

Cornaigbeg

Isle of Tiree

Dec. 4th 1941

Dear Donald,

Yesterday we had a letter from Blackness, and it conveyed the very sad news of Charlie being posted missing. Well Donald at a time like this words seem so futile, one can hardly express his thoughts, or his feelings, but from Elsie, my father, and myself, we extend our deepest sympathy to you all, it is not much, but there is always the hope that he is alive, and that in the very near future you will have a happy reunion.

Things here are going strong, it is not the same Yule you know, one can hardly credit the change they have made of the place.

My father is keeping and looking very well for his age, working every day. How I must close, and again we all hope you will shortly receive more cheerful news of Charlie,
W: 17/12/41 Your sincere friend Charlie

4th Dec. 1941

Ouinphraoich
Kenway Isle.

My Dear Brother, Sister & all.

You will no doubt be surprised hearing from me after such a long spell of silence, but having been very busy between every thing since Lachlan & Mary are both away this year, but I can't put off telling you that I have learnt from Mr Chas MacLean that you had sad news about Dea Chata. I can't express here how I feel for you all, at this time, the suspense of fearing the worst & yet the hope that he may be alive but still maybe a prisoner in Germany. However, I try to convey through this letter my deepest sympathy I wrote Lachlan & told me I must also tell Mary who no doubt will write you as Mary was very fond of Chata, & often spoke about him & the time she spent there with you at Finlathgaw. She got on well

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as you will wonder no doubt
see from Ober Lives - she has
a bad throat and the cold she
has been in bed at the girls
Hostel Ober for a week but
was up in her last letter.
Lachie is doing fine, he got his
tonsils removed this summer
in Ober Cottage Hospital. & I
I expect him home on or about
the 17th Decr. They were evacuated
from Helenslee Dumbarton and
are now at Glashan Argyll.
I have a girl staying with me
one my sister Catriona had and
she (Catriona) is away to Kilchoan
to keep house with Grace who is
appointed District Nurse there. Lachie
is in the Army. Stationed at Dumbarton
previous to that he was in England
so Catriona handled the quiet oce to
me, I have also a boarder he
is working at the Reef hatched
him for the last 4 months, it's a
great help but we kept very
busy between the children washing
carrying home etc. I am thankful

I am keeping well and able
to carry on.
How are you all placed?
Has the girls been called up?
I havent heard from Langridge
for ages I wonder how their boys
are placed, Perhaps when you
see them you will tell them I was
asking for them also Masha q.
in Sept: I heard she had well
Lachie's memoriam in the papers.

Last week

I have nothing startling to say.
Only time is turned upside
down with all this work going
on. Perhaps you would have
heard from me Chas about it.
He is busy there also.

I am sorry that my news are
scanty. Poor old Allen has been
ailing this last while he was
so well at present.

I will now close with regards
of love & deepest sympathy.

Yours affect Sists
& Aunt Joan

(W.
19.12.48)

Henovay,
Scarinish,
Isle of Tiree
21. 12. '41.

Dear Uncle Donald,

I am sure that you will be wondering why I did not write you before this. I would have done so but from one of her letters mammy told me that she had heard about Cousin Charlie in such a way that I took it for granted that it was a false rumour and that she had no definite word about the matter. So I did not write until I made certain.

It happened that I came home for my Christmas holidays the same day as your letter arrived and I was sorry to learn that you had no word about Cousin Charlie. I was very sorry to hear what happened to him. However, I hope he is still alive and working his way back to freedom, if he has not already done so, by the time this reaches you. I trust you will have good news of him very soon. I know it must be an awful blow to you all, after he had been getting on

so well up to now.

I suppose you know that Skel School was evacuated to Blaachan last Easter. This village is about eleven miles from Tarbert and twenty-seven miles from Campbeltown by road. I am getting used to the ways of the school by now. I am getting on fairly well at my lessons. I have one more year after this one before I am finished there. I have not made up my mind yet as to what I'll do once I leave. We got our holidays on the 18th of Dec and the school re-opens on the 6th Jan.

I think I will close now as this is to show my sympathy to you in your mourning rather than to give news. I hope this finds you all well.

With kindest regards to you all
Yours affectionately
Lachie

8, Station Road,
Rushden.
Northants.

20.1.42

Dear Mr. McLean,

I regret I have to inform you that we heard this morning from the Air Ministry, that my brother Sergeant Frank Childs is missing believed killed in action. Further, they state that his body was recovered on the 12th December at Bergen, Holland.

We do hope that you or any of the other relatives have not had any bad news. and we should be very grateful if you would let us know when they do receive any information.

Yours truly,

Guy Childs.

10.2.31-42

8, Station Road.

Rushden.

Northants.

7th February 1942

Dear Mr. McLean,

Thank you very much for your letter received yesterday. We are always pleased to hear from you but wish you could hear some more news. We often think about you and know how worried you must be.

We received a letter from Mrs. Heald the other day, and apparently she is staying with her mother-in-law. We wrote to her in Surrey but the letter was forwarded to her and at present she is at Newcastle and her address is 1, Church Road, Gosforth, Newcastle on Tyne.

She is shortly going to London and she says if it is at all possible she is going to break her

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journey and call to see us. We have never met her but my brother spent a weekend with Sgt. Heald and his wife at London and they are quite a young married couple. It is very sad for her.

We shall be pleased to hear from you if you hear any more news about your son.

Yours sincerely,

Ivy Childs.

Irie just wrote this out
of Frank's Bible he had
with him I think the words
are lovely

Lord give me wings to thee to fly
On through the vast uncharted sky
Lord let my heart and aims be high
Lord give me wings

Clean as thy winds my mind and ^{with}
Lord keep my course above the earth
Scorning the things of lesser worth
Lord give me wings

High over life's unresting sea
Lord lift my eager heart to Thee
There are the bonds that keep
Lord give me wings ^{me free}

And when the last long flight is done
Into the slowly sinking sun
Mine be the badge the faith has
Lord give me wings ^{won}

He wrote that in Sep. 25/41

