

**Sapper James Thornton**<sup>©</sup>  
**Regimental number: 107423**  
**3rd Signal Corps, Royal Engineers**

**Lance Corporal**  
**Regimental number: 9127 Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment)**  
**2nd Battalion, Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment)**

**born: 2 July 1885- died: 7 June 1916**

“He Died That We Might Live” is engraved on the cross marking Sapper James Thornton’s grave in Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension Nord, France, Grave/Memorial Reference II. B. 154.<sup>1</sup> Although James Thornton had trained early on as a pastry baker, he spent a good part of his working life as a soldier in the British armed forces (nine years with Colours and three years with Reserve). He served with the Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment) for most of this time and with the 3rd Signal Corps, Royal Engineers, for less than a year.<sup>2</sup>

James Thornton came into the world at 15 minutes past midnight on 2 July 1885 at 7 St. Mary Street, Edinburgh, Scotland.<sup>3</sup> He was one of 11 children<sup>4</sup> born to Patrick Thornton (1850–1912)<sup>5</sup> and Margaret Malone (1856–1934)<sup>6</sup> with James and six sisters surviving to adulthood. The couple married on 20 December 1876 in the chapel of St. Andrew’s Roman Catholic Cathedral, Glasgow. Patrick Thornton, who signed his name with a mark, was working as a shoemaker; he had been born in Ireland, the son of Michael Thornton and Ann Murphy. Margaret Malone was working as a domestic servant in Glasgow; she had been born in Edinburgh, the daughter of Cornelius Malone and Catherine Comiskey.<sup>7</sup>

At some point, Patrick and Margaret moved to Edinburgh, Margaret’s home town, where their first surviving child, Catherine, was born in 1882.<sup>8</sup> She was followed by Mary in 1884,<sup>9</sup> then James, Margaret Ann in 1889,<sup>10</sup> Helen McDonald in 1892,<sup>11</sup> Alice in 1896,<sup>12</sup> and finally Elizabeth in 1898.<sup>13</sup> Patrick continued to support his family by working as a shoemaker, but the children also contributed to the family’s income. By 1901, both Catherine and Mary were employed and James was working as an apprentice pastry baker.<sup>14</sup> Ten years later Patrick and Margaret, with five of their daughters, were living in three rooms with one or more windows at 15 Guthrie Street, Edinburgh. Four daughters were employed while Elizabeth (the youngest) attended school.<sup>15</sup>

In 1901 Scotland, one in 36 males was enrolled in volunteer military service.<sup>16</sup> James was a member of the 5th Volunteer Battalion, Royal Scots. At 18 years old, he was 5 feet 3.5 inches (161 cm) tall, weighing 112 pounds (50.8 kg), with a fair complexion and dark brown hair. He had the letters *J. T.* tattooed on both forearms, four dots tattooed above each thumb and a round scar on his right forearm. On 27 December 1904, he enlisted for a short term in the regular army, the 1st Battalion, Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment) (a.k.a. the Royal Scots) at the Glencorse Barracks, Penicuik, 16 km south of Edinburgh. He re-enlisted for a second term on 27 December 1906.<sup>17</sup>

The Royal Scots was raised in 1633.<sup>18</sup> Through the centuries, it saw action in almost every conflict undertaken by the United Kingdom. After the Boer War, the peacetime regiment divided its time between Scotland and India.<sup>19</sup> James was with the regiment in Bombay in 1908 and at Allahaba, India, in 1911.<sup>20</sup>

James Thornton did well in the military, although initially he was disciplined for alcohol abuse. He obtained a 2nd-class education certificate with a specialty in telegraphy and was promoted to lance corporal on 7 October 1907. In 1911, when he requested a transfer to the Reserve unit at Edinburgh, he had been working 2.5 years as a military telegraphist, had two good conduct medals, and a character assessment of "very good." He hoped to find civilian employment as a telegraphist at the General Post Office. The transfer was approved on 19 January 1912.

Perhaps James requested this transfer because of family concerns. His sister Catherine, who had married James Small in 1902, died of tuberculosis on 3 February 1911.<sup>21</sup> His father Patrick, who suffered from chronic bronchitis, was no longer able to work. James was with him when he died on 14 April 1912 at 15 Guthrie Street, Edinburgh.<sup>22</sup> James was living at that address on 17 April 1914 when he married Margaret Cranston Richardson (1887<sup>23</sup> – 1972<sup>24</sup>) the daughter of William Richardson (deceased) and Margaret Gillespie. James Thornton recorded his occupation as a store man, General Post Office, while Margaret Cranston Richardson was employed at a painters' warehouse.<sup>25</sup>

When war was declared on 4 August 1914, the 1st Battalion, Royal Scots was stationed in India while the 2nd Battalion was at Plymouth as part of the 8th Brigade, 3rd Division. During the course of the war, the Lothian Regiment would raise 35 more battalions, enlisting 100,000 men of whom 11,213 would die.<sup>26</sup>

As a member of the Royal Scots Reserve Unit, Lance Corporal James Thornton was mobilized at Glencorse Barracks on 5 August 1914 and posted to "C" Company, 2nd Battalion, Royal Scots, on 7 August 1914. The 30 officers and 972 other ranks<sup>27</sup> of the 2nd Battalion, Royal Scots boarded the S.S. *Mombasa* in Southampton at 7 p.m. on 13 August 1914 and landed at Boulogne-sur-Mer, France at 1 p.m. on 14 August 1914.<sup>28</sup> As part of the British Expeditionary Force (B.E.F.), the 2nd Battalion, Royal Scots would see action in many of the major battles on the Western Front, ending the war near Solesmes, France in 1918.<sup>29</sup>

By 20 August 1914, the 2nd Battalion, Royal Scots, with James Thornton in its ranks, had assembled with other B.E.F. units and French forces in a pear-shaped area between Le Cateau-Cambrésis and Maubeuge, northern France, about 200 km from Boulogne-sur-Mer and 20 km from Mons, Belgium.<sup>30</sup> At 3 p.m. on 21 August the 2nd Battalion crossed the border into Belgium and on 22 August marched to Spiennes.<sup>31</sup> There was no news of the enemy, but the soldiers suffered greatly from the intense heat and the cobbled roads.<sup>32</sup> On Sunday morning 23 August 1914, the B.E.F. and the French forces engaged the enemy unsuccessfully at Mons, Belgium in the first battle of World War 1. The 2nd Battalion had orders to hold its position on the Maubeuge–Mons Road "at all costs."<sup>33</sup> It entrenched east of Harmignies, about 8 km from Mons and engaged the enemy until the early hours of Monday morning 24 August, which allowed the B.E.F. an orderly retreat. On 26 August, the 2nd Battalion took part in the Battle of Le Cateau, where the British and French forces set up a defensive position against the German advance. The shells dropped like rain, many of them bursting in the trenches around James Thornton and his fellow soldiers in "C" Company.<sup>34</sup> During the following months, the battalion had little respite from the conflict. On 14 November 1914, James was in trenches near Neuve-Chapelle, France about 39 km from Ypres, Belgium under constant shelling.<sup>35</sup> On that same day at 2:10 a.m., Margaret Cranston Thornton, James' wife, gave birth to their only child, a son named James, at 134 Georgie Road, Edinburgh, the home of her mother Mrs. Margaret Richardson.<sup>36</sup>

That Lance Corporal James Thornton had survived to this point was remarkable. In the three-month period from its arrival in France on 14 August 1914, the 2nd Battalion, Royal Scots, had suffered

heavy losses. Of the original 30 officers, 9 were killed and 21 were wounded, 100% casualties. Of the other ranks, 144 were killed and an estimated 351 were wounded or 51% of the establishment; as well, 193 soldiers were known to be prisoners. Nevertheless, the battalion remained operational, the Royal Scots' administrative efficiency ensuring a continuous supply of reinforcements.<sup>37</sup>

The 2nd Battalion, Royal Scots endured the discomforts of the winter campaign "with a cheery spirit in very trying conditions."<sup>38</sup> During the Second Battle of Ypres (22 April–25 May 1915) it held the line south of the town. "Once more the Royals proved steady and reliable in the face of heavy fire and resultant trench-to-trench fighting."<sup>39</sup> On 24 May, the battalion marched through Ypres to the Lille Gate and took up position in trenches on the west side of the Railway Wood. Under continuous fire, 10 men were killed and 42 wounded from 26 May to 31 May.<sup>40</sup> At Ypres, the German army used poisonous gas for the first time. One grim task for the battalion was finding and burying the bodies of soldiers killed by the gas.<sup>41</sup> By 20 June 1915, the 2nd Battalion, Royal Scots had been in the trenches for 25 days and was finally relieved.<sup>42</sup>

After several requests, Lance Corporal James Thornton was eventually assigned to work with the 3rd Signal Corps, Royal Engineers under Captain A. C. Johnston. He requested a transfer to the Signal Corps, hoping to fill a telegraphist position. He was tested in July but deemed out of practice and could not be placed as a clerk. On 11 August 1915 he applied to transfer to the 3rd Signal Corps as a Pioneer. Captain Johnston, Royal Engineers, approved this request on 13 August and Lieutenant-Colonel Duncan, 2nd Battalion Royal Scots, gave his assent on 17 August 1915. James did obtain a position as a telegraphist on 6 December 1915 and was remustered to a Sapper, 3rd Signal Corps, Royal Engineers.

In late May 1916, the 3rd Signal Corps, Royal Engineers was laying communication cable from Westouter, Belgium (about 12.8 km from Ypres) to Locre, Belgium. On 28 May 1916, the company marched to Flêtre, France via Mont Noir (about 12.4 km from Westouter). The 3rd of June was the King's birthday and the soldiers celebrated. The officers and non-commissioned officers received a lecture about the Fullerphone.<sup>43</sup> On a cloudy and cold 7 June 1916 around 2:30 p.m., James Thornton reported severe pain in his left chest area. He was admitted at 6:30 p.m. to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station (CCS), Bailleul, France, about 7 km from Flêtre, where he died at 8:30 p.m. from oedema of the lungs probably caused by heart failure. Of the 99 patients admitted that day he was the only one to die.<sup>44</sup> His death was recorded in the chaplain's journal.<sup>45</sup>

Sapper James Thornton was buried at Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord, Grave/Memorial Reference II. B. 154.<sup>46</sup> Bailleul, close to the Belgian border, was occupied on 14 October 1914 and became an important railhead, air depot and hospital centre. Several casualty clearing stations, including No. 1 Canadian CCS, were quartered there. The earliest Commonwealth burials at Bailleul were made in April 1915. An extension was built and burials continued until April 1918; they occurred again in September and after the Armistice, when soldiers' remains were brought in from the neighbouring battlefields.

James was posthumously awarded the 1914 Star, also called the Mons star (for serving in a theatre of war between 5 August 1914 and midnight of 22/23 November 1914), the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre), and the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918). As next of kin, his wife Margaret Cranston Thornton also received a memorial plaque and a parchment scroll on 21 September 1920.

At some point after 1922, Margaret Cranston Thornton, along with her son and her mother, left Edinburgh to move to 30 West Blackhall St., Greenock, Scotland<sup>47</sup> about 41 km from Glasgow. David

Richardson, Margaret's brother,<sup>48</sup> was living there.<sup>49</sup> Greenock became their home town. Margaret Cranston Thornton died there on 22 February 1972.<sup>50</sup> Her son James married Agnes Todd Peddie in Gourrock (about 4 km from Greenock) on 14 October 1950.<sup>51</sup> He died in Greenock on 10 February 1993.<sup>52</sup>

James Thornton was mourned and remembered by his mother, siblings and his wife and child. His name can be found on the online *Scottish National War Memorial*.<sup>53</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "Headstone Documents," *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<https://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead/casualty/20A1894/thornton.-james>: accessed 02 August 2018), entry for James Thornton

<sup>2</sup> "British Army Service Records 1914–1920," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 29 January 2018), entry for James Thornton, Series: WO 363 Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all information regarding James Thornton's military career was taken from this source.

<sup>3</sup> "Statutory Registers–Births," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1885 Thornton, James 585/3 737 *ScotlandsPeople* (<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 8 May 2018)

<sup>4</sup> "1911 Scotland Census," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for Thornton, Patrick, Census 685/4 18/15 *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 6 June 2018)

<sup>5</sup> "Statutory Registers–Marriages," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1876 Thornton, Patrick 644/7 436 *ScotlandsPeople* ([https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/): accessed 29 May 2018); "Statutory Registers–Deaths," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1912 Thornton, Patrick 685/4 459 *ScotlandsPeople* ([https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk](https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/): accessed 13 June 2018)

<sup>6</sup> "Statutory Registers–Births," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1856 Malone, Margaret 685/4 235 *ScotlandsPeople* (<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 8 May 2018); "Statutory Registers–Deaths," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1934 Thornton, Margaret 685/4 11 *ScotlandsPeople* (<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 01 August 2018)

<sup>7</sup> "Statutory Registers–Marriages," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1876 Malone, Margaret 644/7 436 *ScotlandsPeople* (<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 29 May 2018)

<sup>8</sup> "Statutory Registers–Births," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1882 Thornton, Catherine 685/3 165 *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 1 August 2018)

<sup>9</sup> "Statutory Registers–Births," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1883 Thornton, Mary 685/3 959 *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 1 August 2018)

<sup>10</sup> "Statutory Registers–Births," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1889 Thornton, Margaret Ann 685/3 1038 *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 1 August 2018)

<sup>11</sup> "Statutory Registers–Births," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1892 Thornton, Helen McDonald 685/3 235 in *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 1 August 2018)

<sup>12</sup> "Statutory Registers–Births," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1896 Thornton, Alice 685/4 225 *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 1 August 2018)

<sup>13</sup> "Statutory Registers–Births," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1897 Thornton, Elizabeth 685/4 1112 *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 1 August 2018)

<sup>14</sup> "1901 England, Wales & Scotland Census," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): access 15 January 2018), entry for James Thornton, Parish: Edinburgh, County: Midlothian, Registration district: Canongate, Archive reference: RG13

<sup>15</sup> "1911 Scotland Census," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for Thornton, Patrick 685/4 18/15 *ScotlandsPeople* (<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 9 June 2018)

<sup>16</sup> James M. Grierson, *Records of the Scottish Volunteer Force 1859–1908*, (Edinburgh: W. Blackwood and Sons 1909), *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/search.php?query=Records%20of%20the%20Scottish%20Volunteer%20Force>: accessed 20 June 2018), page 368

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- <sup>17</sup> "British Army Service Records 1914–1920," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 29 January 2018) entry for James Thornton, Series: WO 363. Note: There were some inconsistencies in the file. James Thornton's eyes were recorded as "brown" in the description attached to his 1904 *Short Attestation* form and as "blue" on the *Transfer to Army Reserve* document, 1912. Unless otherwise specified, all information about James' military career comes from this source.
- <sup>18</sup> "Royal Scots," *Wikipedia* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal\\_Scots](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Scots): accessed 9 June 2018)
- <sup>19</sup> Lawrence Weaver, *The Story of the Royal Scots (The Lothian regiment) formerly the First or the Royal Regiment of Foot*, (London: Country Life 1915), *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/details/storyofroyalscot00weavuoft>: accessed 01 August 2018), page 201
- <sup>20</sup> "1911 England, Wales & Scotland Census," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 29 January 2018), entry for James Thornton, Country: Ships and overseas military, Registration district number: 28, Sub district number:13, Piece number: 34988
- <sup>21</sup> "Statutory Registers–Deaths," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1911 Small, Catherine 655/1 9 *ScotlandsPeople* (<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 01 August 2018)
- <sup>22</sup> "Statutory Registers–Deaths," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1912 Thornton, Patrick 685/4 459 *ScotlandsPeople* (<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 13 June 2018)
- <sup>23</sup> "Statutory Registers–Births," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1887 Richardson, Margaret Cranston 685/5 1252 *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeiple.gov.uk>: accessed 01 August 2018)
- <sup>24</sup> "Statutory Registers–Deaths," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1972 Thornton, Margaret C. 640/189 *Scotlandspeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk>: accessed 20 June 2018)
- <sup>25</sup> "Statutory Registers–Marriages," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1914 Thornton, James 685/5 70 *ScotlandsPeople* (<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk:accessed> 8 May 2018)
- <sup>26</sup> "1st World War," *The Royal Scots* (<http://www.theroyalscots.co.uk/1st-world-war>: accessed 17 July 2018)
- <sup>27</sup> "2nd BN in the BEF," *The Royal Scots* (<http://www.theroyalscots.co.uk/2nd-bn-in-the-bef-2>: accessed 18 July 2018)
- <sup>28</sup> "UK, WW1 War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 19 July 2018), entry for 3rd Division, Sub-unit: Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment), Piece: 1423/1–7:8 Infantry Brigade: 2 Battalion Royal Scots (1914 Aug–1919 May) entry for 13 and 14 August 1914
- <sup>29</sup> "Royal Scots–Regimental History, War & Military Records & Archives," *Forces War Records* (<https://www.forces-war-records.co.uk/units/310/royal-scots>: accessed 8 June 2018)
- <sup>30</sup> James Edmonds, *Military Operations France and Belgium 1914*, (London: Macmillan and Co. Ltd. 1933) Vol 1, *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.210673>: accessed 01 August 2018), page 49
- <sup>31</sup> "UK, WW1 War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 19 July 2018), entry for 3rd Division, Sub-unit: Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment), Piece: 1423/1–7:8 Infantry Brigade: 2 Battalion Royal Scots (1914 Aug–1919 May) entries for 21 and 22 August 1914
- <sup>32</sup> "2nd BN in the BEF," *The Royal Scots* (<http://www.theroyalscots.co.uk/2nd-bn-in-the-bef-2>: accessed 18 July 2018)
- <sup>33</sup> "UK, WW1 War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 19 July 2018), entry for 3rd Division, Sub-unit: Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment), Piece: 1423/1–7:8 Infantry Brigade: 2 Battalion Royal Scots (1914 Aug–1919 May) entry for 23 August 1914, Image: 11
- <sup>34</sup> Lawrence Weaver, *The Story of the Royal Scots (The Lothian regiment) formerly the First or the Royal Regiment of Foot* (London: Country Life 1915) *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/details/storyofroyalscot00weavuoft>: accessed 01 August 2018), page 209
- <sup>35</sup> "UK, WW1 War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 19 July 2018), entry for 3rd Division, Sub-unit: Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment), Piece: 1423/1–7:8 Infantry Brigade: 2 Battalion Royal Scots (1914 Aug–1919 May) entry for 14 November, 1914
- <sup>36</sup> "Statutory Registers–Births," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1914 Thornton, James 685/6 1056, *ScotlandsPeople* (<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 8 May 2018)

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- <sup>37</sup> "2nd BN in the BEF," *The Royal Scots* (<http://www.theroyalscots.co.uk/2nd-bn-in-the-bef-2>: accessed 18 July 2018)
- <sup>38</sup> Lawrence Weaver, *The Story of the Royal Scots (The Lothian regiment) formerly the First or the Royal Regiment of Foot*, (London: Country Life 1915), *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/details/storyofroyalscot00weavuoft>: accessed 01 August 2018), page 219
- <sup>39</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>40</sup> "UK, WW1 War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 19 July 2018), entry for 3rd Division, Sub-unit: Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment), Piece: 1423/1–7:8 Infantry Brigade: 2 Battalion Royal Scots (1914 Aug–1919 May) entry for 24 to 31 May 1915
- <sup>41</sup> *Ibid.*, entry for 28 May 1915
- <sup>42</sup> *Ibid.*, entry for 20 June 1915
- <sup>43</sup> "UK, WW1 War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com): accessed 19 July 2018), entry for 3rd Division, Sub-unit: Royal Engineers, Piece: 1404: Divisional Troops (1914–1918) entry for 28 May 1916–6 June 1916
- <sup>44</sup> "No.1 Canadian Casualty Clear Station War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clear Station 1914/08/13–1919/03/31," *Library and Archives Canada* (<http://data2.archives.ca/e/e061/e001509285.jpg>: accessed 30 July 2018) entry for 7 June 1916
- <sup>45</sup> "No.1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* ([www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca): accessed 30 July 2018), entry for Thornton, J. Record number 117
- <sup>46</sup> *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* ([www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org): accessed 7 January 2018), entry for James Thornton
- <sup>47</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>48</sup> "1891 England, Wales & Scotland Census," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 29 January 2018), entry for Margaret Richardson, County: Midlothian, Registration district: Newington
- <sup>49</sup> "The Greenock & District Directory including Port Glasgow and Gourock," Volume 1930, *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/details/greenockdistrict1930gree>: accessed 02 August 2018), page 165 "Valuation Rolls," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1925 Richardson, David VR00360087-/281 Greenock Burgh page 281, *ScotlandsPeople* (<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>: accessed 3 August 2018)
- <sup>50</sup> "Statutory Registers–Deaths," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1972 Thornton, Margaret C. 640/189 *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk>: accessed 20 June 2018)
- <sup>51</sup> "Statutory Registers–Marriages," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1950 Thornton, James 567/2 53 *ScotlandsPeople* (<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk>: accessed 8 May 2018)
- <sup>52</sup> "Statutory Registers–Deaths," *National Records of Scotland*, entry for 1993 Thornton, James 640/98 *Scotlands People* (<https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk>: accessed 8 August 2018)
- <sup>53</sup> *Scottish National War Memorial* (<https://www.snmw.org/roll-search/?surname=Thornton&surnamepos=x&firstname=James&serviceno=&dayofdeath=07&monthofdeath=06&yearofdeath=1916&conflictera=0>: accessed 02 August 2018), entry for James Thornton