

Gordon McQueen

Born 09-04-1860

Marr 26-12-1899 to Margaret Rothney

1895 Gordon bought the house at No 60 High St. New Aberdour. ie A house and a half.

1901 Census Gordon and Margaret plus baby Annie are living with Margaret's parents in Crimond. Gordon's parents are living in No 60.

1911 Census the McQueen family are living in Aberdour i.e. where Annie was raised.

Annie McQueen born 30-12 1901 at Crimond

Died 22-11-1949 at Ards Hospital, Newtonards

From June 1920 until 31 August Annie completed a course in Fever nursing at the City Hospital, Aberdeen

She was an assistant matron and tutor at Purdysburn Fever Hospital near Belfast until being appointed matron at Ards Hospital, Newtonards in May 1938.

Annie died in while still in post at Ards Hospital.

Some years ago I phoned the Archivist at Grampian Health Board who provided the dates she spent at the City Hospital but there was no mention of Woodend Hospital as stated in the attached article which I found in the Aberdeen Evening Express recently.

This article states that she was a sister at Woodend Hospital, Aberdeen, which she left for the post at Purdysburn.

However this short article contains a few errors.

She died of an illness rather than an accident.

She was not "invited" to become Matron, she would have responded to an advert.

The hospital was not "newly opened", it started off as a Poorhouse with an Infirmary wing in 1842, becoming a hospital in 1932.

Re the Rev Adams

Annie worshipped at the First Presbyterian Church in Newtonards where the minister was the Rev Andrew M. Adams, quite a coincidence.

ARDS HOSPITAL

The First Fifty Years

by
H. W. GALLAGHER
Honorary Consultant Surgeon
Ards Hospital

Ards Hospital, as we know it today, opened its doors on 2nd April, 1932. There had been medical facilities on the site since January 1842 when the Workhouse which included an Infirmary Wing for sick poor was opened and the legal obligation to admit the destitute continued until the inception of the Health Service in 1948. In 1842, one third of the work force in Newtownards town was unemployed so the need for a Workhouse was all too obvious. By 1864, a Fever Block had been built and the care of fever patients continued until 1951.

By the 20th century the Infirmary Wing of the Workhouse was caring for more than just the sick inmates of the Workhouse—road accidents were admitted and even paying patients, but legally anyone admitted had to be declared a pauper. In the first decade of the century, Dr. Parke, the Medical Officer of the Union, suggested that under the 1898 Local Government Act the Board of Guardians should convert the Infirmary into a District Hospital.

Local ratepayers, especially the local branch of the Ulster Farmers Union, objected strongly and it was not until 1928 that the Guardians finally decided to act. During the first World War the Workhouse was used as a Training Centre for the Royal Ulster Constabulary and in 1922 the inmates of the Workhouse were actually transferred to Downpatrick in anticipation of the decision of 1928.

Nursing

The Hospital opened with one Matron, three Ward Sisters, a Nig Sister, six Assistant and four Probationer Nurses. The Joint Nursir and Midwives Council had recognised the Hospital from the very begi ning as a Training School, first of all for the First Part of the Course, tl probationers being expected to go to the Royal Victoria Hospital complete their training, but within 18 months full recognition w. given. From 1932 until 1973, when the Training School was incor porated in the North Down Group School with Headquarters at tl Ulster Hospital, Ards Hospital has been actively engaged in the trainir of student nurses. Records for the early years are incomplete but be tween 1955 and 1980, 785 students completed their training and becan State Registered Nurses.

The first Matron was Miss Taylor of Belfast who resigned in 19: to take up a position in London. She was succeeded by Miss Webb who retired in 1938, being succeeded by Miss McQueen who died 1949 and whose memory is perpetuated in the McQueen Nurses Hom She was succeeded by Mrs. Brown who had been Assistant Matron, be succeeded in 1952 by Miss Howe, who resigned in 1955. Later Mrs. Oliver she became Sister Tutor in Bangor Hospital. In 1955 Mi Percival succeeded Miss Howe.

In 1959 Miss Percival was awarded the National Pharmaceutic Memorial Committee Red Cross Society Scholarship, which enable her to spend 4 months in Canada and the United States of Ameri studying nursing procedures. She presided over the nursing staff un 1973, when the position of Matron was abolished, but as District A ministrative Nusring Officer she maintained control over the nursir staff in the Hospital as well as the whole District. Mrs. McCandless 1973 was appointed Senior Nursing Officer in charge of the Hospital, position which she still holds.

The dedicated band of Ward and Departmental Sisters who hav contributed so much to the Hospital over the years will not mind if tw

nn, Peter, spirit merchant, Monaghan Street
 nn, Peter, grocer, Mill Street
 erty, Arthur, hairdresser, Water Street
 erty, George, general dealer, Boat Street
 erty, Patrick, cattle dealer, Canal Street
 erty, Philip, dealer, North Street
 erty, Philip, greengrocer, Water Street
 erty, Terance, cattle dealer, Needham Street
 erty, Dr. William, Corry Square
 tin, Mrs. Robert, Frankfort House
 s, Thomas (Ingills & Co.), Caulfield Terrace
 d, John, J.P., R.D.C., Altnaveigh, House
 ewry
 1, Mrs. J., grocer, Trevor Hill
 ly, Thos. H., organist, 8 Trevor Hill
 ide, S. W., C.E., Margaret Street
 s, J. J., Dublin Road
 e, Patk. publican, King St. and Kilmorey St.
 de, E., verger, St. Mary's Parish Church
 y, Joseph, Talbot Street
 lgers, Francis, engine driver, Queen Street
 nson, George, draper, North Street
 nson, Muriel, teacher, North Street
 nson, Thomas, egg exporter, Edward Street
 ks, J., blacksmith, Queen Street
 s, T., bootmaker, William Street
 yers, Julian, assistant manager, Fullerton Rd.
 s, James, tobacconist, Hill Street
 s, Joseph, confectioner, King Street
 yland, B., printing machinist, Armagh Road
 yland, G. B., Littleton, Downshire Road
 yland & Harris, garage, Railway Avenue
 idle, James, auctioneer, Water Street
 idy, Thomas, water inspector, Kilmorey St.
 ndle, Harris, Ltd., opticians, 8 Hill Street
 ids, Hugh, Benagh Lodge
 ids, Robert, Ltd., millers, Clanrye Mills
 rage & Co., coal merchants, Merchants' Quay
 rage, George M., J.P., Windsor Hill
 rage, Gerard, builder, Monaghan Street
 rage, John, publican, Monaghan Street
 rage, Mrs., confectioner, Monaghan Street
 rage, W. J., Hill Street
 vory Shop (The) (T. Poole), Sugar Island
 roy, Picture Palace, Monaghan Street
 tt, G., blacksmith, Catherine Street
 th, T. Hunter, dental surgeon, Hill Street
 lbourne Restaurant (The), 69 Hill Street
 pherds Dairies, Ltd., Hill Street
 ells, A. & Co., Ltd., timber, slate, and tile
 merchants, Merchants' Quay
 ger Sewing Machine Co., Sugar Island
 mott, D., insurance agent, 12 Kiln Street
 mott, Robert, hairdresser, Kilmorey Street
 pper, Mrs., Lucy, Trevor Hill
 an, Peter, carpenter, John Martin Street
 an, Richard, hardware merchant, 8 Hill St
 all, Falkner B., auctioneer, Kildare Street
 artth, H. W., M.D., Downshire Place
 uth, Francis, coach builder, Erskine Place
 uth, John H., P.O. clerk, Vimy Terrace
 uth, Miss, confectioner, Monaghan Street
 uth, Miss Mary, dressmaker, Bridge Street
 uth, Mrs. G., Daisy Hill
 uth, M., plumber and publican, Water St.
 uth, Owen, general dealer, Church Street
 uth, Robert, oil manager, Sandys Street
 uth, Samuel, Stream Street
 ylle, Mrs. S., publican, Soho Place
 yth, Charles J., market clerk, Needham Street
 yth, Mrs. M. K., Dromalane
 yth, Vincent, Windsor Hill
 ythwell, J., stationer, Queen Street
 enoer, Francis, fowdealer, Market Street
 illers & Bakers, Kildare Street
 nderard Printing Works, Canal Quay
 pton, W. J., B.A., Academy, Margaret St.
 ate Assurance Co., Ltd., 63 Hill Street
 ark Bros. (Salford), Ltd., clothing manufact-
 urers, Corn Market
 eale, John, Canal Street
 erriit, Sydney, engineer, Catherine Street
 ewart, H., colporteur, Millbrook Villa
 llivan, James, publican, Canal Street
 ranzy, Rev. Canon R. A., B.A. (Cantab.) The
 Vicarage
 veaney, F. J., chemist, 12a Hill Street
 nnot, J. J., auctioneer, Hide Terrace

Tait, James, seedsman, Water Street
 Taylor, William, tailor, Canal Quay
 Telford, James, solicitor, Trevor Hill
 Telford, William, Downshire Road
 Thompson, David, compositor, Doran's Hill
 Thompson, John (Atkinson & Boyd), Windsor Av
THOMPSON, JOHN V., 19 Sugar Island. Agent
 for "Belfast News-Letter"
 Thompson Mrs., painter, Sugar Island
 Thompson, Mrs. Annie, Sugar Island
 Thompson's Dye Works, Hill Street
 Thomson, Henry, & Co., wine mhnts., Trevor Hill
 Toal, Michael, Needham Street
 Toase, Richard, fruit merchant, Hill Street
 Toase, R. W., potato & coal merchant, Mer-
 chants' Quay
 Toase, William, greengrocer, Kildare Street
 Toman, E., fancy goods warehouse, King Street
 Toner, Very Rev. Canon J., P.P., Mountain Lodge
 Toner, Michael, newsagent, North Street
 Topp, R. W., Tormore House
 Torley, John, painter, Sinclair Street
 Treanor, John, greengrocer, North Street
 Treanor, John, stonecutter, Canal Street
 Treanor, J., coachbuilder, Caulfield Street
 Trevor, E., grocer, Mill Street
 Trimble, Mrs., Lucerne, Armagh Road
 Turkington, Stephenson, outfitter, 67 Hill Street
 Turley Bros., victualler, Water Street
 Turner's Fruit Markets, Ltd., 61c Hill Street
 Tweedie, Mrs., caretaker, The Courthouse
 Tyler & Sons, boot warehouse, 94 Hill Street
 Ulster Transport Authority Depot, Marcus Sq.
 Victoria Hotel, Ltd., Corry Square—Miss Janet
 Farquharson, manageress
 Wallace, A. M., teacher, Hill Street

Wallace & Co., H. J., coal merchants, Merchants'
 Quay and Albert Basin
 Wallace, Miss Elizabeth, Corry Square
 Wallace, Miss M., grocer, 1a Catherine Street
 Ward, J., & Sons, painters, 56 Hill Street
 Warnock, Christopher, Windsor Hill
WARNOCK, J., & CO., Booksellers, Stationers,
 and Newagents, Lending Library, Margaret
 Square; Agents for "Belfast News-Letter"
 (S. Brooks, proprietor)
 Warnock, Miss A., Windsor Hill
 Warwick, Samuel, The Star Bakery, Canal Street
 Wasson, Thomas, tailor, Kilmorey Street
 Watt, Miss, Caulfield Terrace
 Weir, The Misses, dressmakers, Sandys Street
 Weir, Miss Margaret, Carneyhaugh
 Weir, William, Church Avenue
 Weir, William, cycle agent, Stream Street
 Whelan, Mrs., servants' registry, Canal Street
 Whiteside, C., clerk, Bridge Street
 Whitten, J. & E., Ltd., wholesale tea, seed,
 and provision merchants, Sugar Island
 Whitten, Mrs., Frazerville, Downshire Road
 Williams, G., assistant manager, Fullerton Rd.
 Williams, Dr. N. E., Sandys Place
 Williamson, Joseph, clerk, Downshire Road
 Willis, Thomas P., Ltd., The Modern Bakery,
 Monaghan Street and Edward Street
 Willis, Wm. G., marine engrn., John Mitchel Pl.
 Wilson, James, publican, Water Street
 Wilson, John A., hairdresser, Sugar Island
 Wilson, J. R., R.M., Ashgrove
 Woods, P., bootmaker, Mill Street
 Woods, Stephen, bootmaker, North Street
 Wylie, George, farmer, Killysavin
 Wylie, Wm., clerk, Barrack Street
 Zurro, F., cafe manager, Hill Street

NEWTOWNARDS, Co. Down

A fair is held on the second Saturday of each
 month, and January 23, May 14, and September
 23. The population at the 1937 census was
 10,546. Shops' half-holiday, Thursday.

PUBLIC BOARDS.

Borough Council—Alderman J. J. Black (Mayor);
 Aldermen Isaac Baxter, Thos. Sandford, Saml.
 J. M'Waters. Councillors—Saml. Corry, O.B.E.;
 Robert Morrow, J. Martin Poots, George M.
 Walker, Hugh M. Donaldson, Capt. James
 M'Morran, William Bailie, John Algie, Hugh
 M'Caughy, Joseph M'Cullough, Wm. Todd,
 Robert B. M'Gimpsey
 Town Clerk—Burleigh M. Greer, A.C.A.
 Borough Surveyor and Engineer—J. H. Thompson,
 A.M.Inst.C.E.
 Newtownards Local Education Sub-Committee—
 Robert Gibson, J.P., chairman
 Food Executive Officer—Wm. H. Hunter
 Newtownards School Management Committee—
 Alex. Dickson, V.M.H., chairman

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

Post Office, Frances Street—Miss S. Moreland,
 postmistress
 Food Office, New Road
 Quarter Sessions, Petty Sessions, Land, and
 Revision Courts are held in the Courthouse,
 Regent Street—R. George, courtkeeper
 Clerk of Petty Sessions—S. T. Killen, Regent St
 Superintendent Registrar of Births, etc.—Alex.
 M'Neilly, clerk of the Union
 Registrar of Births and Deaths—Dr. D.
 Jamison, Francis Street
 Registrar of Marriages—David Orr, North Street
 Fire Station, Portaferry Road
 Gas Works, Mill Street—Wm. Scott, manager
 Commissioner for Taking Affidavits—W. A.
 Irwin, High Street
 Rate Collector (Office, Town Hall, Newtownards)
 —Alexander Martin, Church Street
 R.U.O. Barracks, High Street—D.I. T. Crozier;
 Head-Constable J. C. Campbell; Sergeant W.
 Neilly, P.S.V.I.

Rural District Council—W. J. Bailie, J.P.,
 chairman
 Free Public Library, Town Hall—D. Ferguson,
 Ards Hospital, Church Street—Thomas
 Bailie, M.P., chairman; **Miss M'Queen, supt.**,
 surgeon, A. M. Calder; clerk of the Union, Alex.
 M'Neilly
 Child Welfare Visitor—Mrs. Shaw, Bangor Rd.
 Ministry of Labour and National Insurance,
 Portaferry Road—A. Huffington, manager
 Orange Hall, Upper Mary Street—James White,
 High Street, secretary
 Londonderry Estate Office, High Street—W. T.
 J. Bradley, LL.B., agent
 British Legion Hall, Court Square—J. Gibson,
 M.M., hon. secretary

PLACES OF WORSHIP.

Church of Ireland, Parish Church, Church St.—
 Archdeacon of Down, Rev. H. F. Woodhouse,
 B.A., B.D.
First Presbyterian Church, Frances Street—Rev.
Andrew M. Adams, B.Sc., B.D. Second Presby-
 terian Church—Rev. S. T. Palmer, B.A. Regent
 Street—Rev. C. H. M'Keown, M.A. Streat
 Church—Rev. George T. Boyd, M.A. Green-
 well Street—Rev. T. R. Johnston, B.A.
 Reformed Presbyterian Church, Regent Street—
 Rev. Adam Loughridge, B.A.
 Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church, Victoria
 Avenue—Rev. W. H. Townley Tilson, M.A.
 Wesleyan Methodist Church, Regent Street—
 Rev. Geo. Watson
 Salvation Army Hall, Regent Street
 Baptist Church, Greenwell Street—Pastor Oiley
 St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Chapel, North
 Street—Rev. J. Murphy, B.A., P.P.
 Plymouth Brethren Hall, John Street
 Gospel Hall, Little Frances Street
 Elim Mission Hall, Court Street—
 Zion Church, Zion Place

SCHOOLS

Newtownards Technical School, South Street—
 J. U. Stewart, B.Sc., B.Com., principal
 Regent House School—James Macdonald, O.B.E.,
 principal

THE "SPECTATOR," SATURDAY NOV 26, 1949

OBITUARY

MISS ANNIE McQUEEN

Matron of Ards Hospital

It is with feelings of profound regret we report the death of Miss A McQueen, matron of the Ards Hospital, which took place suddenly on Tuesday. The rapidity with which the news spread through the town-it was on every ones lips-was a tribute to Miss McQueen's personality and the place she occupied in the affections of the townspeople, and for those who knew her best and were associated with her in the administration of the Ards Hospital has come not only as a great personal bereavement, but as an irreparable loss as far as the hospital is concerned

Miss McQueen as matron was efficiency personified. She loved her profession and lived for the Ards Hospital. She was indefatigable in providing for the comfort of the patients, and although a strict disciplinarian where the welfare of the institution was concerned, every member of the nursing staff loved and admired her. It was when she identified herself with their social activities and took part with them in summer pastimes that the members of the nursing staff learned how deep

and sincere was her interest in their welfare, and what a charming personality she had.

She was in every respect an ideal matron, and it can be truly said that her death has come with stunning effect to everyone in the hospital.

On Sunday, 6th October, Miss McQueen contracted pleurisy, but her condition caused no undue anxiety, and she seemed to be making good progress towards recovery. She had been talking to Miss Brown, assistant Matron, about the prize-giving which is to take place on Tuesday of the incoming week and making arrangements for it, when shortly afterwards she had a seizure and passed away almost immediately.

Miss McQueen who a native of Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire, came to the hospital as superintendent and matron about 10 years ago, and since it became the Ards Hospital under the N.I. Hospital Authority was recognised as matron.

Miss McQueen worshipped in First Newtonards Presbyterian Church, and during the war years, apart from her onerous duties in the hospital, gave splendid service in connection with the St John Ambulance Brigade.

She was intensely interested in music and drama, and was a keen supporter of the Belfast Philharmonic Society, as well as all entertainments organised locally under the auspices of C.E.M.A. She was also a member of the Newtonards Chrysanthemum Society.

Miss McQueen's father died some months ago. To her mother and the members of the family we join with the community in tendering and very sincere sympathy on the great loss they have sustained.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service of touching simplicity took place in the Nurses Recreational Hall of the Ards Hospital on Thursday afternoon prior to the removal of the remains from the hospital en route for Scotland. The service, which opened in prayer and the singing of the 23rd psalm, was conducted by the Rev. A. M. Adams, B. D., B.Sc.; the Rev S.T. Palmer, B.A., and the Rev. H. F. Woodhouse, B.A., B.D. H.Dip.E, and concluded with the singing of the hymn "Blessed be the everlasting God." And the pronouncement of the Benediction.

The coffin was borne from the hospital on the shoulders of members of the surgical, clerical and engineering staffs and nurses lined both sides of the avenue as the cortege passed along to the main gates where a big crowd of townspeople had gathered to pay their last tribute of respect to Miss McQueen's memory.

At the Railway Bridge the procession halted, and the cortege stood bareheaded until the hearse disappeared around a bend on the Belfast Road.

A report of the Rev. Mr. Adams memorial address will appear in the next issue of the Spectator.

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for the great honour they had bestowed upon him by electing him their chairman for the coming year. The job of chairman was made much easier by the ladies of the branch who supported him on all occasions. Mr. Patton went on to add that they were all tempted in these times to shoot at England, even her friends were to be found at it at times. England still retained the moral leadership of the world—there was still a great sense of what was right and what was wrong in Great Britain. So long as England maintained that lead in moral leadership her position would be assured in the councils of the world.

In conclusion, it gave him great pleasure to propose the entire confidence of Kirkistown Branch in their member, Mr. W. M. May.

RIGHT MAN IN RIGHT PLACE

Seconding the proposal, Mrs. Kelly said that there was no mistake made the night they nominated Mr. May as the Official Unionist candidate for Ards. He was the right man in the right place. They had every confidence in him as their leader, and would conclude by wishing Mr. and Mrs. May every success, and that they might be long spared to carry on the good work.

The vote of confidence was put to the meeting by Mr. David Eavis, who called on Mrs. May to respond.

MRS. MAY'S REPLY

Mrs. May thanked the members for this vote of confidence. They were touched by the way the people of the Ards had received them since coming amongst them. She personally was only too glad to do anything she possibly could for the constituency, and "thank you," added Mrs. May, "for such a wonderful welcome."

MORAL LEADERSHIP

Replying to the vote of confidence, Mr. May said that although Kirkistown was not the first association to pass a vote of confidence in him as their Member, they were the first association to stand on their feet to pass it. He was glad they had coupled Mrs. May with this vote because a great deal of the work which had been done since he had become the Member for Ards had really been the work of his wife. "No one realises more than I do," added Mr. May, "the great debt I owe her."

During the past 40 years there had been a vast change in the social structure of life. Although this country was not at the top of the tree, it had retained the moral leadership of the world.

The social conscience of the British

discusses of such tact who invaluable

Refers May sai mistake Transpo someone would h had no port A depende it better by a vested a transpor of the 7 investiga first last posed e line. Th had to could ac money 6 was no B.C.D.R. and the creased ing pub Fares compare rates in H

The l through by no i pay for ance sta sufficien up out i paid for nothing. costing per ann short v which v cost of careful money cent. importe turn ha food. A work ha luxuries economi Mr. Ards U M'Gimp

The f audien Mr. R. H. Cost Parkin

“THE SPECTATOR”, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1949

THE LATE MISS McQUEEN

TRIBUTE FROM STAFFS OF ARDS HOSPITAL

Evidence of the high esteem in which the late Miss McQueen, matron of the Ards Hospital, was held by the medical, nursing and general staffs of the institution was furnished at an impressive service held in the Assembly Hall of the hospital on Thursday evening 24th November 1949, prior to the removal of the remains to her native Aberdeenshire for internment.

-Among those present were Miss McQueen's brother and sister, Mr. Alexander McQueen and Miss Katherine McQueen; members of the medical, nursing and domestic staffs; Messrs Thomas Baillie, M.P., chairman, and Alderman John J. Black Mayor of Newtonards; Messrs W.J. Baillie, J.P.; A. Adair J.P.; S.H. McCormick and J.S. Fowler, members of the Committee of Management; Mr Alexander M'Neilly (secretary to the committee), Mr. A.M. Calder F.R.C.S., chief medical officer of the hospital.

Sister Brown, assistant matron; Rev J.C. McCarroll B.A. C.C., St Patrick' R.C. Church, Newtonards and Mr. James McCartney, representing the session and committee of 1st Presbyterian Church, Newtonards, where Miss McQueen was a constant worshipper, etc.

Following the singing of the 23rd Psalm a portion of scripture was read by the Rev S. T. Palmer; B.A. and prayer was offered by the Rev F. Woodhouse, B.A. H.Dip.Ed.

An Impressive Address

A most impressive address was delivered by the Rev. A.M. Adams, B.Sc. B.D.; who said that the poet, in language far superior to his, had written: -

But, Ah, to know not while with friends I sit,
And while the purple joy is passed about,
Whether 'tis ampler day, divinlier lit,

Or homeless night without;
 And whether stepping forth my soul shall see
 New prospects, or fall sheer-a blinded thing!
 There is O grave, thy hourly victory,
 And there, O death, thy sting.

It was to such that their good friend had gone, yet the hearts of those she had left behind need never be troubled, because the Lord had promised to prepare a place, and it was to this higher mansion that Miss McQueen had been called.

It was difficult to understand why one so beloved and so much respected had been called from them so suddenly.

Their good friend was one who was in the prime of life, with her work here unfinished. The answer they would never know in this side of time, but if she were here to-day she would surely say that it was but a call to higher service.

Proceeding, Mr Adam said that their good friend was one who was honoured and respected by all whom she met. She devoted herself to self-forgetful service, and in her they found a sympathy and understanding which was truly of a heart which had no thought of self. In Miss McQueen there was integrity, an uprightness, and an unselfishness which could be associated with the Scottish character.

There was a dedication of the heart and soul which would testify to her devotion to the service which was enshrined with such great names as Florence Nightingale and Edith Cavell. Her life here was one of preparation for higher service.

“ I cannot think of paradise a place
 Where men go idly to and fro
 (with harps of gold and robes that shame the snow);
 better some simple task, a spirit free
 To act along the
 lines of self-forgetting....”

Mr. Adams said they should think of their dear friend as one who was living as she had never lived before, and as one who serving as she never served before, in the place where

Everlasting spring abides,
 And never withering flowers;
 Death, like a narrow sea, divides

This Heavenly land from ours.

Thus her life was an inspiration to all, and with those who have passed away she will hear the Master's welcome: "Well done, good and faithful servant"

Out of the city's shadow they have gone;
Out of life's dimness into God's own day;
Within we weep, then greet the dawn and pray,
And, strengthened, to the unfinished work pass on.

In conclusion Mr. Adams said in their sorrow, and in remembering the sorrowing relatives, they should make an act of dedication of heart and life. Then they could honour her best of all the one who had entered into higher service.

The singing of the paraphrase "Blessed be the Everlasting God" and the pronouncement of the benediction brought the service to a close. The accompaniments were by Nurse Violet Wilson.

As the remains were brought from the hospital the nurses and domestic staff lined the main avenue, and the procession moved on the Belfast Road railway arch where the sympathisers, and the motor hearse the moved on to Belfast. The remains were conveyed to Scotland by Thursday night's boat.

HOSPITAL COMMITTEE REFERENCES.

References to the passing of Miss McQueen were made at the monthly meeting of the North Down Hospitals' Committee of Management on Saturday.

The chairman (Mr. Thomas Baillie M.P.) said his sad duty was to take that, their earliest opportunity, of expressing their and most profound regret at the tragically sudden death of their matron. He confessed he found it very difficult to find words which would adequately express their sense of deep loss at the death of Miss McQueen.

It would be right that he should say in the first instance that Miss McQueen was of the finest and most efficient matrons that the Ards or any other hospital was privileged to possess. Most of those around the table knew how well she discharged her duties-not only was she capable to the highest degree, but she was

at all times kindly and considerate in her dealings with others, both patients and staff alike.

She had a great and a very high sense of her public duty, and she permitted no slackness or dereliction on the part of her staff. The care of the patient was her first consideration, and in that she was firm, but at the same time she was careful and zealous of the comfort of those over whom she had control as matron.

Continuing, the chairman said Miss McQueen had attained a very high position of importance amongst her colleagues in the nursing profession, by whom she was regarded with the highest affection and respect.

The example of service which she displayed was a high one, and he ventured to say that the influence of her work in the hospital was something that would abide for all time. To say that they would miss her was a commonplace thing to say; they would miss her in the highest degree.

He knew that it was the desire of the committee that they should take that opportunity of expressing their deep sense of loss—a loss sustained not merely by the members of their committee but also by the larger community outside who were able to estimate, with the members of the committee, the value of the great work Miss McQueen carried out in the hospital.

What he said was very sincere, because he knew they all felt very deeply the passing of Miss McQueen from their midst.

He was going to ask them to adopt a resolution expressing their deepest sympathy with those of her loved ones who were left behind, and in that resolution they would ask their clerk to convey to them that sense of their sympathy and consolation, and also record on the minutes the passing of one who did a great work in their hospital, which was so much appreciated, not merely by the members of the committee, but by every member of the community from the richest to the poorest.

HER UNCEASING LABOURS

In seconding the proposition, Mr. Alexander Adair, J.P. said it was with feelings of deep regret that he associated himself with all the chairman had said with regard to their late matron, by whose passing the hand of death had robbed them of one whose sincere friendship and good work would not readily be forgotten.

Miss McQueen was appointed as matron of their hospital some ten years ago, and since that time she had given her very best in the service of the hospital in general, both in regard to patients and staff alike, and the smooth running and efficiency of their institution was due, in no small measure to the unceasing labours of their matron.

It was sad that she was called from amongst them with so much yet undone, but they, as the governing body of the hospital would endeavour to fulfil her wishes in that connection. They could not turn back the hands of time; they must go on, and it should be their motto to continue with the noble work, that the institution might be maintained in the very high standard of efficiency, which it had reached. They would miss their matron, first of all as a friend and a wise counsellor in the affairs pertaining to the Ards Hospital, and they sympathised with the members of her family circle, especially with her mother, who had been bereaved with such tragic suddenness.

The secretary (Mr. Alexander M'Neilly) said that that on behalf of the staff of Ards Hospital that he would like to be associated with the expression of sympathy. Miss McQueen had a very difficult task in the in the hospital, but she had earned for herself a very warm place in their hearts and they held her in the highest respect.

The resolution of sympathy was passed in silence, the members standing.

HUNTSMEN'S SYMPATHY

The following letter was received from the secretary of the North Downs Hunt Club; - "I was very sorry to hear of the death of Miss McQueen, the late matron of the Ards Hospital.

On behalf of the North Down Harriers I am writing to send to you and the hospital our sympathy in the loss of a matron whose reputation stood so high in the district the hospital serves. To the sympathy of the hunt I would like to add my own, as I have heard so much from my mother of the qualities of Miss McQueen, and I also think that I have heard the pleasure of meeting her at the lawn meets at the hospital and know that Miss McQueen will be hard to replace, and I do hope that in spite of the rigidity of the Hospitals' Authority that they will allow your committee to appoint a worthy successor to Miss McQueen.

All the members of the Hunt always feel a very special affection for the Ards Hospital, because Mr. Calder and the staff have dealt with most of our hunting casualties, and have always entertained us so royally on many occasions. Please convey to Miss McQueen's relatives the sympathy of the North down Harriers, because we are very grateful for all she did for us- T.J.Kingan, hon Secretary.

George McQueen Dec 2009

HUNTSMEN'S SYMPATHY

The following letter was received from the secretary of the North Down Hunt Club - "I was very sorry to hear of the death of Miss McQueen, the late matron of the Ards Hospital. On behalf of the North Down Harriers I am writing to send to you and the hospital our sympathy in the loss of a matron whose reputation stood so high in the district the hospital serves. To the sympathy of the hunt I would like to add my own, as I have heard so much from my mother of the qualities of Miss McQueen and I also think that I have heard the pleasure of meeting her at the lawn meetings of the hospital and know that Miss McQueen will be hard to replace, and I do hope that in spite of the rigidity of the Hospital's Authority that they will allow your committee to appoint a worthy successor to Miss McQueen."

“THE SPECTATOR”, SATURDAY, 3RD DECEMBER, 1949

North Down Hospitals Management Committee

TRIBUTES TO THE LATE MISS McQUEEN

PASSING OF A FINE MATRON

Tributes to the work of the late Miss McQueen were made at the monthly meeting of North Down Hospital Management Committee which was held in the Boardroom, Ards Hospital on Saturday morning last.

Mr Thomas Baillie J.P. M.P. presided and the following were in attendance; - Mrs J.Boyd, M.B.E. J.P; Messrs C.J.Stewart, J.P. W.J. Baillie, J.P.; S.H.McCormick, A.Adair J.P., J.J. Black J.P. P.J.Grant, F.Logan and J. Boyd J.P. Mr Alex McNeilly, clerk, was also in attendance.

THE LATE MISS A.McQUEEN

Mr. T.Baillie said it was a very sad duty for him to express their deepest and most profound regret on the sudden death of the matron, Miss McQueen. He confessed that he found it difficult to find words in which to express their sense of deep loss.

It would be right to say in the first instance that Miss McQueen was one of the finest and most efficient matrons the Ards Hospital or any similar institution had the privilege to possess.

Continuing, Mr Baillie said that most of the members of the Board knew Miss McQueen well, she was kindly and considerate in her dealings with others, both patients and staff alike. The matron had a high sense of her duty to the members of the community.

Miss McQueen permitted no slackness on the part of the staff. She was very careful and zealous in the care and comfort of those over whom she had control as matron.

Over and above all she did for Ards Hospital, Miss McQueen had attained a very high position of importance amongst her colleagues in the nursing profession.

Mr. Baillie said that Miss McQueen was held in the deepest affection and respect by all that knew her. The example of service displayed by their matron was a high one. The influence of her work would abide for a long time in the Ards Hospital.

To say that they would miss her deeply was true in the highest degree. On behalf of the Hospital Board and of the members of the community he expressed the deep sense of their loss.

The committee and the people were able to estimate the value of the great work Miss McQueen had carried out in the hospital. They felt deeply Miss McQueen's passing. He asked the Board to pass a resolution expressing sympathy with Miss McQueen's relatives and that they record in the minutes an appreciation of her services.

Mr. Adair said it was with feelings of regret that he associated himself with all that had been said by their chairman. By the passing of their matron the hand of death had robbed them of one whose sincere friendship and good work would not readily be forgotten.

Miss McQueen had been appointed as matron of the hospital some ten years ago and since that time had given her very best as matron of the hospital.

The smooth running and efficiency of the institution was due in no small measure to the unceasing labours of the late matron.

"It is sad," continued Mr. Adair "that she was called from amongst us with so much yet undone but we as the governing body of the hospital shall endeavour to fulfil her wishes in this connection. We can't turn back the hands of time- we must go on.

Let it be our motto to continue with the noble work that this institution may be maintained at the very high standard of efficiency in which it is now run.

We shall miss our matron, first of all as a friend and also a wise counsellor with regard to affairs pertaining to the Ards Hospital. We sympathise with the members of her family, especially with her mother who has been bereaved with such tragic suddenness".

Mr. McNeilly associated himself with the remarks on behalf of the members of the staff. Miss McQueen, he said, as everyone knew had a difficult task. She had earned for herself a large place in all hearts. Everyone who knew her held Miss McQueen in the highest respect.

The resolution of sympathy was passed in silence, those present standing

HARRIERS' TRIBUTE

A letter was read from Mr. T. J.A.Kingan (hon sec) tendering the sympathy of the North Down Harriers on the occasion of Miss McQueen's death.

The Harriers sympathised with the Hospital committee on the loss of a matron whose reputation stood as high. Miss McQueen would be hard to replace.

The members of the Hunt had a great respect for the Ards Hospital and for Dr. Calder and the staff for their attention at all times. The Hunt desired that the committee convey to the relatives their sympathy on this sad occasion.

The chairman said it was a nice gesture on the part of the North Down Harriers. The secretary was instructed to forward the letter to Miss McQueen's relatives.

These articles typed George McQueen
Dec 2009

THE ABERDEEN EVENING EXPRESS
SATURDAY 14 MARCH 1953

The Staff and Patients of Newtonards Hospital, Belfast suffered a great loss when their Aberdeenshire matron died as a result of an accident two years ago.

Soon a plaque will be unveiled in the hospital propagating the memory of the matron, Miss Annie McQueen, a daughter of the late Mr and Mrs Gordon McQueen, 60 High Street, New Aberdour.

Miss McQueen started her nursing career in Aberdeen and was a sister at Woodend Hospital. She left to take a post at Purdysburn Hospital, Belfast. While serving there, Miss McQueen was invited to take over the newly opened Ards Hospital, which is one of the best equipped in Ireland.

Many of her former colleagues have been invited to attend a short service to precede the unveiling.