

Excerpts & notes from Donald J. Ross letters
to his only child, Lillian Ross (LR); regarding
Scotland only Sept 1

FAMILY - SCOTLAND

*Jan 27 or 29, (check) 1927 PM Pinehurst
DJR to LR at Emma Willard School (Troy, New York; girl's boarding school)

"Dornoch folks are well...A nice letter from Aunt Jane says she
is well, so is Sarah" (Janet Ross's sisters in Moniaive, Scotland)

June 1928 Lillian graduates from Emma Willard (to go to Mount
Holyoke, South Hadley, Mass. in the fall.)

DJR, Florence, LR and John to Scotland to visit both families in
Dornoch and Moniaive. (Janet Ross had died in February 1923)

Eleanor, sister of Dorothy Barbour, serves as chaperone. She had
been studying at the London School of Economics.

1930

*June 19, 1930 NY The Vanderbilt Hotel, 34th & Park
DJR to LR in Scotland

Writes LR in care of Jane Conchie at Dunreggan Moniaive,
Dumfries-shire

Lillian had sailed aboard the "Berlin" from NY

1932

Lillian to Scotland for ³ months. LR leaves August 1st and
returns November 1st.) DJR writes her there.

Addresses of family in Scotland:

- Mrs. Brown (Tom Brown →) (Mrs. Brown was DJR's sister,
2 John Street Christina, whom they called
Biggar, Lanarkshire "Teenie")
- Conchie Family (Janet Kennedy Conchie Ross family)
Moniaive, Dumfries-shire
- Calders → (Jean Calder - Mrs. George Calder) mother of 2
Kyleview Sons Donald and George, Jr.
Dornoch, Sutherlandshire Jean's real name was Jane. She
was DJR's sister also.
- Mrs. Conchie
Dunreggan
Stonehaven, Kincardine-shire

Lillian visits Browns at 2 John Street, Biggar Lanarkshire

Also visits family at 67 Lochnyan St. Strathsair

*Sept. 23, 1932

DJR to LR addressed to Kyleview, Dornoch

(Home of DJR's sister Jean Ross Calder
and her husband George Calder)

PM = Postmark (ie. PM, Pinehurst, North Carolina)

*
Feb. 14, 1948 to LR in Andover, Mass.

"I sent big parcels of food to my sisters Jeannie & Teenie & to Aunt Sarah. They arrived safely & were much enjoyed. Jeannie paid a visit to Teenie in Biggar over the New Year & she says Jim Brown (Teenie's husband) is very feeble & not expected to live much longer. All the others are well. I haven't heard lately from Uncle Alex, so I assume he keeps about the same. He never again can be a well man, he knows that, and does all he can to obey the Doctors orders & rest is the only partial cure."

Brief explanation of family:

Donald J. Ross was engaged to Janet Kennedy Conchie (born Dunscore, Scotland March 5, 1867, raised in Moniaive, Scotland at the house Dunsreggan) for 7 years. Locating a job as pro at Oakley Golf Club, (Belmont Mass) ~~he~~ left in March 1899 for Cambridge, Mass. where he spent his first night w. golfer / professor Robert C. Willson at 24 Brattle St. Cambridge. He carried his clubs from the Boston train station + walked all the way to Cambridge to save money. Dec. 4, He returned very often to Scotland, and in 1904 married Janet Kennedy Conchie at her home Dunsreggan, in Moniaive. They took a boat to the USA in December 1904. Janet was 36 1/2 years old and Donald was just 32 (birthday 11/22/72). They settled in Newton Centre, Mass. eventually where they maintained a home there about 6 months of the year, the other ⁶ being spent in Pinehurst. Donald accepted the job as pro at Pinehurst his first winter in America! Old Mr. Tufts hired him. He started a 6 month cycle in Dec. 1906, in Pinehurst Janet and Donald had one child, May

Mother Lillian Grace Wilson Ross. She was born in Waverly, Mass. in one of the first homes in the USA. Lillian was born October 18, 1909. She was named after both of her grandmothers. She was his only child.

Jaret and Donald made many trips to Scotland to visit relatives, taking my mother along of course. Their last trip all three together was the summer of 1922. The Pippitt family has many photos of their trip, taken of relatives both in Dornoch and Moniaise. Jaret was quite ill.

Sadly, Jaret Conchie Ross died in Pinehurst, North Carolina, in February ¹², 1923. She was 55 years old. Lillian was 12 1/2 years old.

Donald Ross became engaged to a fine lady, Susan Aldrich, who was a family friend. He announced his engagement in Spring 1923. However, she died of cancer on August 31, 1923.

In late November 1924 Donald married a widower Florence Study Blackinton (Mrs. Roswell Blackinton) who at the time was the mother of an 18 year old son, John R. Blackinton. Thus from the summer of 1925 until his death, Donald and Florence spent their summers (working summers nonetheless) at the Blackinton summer home in Little Compton, Rhode Island. DJR died in Pinehurst, April 26, 1948

of home, New York

* Sept. 23, 1932 to LR who is with Calders at Kyleview

Lillian had had a dinner party with Scottish folks - probably all the relatives-

"That is really an opportunity to meet the people just as they are no frills but just honest to goodness plain folks, how different from the majority of our people here, living a false superficial life - striving always to "keep up" with the " Jones" I think that possibly the depression and its effect on income may bring people to their senses and at least teach them to live within their means and save some for a wet day."

writes also about Pinecrest Inn (see realestate)

1933

Newspaper clip Sept. 28, 1933 on Donald Calder, a pupil at Dornoch Academy, receiving the dux medal for the County of Sutherland

*Jan 1936 DJR writes about King George's death and what a very fine man he was.

*Oct. 10, 1943 DJR to LR

"A nice long letter from your Aunt Jeannie in Dornoch came this morning, they are all well and of course busy at war work, in a town and parish Victory Drive, they raised twenty-eight thousand pounds (112 thousand dollars) where in the world could they pick up such a sum from the small town and parrish, they are great people."

*Jan 12, 1944 Pinehurst ?

DJR to LR in Chevy Chase, Washington, D.C. (Lillian's husband ^{Dr.} Richard Pippitt, stationed at Naval Bureau of Medicine + Surgery during WW II)

Says he got a letter from his sister Jean All is well with Donald (Calder) who is now Brigade Commander "He is worthy of being a general, there never was a finer and more cultured young man." George Calder is home on furlough.

*July 24, 1944 LC (Little Compton, R.I., ^{location on ocean of} summer home of DJR from 1925 - 1947) DJR TO LR

DJR sends money to Scottish relatives. Alex is lame and not so well - no word of any kind of Uncle Aeneas, he has gone to seed which is beyond me to understand. I believe it is due to his desire for drink. Jean hinted as much."

"I haven't a word from Scotland for months, yesterday I cabled 30 pounds to my sister Jeannie and 20 pounds to Aunt Sarah. I have asked Jeannie to give a small present to Donald and George and I have asked Sarah to buy a small present for the babies in the Kameen family."

* Note: Donald Calder, DJR's nephew, emigrated to Canada w. 3 sons + wife Margaret in early 1950's. His daughter Jane was born in Canada + lives in Geneva. I visited her 2 weeks ago!

*July 8 or 9, 1945 DJR at Little Compton to LR
Rhode Island

"A long letter from my sister Jean in Dornoch gives me all the news, the end of the European War is a great relief but she says the country is determined to continue for the extermination of Japan & there will be nothing accepted short of complete surrender. The boys are fine, but still under army regulations & without any idea of when they will be discharged. Churchill will be elected but will likely have a smaller house majority. She says the Labor candidates are low class & all the best class of people are opposed to them."

*July 11, 1945 Djr at LC to LR *at* (Little Compton, R.I., "Quaker Hill Farm")

"We ahve invited Tom Kameen to spend a weekend with us and I hope he can come. I should like very much to see him. They are a fine family and we want to keep in touch with them."

*Sept 1945 DJR in LC (Little Compton, R.I. "Quaker Hill Farm")

"I had a nice letter from Aunt Sarah. She is well and just loved the picture of you & the darling lassies, everyone seems to enjoy them. I have a spare one, do you want it for yourself..."

October 3, 1945

"Lillian Darling Thanks for your nice long letter which came this AM. You would enjoy seeing Tom. I'm glad you got those gifts for hisfamily. Do you need any money to pay for them, if so, let me know. Tom as a pleassant voice. I judge they are a fine family. The Conchies were grand folks - and your mother was God's finest."

October 1945 (U.S.) letter saying Alex is retired on a pension.
(from Detroit, Mich club - see clip)

(Lillian's in-laws)

August 1, 1946 Djr in LC to Lr who is visiting the Pippitts in Port Jervis, NY

"I sent 20 pounds to Aunt Sarah in addition to the 10 I sent a month ago. I could read between the lines of her letter that she was not well & couldn't work to earn her living. I will take care of her in any case."

Dec. 1946 in U.S.A. address for James Conchie 218 Kent St. Brookline, Mass. (brother of Janet Conchie Ross)

In letter written in Dec. 1946, writes that Uncle Alec is in Miami, Florida, feeling fairly well...but his heart is not strong and he can't do very much exercising.