

Phyllis - my mother - 1912 to 1989

Phyllis Buckley
1912 - 1989

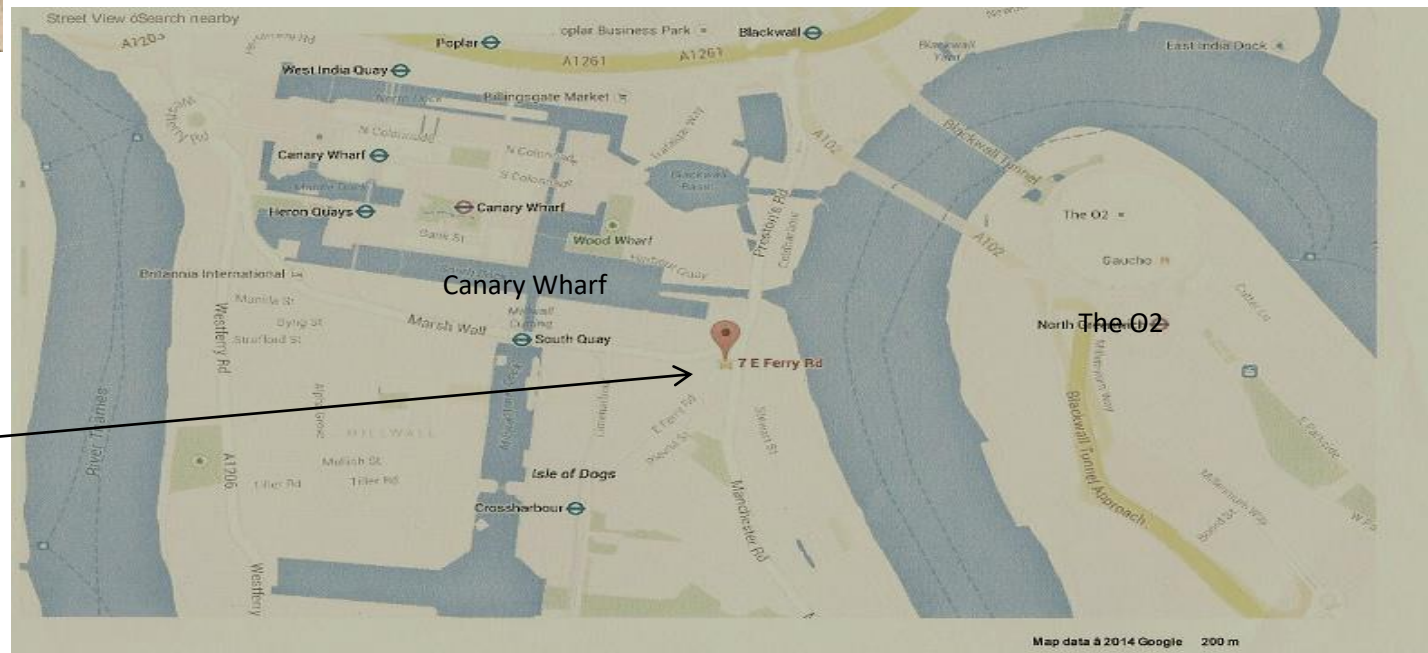


Mum, from Argentinian ID Card -


Since starting this family tree project in 2009 more background to my mother's side of the family has been discovered with the revelation that what my sister and I thought was going to be an Irish root turned out to be just one generation - our great grandfather who was born in Dublin to his father who was born in London.

Her grandfather (my great grandfather) - Overton Truscott Buckley - was born in Dublin to James Buckley and his wife Jane (nee Truscott) in 1843, was married to Margaret Catherine Small (born in 1846) at Pentonville, London on 11 Sep 1869, at one time lived at 60 East Ferry Road, Middlesex (now part of Tower Hamlets, London) and died in Poplar, London in September 1932 (age 88). On 29 February 1884 my mother's father - Overton John Buckley - was born at 7 East Ferry Road. His birth certificate shows his father's occupation as "boiler maker". At the time there were thriving ship building and engineering manufacturing industries on the Isle Of Dogs attracting many incoming workers - 1856 to 1858 marks the building and launch of Brunel's Great Eastern. The East Ferry Road area is part of Cubitt Town built between 1840 and 1860. In 1868 the Millwall Docks were opened. I do not know when he went to Argentina but he was a civil engineer with a railway.

7 East Ferry Road



CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH



GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number: 5771659-1

REGISTRATION DISTRICT		POPLAR	
1884	BIRTH in the Sub-district of Poplar	in the	County of Middlesex


Column-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname (if mother)	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
	477, 1884 East May Road	Overton John	Boy	Overton Frederick Buckley	Margaret Buckley formerly Small	Painter	O. J. Buckley Father 7 East Four Avenue Poplar	Ninth April 1884	[Signature]	Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 16th day of July 2014

BXCG 233710

CAUTION: THERE ARE OFFENCES RELATING TO FALSIFYING OR ALTERING A CERTIFICATE AND USING OR POSSESSING A FALSE CERTIFICATE. PENALTY: IMPRISONMENT.
WARNING: A CERTIFICATE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY.



← My grandfather's birth certificate 1884

REPÚBLICA DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DO BRASIL
FICHA CONSULAR DE QUALIFICAÇÃO

Esta ficha, expedida em duas vias, será entregue à Polícia Marítima e à Imigração no porto de destino

Nome por extenso: **OVERTON JOHN BUCKLEY**

Admitido em território nacional em caráter **TEMPORÁRIO (TRANSITO)**

Nos termos do art. 25 letra A do dec. n. 2010 de 1939

Lugar e data de nascimento: **Londres, 29 Fevereiro, 1884**

Nacionalidade: **Inglês** Estado civil: **casado**

Filiação (nome do Pai e da Mãe): **Overton Buckley e Margaret Small**

Profissão: **Engenheiro**

Residência no país de origem: **Clara Debanne, Los Cisnes, POCA ARGENTINA**

FILHOS MENORES DE 18 ANOS: / / /

Passaporte G.92021 expedido pelas autoridades de Consulado Geral Britânico-B. Aires na data 8 Agosto 1939

visado sob n. 71.

Assinatura do Portador: *[Signature]*

Consulado do Brasil em Port of Spain 15 de Setembro de 1945.

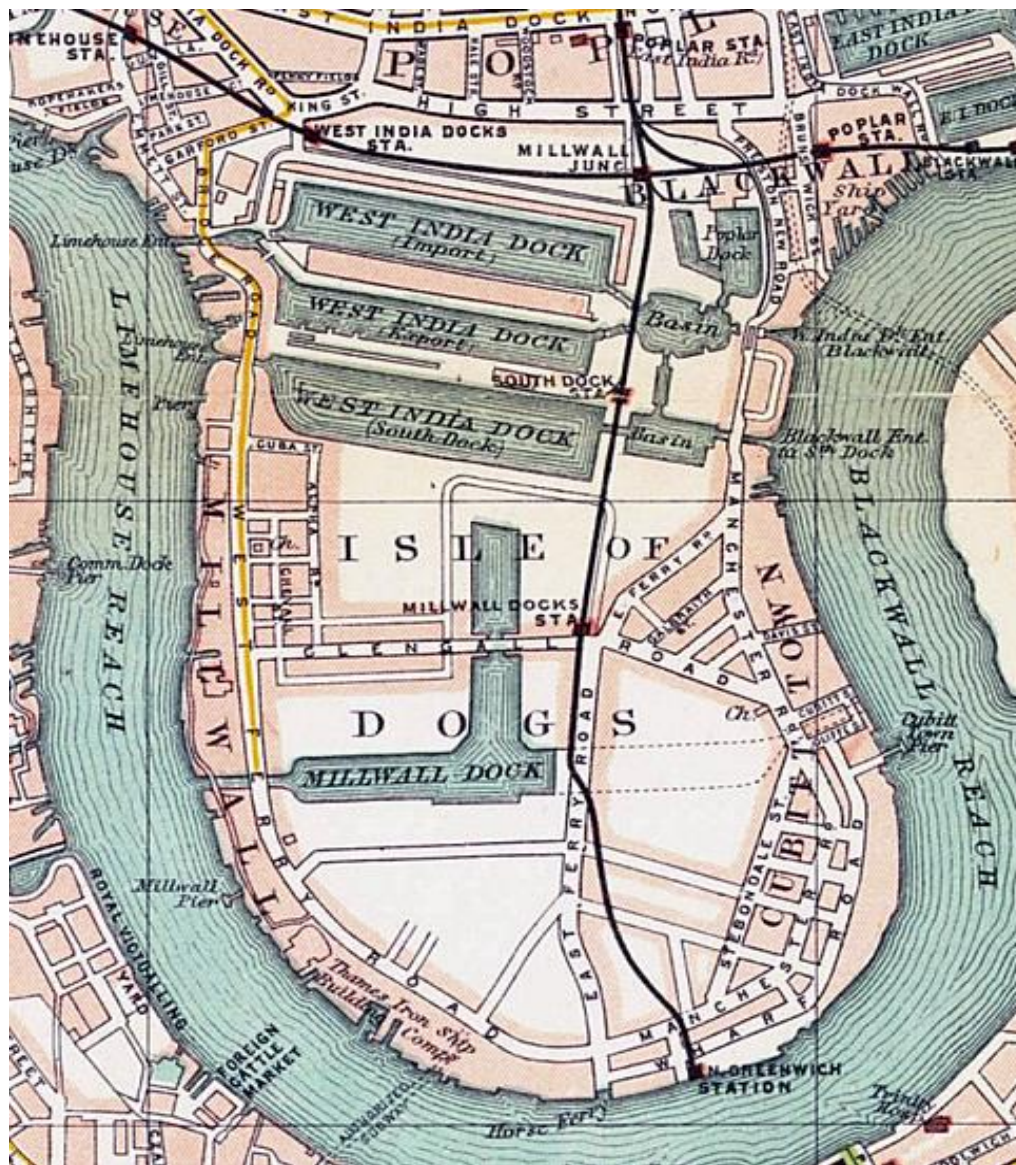
[Signature]

Vice Consul, Port of Spain

NOTA—Esta ficha deve ser entregue à autoridade competente, assim as duas vias em original

Event Place Gender Marital Status Nationality Traveling With

This ID Card / Visa (the only photo I have seen of him) was for my grandfather seemingly travelling from the Argentine to Brazil in 1945. However, the card shows names Port of Spain which is the capital of Trinidad, at the time part of Brazil? His Argentine address is in Cordoba. A chance find on Wikitree in December 2019 with a link to Christine Millings - we have the same great, great grandfather. Having been told by my family that we had an Irish connection that was my great grandfather whose father was, in fact, born in Knightsbridge, London in 1821.



1851 Census shows the Buckley family living in Aldenham Street, Somers Town, St Pancras as:-

Name	Age	Born
James	30	Knightsbridge, Middx
Jane	33	St Austell, Cornwall
Mary	8	Dublin, Ireland
Overton	6	Dublin, Ireland
James	5	St Columb, Cornwall
John	2	St Pancras, Middx
Louisa	3 mo	St Pancras, Middx

1891 Census shows the Buckley family living in East Ferry Road, Isle of Dogs as:-

Name	Age
Overton	48
Margaret	45
Alice	13
James	11
Overton	7
John	6



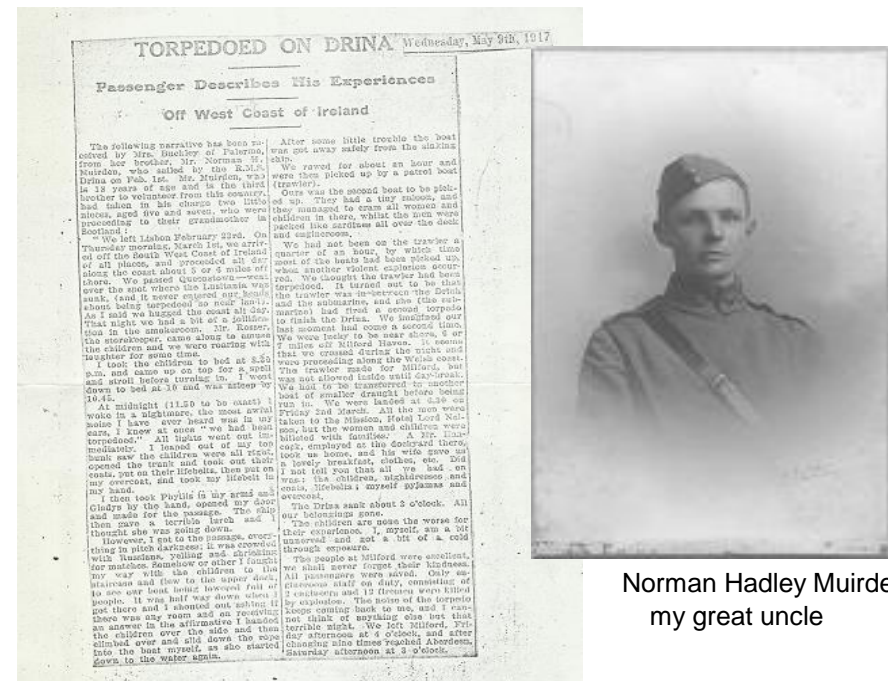
I photographed this on 22 Jan 2020. When James lived there in 1851 I wonder if it was a slum?

← Isle of Dogs 1899 - when my grandfather was 15.

My mother's mother, my grandmother, was Catherine Adelaide Muirden born in Adelaide, Australia on 7 February 1890. My great grandfather, Alexander Muirden, and his wife, Marjory Laing (known as Grandie), left Adelaide for Argentina in 1893. So my grandmother would have been brought up in the Argentine from age 3.

According to Entry No 93 - in the Capital of the Republic (Buenos Aires) on 31st March 1909 at 1:30 pm - Overton Buckley, "25 years of age, single, English, born in London, living at Cuyo 2558 Buenos Aires" married Catherine Muirden, "22 years of age, spinster, born in Adelaide, Australia, living at Cuyo 2558 Buenos Aires".

My mother was born in La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina (8th July 1912 at 6:30 pm) and, with her sister Gladys, travelled to the UK with their uncle Norman on RMS Drina which was torpedoed on 1st March 1917 off the South West Coast of Ireland. Earlier in the day it sailed over where the Lusitania had been sunk in 1915. Drina was carrying meat, coffee and 189 passengers and 15 crew when she was hit by the German U-boat UC65, first at 11.57pm on March 1st and again at 12.45am on March 2nd when the survivors were taking to the boats. She was saved by Norman (hence my name) and went to Aberdeen presumably to stay with her grandmother (Marjory Muirden née Laing). A description of the history of the Drina is available written by a diver, Mr Lyn (Taffy) Isaac, who now lives in Gower and last dived on the wreck in 1990; he has said "You can't go far enough along the hull at that depth on air to check the whole ship".



Norman Hadley Muirden
my great uncle

In June 2022 Harry Charap, living in Buenos Aires, contacted me resulting in a revision to the whereabouts of 4 Hadley Road, New Barnet. Having used Street View I realised I was looking at the wrong side of the road! I trained and tubed to New Barnet and photographed both sides of the road - No 4 is a relatively recent build; from their style, the semi-detached houses across the road could date back to the late 1800s.



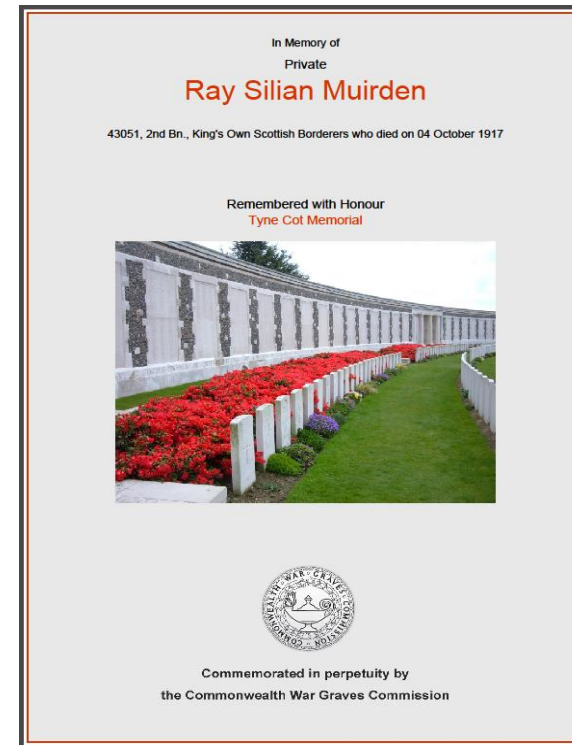
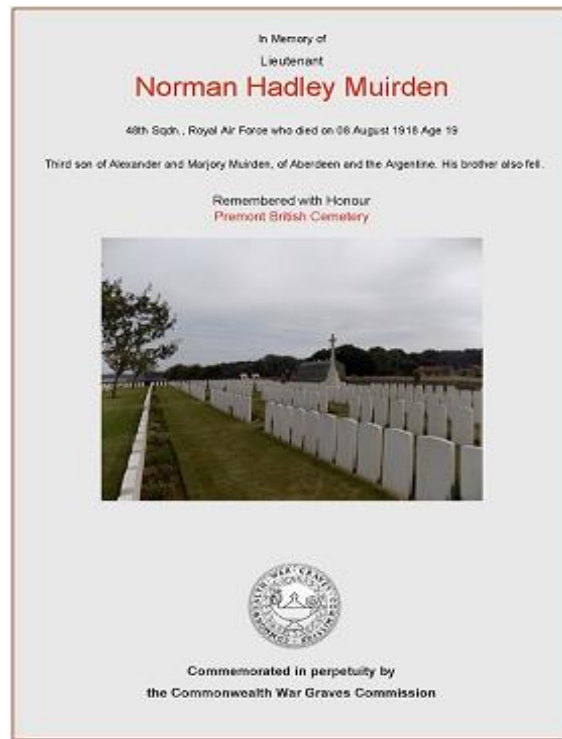


Norman Hadley Muirhead.
 Born Oct 23rd, 1898, in New
 Barnet, London, (4, Hadley Rd.)
 near Hadley Wood.
 Volunteered in 1916, from R.A.F.
 for world war I.
 Died August 8th, 1918, after being
 wounded on June 24th, 1918 & taken
 prisoner of war, in Bohemia, Germany.
 Pilot in the R.F.C. (later Royal Air
 Force) 1st Lieutenant
 Torpedoed March 1st 1917 off the
 coast of Milford Haven, with two
 little messes, Gladys & Phyllis Bickley.



A recent find - Roy and Norman Muirhead taken in La Plata, January 30 1916. This must have been taken before they joined British military for WW 1. Roy (on left in picture) died 20 months later. Norman (after whom I am named) died 31 months later.

With Norman being born in New Barnet, London in 1898 it seems the Muirhead family may not have moved directly from Australia to the Argentine but via London. Norman was torpedoed on 1st March 1917 whilst taking my mother and her sister to "Grandie" in Aberdeen. More dates to explore!



INFORMATION FROM EDINBURGH CASTLE & CWGC

NORMAN HADLEY MUIRDEN
48 Sqn
Died of wounds – Germany 8/8/1918

Buried at Prémont, Aisne, France

ROY SILIAN MUIRDEN
45031 Pte
Born Australia
KIA F&F (Fife & Forfar)
Died 4/10/1917
Formerly 25559 HLI
(Highland Light Infantry)

This card that basically advises next of kin that someone had become a prisoner of war was found in 2023 with some of my mother's paperwork.

Fill up this card immediately!
I am prisoner of war in Germany.

Name: MUIR DEN

Christian name: Margaret

Rank: LIEUTENANT

Regiment: ROYAL ARTILLERY

Sound. ☐ Wounded. ☒ Not required to be erased.

Date: July 13/1913.

Do not reply to Limburg, await further information.

Kriegsgefangenensendung
Postprüfungsstelle
des Kriegsgefangenen-Stammlagers
Limburg a. d. Lahn

To be forwarded immediately to ENGLAND

Write plainly! To (address) MRS M MUIR DEN
40 Mrs. MUIR DEN
WOODSIDE

Address carefully! (Destination) ABERDEEN SCOTLAND

Prüfungsstempel 45

Stamp: 1913 JUL 13

Mum attended the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Aberdeen. I have a postcard (below) addressed to Miss P M Buckley (my mother) c/o Mrs M Muirden (her grandmother) at 7 Jamaica Street, Aberdeen postmarked 31 Jan 1921 from her uncle Stanley Muirden at St Joseph's College, Dumfries where he was a student. Jamaica Street is about 2 miles from the location of the convent (Queen's Cross) - so I assume Mum was a boarder.



Whilst in Aberdeen during February 2009 I decided to find Jamaica Street - to discover flat 7a for sale! It is on the ground floor in the picture alongside. This was rather strange to think that unbeknown to me my mother had stayed here either at the time she was at the Convent of the Sacred Heart school in Aberdeen (maybe with her sister Gladys) or during school holidays. I am assuming the house was not all small flats at the time.

There was a connection between the Cardno and Penny families from the late 1700s. James Cardno (born 1770) married Christian Penny on 2 November 1791 (registered in Fraserburgh). He died at Philorth in 1835; she died in 1849. Both are buried at Kirkton Churchyard, Fraserburgh. I kept researching but that took me well away from my family line not least into a line that is more centred on the Fraserburgh area. Then an odd discovery - not to the Penny line but in a round about way potentially to the Muirdens. Charles Cardno (born at Crimond on 11 May 1840) married at Percyhorner (Pitsligo) on 25 December 1862, Jessie Mowat (born at Pitsligo on 9 Jan 1844). They celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in Dec 1912 at 7 Jamaica Street, Aberdeen - Charles died there on 9 Jul 1922.

So no direct family connection from the Cardnos to the Pennys or the Muirdens but my great grandmother on the Muirden side lived in the same house as Charles and Jessie Cardno with at least an 18 month overlap. It is interesting to see where these genealogy trails can lead!



Mum went to St Mary's School, Ingram Road, Gillingham (next to Our Lady of Gillingham, Kent). The building is now a nursery; the new St Mary's school is round the corner in Greenfield Road. This was quite a revelation after we all moved down from Inverness to Herne Bay, Kent in 1983 and I realised I was going past her old school on the train to and from London!

School Report - 1925 - mother age 13. →

My step-grandfather, Harold Vincent Redman (known as "Grampsie"), and grandmother (Kitty) were married on 25 August 1924 at Minster, Thanet about 5 miles from Birchington where my wife, Annie, and I now live. They lived at 74 Kingswood Road, Gillingham (recent photo below) - perhaps after August 1924!? His address on discharge from the Navy is in Buenos Aires so presumably lived in Gillingham until September 1927 when Mum was 15.

Grampsie was not in my line of "roots and branches" but had a great influence on my sister, Melody, whilst growing up in the Argentine and my house in Birchington has many of his paintings - the ones dated 1926 I assume were painted whilst he lived - just up the road - in Gillingham. My research on him and, in particular, his naval service is a separate booklet.



74 Kingswood Road, Gillingham

On 27 November 1926 At age 14 she travelled to Buenos Aires.

Form G 42.

GILLINGHAM EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

St Mary's School. *Herne Bay* Dept.

PROGRESS REPORT.

Standard *V* Teacher *M. E. Doogan*

Please receive the Report of Progress of *P. Buckley*

for *Term* ending *July 1925*

Kindly note that punctual and regular attendance is a very great aid to real progress and quick advancement.

No. of School Openings *113* Times absent *3* Times late *-*

SUBJECT.	Class Teacher's Term Report.	Head Teacher's Exam. Marks, Maximum 100.	SUBJECT.	Class Teacher's Term Report.	Head Teacher's Exam. Marks, Maximum 100.
READING ..	<i>Phyllis has done very well this term. I hope to see her at the top next term.</i>	46	GEOGRAPHY ..		47
WRITING ..		9	HISTORY ..		85
ARITHMETIC ..		47	SCIENCE ..		
ENGLISH ..		40	NEEDLEWORK (Gls)		85
Composition ..		84	MATHEMATICS ..		
Dictation ..		94		
Recitation ..		90		
ART ..		9		
.....			CONDUCT ..		9.
.....			POSITION IN CLASS		3rd

It is hoped that you will carefully peruse and then acknowledge the receipt of this Report, and also give due encouragement and assistance where necessary.

Date of Issue *31.7.25* *W. Faulds* Head Teacher.

Please Preserve this Report.

The Education Committee earnestly request the Parents to sign and return this Counterfoil to the Head Teacher. If they have any remarks to make upon the Report, will they kindly insert them below.

REMARKS.

Date..... Signed..... Parent or Guardian.

From 1928 to 1945 she was a secretary in the British Railway, Buenos Aires then (1945/46) secretary to Sir Eugen Millington-Drake in BA and London (he was then the Chief Representative of the British Council in Spanish America and is well known for his taking the surrender of the captain of the Graf Spee in 1939). She lived in Villa Ballester, Florida, BA.

She was twice married in Buenos Aires and after the Second World War married my father in Inverness. Around 1986, shortly after our family move to Kent, we walked along Chatham Lines where she said she played as a child - no War Memorial then (it was unveiled in 1924). She died in Canterbury Hospice on 1 January 1991. Her ashes are with my father's in Herne Bay cemetery.

The furthest trace back I had was to Alexander Muirden and Catherine Mackay (buried in Golspie 1875) whose son Alexander started a business college in Adelaide, Australia in 1887. He left Adelaide in 1893 presumably emigrating to Argentina. Meanwhile having involved his brother William in the college it continued to flourish. William Muirden's biography is at:-

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/muirden-william-7675>

Texts from gravestones in Golspie, Sutherland:

Erected in memory of Catherine MacKay the beloved wife of Alexander Muirden Golspie, who died on 7th Dec 1875, aged 39 years and Charles their beloved son who died 27th Nov 1875 aged 2 years, and of their sons James and John who died in early infancy.

In memory of the Reverend George Muirden Free Church Minister at Tarbat from 1918 to 1928 afterward at Maryburgh until his death on 31st July 1939 aged 63 years and his wife Margaret Campbell who died 3rd December 1951 aged 74 years.

Some more Muirden family background was sent to me in 2009 by Joan Cornish from New Zealand - she has a direct Muirden connection. Her father was Ken Cornish who married Iris Muirden (1901 - 1979) in 1925. Iris's father was William Muirden (1872 - 1940), born in Golspie, who married Mabel Florence Lambell on 14 December 1897 in Mile End, Adelaide. William contributed to the business started by his brother Alexander - my great grandfather. I had not realised until January 2020 that it was Alexander who started the business.

This led to more information about Muirdens with the first name of Alexander. Alexander born around 1770/80 and married to Jane Gossip was a farmer of Auchreddie near Ellon, Aberdeenshire whose son, also Alexander born in 1804 and married Susan Pirie, was also a farmer and, in turn, whose son Alexander a police constable born in 1836 married Catherine Mackay in Golspie in 1860; it seems he was also a sheriff-officer and auctioneer. The third Alexander emigrated to Australia and in 1887 formed Adelaide's first business college - the Adelaide Shorthand Institute. In 1892 his brother William joined the business but Alexander left the next year. William combined with William Hogg to operate the Shorthand and Business Training Academy which provided the earliest correspondence education in the colony, from 1895 teaching country students by letter. In 1900 William Muirden established, as sole proprietor, the consistently successful Muirden College Ltd. On 14 December 1897, at Mile End, he had married Mabel Florence Lambell; they had a daughter and three sons. The college still exists as Muirden Senior College in Adelaide.

Having been told the Penny and the Muirden families knew one another, I have been trying to work out how they might have met. Options include in the Argentine and/or Aberdeen when my respective parents were children because my father had told me he knew mother from a young age and had early on decided he wanted to marry her - then he did in 1946. In between mother was married twice - to my sister's father (Alberto Iglesias) and a Mr Howe who worked for a railway based in Buenos Aires. Shortly after my sister, Melody, was born my father sent her a soft toy dog (called Jimmy) - I am told in 1940; it is still in my house.

An option for family members to have met could have been in the Argentine - perhaps via work in a railway company, living nearby one another or otherwise socially. My grandfather (George Penny) worked for a railway based in Bahia Blanca, south of Buenos Aires (where my father was born) and Mendoza, by the foothills of the Andes. That time period was between around 1909 and 1915 during which my grandmother on my mother's side (Kathleen Adelaide Muirden) married Overton Buckley in 1909 in Buenos Aires where my mother was born in 1912. He might have worked for a railway as a civil engineer. Time and location overlaps in the Argentine that might have caused family members to meet seem most unlikely. However, my Muirden great grandparents were in the Argentine in the late 1890s and early 1900s presumably in Buenos Aires - perhaps that is the link (my sister certainly thought the family connection was between my father's mother and my mother's great grandmother).

Dad presumably went to Aberdeen around the time of his father's short service attestation of December 1915; Mum came to Aberdeen after the sinking of RMS Drina on 31 March 1917. To look for timing coincidences, I have made up this table:-

Year	Dad's age	Mum's age	Location	Notes	Possible time/location overlap
1915	6	3	Argentine	Dad in Mendoza; Mum in Buenos Aires.	
1916	7	4	Argentine	Dad in Aberdeen (?); Mum in Buenos Aires.	
1917	8	5	Aberdeen	Mum at Sacred Heart Convent School (boarder?); Dad	Aberdeen - 1917/1920
1918	9	6	Aberdeen	at Kittybrewster school (home with his mother); his	
1919	10	7	Aberdeen	father, George, WW1 - address in London.	
1920	11	8	Aberdeen		
1921	12	9	Aberdeen	Not sure when Mum may have moved from Aberdeen to	
1922	13	10	Aberdeen	Gillingham and / or if she ever went back to the	
1923	14	11	Aberdeen	Argentine between age 6 and 14.	
1924	15	12		My grandmother (Kathleen Adelaide Muirden) divorced by this time from Overton Buckley and married Harold Victor Redman (known as "Grampsie") at Minster, Kent.	
1925	16	13	Gillingham	Mum at school in Gillingham then with her mother and step-father to Buenos Aires.	
1926	17	14	Gillingham		
1927	18	15	Gillingham		

It looks like the Penny and Muirden families may have come to know one another in Aberdeen but this is not yet conclusive.



Norman and Mum, Glenburn Drive,
Inverness - about 1950/1



This plaque is in Herne Bay, Kent
garden of a remembrance with a
copy in our garden in Minnis Bay,
Birchington, Kent.



Grandma Kitty, Gladys, Phyllis & Victor Aberdeen

Photos discovered in 2021:



Grandma Kitty, Grampsie & Phyllis - Mar del Plata



Grampsie - Loch Duntelchaig, near Inverness - Sept 1961



Mum and Dad when we lived in Glenburn Drive,
Inverness - early 1950s.