

# Falkland 1900-2000 – Year 1902

(With thanks to Jack Burgess)

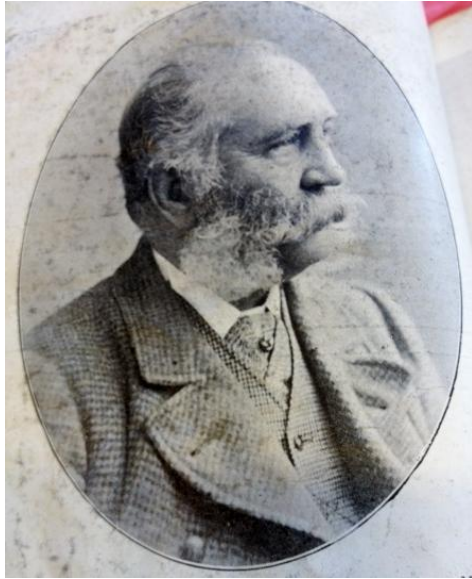
## Year 1902

### 4<sup>th</sup> January 1902

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Factory Act** – “In connection with the new Factory Act, Messrs Jackson have decided not to make any reduction of wages.”

### 8<sup>th</sup> February 1902

Extract from *The Fife News Almanac*: **Death of Major Wood, Falkland Palace** – “The undernoted will be recognised by a wide circle of friends as a faithful portrait of Major Wood, factor, Falkland Palace, who died today. The deceased Major entered the Black Watch as a private when within two months of his seventeenth year. His promotion was rapid. When the Crimean War broke out he was an Ensign, and shortly afterwards was appointed Adjutant. In that arduous campaign against the Russians he was present at all the big engagements, the battles of the Alma and Balaclava siege of and attack on Sevastopol. Next we find Major Wood taking an active part in the suppression of the Indian Mutiny, notably being engaged at the attack on the rebels at Cawnpore and at the siege and fall of Lucknow. The deceased held the factorship at Falkland Palace for thirty-two years, and manifested a loving interest in the historic pile. He was the author of several short works dealing with the antiquity of the Palace, and with the ‘Fair Maid of Perth’ tradition that David, Duke of Rothesay, was starved to death within its walls.”



**Major Wood**

### **15<sup>th</sup> February 1902**

Extract from *The Fife News Almanac*: **Marriage** – “Marriage of Mr Maitland-Makgill-Crichton of Lathrisk to Miss Sybil Twynihoe Erle, Bramshott Grange, Liphook, Hants.”

### **15th March 1902**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Proposed Branch Railway** – “Investigations are at present afoot, writes a correspondent, as to the feasibility of bringing in a railway line from Falkland Road Station to Falkland. An interested party has during the past week interviewed several of the leading traders of the district on the subject, and a few local gentlemen are also working with the view of bringing the proposed scheme to a successful issue. There is no doubt that the introduction of the railway into Falkland would be a great boon to the inhabitants and district. Falkland has until now stood, in the matter of railway facilities, isolated from the outer world, notwithstanding the fact that a considerable tonnage in linens, malt and farm produce has to be carted so far a distance. Then there is another industry, the manufacture of floorcloth and linoleum about to be started, which will yield a very large annual tonnage, and it is this fact which has given the question its present prominence. The railway will be hailed with delight by the townspeople, as it will mean to them so many advantages which have hitherto been denied. It is to be hoped nothing will be left undone to secure its completion.”

## 12<sup>th</sup> April 1902

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Viscount Falkland** – “Viscount Falkland was born 57 years ago. He is the twelfth holder of the title, which comes from the old Royal Palace here owned by the late Marquess of Bute, and belonging now to his second son, Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart. He owns some property in London, and a house in Eaton Square. Lord Falkland is a Representative Peer for Scotland. His son and heir, a Lieutenant in the Grenadier Guards, came of age last year.”

## 17<sup>th</sup> May 1902

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Opening of New Golf Course** – “On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May the new golf course was opened with benefiting ceremony. In the absence of Mr Maitland-Makgill-Crichton of Lathrisk, Miss Daisy Gulland, one of the local champion players drove the first ball – and a splendid shot it was. The course has been laid out by Mr James Philp, Freuchie, and is situated partly on the common land to the eastward of the ancient burgh locally known as the “Myres”, and partly on the Lathrisk estate, in two fields kindly granted by the present popular laird, who has taken an exceedingly keen interest in the movement. The course is very rough as yet, but this is not to be wondered at when it is remembered in what condition it was when a commencement was made to lay it out. At the present time there are no want of hazards, natural and otherwise. After some months’ play matters will be greatly improved and the greens should be in fine condition. The course will prove an attraction to the numerous summer visitors who frequent the locality every season. Mr Charles Gulland, town clerk, after his daughter had struck off the first ball, spoke a few words congratulating the Club on their acquiring such a suitable course, and wished them every success. A number of interesting singles were thereafter played amongst the members and visitors, when some good scores were chronicled. Mr Makgill-Crichton of Lathrisk is patron of the Club, Mr Rolland Gulland, captain, and Mr James Forsyth, secretary, George Baxter being greenkeeper. Among those present were – The Rev. George Lowe, Freuchie; the Rev. Charles Fraser, Freuchie; the Rev. Mr and Mrs Johnston; the Rev. Mr and Mrs Morrison, Falkland; Mr J.L. Lumsden, Freuchie; Mr Charles Gulland; Mr Rolland Gulland; Mr Bonthron and Mr D. Bonthron, Newton of Falkland; Mr Christopher Morrison, Monifieth; Mrs Gulland; Mrs Mackie; and Misses Lumsden, Freuchie. The weather was all that could be desired, and a most enjoyable time was spent. The opening of the course marks an important advance in the sporting life of the community, which, thanks to the facilities placed at its disposal by Mr Bonthron in the free use of suitable ground, has long held a good reputation in out-of-door pastimes. The following is a description of the course:- Two

*good drives and an iron shot should reach the first green, which is encircled by sand dunes. Five is par play. The second hole requires to be very carefully played. Rough territory lies on the left, and whins on the right; but, with decent luck, four should suffice. The third hole presents no difficulties, the green being reachable from the tee. The ball, however, must be kept straight, as a pulled drive may find lodgement among trees, or at the foot of a dyke. Three is good play, though four in the rough state is not amiss. Going to the fourth hole, which is on the Lathrisk estate, a strip of beech trees has to be negotiated. Four is par value. No, five is plain sailing; and at the sixth, the player has the option of driving round a rough square or of taking the hazard right away. This and the succeeding hole should be manipulated in four strokes each. To the inexperienced golfer, the seventh is the most trying hole, owing to whins and a number of lint holes in which the natives of old, making use of a small burn that whimpers by, steeped their lint – grown at one time very extensively in Fife. The eighth hole is also difficult, a sliced drive running the chance of being trapped in a bunker. If a good line is kept, the hole may be managed in three. The home hole is placed in the old curling pond, with a reserve green beside it. Here also four suffices; and anything about 40 for the round may be considered excellent play.”*



**Falkland Golf Club golfers**

### **28<sup>th</sup> June 1902**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Coming of Age of the Marquis of Bute** –  
“Through the generosity of Lady Bute, the employees on the Falkland estates were entertained to a cake and wine banquet in the Bruce Arms Hotel on Friday last. Mr George Gavin, Falkland Estate Office, presided over a company of about forty. The Chairman proposed the toast of the health of the Marquis of Bute, which was enthusiastically pledged. The toast of “The Marchioness of Bute” was thereafter proposed by Mr E. McCallum, forester;

*that of Lady Margaret by Mr E. Macpherson, Palace Gardens; that of “Lord Ninian”, the future laird of Falkland, by Mr A. Hillock, Palace guide; and that of “Lord Colum” by Mr M. Smith. A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.”*

### **5<sup>th</sup> July 1902**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Market and Games** – “This annual event was held on Friday in delightful weather. This year the games were under the patronage of the Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council, and were highly successful. Friday also saw the celebration of the old-established “market”, and the Royal burgh was ‘en fete’; while there were many visitors present for the occasion. The games took place in the Common or Myre, which is a suitable park for the purpose. Early in the forenoon the school children were presented with Coronation mugs, and after Lochgelly Brass Band had paraded through the town, the sports’ programme was entered upon, and continued till well on in the afternoon. The arrangements were admirably carried out by Mr John Sheriff, secretary; and Provost Page; Mr Charles Jackson, manufacturer; Mr Charles Jackson, jnr.; Bailie Miller; Mr David Bonthron, Newton of Falkland; Councillor Forsyth, members of committee; and Mr Walter Peggie, treasurer. Bailie Miller, Mr Jackson and Councillor Jackson officiated as judges. Later in the day dancing was engaged in. The band played selections after the games at Millfield House, and were entertained by Mr and Mrs Gulland. Mr Angus, Commercial Hotel, who also saw to the comfort of the band, called for a vote of thanks to Mr and Mrs Gulland, which was cordially given.”

### **19<sup>th</sup> July 1902**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Sergeant William Lawson** – “Sergeant William Lawson, 1<sup>st</sup> Cameron Highlanders, who has served in South Africa for fully two years, arrived home on Tuesday night. During his service in South Africa, he took part in many stirring episodes.”

### **16<sup>th</sup> August 1902**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Coronation Celebrations** – “The royal ancient burgh was gay with bunting and flags in honour of the auspicious event, and admirable arrangements had been made by the Coronation Committee. The community responded well, and the Committee were placed in possession of

*ample funds to carry out the day's celebrations in fitting style. When, unfortunately, it was found necessary, owing to the King's illness, to postpone the childrens' treat and other functions then arranged for, it was thought well to present to the school children the handsome Coronation jugs which had been purchased for them, and this was done at the time in the Public School. The day was observed as a holiday, and beautiful weather favoured the celebrations. Through the kindness of the Marchioness of Bute, the park within the beautiful grounds of Falkland House was put at the disposal of the Committee. Swings had been erected and a racecourse laid out. At noon the children headed by the Falkland flute band, under the leadership of Mr Michael Reekie, marched from the Public School to the field, and refreshments were then served. The programme of sports arranged was during the afternoon successfully carried through. The flower show was held in the same field, and old and young accordingly mixed freely. The day's entertainment was greatly enjoyed. The Committee and those gentlemen who so ably took charge of the sports are to be congratulated upon the success which attended the celebrations."*

### **27<sup>th</sup> September 1902**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Dressmaking** – “A dressmaking class was opened on Tuesday night, under the auspices of the County Council, in the Public School, under the superintendence of Misses Aitken and Noble. The attendance was good.”

### **11th October 1902**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Golf** – “The competition for the Morrison Scratch Medal took place on Saturday afternoon, and resulted in a tie between the Rev. A. Lyon Johnstone and Mr Kenneth Stewart, the scores being 96 each.”

### **15<sup>th</sup> November 1902**

Extract from *The Fife News*: **“Kirkin” of the Council** – “The annual ceremony of the “kirkin” of the Council took place on Sunday. The members assembled in the Town Hall, and headed by the Town Officer, marched to the Parish Church, where the pulpit was occupied by the Rev. A.L. Johnston, who conducted the service. In the afternoon the Council proceeded to the U.F. Church, where the Rev. Mr Morrison officiated.”

## 27<sup>th</sup> December 1902

Extract from *The Fife News*: **Alleged Housebreaking** – “Sheriff Armour had before him on Tuesday, in Cupar Sheriff Court, a labourer named David Anderson, residing at Back Wynd, Falkland, on a charge of having broken into the cellar of the public house occupied by David Lumsden, publican, High Street, Falkland, and stolen twelve pint bottles of porter. He denied the charge, and the Sheriff fixed 6<sup>th</sup> January 1903, at eleven o’clock, as the date of trial.”

# Falkland Almanac

Annual Value of Property in Burgh 1902-1903 £3,026 5s 0d

Population according to 1901 Census – 2,229

**Magistrates and Town Council** – Provost, Wm. Page; Bailies, Robert Miller and Thos. Sutherland; Treasurer, Jas. Robertson; Town-Clerk, Charles Gulland; Councillors, John Angus, William Lawrie, Charles Jackson, David Reid, Andrew Lister, James Forsyth, George Hardie, Michael Reekie, and Charles Jackson Jun.; Fiscal, John Dick; Town Officers, John Walker and Geo. Baxter.

**Places of Worship** – Parish Church, Rev. John Barrack, M.A.; Assistant and Successor, Rev. A.L. Johnstone; United Free Church, Rev. F.W.M. Morrison; Plymouth Brethren, Balmblae, Various Teachers.

**School Board** – Clerk, John Sheriff; Members, Alexander Bonthron (Chairman), Robert Miller, Charles Jackson, Thomas Williamson, John L. Lumsden, David Rymer, and David Nelson. Teachers – Falkland Public School, John Richardson; Freuchie Public School, Allan Mill; Officer, George Baxter; Drill Instructor, Sergeant Ford.





**Falkland School Group 1902 (photo from the Falkland Society Collection)**

**Parish Council** – *First Ward* – Charles Jackson, Sen. (Chairman), John Sheriff, Walter Peggie, Robert Miller. *Second Ward* – John L. Lumsden, Archibald Aitken, William Lindsay. *Third Ward* – William Meiklejohn, Alex. Bonthron.

**Inspector, Clerk and Registrar** – Lawrence Reid.

**Gas Company** – John Dick, Manager.

**Equitable Co-operative Society (Limited)** – Manager, Salesman and Treasurer, R. Sharp; President, Michael Lawson; Secretary, L. Reid.

**Funeral and Deposit Society** – Robert Sharp, President; James Robertson, Secretary; George Robertson, Treasurer.

**Bank** – British Linen, Charles Gulland and Rowland Gulland, Joint Agents.

**Solicitors** – Rowland Gulland; Charles Gulland, N.P.

**Medical Practitioners** – J.G. Jack, M.B., Ch. B.; A.M. Hardie, M.B.C.M.

**Burgh Assessor** – Lawrence Reid.

**Young Men's Christian Association** – President, Walter Peggie; Secretary, Geo. Robertson; Treasurer, David Peggie.

**Halls** – The Town Hall, High Street; The Drill Hall, South Street.

