Johnston
Mair, PHN, 7

1503, Newmylns, "the new mills".
Burgh of Barony 1490; Police Burgh 1834, and, as Newmilns and Greenholm, 1872.

GM, W 18.7.1787, 231c

Isles estate being sold. 'Several acres of these lands might be feued out to great advantage for houses and gardens, in a line with the High Street of Newmilns, which is a thriving manufacturing town.'

Mair, PHN, 5

C19 verse found scratched in town house:
In the coonty of Ayr/ between twa hills,/ Lies the auld burgh toon/ O' Newmilns./ It boasts of a steeple/ And an auld gothic cell,/ Twa rotten bailies/ An' an auld crackit bell.

AA 15.12.1803, 4d

This parish of Loudon is perhaps one of the most remarkable in Scotland for furnishing men for the army and navy. During last war there were from two to three hundred men inlisted in the army and navy, some of whom fought at the famous Battle of the Nile, under the gallant Lord Nelson; in the 42nd and other regiments, who so honourably distinguished themselves during the campaign in Egypt: - and since the commencement of this war, nearly one hundred young men have already inlisted; and in the village of Newmilns alone, which consists of about twelve hundred souls (and is perhaps one of the most industrious and thriving villages in the County, or even in Scotland) there are not to be found twenty young men above fifteen years of age who are not now either serving in the army, or as volunteers. Besides these, a vast proportion of the inhabitants, whose age and situation in life would not permit them to offer themselves as Volunteers, have come forward as pikement. In short, this parish is a complete nursery for soldiers; they are an armed and united people, ready to bleed and die for their King and Country.

AA, Th 14.1.1841, 4c

Newmilns, Jan 12. Newmilns, pleasantly situated on the banks of the Irvine, contains above a thousand muslin-weavers. During the fluctuations in trade, these some years past, they have been regularly supplied with work, and great improvements have been made of late in this branch. Fancy work of various kinds, from Glasgow and Paisley, has been introduced; and mostly all of it is wrought with the machine, without the aid of draw-boys. Although the prices are very low, still the facility of obtaining work from the manufacturers and agents contributes a great deal to the comfort of those employed. The machines are not, as formerly, brought from London or Dunfermline, but are manufactured by the tradesmen in the town. A few years since a building society was commenced, by whom a number of very comfortable tradesmens' houses have been erected. Private individuals have added to the number of houses, thus contributing to improve the external appearance of the town.
About three years ago, a girls' day school was instituted under the patronage of the late Lady Flora Hastings, and is now continued under the patronage of the two Ladies Hastings, and Miss Brown of Lanfine, and averages about fifty pupils. The success that has attended its institution is very decided, the female teacher, Miss Glanville, from Edinburgh, being highly accomplished; and her exertions being well calculated to improve the minds of those under her charge, to raise their status and thus increase their usefulness in society.

A few months back, an Economical Society was established in the town, and contains about 260 members, who are well supplied with provisions and clothing at cost price for cash. The Ayrshire Banking Company have opened a Branch Bank here with every prospect of success. Our spirited proprietor and landlord of the Black Bull Inn has commenced to run a new light coach every lawful day to Kilmarnock, at half past nine o'clock in the morning, in connection with the eleven o'clock coach there for Glasgow; and it returns at eight o'clock evening, thus reducing the time of travelling between Glasgow and Newmilns to less than four hours.

1897 — Lace Strike. See ACC, SJC 14.9.1897 for manufacturer's plan to erect a hut to accommodate 40 to house people brought into the town to work.

1913 — Adoption of Section II (amended) of Burgh Police Scotland Act 1903.

LICENSING

AA, Th 4.5.1922, 6a — County Council, Tu 2nd May 1922. Noted that Darvel & Newmilns Burghs had passed No Licence resolutions, and that they were being challenged at law.

KS, Sa 19.4.1924, 6e — In 1923 voted for No Licences, but in 1924 this vote was overturned, and all licences which had fallen at May 1923 were restored.

COUNCILLORS

AA, Th 1.11.1821, 4b — Magistrates, elected 1821. Bailies: John Lyon and Nicol Brown. Treasurer: John Auld. Clerk: Thomas Hutcheon.

PROVOSTS

c.1910 - James POLLOCK

- 1973 — William DEMPSTER. † (in post), 27th September 1973.

BURGH SURVEYOR

c.1920s — James GILMOUR

TOWN CLERK

James Cunningham — c.1884 - 1904

AA, Th 14.1.1904, 4c — Died, Saturday night (i.e. 9 Jan 1904), James Cunningham, Town Clerk of Newmilns. Aged 50+, and town clerk for 20+ years. Solicitor, partner in J & J Hendrie & Cunningham. Died of blood poisoning from a cut finger caused by opening a tin of sardines.

Hugh R Young

c.1910, 1913 — Hugh R YOUNG

Guy Mair

c.1920, c.1950 — Guy MAIR

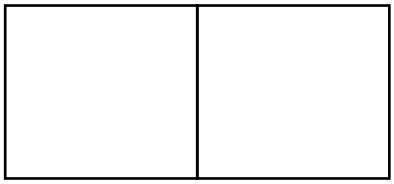
ESTATE AGENTS' PARTICULARS

3 Loudoun Crescent — July 1982

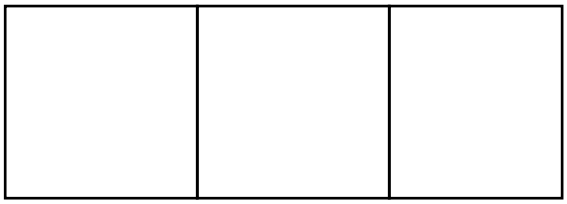
69 Loudoun Road (Gleniffer) March 2012

UNSORTED

Sas Min 2707 of 1858		Disp of land in Newmilns by Robert Richmond, coalmaster, to Thomas Findlay Richmond and James Holland Richmond, merchants, Castlewellan, co. Down.
AA 17.12.1857		Conts - house at Barr's Yard.
Sa Min 357 of 1871		F Disp 1870 by Thomas Brown of Waterhaughs to Andrew Craig of 24P 3' o.g at Greenholm on the south side of the street along the Water of Irvine, being a continuation of Water Wynd.
KS 4.4.1891	[1885]	Examination in bankruptcy of John McM Wilson, manufacturer - full ref in Lace - People. Built, inter alia, PARK VIEW in 1885, and MEADOWBANK/ALBION COTTAGE, no date.
BI 3/32	November 1892	House for ex-Baillie Haddow; plans by John Macintosh, Galston.
CO3/10/1/130	1897	Feu Disp to Robert Steel
CO3/10/1/131	1899	Feu Disp to Moses Wallace



CO3/10/1/132	1899	Feu Disp to James Wilson, maunfacturer. [Probably "Ashbourne: VR ref]
CO3/10/1/133	1899	Feu Disp to Lilias Haddow or Morton
CO3/10/1/134	1900	Feu Disp to Hugh Aiton



...

© Rob Close 2026