Clan Mackinnon.

Iain Dubh Mackinnon of Mackinnon from Skye was active on behalf of the Jacobites throughout the rising, joining the Prince in Edinburgh with 120 of his men after Prestonpans. They took part in the invasion of England and fought at Falkirk and Culloden. The Mackinnons from Mull were not active for either side in the rising.

Clan Mackinnon was attached to the Keppoch’s regiment.

The Mackinnons charged over the boggy ground on the left of the field but eventually retreated under heavy fire. After Culloden the elderly clan chief, Iain Mackinnon, supplied the boat which took Prince Charles to safety from Skye to the mainland before he finally left for France. The captain of the boat was – apparently - rewarded with the Prince’s own recipe for the Drambuie liqueur!

Mackinnon himself was captured and imprisoned in a prison ship at Tilbury before finally being pardoned. Other boatmen were taken and flogged until they ‘turned King’s Evidence’ – supplied information to the government. Individuals were taken and some transported to the West Indies. A Hector M’Kinnon who deserted from the government army was executed, the usual treatment for deserters. Mackinnon’s lands had already been forfeited after the earlier rebellions of 1715 and 1719 and had been transferred to the chief’s uncle, Mackinnon of Mishnish on Mull. As he had remained loyal to the government in 1745, the estates were not forfeited this time.

For more information the book ‘No Quarter Given’ is extremely good for anyone who is researching their family history. Of all the Mackinnons involved in the rising, the names of 30 individuals who fought with the Jacobites are recorded.