

## Canadian Marriages in Nairnshire

The First World War equivalent of the "GI Bride" of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War was as far as Nairn and the North of Scotland concerned the "Canadian Bride".

The first overseas troops to visit Nairn in large numbers were the troops of the Newfoundland Regiment who underwent training at Fort George in 1915 before going into action at Gallipoli and who suffered very heavy casualties on the first day of the Battle of the Somme. The troops visited Nairn for shopping and entertainment and were referred to on a frequent basis in the "Nairnshire Telegraph".

Raised in 1916 the 224<sup>th</sup> Battalion C.F.C. (Canadian Forestry Corps) came to the United Kingdom in November 1916. Nairnshire was in the 51<sup>st</sup> District with the 107<sup>th</sup> Company based at Ord Wood Cawdor and the 120<sup>th</sup> Company based at Kinstearry Auldearn and later at Orton Morayshire. The Forestry Corps was engaged in the cutting down and processing of timber which, was used for multitude of uses in the war. Their presence proved a boon to local shopkeepers deprived of income from tourists. They had a great impact on the Nairnshire whilst they were stationed in the county. They participated in sporting and social events, they featured on the pages of the Nairnshire on a regular basis. This was not always for good behaviour on occasions they has been caught misbehaving having drunk too much and one occasion one of was sentenced to a jail sentence for having broken into a local mansion house and having fired a shot at the policeman trying to arrest him. The last of the Canadian Forestry Corps left Nairn on the 26<sup>th</sup> of November 1918

Nairnshire girls also married men who were serving in the Canadian infantry and engineers

Many of the men serving in the Canadian Army had emigrated to Canada from Scotland prior to the war's commencement either on their own or with their parents and on serving in the UK or before going overseas met and married local girls. Others were Canadian by birth and parentage.

On 13<sup>th</sup> January 1917 at the Parish Church Manse Nairn after banns according to the Church of Scotland Alexander **McLeod** Sawmiller Private No 297962 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Forestry Corp stationed at Broadshaw Canadian Camp Auldearn son of Duncan McLeod, Farmer, and Mary McLeod Ms Ryan to Catherine **Anderson** aged 20 the daughter of Alexander Anderson, Jobbing Gardener, and Elizabeth Anderson Ms Cameron. Alexander was born 25<sup>th</sup> September 1881 Cardigan Bridge and was a Lumberman he enlisted on 14<sup>th</sup> May 1916 at Quebec.

On 13<sup>th</sup> January 1917 at Flora Cottage King Street Nairn after banns according to the Church of Scotland Donald **Campbell** Corporal 31<sup>st</sup> Canadians aged 36 of Grassy Lake Alberta who was recovering from wounds at Convalescent Hospital Harwood Wokingham the son of Hugh Campbell, Farmer, and Annie Campbell Ms McLean to Agnes **Leslie** a 31 year old Domestic Servant residing at 4 Barogill Terrace Acre Street Nairn daughter of James Leslie, Farmer, and Isabella Leslie Ms Macrae

On 10<sup>th</sup> February 1917 at Carlton Villa The Links Nairn after banns according to the Church of Scotland Sergeant Harvey Winfield **McCabe** 224<sup>th</sup> Canadian Forestry Battalion who came from Amhurst Nova Scotia the son of Herbert Austin McCabe ,Sea-Captain, and Sarah Margaret Ms McWhirter to Annie May **Anderson** a 20 year old Shop Book-keeper, Carlton Villa, The Links Nairn daughter of Alexander Anderson, Clerk, and Mary Jane Anderson Ms Short. In Civilian life he was a Blacksmith and was born 18<sup>th</sup> August 1888 at St Stephens New Brunswick Canada. Their daughter Gladys Winfield McCabe was born on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 1917 at Carlton the Links Nairn. Mother and daughter sailed from Liverpool to Quebec on the "Scotian" on 22<sup>nd</sup> of July 1919

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of February 1917 at Nairn Parish Church Manse after banns according to the Church of Scotland George Stanley **Johnston** No 297793 224<sup>th</sup> Canadian Forestry Battalion stationed at Keppernach Camp Ardclach son of Ewine Johnston, Farmer, and Jennie May Johnston Ms Morrison to Christine **Boyd** a 24 year old Domestic Servant residing at 13

Church Street Nairn daughter of Allan Boyd Stone-breaker and Jessie Boyd Ms Johnston. George was born on the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 1892 at North Dakota USA and enlisted on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 1916 at Saskatoon Canada. He was a Certified Engineer and Teamster.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of February 1917 at County Buildings Nairn by Warrant of Sheriff Substitute Kenneth **Morrison** Private No 299108 Butcher Canadian Forestry Battalion, he was based at Broadshaw Camp Auldearn son of Aulay Morrison, Farmer, and Annie Morrison Ms Morrison to Jessie **King** a 27 year old Boot Shop Assistant residing at 19 Wilson Street Nairn the daughter of Thomas King, Distillery Worker, and Margaret King Ms Fraser. Kenneth was born on the 16<sup>th</sup> March 1880 at South Gut Victoria County Cape Breton a farm servant he enlisted 14<sup>th</sup> April 1916

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 1917 at Little Mill Ardclach after banns according to the United Free Church of Scotland Frank Hutchinson **Fairn** (Widower) Private Canadian Forestry Corps stationed at Achnatone Camp Ardclach, son of William Hearn Fairn. Shoemaker, and Mary Alice Fairn ms Wells to Jane Wells **Fraser** aged 25 residing at Little Mill Ardclach the daughter of Murdo Fraser, Merchant, and Barbara Lamb Fraser Ms Wells. Frank was born on the 11<sup>th</sup> June 1883 at Annapolis Nova Scotia, a Millman he enlisted on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 1916 at Quebec. Their daughter Barbara Wells Fairn was born on the 18<sup>th</sup> of October 1917 at Little Mill Ardclach. Mother and daughter sailed from Liverpool to Halifax on 12<sup>th</sup> December 1919 on the "Orduna"

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of April 1917 at 9 Wilson Street Nairn after banns according to the Church of Scotland Arthur Elwyn **Everett** Private Canadian Forestry Corps stationed at Keppernach Camp from Woodstock New Brunswick son of Clifford Burgie Everett and S Jane Holmes to Jessie Knox **Tweedie** a 17 year old Domestic Servant daughter of Robert Tweedie, Private Royal Defence Corps, and Elizabeth Tweedie Ms Barron. Arthur was born 26<sup>th</sup> September 1894 at Woodstock New Brunswick and was a Farmer in civilian life he enlisted on 31<sup>st</sup> March 1916. Their son Thomas Lee Everett was born on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 1918 at 9 Wilson Street Nairn. Mother and son sailed from Liverpool to Halifax on the "Cedric" on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July 1919

On 13<sup>th</sup> April 1917 at the County Buildings Nairn by Warrant of Sheriff Substitute, Hugh **Keel** Private 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Newfoundland Regiment in Civilian life a Motor Machinist from Bonavista Newfoundland son of Moses, Keel Fisherman, and Elizabeth Keel Ms Whiffen to Jeannie **Ross** a Compositor aged 22 residing at 39 Harbour Street Nairn daughter of George Ross, Shoemaker, and Mary Ross Ms MacLennan. Their daughter Mary Elizabeth Keel was born on 12<sup>th</sup> of March 1918 at 43 King Street Nairn her father was stated to be a Private in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Royal Newfoundland Regiment

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 1917 at the United Free Church Manse Ardclach, James Richards No. 29733 Private Canadian Forestry Corps based at Keppernach Camp Ardclach son of Henry **Richards**, Woodsman, and Carina Richards ms Henry to Alexina McKenzie **Munro** a 24 year old housekeeper residing at Slagchorrie Ardclach the daughter of Alexander Munro, Farm Servant, and Margaret Munro Ms Mackenzie. James was born on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November 1885 at Shedfield Hampshire England. He had previously served in the Royal Navy and in civilian life was employed as an Axeman and Construction Worker. He enlisted at Regina Saskatchewan on 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 1916. Their daughter Dora Munro was born on the 21<sup>st</sup> of November 1917 at Burnside Cottages Lethen Auldearn. Mother and daughter sailed from Liverpool to Halifax on the "Cedric" on 11<sup>th</sup> July 1919.

On 21<sup>st</sup> July 1917 at the County Buildings Nairn by Warrant of Sheriff Substitute Charles F **Reid** No 299138 Private Canadian Forestry Battalion from St John New Brunswick son of Captain Charles Reid and Margaret Reid Ms Clark stationed at Keppernach Camp to Agnes S **Allan** a 42 year old widow who was employed as an outworker and was the daughter of James Gatherer, Roadman, and Isabella Gatherer Ms Mitchell. The witness were Sergeant Edward Meahan Canadian Forestry Battalion Keppernach Camp and Elizabeth Scott or

McDougall wife of Sergt Peter McDougall (Q.V. in main text) . Their son Charles Frederick Reid was born on 29<sup>th</sup> of November 1918 at Boath Lodge Auldearn

On 25<sup>th</sup> August 1917 at Merryton Toll Nairn James **Grant** a 51 year old Private in the Canadian Forestry Battalion stationed at Keppernach Camp and from New Glasgow Nova Scotia son of Joseph Grant, Farmer, and Florence Grant Ms Mckenzie to Isabella **McCulloch** a 40 year old widowed Charwoman daughter of Murdo McLeay and Janet McLeay Ms Wallace.

On 15<sup>th</sup> September 1917 at Nairn Parish Church Sidney Hastings **Burwash** Captain Canadian Forestry Corps aged 24 stationed at Keppernach Camp Ardlach son of Arthur Burwash, Lawyer, and Frances Elizabeth Burwash Ms Hubbell to Ella Mary **Sinclair** a 25 year old School Teacher elder daughter of William Penny Sinclair, Public Hall-keeper, and Janet Sinclair Ms Harkness Their son Arthur Maxwell Burwash was born on the 15<sup>th</sup> August 1918 at Minerva Seabank Nairn by which time his father had been promoted to the rank of Major.

On 5<sup>th</sup> October 1917 at Fletcher's Buildings Nairn after banns according to the Church of Scotland Harvey Herbert Maxwell Gray **King** aged 21 Private Canadian Forestry Battalion of 323 Pope Avenue Ontario son of Thomas William King, Contracting Engineer, and Rohda King Ms Lovaioun to Katie **McDonnell** a 21 year old domestic servant residing at 11 Watson Place Nairn daughter of Anneas McDonnell, Gardner, and Jane McDonnell Ms Main. Their son Harvey Hebert Maxwell King was born on 20<sup>th</sup> of July 1918 at 12 Shaw's Close Nairn. Katie's brothers Anneas McDonnell and Affleck Ronaldson McDonnell both served in the Army (see main text)

On 16<sup>th</sup> October 1917 at the Parish Church Nairn after banns according to the church of Scotland John Smith **Park** aged 36 Lieutenant Canadian Forestry Corps residing at 55 Jordan Lane Edinburgh son of Archibald Jackson Park, Clerk of Works, and Margaret Wilkie Park Ms Moodie to Mary Ann **Ross** a 38 year old Barmaid residing at the Station Hotel Nairn daughter of David Ross, Farmer, and Margaret Ross Ms McKay.

On 27<sup>th</sup> October 1917 at Rosebank United Free Church Nairn Andrew D **Adamson** the 31 year old Orderly Room Sergeant Canadian Forestry Corps of Piltoun Ontario stationed at Achneim Camp son of Andrew Adamson, Coal Yard Superintendent, and Mary Adamson Ms Twend to Isabella **Campbell** a 19 year old Hospital Nurse 58 Harbour Street Nairn daughter of John Campbell, Plumber, and Anne Campbell Ms Main. Their son Alexander Main Adamson was born on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 1918 at 58 Harbour Street Nairn

On 31<sup>st</sup> December 1917 at Balloan of Meikle Geddes Cawdor after banns according to the Church of Scotland Ovila **Leduc** Private No 754503 Canadian Forestry Corps stationed at Achneim Forestry Camp Cawdor son of P Leduc, Carpenter, and Olvina Leduc Ms Sevene to Johan **Douglas** an 18 year old Domestic Servant daughter of George Alexander Douglas, Cattleman, and Isabella Douglas Ms Mackay living at Balloan of Meikle Geddes Cawdor. Ovila was born 13<sup>th</sup> December 1896 at Hawkesbury Ontario Canada. He enlisted on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February 1916 and was a Woodsman. Their son Donald was born on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 1918 at Balloan Meikle Geddes Cawdor. Mother and son sailed from Liverpool to Halifax on the "Cedric" on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July 1919.

On 8<sup>th</sup> January 1918 at Piperhill Village Cawdor after banns according to the Church of Scotland Alexander **Robertson** Corporal No 872351 Canadian Field Artillery who was born 17<sup>th</sup> August 1888 at Blairmore Cawdor son of John Robertson, Day Labourer, and Margaret Robertson Ms Ross to Isabella **Jamieson** a 26 year old Domestic Servant daughter of David Jamieson, Fisherman, and Margaret Jamieson Ms Sutherland. Alexander enlisted at Lethbridge on 24<sup>th</sup> November 1914 and was a Miner by occupation.

On 31<sup>st</sup> July 1918 at Whinhill Cawdor after banns according to the Free Church of Scotland John **McDonald** Sergeant No 2303311 Canadian Forestry Corps stationed at Achneim Forestry Camp Cawdor son of John McDonald, Horse Dealer, and Ann McDonald Ms McDonald to Ann **McGregor** daughter of Alexander McGregor, Farmer, and Ann McGregor Ms McDonald. John a Blacksmith was born 15<sup>th</sup> April 1887 at Bear River Prince Edward

Island he enlisted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 1917 having previously served in the United States Army for 6 years. Ann was born 9<sup>th</sup> January 1893 at Knockard Cawdor

On 9<sup>th</sup> August 1918 at Blairmore Cawdor after banns according to the United Free Church of Scotland Louis Sutherland **Paterson** No 1795 Sapper 6<sup>th</sup> Field Company Canadian Engineers son of Louis Paterson, Gardener, and Elizabeth Ross Ms Dalziel address shown as 39 Charlotte Square Edinburgh to Elspeth **Ross** the daughter of Alexander Ross, Tailor, and Clothier and Sarah Jane Ross Ms Dallas residing at Blairmore Cawdor. Louis was born September 10<sup>th</sup> 1882 at Edinburgh. An Electrical Engineer he enlisted on 4<sup>th</sup> January 1916 at Vancouver his address being 800 Hastings St East Vancouver. He had served for 3 years as an Electrician in Royal Engineers Territorial Force. Elspeth was born 29<sup>th</sup> March 1882 at Blairmore Cawdor

On 13<sup>th</sup> August 1918 at Cruden's Hotel High Street Nairn after banns according to the Free Church of Scotland Louis Leslie **Robertson** Private Canadian Forestry Corps stationed at Borteeside Camp Jedburgh Roxburghshire son of William Robertson, Millwright, and Nettie Robertson Ms Wilson to Margaret Ann Rebecca **McLean** a 32 year old shop assistant residing at 7a Falconers Lane Nairn daughter of the deceased Lachlan McLean, Horse Hirer, and Margaret Fraser

On 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1918 At the United Free Church Manse Nairn George Frederick **Clisby** Private No 297786 Canadian Forestry Corps stationed at Orton Camp Morayshire son of the deceased James John Clisby, Hatter, and the deceased Selina Elizabeth Clisby Ms Woodgate to Margaret **Macgregor** aged 31 Domestic Servant, 9 Mill Road Nairn daughter of Donald Macgregor, Gardener, and Isabella Macgregor Ms Kinnaird. George was a lumberman and cook born on the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 1884 at Leeds Yorkshire and had enlisted in the Canadian Army on 30<sup>th</sup> March 1916 at Saskatoon where he was living

4<sup>th</sup> December 1918 at 26 Union Street Nairn after banns according to the United Free Church of Scotland Alexander **Wilson** aged 31 Private Canadian Forestry Corps stationed at Achneim Camp son of James Wilson, Brassfinisher, and Annie Wilson Ms Robb to Jane **Laird** aged 19 Fishworker 26 Union Street Nairn, daughter of Donald Laird, Fisherman, and Jeannie Laird Ms Downie.

On 17<sup>th</sup> December 1918 at the Roman Catholic Chapel Nairn after banns according to the Roman Catholic Church Murray George **Cusack** Private No 2303411 Canadian Forestry Corps stationed at Orton Camp Morayshire son of Charles Cusack, Farmer, and Mary Cusack Ms Dopson to Margaret **Hopwood** Bakeress aged 19, 23 Simpson Street Nairn daughter of William Hopwood, Grocer, and Mary Hopwood Ms McNeil. Murray George Cusack was born 7<sup>th</sup> April 1899 at Lower Ridge Kings County New Brunswick and enlisted April 12<sup>th</sup> 1917 his address being Catamount New Brunswick

On 27<sup>th</sup> December 1918 at 13 King Street Nairn after banns according to the United Free Church of Scotland Henrie **Matt** aged 20 Private Canadian Forestry Corps stationed at Sunningdale Camp England son of J----- Matt, Builder, and Helen Matt Ms Pakaim to Margaret Christina **McDonald** Shop Assistant age 20, 13 King Street Nairn daughter of Angus Macdonald, Labourer, and Euphemia Macdonald Ms Innes

On 17<sup>th</sup> January 1919 at the Windsor Hotel, Albert Street Nairn after banns according to the United Free Church of Scotland Peter **Lalonde** aged 39 Private No 299190 Canadian Forestry Corps stationed at Achneim Camp Cawdor son of the late Andrew Lalonde, Carpenter, and Olive Lalonde Ms Dough to Margaret **Masson** age 39 a housekeeper residing at Drumcharrel Cawdor the daughter of the late Donald Masson, Farmer, and the late Margaret Masson Ms Macdonald. Peter who was born on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July 1880 at Ottawa enlisted on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 1916 and was a driver.

On 28<sup>th</sup> March 1919 at the Station Hotel Nairn, High Street, Nairn after banns according to the Church of Scotland Ernest Stephen **Hatton** aged 23 Private No 2007497 in No 107 Company Canadian Forestry Corps stationed at Achneim Cawdor son of Frederick Hatton, Carpenter, and Minnie Hatton Ms Dougette to Margaret **Leslie** a 17 year old Domestic Servant residing at 4 Sydney Place Nairn daughter of Alexander Leslie, Shoemaker, and Elizabeth Leslie Ms Milne. Ernest was born on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October 1894 at Alliance Ohio USA and when he enlisted on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January 1918 was residing at Treston Ontario, he was employed as a Plumber.