**Nurses at war**

59 nurses were called up for active service out of 406 nurses working across Scotland at the time

Honorary Secretary sent out a circular postcard to the Nurses, asking if they were members of the Army, Naval to Territorial Nursing Reserves, and if not, if they were willing to volunteer for nursing services. The responses were as follows:

Army, Naval reserve 10

Territorial Nursing Services 28

Red Cross 37

Willing to Volunteer 151

226 nurses in total – over half of all QNs

The Honorary Secretary of QNIS requested that authorities allow these Nurses who had volunteered to go if requested by the War Office or the Admiralty, or to help in any of the hospitals that are being organised with their approval by the Red Cross. This was agreed to.

War Honours List:

Miss Robb, Second Inspector, at present Sister-in-Charge of a Casualty Clearing Station in France, was awarded a Royal Red Cross of the First Order

Nurses MAC Smith, H Darge, K Collins, and D Stevens were mentioned in dispatches and recommend for the Royal Red Cross of the Second Order.

Annie Mackinnon, who later joined the Frontier Nursing Service in America, was awarded only one of two Croix de Guerre medals awarded by the French ‘for conspicuous bravery in continuing to care for the sick and wounded under enemy fire’ – the other went to a whole English regiment.

Among those who didn’t come back were Louisa Jordan, who died of typhus in 1915 serving with the Scottish Women’s Hospitals in Serbia, Mary Gray from complications after her appendix was removed and Jessie Jane Paterson who died from dysentery in 1916.

Castle Terrace was not immune from the effects of the war and its windows were shattered during a Zeppelin raid in 1916. Also in 1916, a rule was also introduced banning the enrolment of aliens as Queen’s Nurses. Some were already in post. Kirriemuir’s long serving German-born nurse was the subject of abuse by some locals and Nurse Roeher working in Langholm asked for her leaving certificate in case she was forced to repatriate.