

# Dalgety Bay

## Appropriate Person Report

### Appendix 7

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## Summary of Articles Gathered from The Scotsman, Dunfermline Press and The Courier Newspapers

Number	Date	Source	Notes
1	26/08/1927	The Scotsman	<p>Civil Aviation – Fife Meeting Prohibited</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Posters were exhibited in Dunfermline and district in the early part of the week by the Berkshire Aviation Tours (Ltd.) announcing passenger flights from a field on one of the farms to the south of Dunfermline,</li> <li>• Patrons were disappointed when it was learned that the enterprise had been vetoed by the police authorities,</li> <li>• The proposed field was within the Rosyth Prohibited Area, which runs from Donibristle to Torryburn,</li> <li>• The Air Navigation Order prohibits landing within this area and flying below 6000 ft</li> </ul>
2	17/04/1934	The Scotsman	<p>Empire Air Day – Plans of the Royal Air Force</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Article highlights Empire Air Day for May 24 1934,</li> <li>• Donibristle and an other 49 RAF stations across the UK will be open for public view</li> </ul>
3	25/05/1934	The Scotsman	<p>Torpedo Bomber Unit Inspected at Donibristle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steady stream of visitors to Donibristle as part of Empire Air Day</li> <li>• Visitors able to inspect a Vickers Wildbeests bomber fitted with a Bristol Pegasus engine, equipped with aerial torpedo and bomb grips</li> </ul>
4	23/07/1935	The Scotsman	<p>Fatal Air Crash</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RAF Plane Dives into Firth of Forth, killing pilot and aircraftman</li> <li>• Vildebeest aeroplane from No. 22 Bomber Squadron</li> </ul>
5	25/12/1937	D.P	<p>Air Force Station Changes – Units Leaving Donibristle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three squadrons to move South to Thorney Island – No. 22 and 42 from Donibristle and No. 83 from Turnhouse to Scampton. Twenty-two officers and 224 airmen would go from Donibristle and 150 officers and 146 airmen from Turnhouse.</li> <li>• Article highlights the liability of the district to air attack, which was emphasised in a report of a conference of representatives of the Admiralty, County Council, and Town Councils of Dunfermline and adjoining burghs. The naval authorities desired to co-ordinate air raid precaution plans within a certain distance from naval docks and factories, for the enforcement of lighting restrictions, the safeguarding of essential services, and the provision of personnel and accommodation to deal with casualties.</li> <li>• Concern that the east coast of Scotland, which includes and Royal Naval Dockyard, an important ordnance depot and a vital railway connecting link over the Forth may not be receiving the protection they reasonably claim.</li> </ul>

6	30/08/1938	The Scotsman	<p>Aeroplane Down in Forth: Granton Trawler to the Rescue – Two Airmen Saved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plane struck a sandbank and crashed ½ mile North East of Granton harbour,</li> <li>• Two airmen saved by local trawler men</li> <li>• RAF Speedboat and HMS Sabre dispatched from Donibristle</li> </ul>
7	03/01/1939	The Scotsman	<p>Future of Donibristle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• London news from Private Correspondence</li> <li>• Final details for the transfer to the Admiralty of Donibristle Aerodrome are now being worked out with the Air Ministry</li> <li>• It will be used as training station for the Fleet Air Arm, which is of special importance due to the annual autumn training in northern waters,</li> <li>• Training cannot be carried out entirely from ships, probable that personnel will expand to 10,000 and that additional land stations will be required</li> </ul>
8	24/05/1939	The Scotsman	<p>The Fleet Air Arm:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From today the Admiralty will assume administrative control of the Fleet Air Arm, which will be brought into line of the rest of the Navy,</li> <li>• Four RAF stations are to be taken over one of which is Donibristle, which will be called HMS Merlin. Rear-Admiral Richard Bell V.C will be in command of the naval air stations with headquarters at Lee-on-Solent.</li> <li>• Naval personnel in the Fleet Air Arm will be supplemented by RAF officers and airmen on loan until the full requirements can be met from naval sources. The Air Ministry will be responsible for the initial flying training, and that Admiralty for subsequent specialised training. Responsible for the supply of aircraft and equipment will remain with the Air Ministry.</li> <li>• Article provides further insight into the history of different units and arguments for and against merging</li> </ul>
9	24/05/1939	The Scotsman	<p>Fleet Air Arm: Admiralty to take Over Control Today</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donibristle becomes HMS Merlin, amongst other changes in Four Fleet Air Arm stations in the UK,</li> <li>• Apart from hoisting the White Ensign, no ceremony will mark the change at Donibristle.</li> </ul>
10	16/08/1939	The Scotsman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Royal Air Force – Vacancies for Pilots</li> <li>• Royal Naval Air Station, Donibristle: Vacancies for Electrical Fitters, Fabric Workers, Aero Engine Fitters, Fitter Riggers, Metal Workers, Instrument Makers (*rest unclear), Instrument Repairers, Non-Aero Fitters, Fitters Mates, Electrical Fitters Mates</li> </ul>
11	22/06/1946	The Scotsman	<p>Five War Effort – Repair Work at Donibristle: Fate of the Yard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6000 aircraft serviced at Donibristle, many of which were sent to Russia</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barracudas were also serviced, which took part in the destruction of Tirpitz,</li> <li>• Other craft from Donibristle fought at Dunkirk, Taranto, Salerno and in many other battles and campaigns,</li> <li>• In 1944 the yard specialised in the repair and inspection of American Avengers and Wildcats,</li> <li>• All of the work done behind a screen of trees in some of the finest parkland Scotland has to offer and in artfully camouflaged hangers,</li> <li>• Donibristle shares with Fleetlands, near Portsmouth, the distinction of being one of the two Royal Naval Aircraft Yards in Britain</li> <li>• Donibristle employs 370 service personnel in the storage division, 850 men and 360 women from across Fife and Edinburgh, who work a 47 hour week</li> <li>• During war-time 2000 civilians and 1000 Service men and woman were employed as part of Fife's significant effort during the war,</li> <li>• A pre-war aerodrome, which became a repair yard in 1939,</li> <li>• Civilian personnel had little or no experience, apart from 24 employees of Jersey Airways who came to Donibristle when Jersey was evacuated,</li> <li>• Women were not employed until July 1941, but by 1944 there were 600 employed,</li> <li>• Women found in all of the site workshops, but their greatest value in the inspection section of the engine repair shop</li> <li>• An apprentice scheme, similar to that of Rosyth Royal Dockyard has been in place,</li> <li>• A press visit on 21/06/46 was entertained by Captain C. W. Jones and his staff, were stuck by the extent of the yard and the excellent conditions under which the work is done,</li> <li>• 200 – 300 aeroplanes were on the ground, some of them undergoing final tests before being put into commission again,</li> <li>• Article ends "Perhaps the size of the Donibristle enterprise is, however, best indicated by the fact that there are 46,000 items indexed on the office files!"</li> </ul>
12	25/01/1947	D.P	<p>Fifth Sea Lord – Visit to Donibristle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice-Admiral Sir Philip Vian, spent time at RNAS Donibristle whilst on a tour of Scottish Naval Stations</li> </ul>
13	26/07/1947	D.P	<p>First Lord's Visit – Viscount Hall at Donibristle and Rosyth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Right Honourable Viscount Hall, First Lord of the Admiralty, together with the Naval Secretary, Rear-Admiral M.T. Mansergh, C.B and the Permanent Secretary, Sir John G Lang C.B. paid a visit to Donibristle and Rosyth on Thursday and yesterday respectively,</li> <li>• The visit was purely a private one, however the First Lord met with Senior Staff and operatives of those in various divisions of the sites. He was particularly interested in two Hoverfly helicopters that were undergoing repair</li> </ul>

14	07/11/1953	D.P	<p>Farewell to Merlin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• photograph showing lowering of the White Ensign flag</li> </ul>
15	15/10/1955	D.P	<p>Allocation of Houses to Donibristle Workers – Majority Decision by Town Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report on Council meeting debating the request from the Admiralty to give 20 council houses to Donibristle workers, which was agreed after lengthy debate,</li> <li>• The Admiralty considered that Dunfermline would not be where it was today without the support of the dockyard which opened in 1938,</li> <li>• It was noted that between 1926 and 1938 the area was derelict, with unemployment reading 70%</li> </ul>
16	29/10/1955	D.P	<p>Naval Church Dedicated by Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Church of St Andrew dedicated for personnel of HMS Cochrane, Donibristle</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
17	01/02/1958	D.P	<p>Redundancy Blow at Donibristle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Admiralty announcement on forthcoming “cuts”, 300 workers to lose jobs in next 6 months</li> <li>• Statement from Captain A F Turner, D.S.C, R.N, Superintendent at RNAY Donibristle published in previous Saturday edition of Dunfermline Press. Statement noted that there would a change in the task carried out at Donibristle.</li> <li>• Whitely Council, who handle Union matters for Admiralty employees was informed.</li> <li>• Donibristle became an aircraft repair yard in 1940, and a few years ago HMS Merlin and the Fleet Air Arm Station closed down.</li> </ul>
18	08/02/1958	D.P	<p>Workers will fight Pay-Off Decision Donibristle Unions Unite in Protests to Admiralty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workers fight redundancy plans of the Admiralty, which were announced last week. Workers to be made redundant after April because repair work on certain aircraft is to stop.</li> <li>• Officials of the 8 trade unions met Captain A. F. Turner, the Superintendent to express the concern that no negotiations had taken place.</li> <li>• Similarly, a special investigation was held at the ‘industry and employment sub-committee’ of the Scottish Labour Group in the House of Commons. Meetings were planned between local MPs and the President of the Board of Trade and the Minister of Labour.</li> </ul>
19	22/02/1958	D.P	<p>Donibristle to be closed by end of 1959</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paper carries immediate reaction at site to Parliament announcement</li> <li>• Temporary halt in admission of new workers,</li> <li>• Admiralty believe 700 of the 1000 industrial jobs can be transferred to other sites, whilst others would face redundancy</li> <li>• Article also notes 1400 workers on the site,</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lord Selkirk, First Lord of the Admiralty met with Scottish MPs and outlined transfer, retirement and redundancy arrangements,</li> <li>• Wide range of trades on site: Electrical Staff - repair of most types of electrical components and instruments; Sheet Metal Workers - all types of ventilation and ducting, vehicle and body work, manufacture of kitchen equipment, office furniture; Copper Smiths - all types of work; Blacksmiths – general jobbing and light forging, light construction work; Joiners – any type of woodwork; Engineers – all classes of light and medium machining, maintenance repair, hydraulic repairs and testing.</li> </ul>
20	22/02/1958	D.P	<p>Flag Officer's Comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reference to the impending closures at Donibristle and Greenock was made by Vice-Admiral Sir John Cuthbert, Flag Officer, Scotland.</li> <li>• Offered his sympathies for those affected by closure, but noted that it was not possible to keep civilians on simply to prevent unemployment.</li> <li>• Also highlights that the Service departments have been better than other employers with the length of notice given.</li> </ul>
21	22/02/1958	D.P	<p>Mr Clunie's Statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr James Clunie, MP for Dunfermline Burghs, said yesterday that the closing of Donibristle Station would cause anxiety in Fife</li> <li>• Mr Clunie noted that the White Paper stated that the main purpose of the changes was to fit the Navy to meet the nuclear age</li> <li>• Asked the Civil Lord to reconsider and also made the suggestion that Donibristle becomes part of the Rosyth Dockyard labour establishment</li> </ul>
22	15/03/1958	D.P	<p>The Future of Donibristle: Council Is Seeking to Attract Industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report on Council support to attract industry to Donibristle</li> </ul>
23	22/03/1958	D.P	<p>Donibristle Men's Protest Meeting: Question About Future of Aircraft yard Apprentices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• report on worker protests at future of the yard, including issues surrounding the current apprentices who had been offered roles in England, or a change of trade a Rosyth</li> </ul>
24	05/04/1958	D.P	<p>American Factory at Donibristle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report that in the two weeks since the closure had been announced, two large American firms had shown interest in taking over the site.</li> </ul>
25	12/06/1958	D.P	<p>Donibristle Plan is Rejected: Admiralty's decision on Workers' Proposal for helicopter base</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal to turn RNAY Donibristle into to a combined Services helicopter base for Scotland was turned down by the Admiralty,</li> <li>• Had been considered by the Admiralty and Air Ministry prior to the decision to close the base – not enough work for the capacity and in the wrong location,</li> </ul>

26	21/06/1958	D.P	<p>Opencast mining at Donibristle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Councillor expresses the view that the time had come to call a halt to the desecration of the countryside by huge developments of opencast mining. Councillor Walters commented on proposed opencast workings at Donibristle.</li> <li>• Ministry of Power intended to work two areas near Donibristle by open-cast methods. 54 acres was 2/3 agricultural, the other some 140 acres was wholly agricultural.</li> <li>• The Planning Council was unable to stop the development due to the Defence Regulations, whereby the Opencast Executive could give the go ahead.</li> </ul>
27	28/06/1958	D.P	<p>Helicopter Base at Donibristle?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• News article reporting on a campaign of the Dunfermline and district branch of the Amalgamated Engineering Union to convert Donibristle into a Scottish combined Service helicopter base</li> <li>• Other Unions likely to follow suit later in the week</li> <li>• Four Fife MPs and National Assembly sent the resolution and request for help</li> </ul>
28	10/01/1959	D.P	<p>Donibristle Still in Running</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May yet be chosen for British Nylon Spinners factory</li> <li>• Forth Road Bridge due for completion in 1961</li> </ul>
29	24/01/1959	D.P	<p>Donibristle Hopes are Dashed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donibristle will not be the site of the new £10 million nylon factory planned by British Nylon Spinners. The Company are to buy the Ministry of Supply factory at Brockworth, Gloucester.</li> <li>• County Planning Officers provided a brochure, 'Donibristle Fife: An Industrial Opportunity' to Board of Trade in hope to promote the site opportunity to industrialists in UK, America and elsewhere.</li> </ul>
30	24/01/1959	D.P	<p>Donibristle hopes are dashed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• British nylon spinners will not be relocating to Donibristle</li> </ul>
31	11/04/1959	D.P	<p>Chequered Career of Donibristle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Article documents history of the site following the announcement of the closure of the base the previous year,</li> <li>• Originally an RAF Station, until the Earl of Moray's son (who served in the Royal Flying Corps) persuaded his father to give part of his estate for experimental purposes,</li> <li>• RAF station transferred to the Fleet Air Arm in 1936, and became HMS Merlin,</li> <li>• Donibristle continued during the Second World War, although in 1941 it also became home to the Royal Naval Aircraft Repair Yard,</li> <li>• HMS Merlin closed down several years after the War, but the repair yard remained a major source of employment,</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HMS Cochrane, the sister ship, stood alongside Donibristle following the closure of HMS Merlin,</li> <li>• HMS Cochrane will close in 1961, and the men and the barracks will transfer to HMS Lochinvar in South Queensferry,</li> </ul>
32	11/04/1959	D.P	<p>Donibristle Plan Still Working Smoothly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• admiralty plan to reduce redundancies and find alternative employment for staff is working</li> </ul>
33	15/05/1959	D.P	<p>Donibristle Closure in Two Weeks</p> <p>Article reports on the number of redundancies and work of the Admiralty, Trade Unions and Rosyth Dockyard to combat unemployment. The Royal Naval Aircraft Yard was to close on 28 August 1959 with fewer than 80 redundancies. Captain A Martin, Superintendent of the Yard led negotiations with the Unions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some men would continue to work at the establishment until October clearing up surplus stores.</li> <li>• 191 men employed at Donibristle, including 69 industrial workers, with the remainder being made up of Naval officers, clerical staff and Admiralty police.</li> <li>• 353 staff had been transferred to Rosyth, 149 of those suffered a reduction in wages as a result.</li> <li>• Article also notes the recent House of Commons debate that Mr Galbraith, the Civil Lord of the Admiralty, noted the wish to sell the repair yard, rather than lease although long term leases may be considered.</li> </ul>
34	14/06/1959	D.P	<p>Donibristle Apprentices Future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assurance Given by Yard Superintendent for future roles of current apprentices</li> <li>• The training at Donibristle was of a very high order and was among the best to be obtained at any Admiralty establishment</li> </ul>
35	29/08/1959	D.P	<p>Closure of Donibristle RNAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RNAY Donibristle closed yesterday. There was no ceremony to mark the event.</li> <li>• The site, complete with the buildings and installations standing on it, is being offered for sale by the Admiralty.</li> <li>• Decision first announced at the beginning of 1958</li> <li>• Final closure means that 28 more men and women have become redundant, this in addition to the 34 women and 6 men that were laid off earlier this year,</li> <li>• Total redundant of nearly 70 is short of the original estimate of 100,</li> <li>• Captain Martin, successor to Captain Turner, R.N Superintendent, expressed his thanks to staff who hard worked extremely hard in the planning and carrying out the various stages of the run down.</li> <li>• 50 men still employed at the Director of Stores Department at Donibristle, clearing up the equipment and stores. They will complete their work by the end of the year. Admiralty police are still operating at the yard.</li> </ul>

36	21/11/1959	D.P	<p>Admiralty Sell Part of The Estate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large part of Donibristle Estate, including Donibristle House, has been sold back by the Admiralty to the Moray Estate Development Company, Ltd.</li> <li>• The Company will take up possession on 28<sup>th</sup> November. For the moment the company will use a portion of the land as a caravan site, with advertising already in place. This is a temporary measure and the ground will be put to different use at a later date.</li> <li>• Approximately 252 acres returned to the possession of the original holder. Lord Doune, the eldest son of the Earl of Moray, will manage the development of the site from West Perthshire. The land comprised of both agricultural and woodland areas.</li> <li>• Interview with Lord Doune's father, Mr J Stirling, who advised that there were no plans as yet for the site.</li> <li>• Reported suggested that the Forth Bridge may lead to the area being developed as sidings for road transport or development of industry</li> <li>• Tenants of the Admiralty in the market garden part of the estate would likely transfer the tenancy to the Development Company.</li> <li>• Recreation ground would continue to be rented to HMS Cochrane for the use of Royal Naval personnel. Similarly, Donibristle House would still be rented to the Navy and would continue, for the moment, as a residence for Senior Naval Officers. Present tenant of the west wing was Captain I.M. Clegg, R.N, Chief of Staff to the Flag Officer Scotland.</li> <li>• Mr H Chalcraft, senior surveyor of Lands for the Admiralty in Scotland, confirmed the sale. Both the house and recreational grounds would be rented by the Admiralty for as long as possible. Mr Chalcraft said there were no further developments, as yet, with regard to the remainder of the Donibristle estate comprising the workshops and buildings of the former RNAY. Some negotiations had been carried out, but it would be unwise to comment on them.</li> <li>• Article notes HMS Merlin opened at Donibristle and was closed following the second world war. The aircraft yard started in 1940 and the close in August 1959.</li> </ul>
37	12/12/1959	D.P	<p>Donibristle House Gateway</p> <p>Photograph of Main Gateway and Stairway to the historic Donibristle House. Caption notes that this has been sold by the Admiralty to Moray Estate Development Company.</p>
38	19/03/1960	D.P	<p>Plans for Donibristle Arouses Wide Interest:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highland Engineering Ltd offer £100,000 to those wishing to develop the site as a helicopter base for tourism, travel and business,</li> <li>• The Press attempted to gain interest with helicopter companies down south, with some interest.</li> </ul>
39	23/04/1960	D.P	<p>Donibristle Sale in Near Future? Industrial Development Could bring work for Hundreds?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hovercraft Development Ltd most unlikely to come,</li> <li>• Admiralty did not encourage sale of selected parts of the site as it may have hindered the sale of</li> </ul>

			<p>the whole site,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sale booklets produced to raise interest with industrialists</li> </ul>
40	15/04/1961	D.P	<p>New Town Planned At Dalgety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New town with a population of 7000 is to be created,</li> <li>• Initial planning permission with to the owner Lord Doune,</li> <li>• Area of 500 acres, which the existing mansion house and grounds (which may be a club) account for 17 acres</li> <li>• Schools and sports fields take up 37 acres,</li> <li>• Woodland, which will be preserved as far as possible, 48 acres</li> <li>• The balance for housing, shopping and business areas.</li> <li>• It is hoped the harbour can be reconstructed to form the head-quarters for a small sailing club. Lord Doune will probably arrange this with a development company.</li> <li>• Lord Doune was anxious that the development was high class and that natural beauty of the site should be preserved as far as possible.</li> <li>• Naval Repair Yard at Donibristle could be developed as an industrial estate.</li> </ul>
41	22/04/1961	D.P	<p>New Town At Dalgety Bay – would be built by Private Enterprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As reported in last weeks edition, the Planning Committee gave approval in principle to an outline plan for the creation of a new town on the 500 acre Dalgety Estate,</li> <li>• In 1959 the advent of the Forth Road Bridge prompted Fife County Council to approach Lord Doune with an inquiry whether he had any plans for the area and, if not, would he consider the development for a new town having regard to the great strain on existing housing, land and the continuing demand for suitable sites in the southern part of the county.</li> <li>• Lord Doune then met with various advisers and developed the proposals which were given outline planning permission, although much discussion would be required for services.</li> <li>• Note: Dalgety Estate contains the two remaining wings of the old house of Donibristle Park, the main part of which was burned down in 1858. In 1915 part of the estate was taken over by the Air Ministry for an aerodrome, and more ground was acquired and in 1914 the Admiralty took over the site from the Air Force [dates are correct in publication, however the sentence is misleading].</li> <li>• At the beginning of the war the area resumed an important role protecting the entrance to the Forth and in 1939 the Earl of Moray allowed the Admiralty to take as much of the remainder of the Park as was needed for the duration of the war,</li> <li>• In 1958 the reduction of Naval establishments affected Donibristle and the estate was informed by the Admiralty that they intended to give up the Repair Yard and Air Station, The following year the Admiralty vacated part of the ground and it was returned to the estate. There were no firm plans envisaged for the area, but it contained a number of runways, buildings, and concrete emplacements that made its intended return to agricultural use obviously a very expensive</li> </ul>

			operation.
42	24/03/1962	D.P	<p>New Town at Dalgety?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copthall Holdings (Dalgety) Developments Ltd registered in Edinburgh on Wednesday,</li> <li>• Directors still to be named, meeting planned for end of the month,</li> <li>• Planning permission in principle already given by Fife County Council</li> </ul>
43	31/03/1962	D.P	<p>New Town to Cost over £10 million:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New town to cost between £10 – 12 million and take seven years to complete, and have a population of 7,000 – 10,000,</li> <li>• Joint venture between Copthall Holdings (Dalgety) Co. Ltd and the Moray Estates Development Company,</li> <li>• Chairman is Sit George Nairn, with directors Mr Charles Oppenheim, Lord Doune, Mr J Roger Carr, Mr D.A.C. Parker, Mr Michael Lorimer, and Mr J. Wix</li> <li>• Messrs W Russell Orme &amp; Partners were appointed architects for the development,</li> <li>• The Company, in conjunction with the County Council, will plan the town, lay roads, sewers and services and building the shopping centre, etc.</li> <li>• Residential Plots will be sol, either singly or in multiples, to individuals or housing development companies,</li> <li>• The central commercial core will consist of shops, banks, hotels, public library, clinic, public hall, churches, walking precincts, car parks and a bus station,</li> <li>• British Railways are to be asked to reinstate Donibristle Halt</li> </ul>
44	05/05/1962	D.P	<p>Free Donibristle for Industry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In readiness for the meeting with the Prime Minister on bringing new industry to Fife, the County Council, Dunfermline and Kirkcaldy Town Councils are to try and have the former Naval Repair Depot at Donibristle freed for industrial purposes,</li> <li>• The Board of Trade and Councils wished to release the land for other use,</li> <li>• Admiralty and perhaps the Treasury being difficult regarding the release of land,</li> <li>• Councils told that it is a question of taking over the existing buildings, hangars and the like, but they are not interested,</li> <li>• Councils reached full agreement on a carefully phased programme,</li> <li>• Local County Clerk, Matthew Pollock, noted that when the approach roads to the Forth Road Bridge will be complete in the near future, the 90 acre site at Donibristle would be the best industrial site in the country. However, the fact that the Admiralty still hold on to it had already lost them several new industries,</li> <li>• Several inquiries from industrialists, however been told that the site was not yet available,</li> </ul>

45	12/05/1962	D.P	<p>New Development at Donibristle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 54-acre industrial estate to be developed on former RNAY Donibristle,</li> <li>• Board of Trade take over the site from the Admiralty, who closed the site 3 years ago,</li> <li>• The Industrial Estates Management Corporation for Scotland will be handling the development,</li> <li>• Approx 200,000 sq. ft of which some might be used by industrial firms with very little adaptation, whilst others would need a great deal more work,</li> </ul>
46	01/09/1962	D.P	<p>Hope – But No Jobs Yet!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four large industrial concerns send top representatives to the official opening by the President of the Board of Trade,</li> <li>• Large engineering shop in the former RNAY Donibristle was being converted to an advance factory,</li> <li>• Mr Erroll, President of the Board of Trade stated “ here at Donibristle we have a very attractive site for industrial development, we have ready made roads, draingage and level sites, abundant water and gas, and a good supply of cheap electricity.”</li> <li>• Concerns raised over impact on industry on proposal to charge bridge tolls for Forth Road crossing</li> </ul>
47	20/10/1962	D.P	<p>Start Date for New Township</p> <p>Work on Scotland’s first private enterprise new town will start towards the end of next year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr C.J Oppenheim, chairman of Copthall Holdings, a London property company, is partnering the Moray family in the development</li> <li>• Construction work on roads, sewers and services should be starting towards the end of 1963,</li> </ul>
48	20/10/1962	D.P	<p>Start Date for New Township</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work on Scotland’s first private enterprise new town will start towards the end of the year,</li> <li>• Dalgety Bay will occupy southward sloping ground on the North Shore of the Forth,</li> <li>• Mr Oppenheim noted that construction work on the roads, sewers and services will start towards the end of 1963</li> </ul>
49	09/02/1963	D.P	<p>Reservoir for new Town</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £57,00 to be spent on a service reservoir and major water mains for the private enterprise town at Dalgety</li> <li>• First houses ready for occupation end of March 1964,</li> <li>• ½ million gallon service reservoir neat Letham Farm</li> <li>• Cost of distribution mains not known until detailed housing layouts became available</li> </ul>
50	23/02/1963	D.P	<p>What Prospects Has Donibristle Estate?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns over unemployment figures</li> </ul>

51	23/03/1963	D.P	Interested in Donibristle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One American and Two British Firms interested in Donibristle site,</li> <li>• Two Engineering and one plastics company,</li> <li>• Work started on adapting an existing building as an advance factory – undertaken by the Industrial Estates Managing Corporation, which included building a new office block,</li> </ul>
52	25/05/1963	D.P	250 More jobs in prospect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thane Ltd, HVAC manufacturers take a 70,000 sq. ft factory with option to expand into 15 acre site</li> </ul>
53	24/08/1963	D.P	Article highlights that the magnificent wrought-iron gates which front the Inverkeithing - Aberdour Road at the main entrance to Donibristle Industrial Estate are to be reused as a feature in the new town.
54	07/12/1963	D.P	First Firm Opens at Donibristle: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pinkerton, Gibson &amp; Smith – open their pharmaceutical supply warehouse in Donibristle, occupying one of the former RNAY Donibristle sites,</li> <li>• Article notes delivery of 6 Bedford vans from James Whitehead &amp; Co (Motors) Ltd</li> </ul>
55	18/01/1964	D.P	Copthall Holdings Ltd indicates to Fife County Council that they proposed to proceed initially with the development of only 25 acres of land under the Dalgety New Town project. This required amendments to the water supply arrangement for the whole town. The County Council advised that it was not prepared to make any departure from the original proposals with respect to water supply services. Lord Doune, a director of Copthall Holdings, noted that the first stage, some 200 homes, were planned in the area of Dalgety Old Church, with a southern exposure along the Firth of Forth.
56	13/06/1964	D.P	Council to build at Dalgety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ten acres of ground on which 100 executive type houses are to be acquired by Fife County Council. Discussions with Copthall Holdings (Dalgety) Development Ltd and the County Council had led to an agreement on the provision of services, with the proposer meeting any deficiency until rates overtook the deficiency.</li> <li>• Questions asked as to whether or not the council was going into competition with the developer if the houses were to be sold, or the rates at which homes could be rented,</li> <li>• Phased approach with not all housing built in one go</li> </ul>
57	11/07/1964	D.P	3D model of Development Plan for £15,000,000 New Town <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Image to be scanned</li> <li>• Initial building work in the six-phase development is to start in Spring next year.</li> <li>• Thoughts – no development in area of Sealstrand, and initial plan of The Wynd and The Spinneys is not as built (possibly no development of the Salvage Yard). Topography of The</li> </ul>

			<p>Wynd looks flat compared with other areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developer – Copthall Holdings (Dalgety) Developments Ltd,</li> <li>• Architect – W Rossell Orme &amp; Partners, Architects &amp; Planning Consultants, London &amp; Dunfermline</li> </ul>
58	11/07/1964	D.P	<p>Accompanying interview for 3D Model – key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development over a period of 8 to 10 years,</li> <li>• 500 acres, 3000 houses, shopping centres, other facilities,</li> <li>• Notes technical industrial – Elliot-Automation, Admiralty Research Station, potential for World Heath Organisation base at the site of former HMS Cochrane,</li> <li>• Building from East to West in six phases, taking 10 years,</li> <li>• Large civil works required – 21 “ gas main from Dunfermline,</li> <li>• Phase One, some 35 acres of residential development, approx ten units per acre,</li> <li>• Phase Two, some 37 acres, with higher density 10-15 units per acre,</li> <li>• Phase Three, the shopping centre, with further residential homes to 75 acres, density up to 5 units per acre then higher density to the South with flatted developments planned,</li> <li>• Planning Layout enclosed the town in a ring-road, which was hoped to be completed and the western approach road would be in use so that they could advance to Phase 4,</li> <li>• Phase 4 would be 26 acres of residential development,</li> <li>• Phase 5 would be 65 acres of residential development,</li> <li>• Phase 6 would be about 66 acres, giving 160 acres residential development from the 257 acres of development.</li> <li>• First phase of work was anticipated to be underway by Spring of next year (1965)</li> <li>• Notes on general standard of development and architectural design would have to reach a high standard to reach the Developers and County Council’s contemplated development. Existing woodland would be preserved as an amenity of the town.</li> <li>• Note that the town will rise on a virgin site to the south of Donibristle Industrial Estate, and residential plots will be sold either singly or in multiples to individuals or development companies,</li> <li>• Best sites will be on the south of the town where they are space out at about five or six houses per acre, for individual applicants who will not be bound to employ one of the ceded contractors</li> <li>• Two developers/builders had signed up, with two close to concluding their deals,</li> <li>• Delay to the start of works was solely self-attributed to Mr Orme, who was leading the Press Conference.</li> </ul>
59	15/08/1964	D.P	<p>House to be built for Rent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Scottish Special Housing Association are planning to build houses to be rented at the new</li> </ul>

			<p>town at Dalgety Bay, rents in the region of £5 per week excluding rates with houses designed for junior executives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notes that houses would be ready in 12-18 months time if there was sufficient demand.</li> <li>• The Association had been in touch with the Development Corporation with a view to getting a piece of land.</li> </ul>
60	12/09/1964	D.P	<p>Dalgety Bay New Town Sewage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An objection by the Scottish Development Department to the site originally chosen by Fife County Council for a sewage treatment plant for Dalgety Bay New Town has led to a consideration of alternative arrangements</li> <li>• An amended application to provide the plant on neutralised ground was approved on Monday by the Forth River Purification Board,</li> <li>• In January this year the Board gave their approval to an application by FCC for drainage to Dalgety. The site of the proposed STW was on the West end of Dalgety Bay. Since the site would be overlooked by some of the housing, the Scottish Development Department objected to its use for sewage treatment,</li> <li>• An alternative site has been located about ¼ mile east of St Bridgets Kirk on 'neutralised' ground, immediately above the foreshore.</li> </ul>
61	12/09/1964	D.P	<p>Dalgety Assured Of Success</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All but two acres allocated in the first stage of the ten-year development have been taken up by building organisations, who hope to have the first houses ready in a year,</li> <li>• Kenneth Ryden &amp; Partners, the estate agents for the project have had about 60 inquiries for the houses, and individual plots, for which the two remaining acres of the first stage have been set aside,</li> <li>• Albert Thain, James Turner &amp; Co, Link Housing Association (all Edinburgh) and Dunfermline firm of Alex B Cant are involved in the first phase,</li> <li>• Architects Russell Orme &amp; Partners have already passed the plans (for various house types) and planning approval in principle is expected from Fife County Council before the end of the year,</li> <li>• Included in the first phase is a small shopping precinct, which is subsidiary to the main centre, but has been designed to serve the project over the first five years.</li> </ul>
62	03/10/1964	D.P	<p>Dalgety New Town will be Fife Made: Mr W Russell Orme announces details of Development of Dalgety Bay to Dunfermline Business Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of the total acreage, 312 were for residential development, 15 for shopping/commercial, 20 for 3 schools, nice for a country club, 23 for recreational ground, the remainder for roads, car parking, woodlands and open space.</li> <li>• Described development plan, road safety, social cross-section – not just a town for the wealthy</li> </ul>

			<p>as previously reported,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant civil engineering challenges regarding gas, electricity, water, sewage</li> </ul>
63	26/12/1964	D.P	<p>First Contract For Dalgety Bay New Town:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Board of Copthall Holdings (Dalgety) Developments Ltd have announced the first contract for the New Town of Dalgety Bay. This is for roads and sewers for the first phased and for £193,522.</li> <li>• It has been awarded to A.M Carmichael Ltd, who were recently responsible for the south approach road to the Forth Road Bridge.</li> <li>• Work hope to commence next week (January 1965),</li> </ul>
64	20/02/1965	D.P	<p>Donibristle Factory Extension Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plans to build a new factory in 1967 were disclosed by Managing Director of Trane Ltd.</li> <li>• Company expanding quickly in the first year of operation, employees working well,</li> <li>• Industrial Estates Managing Corporation adapted the factory for first use by Trane,</li> </ul>
65	03/07/1965	D.P	<p>House-Building Under-Way At Dalgety New Town</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A conference to mark the building of the first houses at Scotland's private enterprise new town of Dalgety Bay took place yesterday afternoon</li> <li>• Copthall Holdings (Dalgety) Developments Ltd, Fife County Council, Builders, Architects and Press were present,</li> <li>• Visit followed by a Press Conference in Aberdour, Plans and drawings of many of the houses and flats were on display</li> <li>• Photograph of Sir George Nairn and other attendees</li> <li>• Photograph of one of the first houses shown to be well under construction (i.e. roof slates, downpipes, windows fitted).</li> </ul>
66	31/07/1965	D.P	<p>Demand Grows for Dalgety Houses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of inquiries that has been received for houses has delighted the firm which is building them that they have entered active negotiations for a further ten acres of land in the second phase of development. First show house opened yesterday.</li> <li>• Anchor Construction Company Ltd, an Edinburgh Firm, built the first house.</li> <li>• The company would be building two houses per week, but eventual target was 20 houses per week. Number employed would rise from 30 to 600.</li> <li>• 160 would be employed in Bo'ness in a factory</li> <li>• Sir William Duthie was Chairman of the Edinburgh Firm</li> </ul>
67	28/05/1966	D.P	<p>150 houses will have been built and there will be some 300 people living in the private enterprise town by October, and when the next phase is completed by 1968 there will be over 1000 residents. A progress report by Copthall Holdings (Dalgety) Developments reveals £200,000 has been spent so far.</p>

			<p>Company chairman, Sir M George Nairn highlighted that 10,000 people had visited the site, showing the encouraging signs for the development.</p> <p>Article highlights the need for modern executive housing, and the “bull point” (spontaneous decision?) on the decision to build on the level, rolling acres of parkland around Donibristle house.</p> <p>Sir Nairn noted it is only 15 months since the roads and services were started. There are 60 houses completed, all have been sold. The Board are confident that by October there will be over 150 houses. Of particular interest are the 42 private plots, most of which had been sold.</p> <p>The Report also indicates that plans are already well ahead for phase 2 and part of phase 3. Tenders for roads and services will be asked for shortly. This next phase, which covers some 33 acres and will increase the population by some 1000 people, will be completed by 1968. 60% of this area has already been allocated to existing building companies and a housing associated, with some allowances for private plots. Sir Nairn also noted that there is still ground available for new builders. Part of a later development has already been earmarked for key workers by the County Council.</p> <p>Decisions on the siting of the first school were well ahead, while children were being transported to the school in Aberdour.</p>
68	08/10/1966	D.P	<p>Council Houses at Dalgety Bay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 55 houses are to be built by the County Council</li> <li>• Houses to be built on land adjacent to the northern road in the centre of the new town</li> <li>• Planning Officer to investigate a site for a second development</li> </ul>
69	29/10/1966	D.P	<p>Acquisition of Land At Dalgety Bay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquisition of land by Fife County Council was discussed in a meeting between FCC and developers, as shown in a minute of the Convener’s Committee approved by the County Council at Cupar on Tuesday,</li> <li>• Proposed that FCC purchase land at market value, which was to include the site for the houses for industrial purposes. There was some discussion on the costs and profit to be refunded from the developer.</li> </ul>
70	03/12/1966	D.P	<p>More Houses At Dalgety Bay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Varney (Glasgow) Ltd, the building and civil engineering contractors are providing a new range of houses on their private development at Dalgety Bay</li> <li>• 40 houses on the Varney Estate</li> </ul>
71	10/12/1966	D.P	<p>Clinic Facilities for Dalgety Bay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinic facilities are to be situated on demountable units that can be relocated to take account of the changing centre point of the new town,</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>County Medical Officer argued against a permanent site at the moment</li> </ul>
72	31/12/1966	D.P	Photograph of New Factory at Hillend, where Varian Associates (an electronics firm) were soon to set up production.
73	27/04/1968	D.P	<p>Growth of Donibristle &amp; Hillend Estates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjoining industrial estates have over the last 2 years transformed the area of the former shore station of HMS Cochrane into what was once the RNAS Donibristle into a compact yard of modern industry. A wide selection of industries, covering mostly light engineering and science based work.</li> <li>Varian Associates: Electronics Firm, producing electronic equipment for science, communication, medicine and education.</li> <li>Forth Aerosol: manufacturers of aerosols, such as fly spray and air fresheners</li> <li>Cables and Components (Scotland) Ltd: Supplier of electrical components and cables,</li> <li>Renold Ltd: Chains and gearboxes, manufacturers of precision chain instruments</li> <li>Elliott-automation: an electronics company,</li> <li>Hill-don Products: woodwork company, primarily huts, garages, toy components, blackboards,</li> <li>FGHS Welding &amp; Engineering Co: Steel railings, aluminium welding – occupy one of the old Naval buildings, and were soon to move into a second, former employees of Elliott-Automation,</li> <li>Arthur Thompson &amp; Co.: Mineral boring tools and rock drilling equipment,</li> <li>Richardson Manufacturing (1963) Ltd: anti-mist panels, vacuum lines, high frequency welding of plastic. Occupy 13,000 sq ft of former garage area of the Naval yard,</li> <li>Trane Ltd: HVAC engineering, recently acquired a 22 acre site at the rear of their property,</li> <li>Optical Coatings Laboratories: manufacturers of thin coatings that are applied to glass, used in space industry, aircraft instrumentation, and similar,</li> <li>Bingham &amp; Sons: manufacturers of food related products, cakes/chutneys. Have acquired land and aim to become self-sufficient in raw materials for its produce.</li> <li>Highland Electronics: process control automation industry suppliers,</li> <li>Plasti-Shapes: manufacturers of specialised plastic packaging materials,</li> <li>Vestric: distributor to pharmaceutical companies across Fife, Stirlingshire and Borders. Part of Pinkerton, Gibson &amp; Smith</li> </ul>
74	14/11/1969	D.P	<p>Opening of Dalgety Bay Primary School officially opened on the Monday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taken 18 months to build</li> <li>Accommodates 630 pupils, with current roll of 170 pupils</li> </ul>
75	19/05/1972	D.P	<p>Go-ahead for new community centres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dunfermline District Council gives go-ahead to community centres at 3 locations, including Dalgety Bay.</li> </ul>
76	09/02/1973	D.P	Recommendation to Developers of the new Town Centre are asked by County Medical Officer amongst

			others to retain a portion of the site for a new centre, which would cope with the expanding population.
77	02/03/1973	D.P	Bronze Age Burial Ground uncovered on Barns Farm, near Dalgety Bay. Discovered when the field was being ploughed. Farm near Frankfield Road. Four cists uncovered which were aged at 1500 BC.
78	10/08/1973	D.P	Image of New Town Defended: Residents complain about slow progress of development. Residents association notes that development has been slower than expected. Article highlights recent newspaper items which describe the development as “the most talked about disaster area in Scottish private house building for the past 11 years”.  Paper also highlights negotiations for Fortronic (Fife) Ltd to take over a large factory on Donibristle Industrial Estate, with Highland Electronics Ltd moving to larger premises Hillend Estate.
79	17/10/1975	D.P	Opening of Library in Dalgety Bay – the first facility to be provided by Dunfermline District Council for the new towns residents.
80	19/10/2011	The Courier	Letter to the editor, page 12: Statement from former luminiser. Copy appended to this appendix.