp while they waited to sail for the front. Refresher training filled what turned into two months of waiting before the men boarded newly fitted-out troopships.

The department had managed to contract enough vessels from the main shipping companies to transport the Main Body. These ships were stripped and fitted out to accommodate troops and horses, a process which would have to continue if reinforcements were to be supplied. In late 1914 the department established a Transport Board, chaired by its director of movements and quartering, which was responsible for chartering suitable vessels and getting them fitted out to carry troops. Most of the ships were refitted at the Union Steam Ship Company's yard at Port Chalmers, where the old fittings were stripped out and hammocks slung up for the men.

Territorial Force training would continue throughout the war, but now the department would have the far greater additional challenge of finding, equipping, training and transporting regular drafts of reinforcements to keep the expeditionary force up to – from early 1916 – divisional strength. The pre-war plans had worked well, but maintaining the supply of reinforcements would test them to the utmost.

Keeping the NZEF reinforced was a straightforward business in late 1914 and early 1915, when volunteers were still rushing to enlist, but managing the process grew more difficult as the number of men needed grew. Every man who donned a uniform had to be provided with basic military training, clothed, fed and transported, and much would go wrong before the Defense Department mastered this massive task. The department opened national training camps.

Recruitment all but took care of itself until the spring of 1915. Initially a steady stream of men presented themselves at the local Defense office for consideration. From early 1915 they filled out an enlistment form at their local post office and sent this in. A medical examination identified those who were fit to fight. Each military district had a quota to fill, and each group of recruits were called to camp in time to fill the next reinforcement draft. This system worked well as long as men kept coming forward, but the number of volunteers was starting to fall short by the winter of 1915; after which conscription was introduced.

The tune, *Private Robert Hastie's Farewell* was composed by Alexander T. Cameron. Alexander Taylor Cameron (Born c1868 - Died September 2, 1957 aged 89). Commonly called Sandy but he often signed his tunes Alick or Alex. He lived for many years in Balclutha, married late in life and had no children.

By far the most prolific composer and in 1934 published 188 tunes in *A New Zealand Collection of Bagpipe Music*. He followed it two years later in 1934 with 15 more tunes in *The Second New Zealand Collection of Bagpipe Music*.



Pictured from the left: Duncan, Alex, Donald, John and William Cameron



#### The New Zealand Soldier's Welcome Home

Another tune composed by Alexander T. (Sandy) Cameron is The New Zealand Soldier's Welcome Home.

The New Zealand Soldier's Welcome Home March

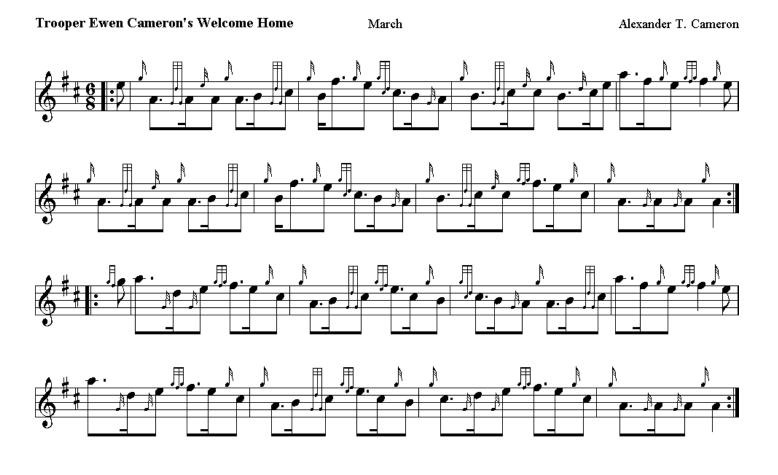
•• A T (Sandy) Cameron in Mataura Kilties Band, 1911 (top, second from left)

Alexander T. Cameron

### **Trooper Ewen Cameron's Welcome Home**

Trooper Ewen Duncan Cameron (right) served in the South African War, 1899-1902, and World War I, from 1914-1918. The tune, *Trooper Ewen Cameron's Welcome Home* was composed by Alexander T. Cameron. Also by AT Cameron is the tune *Trooper Jack McLekvie's Return* (following page).





Trooper Jack McKelevie's Return











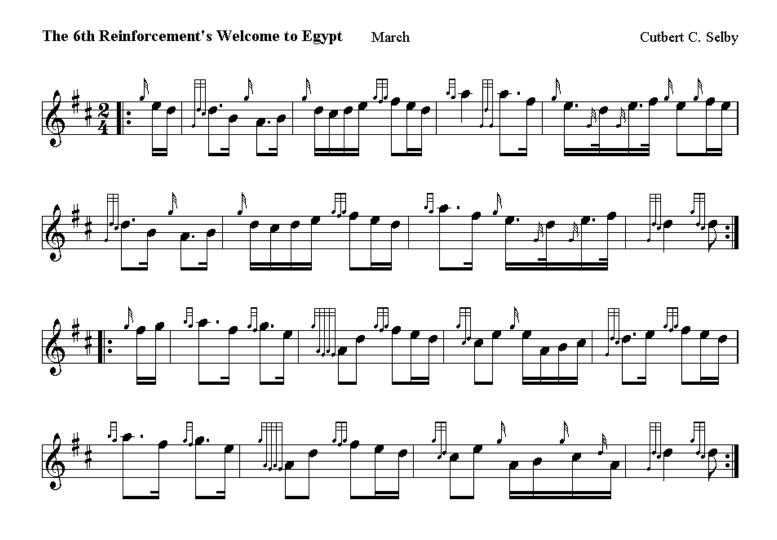


## The 6th New NZ Reinforcement's Welcome to Egypt

The military history of New Zealand during World War I began in August 1914. When Britain declared war on Germany at the start of the First World War, the New Zealand government followed without hesitation, despite its geographic isolation and small population. The total number of New Zealand troops and nurses to serve overseas in 1914–18, excluding those in British and other Dominion forces, was 100,444, from a population of just over a million. Forty-two percent of men of military age served in the New Zealand Expeditionary Force (NZEF), fighting in the Gallipoli campaign and on the Western Front.

A camp for the NZEF was established at Zeitoun, close to Cairo. While the NZEF was forming and training in Egypt, elements were committed to the defense of the Suez Canal. On January 26, 1915, the four infantry battalions of the New Zealand Infantry Brigade—the Auckland, Canterbury, Wellington, and Otago Battalions—and a supporting field ambulance were deployed in anticipation of an attack on the canal by Ottoman forces. This force was split between Ismailia and Kubri. On February 2, after the Ottomans launched a raid on the Suez Canal, elements of the brigade took part in repelling the attack, with the Canterbury Battalion suffering the division's first losses in battle, with two men being wounded, one of whom later died.

The tune, *The 6th NZ Reinforcement's Welcome to Egypt* was composed at Suez in 1915 by Cuthbert Challis Selby (1895-1968).



#### **Roarin Willie Stewart**



The tune, *Roarin Willie Stewart* was composed by Pipe Major William Sinclair.

William Sinclair was born in Leith in 1875. He was well-regarded as a piper with the Queen's Edinburgh Rifles at the end of the century. He rejoined them at the onset of WWI, later becoming Pipe Major of the 4th/5th Battalion. The Queen's Edinburgh Rifles was a brigade of Rifle Volunteers raised in the county of city of Edinburgh in 1859. It later formed two battalions of the Royal Scots, which fought in World War I at Gallipoli, in Palestine and on the Western Front.

Sinclair was Pipe Major of the Leith Celtic Pipe Band, the Broxburn Pipe Band and the 5th Volunteer Edinburgh Rifles, all at the same time one year. Further to this he was Pipe Major of the Dr. Kelso Pipe Band, winning

a prize at Cowal — the games he attended for half a Century. He was also connected with the Boys Brigade in Edinburgh, from their earliest days, as Pipe Major and even at age 75 taught the boys. His success with Pipe Bands was well established.

The Sinclairs then were all corrie handed (or right-shouldered) players. William Snr. (a self taught musician) started on the chanter at the age of 5 and made his first public appearance when 7 years old. For a time the piano superseded the pipes and this was a great help, providing an opportunity to further enlarge his musical repertoire. However, the pipes were to become his legacy.



















### Lady Anstruther of Balcaskie



Lady Anstruther was the wife of Colonel Sir Ralph Anstruther, commanding officer of the 7th (Territorial Force) Battalion The Black Watch until 1913.

On mobilization in 1914, the Ordnance Department was unable to issue the battalion with enough blankets. In less than a week, Lady Anstruther had collected seven hundred blankets for distribution to the men. On May 6, 1915, the retired 7th (Fife) Battalion joined the Highland Division in the Neuve Chapelle area. They were soon followed by a consignment on Orilux lamps sent out by the Battalion Comforts' Fund. This fund, organized by the ladies of Fife under Lady Anstruther, proved of incalculable value to the battalion throughout the war.

Balcaskie is a 17th-century country house in Fife, Scotland. The original Balcaskie House was built shortly before 1629, as the home of the Moncrieffs of Balcaskie, and was a traditional L-plan fortified house of three stories and attic In 1698 it became the property of Sir Robert Anstruther . Balcaskie remains the seat of the Chief of the Name and Arms of Anstruther, Tobias Alexander Anstruther.

The tune, *Lady Anstruther of Balcaskie* was composed by <u>Pipe Major</u> <u>Andrew Kirk</u>.



Lady Anstruther of Balcaskie



## Harry Lauder's March

During World War One, famous Scottish entertainer Harry Lauder (seen here with Winston Churchill) his global success to recruit thousands of men for the war effort. He also established the Harry Lauder Million Pound Fund to help the war injured and in 1919 he was awarded a knighthood for his contribution . However, Sir Harry experienced great personal tragedy when his only son, Captain John Lauder of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, was killed during the last months of the Battle



of the Somme . The famous entertainer erected a memorial in memory of his son near the family home on the Glenbranter Estate in Argyll .

Harry Lauder had been born in Edinburgh but also lived in Arbroath and Lanarkshire during his childhood. By the outbreak of World War One in 1914, he had risen from his origins singing for miners in Hamilton to become one of the most successful variety theatre performers in the world, with a string of popular songs including I Love a Lassie and Roamin' in the Gloamin. He had toured America on a number of occasions and was top of the bill at Britain's first Royal Command Performance in 1912.

The star, who was 44 at the start of the war, was in Australia when the conflict began and his son John, who was with him, was called back to join his regiment and prepare for the battle in France. Lauder continued his tour and when he returned to the UK he led successful fundraising efforts for war charities and organized a tour of music halls for recruitment purposes. By the autumn of 1916, Lauder was performing at Shaftesbury Theatre in London in a revue called Three Cheers . By the autumn of 1916, Lauder was performing at Shaftesbury Theatre in London in a revue called Three Cheers. At the end of his theatre performance he would make a stirring speech addressed to the young men in the audience asking them, or more-or-less telling them, to go and sign up.

During his Three Cheers run, on New Year's Day 1917, Lauder received a devastating telegram telling him that his son had died in action a few days earlier. Despite his son's death he continued to rally support for the war. After finishing his London run, Lauder badgered the War Office to let him go to France to entertain the troops. He left Folkestone in June 1917 and took with him a "specially-built mini piano" and thousands of cigarettes for the troops. His first concert was back behind the lines in Boulogne but then he set off towards the front line. Stopping to give concerts on the way.

After the First World War, Lauder continued to tour variety theatre circuits. In January 1918, he famously visited Charlie Chaplin, and the two leading comedy icons of their time acted in a short film together. His final tour was in North America in 1932. He made plans for a new house at Strathaven, to be built over the site and ruin of an old manor, called Lauder Ha'. He was semi-retired in the mid-1930s, until his final retirement was announced in 1935. He briefly emerged from retirement to entertain troops and make wireless broadcasts with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra.

March













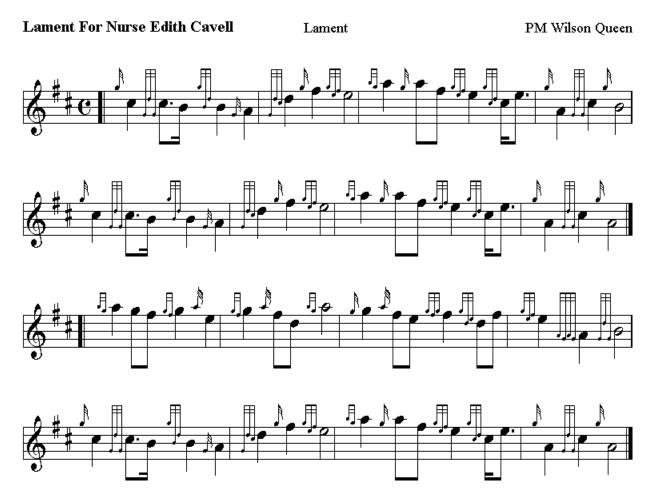
## Lament for Nurse Edith Cavell



Edith Louisa Cavell (December 4, 1865 – October 12, 1915) was a British nurse and member of La Dame Blanche. She is celebrated for treating wounded soldiers from both sides without discrimination and for covertly helping some 200 Allied soldiers escape from German-occupied Belgium and return to active service during the First World War, which in wartime was a death penalty offence under the German military law of the Second Reich. Cavell was arrested and court-martialed for that offense as an act of treason, found guilty, and sentenced to death by firing squad. Despite international pressure for mercy, the German Government ruled that Cavell knew that her acts were punishable; they thus refused to commute her sentence, and she was shot. Her execution, however, received worldwide condemnation and extensive global press coverage arranged by Wellington House.

The night before her execution, she said, "Patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone." These words were later inscribed on a memorial to her near Trafalgar Square. Her strong Anglican beliefs propelled her to help all those who needed it, including both German and Allied soldiers. She was quoted as saying, "I can't stop while there are lives to be saved." The Church of England commemorates her in its Calendar of Saints on October 12.

The tune, *Lament for Nurse Edith Cavell* was composed by Pipe Major Wilson Queen of the Victoria School in Dunblane between 1916 and 1917.



#### Nurse Edith Cavell

Also commemorating Nurse Cavell is the slow march, Nurse Edith Cavell by Alexander T. Cameron.



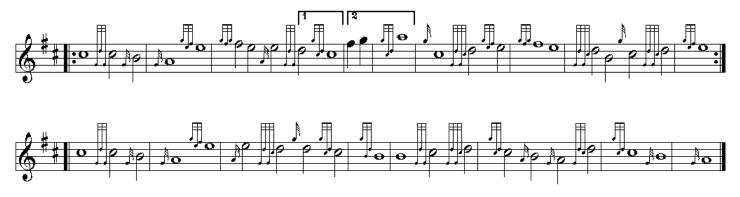
Eventide

The hymn, *Eventide* is reported to be the hymn played for Nurse Cavell's execution.

According to some sources, William H. Monk wrote Eventide for Henry Francis Lyte's text, *Abide with me: fast falls the eventide* As the story goes, Monk was attending a hymnal committee meeting for the 1861 edition of Hymns Ancient and Modern of which he was the music editor. Realizing that Lylte's text had no tune, he composed the score in 10 minutes.

This version of the tune was set to a time score of 4/2.

Gen. Gordon's Favorite Hymn and Nurse Cavell's Last One (Eventide)



#### **BACK PAGE**

US President Woodrow Wilson with soldiers at the Treaty of Versailles. The Treaty of Versailles, which ended World War I, was drafted at the Paris Peace Conference in the spring of 1919 and shaped by the Big Four powers—Great Britain, France, Italy, and the United States. This souvenir copy of the Paris Peace Conference program is signed by President Woodrow Wilson and other world leaders.

