

McLean P/O
Officers mess, R.A.F.
Chivenor
nr Barnstaple
N. Devon.

Dear All,

Still in the pink, I hope
you are. Life's fairly good
here, slightly better than
Newquay, & the mess is
very good. I've done a
little flying here, not much.
I expect to be here
about 3 weeks more,
& then I don't know where
I go.

Did Alister enjoy his
birthday? He must be
getting quite old now.
I don't suppose he's

started shaving yet?

The compass hasn't arrived yet. I suppose it will be on the way from St Eval. I flew there & back yesterday (didn't land)

Things are very quiet this way. Nothing to do, & so nothing to write about

I've met one Edinburgh V.R. bloke, & a few Hastings friends. There's quite a few Scots this place. I've had dinner several times at the home of a girl whose father, a Scot, is a major in the Medical Corps. They were enjoyable evenings

P.S. I had meant to get a
P.O. for Alister, but I can't
get to the Post Office before it
shuts so I've sent a few
stamps. Don't let him get
down on them.

I hear your weather
hasn't been so good of
late. It's sometimes pretty
wet down here.

There's a faint chance
I come to Scotland again
after this. I don't know if
I want to, it's such a
journey, but still, it's
nearer home.

I think I'll post
this now.

W

There's one Scot in
my crew too. (The Gunner)
from Dundee. The
others: English (W.O.P.) +
Irish Canadian (Pilot)
all brigants.

I'm thoroughly used
to the commission
now, I think.

That's all for now.
Love Charlie

+ + +

Monday.



McLean P/O
Officers mess
RAF
Chivenor
N. Devon

Dear All,

Thanks for your letters,
and I'm most grateful
for the compass, which
arrived safely. It seems
to be just the thing required.
Thanks, each of you.

I was concerned about
the last air raid near
Lillichgow. It seems to have
been the nearest yet.

Recently Effie asked
me to write a longer letter,
telling about the Davidsons.
Well I'll try. As you know,
I called once & had
supper. They are both
very pleasant & seem

to get on very well together.
She comes from Manchester,
& I think he was born
in England too. After a
long jaw about relations,
they were kind enough
to drive me home from
Newquay to St Eval. They
have a little Scots terrier
(Boozy), & no children.
He is Accountant Officer
in an I.T.W. & is ^a an Flying
Officer (equivalent 1st Lieut).
And I'm afraid that's
all I can tell of them.
Did Mary enjoy the
Ball? And I hope Effie
enjoys & she enjoys the one
in the Plaza.

I'm supposed old Toob
refused a commission.
Everyone seems to refuse



them nowadays. But I think you enjoy life a bit more with one. His meeting with Mrs Walker seems to have been dramatic, a bit.

I'm doing quite a bit of flying here, and still at lectures. I should be pretty full of knowledge when the course business is over.

Lachie Maclean
(of Kennovay) wrote me last week. It was quite a nice letter. He doesn't seem to like the school he's at much.

but he does well enough
in the exams. He writes just
like a Highlander - like
Dad McLean & Uncle
Hector, for example. They've
a style all of their own.

I don't remember if
I told you I may go
to Abbotsinch after here,
but that's only a chance.

Well, I'm off to bed
now.

Thanks once more
for the compass.

Love to you all

Charlie

P.S. Jimmy Mcgran is
marrying soon.
P.P.S. I've heard that
Freeman is dead.

Monday

Officers Mess
RAF.



Shwenor
nr B' staple
N. Devon.

Dear All,

So glad to get your letter, &
hear you were all well.
And so Jerry is starting to
bomb poor old Lifca now.
That's just about the last straw.
How's ma's cold? I'm sure a
shelter must be an awful
place to spend the night. I do
hope your rest is more
peaceful now. Come to think
I've been pretty lucky in
that direction, having
hardly ever heard or seen
a bomb go off. When I was
at St Errol one big one, a
500 lb. or a mine landed &
made a bang & killed a
few people, but I was in

a café about 2 miles
away. Even there the
place shook.

We probably leave here
on 30th, for where I don't
know, maybe Abbotinch,
maybe St Eval again,
maybe Wick.

Thanks for the Oban
times cutting. So the
Macleans are in the
news again!

I had a forced
landing on Thursday, when
the engine stopped, but we
got down OK in a field,
not much damage.

There was quite a
party in the mess on
Friday, a farewell for
a Wing Commander. I
was orderly officer, but
I spent the night there.



Cousin Mary is having a bad time of it. I was sorry to hear about it all. Give her all my sympathy, at least if you think it the right thing to do.

I was at St Eval the other day & saw the Duke of Kent just leaving by plane. At least I saw the plane. How was the King looking looking at the 'Berry'? Was he pleased all the Macleans were there? Didn't he ask for this one?

Well its past my bedtime.
 By the way, I see my name's
 in the London Gazette. I'll
 cut it out & send it you,
 tomorrow, if I remember.

Goodnight & love to all.

Charlie

I've underlined some
 of those I know.

P.S. we're having exams again!

Gunnis has a comm. too.

Tiree Uncle and Nephew on Police Duty

RECENTLY I HAD THE PLEASURE OF MEETING together at South Queensferry a nephew and uncle hailing from the Isle of Tiree, and both of whom were on duty as senior officers of the same County Police Force—that of West Lothian. The two officers were Detective-Inspector Donald Maclean and his nephew, Inspector John Maclean. Donald has been attached to the county's C.I.D. headquarters at Linlithgow since promotion from Court Sergeant at that town, while John, formerly a Sergeant at Bathgate, has been for some years Inspector in charge of South Queensferry.

Donald told me that up till recent years he had regularly visited his native isle with his family. It is some 30 years since he left it to become identified with police service on the mainland. His son, Charles, now a Pilot Officer in the R.A.F., was in the Linlithgow branch of the Commercial Bank.

Another for Hector!

Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve

General Duties Branch.

The folls are granted commns. for duration of hostilities as P/Os on probn.:—(Feb. 7) J. Cartley. Flt. Sgt.: (Jan. 28) C. J. Rose. Sgts.: (Dec. 25, 1940) A. J. Andrews, A. E. Challenger, D. Clive, H. G. Currie, M. E. Gardner, S. Moule, J. G. Owen, H. A. P. Peall, R. W. Stolsie, G. W. Tetlow, F. W. Thompson, C. L. H. Werner, D. A. Barnham, G. Clapperton, D. L. Cropper, J. W. Gee, P. G. C. Gimson; (Dec. 28, 1940) J. M. J. Fryer; (Jan. 20) J. F. P. Matthews; (Feb. 1) H. Lawson; (Feb. 3) D. G. Buchanan; (Feb. 15) G. H. Proctor. L.A./C.: (Nov. 3, 1940) H. A. W. Williams; (Nov. 17, 1940) J. T. Menks; A. C. Stevens-Fox; (Dec. 1, 1940) H. C. Pearce, J. S. Perry, J. M. Wheeler; (Dec. 9, 1940) A. T. Hunt; (Dec. 15, 1940) M. V. Andrew, H. Kitchin; (Dec. 28, 1940) D. W. Hockney; (Dec. 29, 1940) C. F. Page, K. E. Platt, A. B. Brown, J. Prescott; (Dec. 30, 1940) A. N. McKelvie; (Jan. 11) F. S. H. Ford; (Jan. 12) D. F. Hill, C. McLean, R. H. Matthews, R. C. Nesbit; (Jan. 18) A. H. Foord, A. J. G. Jones, V. H. Sarpiece, R. S. Le Masurier, G. W. Ball, H. Rhoden, J. Simpson; (Jan. 25) The Hon. J. E. T. Mansfield, F. H. Raffalli; (Jan. 26) G. D. N. Sandford, T. Treby, C. M. Fell, G. C. Andrew, H. Van D. Bonney, P. E. Hughes, R. A. Coster, E. C. Durrant; (Jan. 31) G. Kertesz; (Feb. 1) R. Nesham, D. White; (Feb. 1) R. A. Brown, P. T. R. Cook, J. T. Hanaty, G. H. Kidd, M. E. Potter, F. A. Reiss, G. E. J. Rushbrooke; (Feb. 1) P. R. S. Bird, J. A. T. Garrould, J. Barrett, M. R. Evans, R. H. May; (Feb. 3) D. M. Gossland, W. E. Thomas, G. R. Butcher, D. Coard, A. H. Drummond; (Feb. 8) R. G. C. Rusbridge, J. G. Cramp-ton, G. F. Bunday, M. A. Scott, R. A. Richards; (Feb. 9) A. Eastman, W. J. Mason, H. Brant, J. R. Campbell, As Act. P/O. on probn.:—(Dec. 17, 1940) W. A. Welch.

WITH ME
 AT
 SEVAL

PORTHCAWL

PRESTK