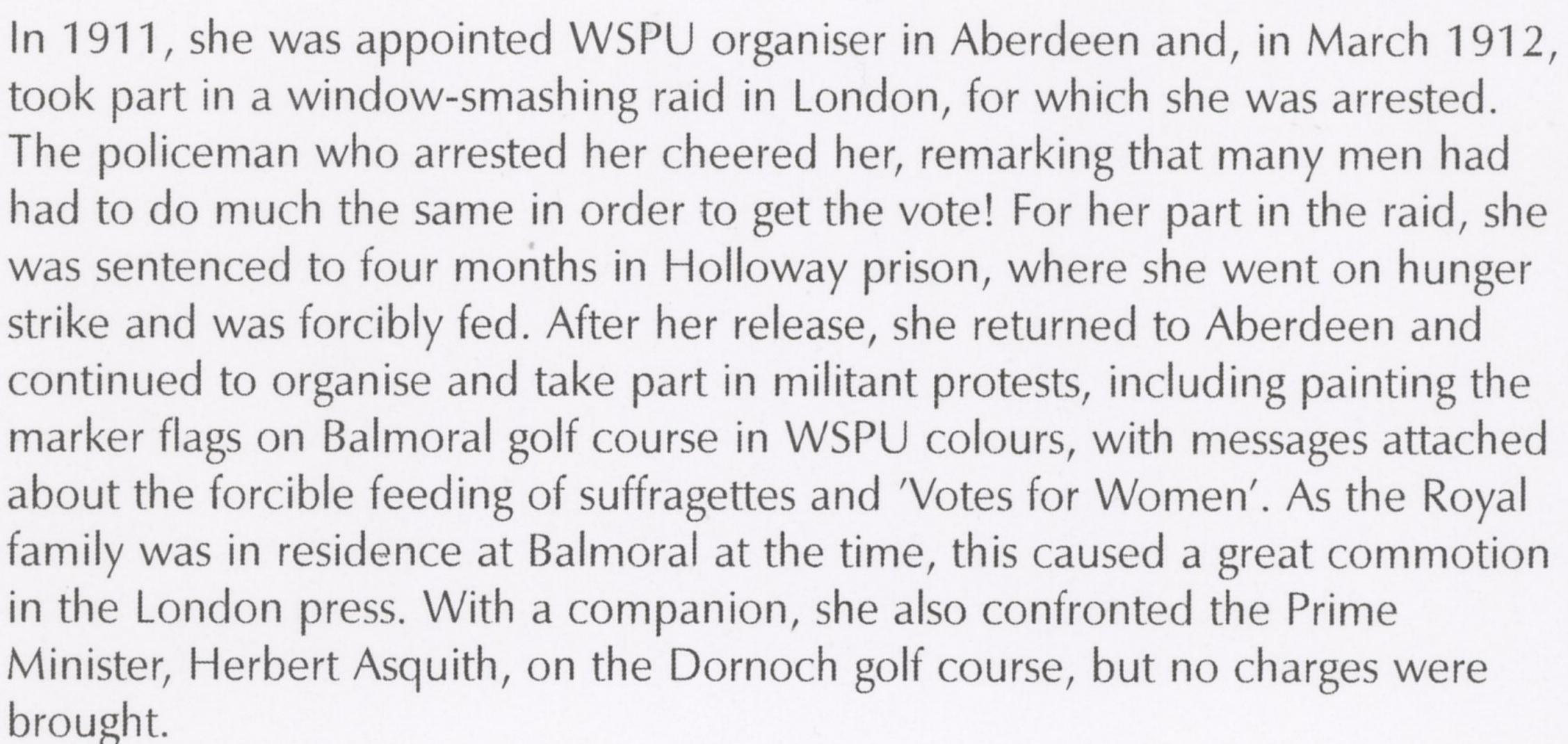
Photo acknowledgement: Leneman, L., A Guid Caur

MITGHELL, LILLIAS TAIT

1884-1940

Lillias Mitchell, suffragette campaigner, was born in Leith into a prosperous family. She joined the Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU) in late 1907/early 1908 after attending a suffrage meeting in Edinburgh at which Emmeline Pankhurst was a speaker. From then on, her life revolved around the suffrage cause: 'I lived and moved and seemed to have my being in working for votes for women'.



Lillias Mitchell was considered to be 'a model WSPU organiser' and was sent to Birmingham to organise militant protests in the Midlands, including setting railway stations on fire in the city and an attack on the Castle Bromwich racecourse. She was charged with making inciting speeches and sent to Winson Green Prison, where she became ill after going on hunger strike. Soon after her release, she was re-arrested under the 'Cat and Mouse' Act.

After the First World War, Lillias Mitchell joined the Edinburgh Women Citizens'Association, wrote for *The Scotsman* newspaper, and was secretary to the Edinburgh and South Area of the YWCA.

