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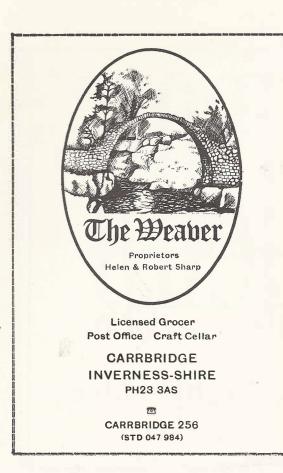
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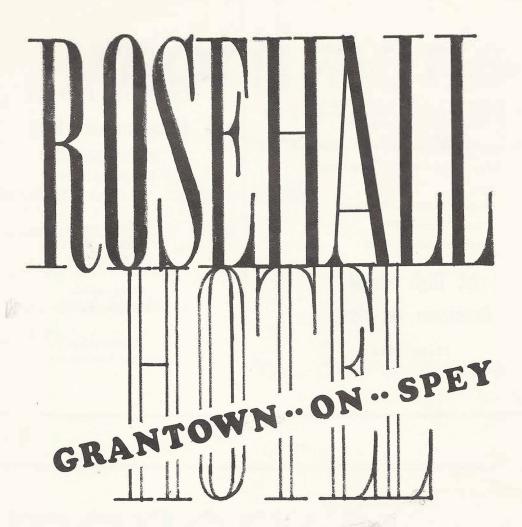
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THE GRANTOWN GRAMMAR /CHOOL MAGAZINE

GOLDEN JUBILEE EDITION 1978

Editorial Committee

Pupils

Shile Miller

Morven Maclean

Donald lyrant

Enely. Mooney Eugaseth Warrace Carol Inchibato

allean Ferguson

Staff Advisers

editorial

"We would, at the outset, tender an apology for the manifold shortcomings of this issue. It is our first attempt at producing a magazine and consequently we trust that the reader will not criticise it too severely, for, we fear, it is wholly unable to withstand such treatment. Yet, while we do not deny that it has many deficiencies from a literary point of view, we publish it in the hope that it will not be received more coldly than it deserves, and that the public will give it a trial." These were the opening words of the first school magazine exactly fifty years ago. As this is the Golden Jubilee, we felt that it would be apt to introduce this year's editorial in this way, since, to celebrate the jubilee, a number of changes have been made in this issue. Firstly, and most noticeably, we have given a face lift to the magazine cover, although the original has not been dispensed with entirely, as it has been retained to introduce the former pupils' section.

Other changes which have been made include the reintroduction of photographs and the use of pupils' illustrations to add to the pleasure of the familiar written contributions. there has also been a return to reports on sporting events and clubs, items being contributed by both staff and pupils. Be on the lookout for other new items, which, we hope, will add to your enjoyment of the magazine.

Again, we wish to thank all the advertisers who have given their support this year, and in years past, and to whom we owe part of the success of our magazine.

We hope that the changes which have been made in this Golden Jubilee edition will be welcomed by our regular readers, and that the magazine will now be more attractive to younger pupils.

All that remains to be said is that we hope that the Grantown Grammar School magazine will remain as popular and successful in the next fifty years as it has been until now.

SCHOOL NOTES

The 1977-78 school session has, as usual, been eventful in many ways.

At the beginning of the school session, we welcomed several new teachers to various departments. In the Science Department, Miss Beattie replaced Miss E. Fraser and Mrs. Popham replaced Mr. Dyer. Miss Anderson joined the English Department, while in September Mrs. McDowall was promoted to the post of Head of Department. The Mathematics and Technical Departments welcomed Mr. Mark and Mr. Wright respectively. Mrs. MacLennan joined the staff in the Home Economics Department and Mr. Kenny took over the post vacated by Mr. McCann in the Art Department. This session also saw the arrival of Mr. Robb to teach Modern Studies.

In the autumn, we welcomed Ulrich Lettau, a German pupil from Tübingen. His stay in Grantown proved a success in every way, part of it being spent with Sheila McCulloch's family and part with John Calder's.

Discotheques, which were organised by senior pupils (and supervised by long-suffering staff!), were very popular. The proceeds went to school funds.

One of the most memorable events of this session was the Christmas concert, a combined effort between the Primary and Secondary Departments. The concert featured a varied programme of drama, music, comedy and gymnastics. Choirs from both departments, trained by Mrs. Calder, sang a variety of songs, including some seasonal carols. An impressive gymnastic display was performed by 1st and 2nd year secondary pupils who were under the tuition of Mr. Matheson. Mrs. Barley must also be congratulated on the performances of both her junior and senior drama groups. The senior group performed their own version of 'A Christmas Carol', while the juniors presented two items — 'Telling the Time' and a favourite cat poem by T. S. Eliot. Also well worthy of note was the primary production of 'Jonah - Man Jazz', a colourful and enthusiastic display which was a great success.

Two trips to Eden Court Theatre in Inverness took place in the autumn: one was to see a modern production of Macbeth' by the Tie-Up Theatre Company, and the other was to a very colourful production of Gilbert and Sullivan's 'The Gondoliers' which was performed by the famous D'Oyly Carte Company.

Also in the autumn the school took part in the Kingussie festival. Mrs. Calder must again be congratulated on her successes with choirs. Especially successful were Primary 7 who again returned with the MoTyneux Shield.

A venture which proved particularly successful was visiting Grant House Old People's Home. Fifth and Sixth Year girls paid weekly visits throughout the year. It is hoped that this can be continued during next session.

Head Boy and Head Girl for the year were David Bairstow and Lesley Hendry.

The Harvey Dux Medallists for this year were Donald Grant and Sheila McCulloch.

When I Was Young

I liked school when I was young because all I had to do was play with toys most of the time. I thought school was just for playing. Soon I realised that I was wrong because when I went into Primary 2 I saw that we had a lot more work, and I did not like school anymore. However, I like school now because I am better at my work than I was when I was in Primary 2.

Heather Ross ps H

EN FRANCE 1978

On the evening of Prize-giving Day, in a teeming rainstorm, 38 pupils set off from the school playground by bus for France. (It should have been 39, but the unfortunate Shona Mackintosh went down with German Measles on the eve of departure.)

Some 28 hours later, and after having to have a puncture repaired in Dieppe, we arrived in Paris, convinced perhaps of the convenience, but certainly not of the comfort of overnight bus travel! The standard of our hotel in Montmartre (about a ten minute walk from the Sacre Coeur) made up however for the privations of the journey. Pupils (and staff) discovered with amazed delight that most of the rooms had private bathrooms! We "did" the main sights of Paris and Versailles with the help of an extremely able courier from the travel agency, travelling sometimes by bus, sometimes by Metro and sometimes on foot. We enjoyed our first contacts with French food, especially the "croissants" at breakfast, but we were taken aback at the high price of soft drinks.

Following our brief stay in Paris, we set off by bus for Brittany, arriving in Dinard in time for our evening meal. The surprise this time was the standard of the restaurant with its beautifully laid tables and the waitresses in Breton costumes complete with their lace "coiffe" After supper, a walk along the "Promenade du Clair de head-dresses. Lune" introduced us to Dinard and its superbly landscaped sea-front. The enthusiastic swimmers were desperate for a sample of the sea-bathing but the weather continued to be cold and occasionally wet, so we made use of the bus to visit the sights of the surrounding area, including Mont. St. Michel, Cap Frehel and its lighthouse, St. Malo, the tidal power station and so on. Highlights of our evening entertainments were "the wet walk" to St. Enogat, where one had to dash along a path constructed at the foot of a cliff to dodge being soaked by incoming waves, and a "ceilidh" in the hotal lounge where various groups entertained us with highland dancing, singing, a mock trial and a mime of a parade of Chelsea Pensioners.

A good time was had by all in spite of the indifferent weather. The members of staff in charge of the party were Mr. and Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Liggat.

What's In A Name?

We are looking for ideas for a name for the magazine. A couple of ideas we have seen are 'FOLIO' or 'SPECTRUM'. If you have an appropriate and original suggestion to put forward, why not enter our competition? We would welcome entries from both present and former pupils. Send your suggestion to the school addressed to The Magazine Committee at the Secondary School. The winning entry will be awarded a book or record token.

THOSE IN HIGH PLACES!

DONALD GRANT - Why is this thus? What is the reason for this thusness? (ARTEMUS WARD)

ANDREW DOBSON - Double think means the power of holding two contradictory beliefs in one's mind simultaneously, and accepting both of them. (GEORGE ORWELL)

GORDON McCONACHIE - Give me but one firm spot on which to stand, and I will move the Earth. (ARCHIMEDES)

ALAN WRIGHT - We are none of us infallible, not even the youngest of us. (WILLIAM THOMSON)

MICHAEL ANDERSON - I can trace my ancestry back to a protoplasmal primordial atomic globule. Consequently, my family pride is something inconceivable. (W.S. GILBERT)

MICHAEL FERGUSON - You ain't heard nothing yet folks. (AL JOLSON)

ANDREW LIGGAT - To know all makes one tolerant. (Mdme. DE STAEL)

DUNCAN McLENNAN - I had better stop raising corn and begin raising hell. (M.E. LEASE)

KEVIN McKENZIE - Man is but a reed (the weakest thing in Nature) but he is a thinking reed. (ANON)

SCOTT CLARK - 0! I am Fortune's fool. (SHAKESPEARE)





AILEEN FERGUSON - Whatever have you been and gone and done? (Sir W.S. GILBERT)

SHEILA McCULLOCH - The worm's eye point of view. (ERNIE PYLE)

RENA BARTH - We few, we happy few..... (SHAKESPEARE)

LINDA ARCHIBALD - Here's to the maiden of bashful fifteen. (R.B. SHERIDAN)

ALISON RITCHIE - Full of beans and benevolence. (R.S. SURTEES)

CAROL ARCHIBALD - A daughter of the gods. (TENNYSON)

AMANDA MUNRO - And sweet girl graduates..... (TENNYSON)

ELIZABETH WALLACE - Friends, I have lost a day. (TITUS VESPASIANAS)

MORVEN McLEAN - Women and elephants never forget an injury. (H.H. MUNRO)

EVELYN MOCNEY - The woman who did. (GRANT ALLEN)

they took leave of us.

We wish the best of luck to all those who left school this year to start work or go on to Further Education.

CLASS 6.

Kenneth McIntosh David Bairstow James Gordon Ewan McCulloch David Clark Norman McIver Lorna Forbes Anne Munro Mairghread Davies Lesley Hendry Sally Anderson

Heriott Watt B. Sc. Civil Engineering Heriott Watt Bio Chemistry Edinburgh University B. Sc. Physics At College in Dundee Napier College B. Sc. Technology with Industrial Studies Mackenzie & Cruickshank Aberdeen College of Commerce Business Studies Robert Gordon's Aberdeen Business Studies Edinburgh University Economics & Accountancy

Robert Gordon's Aberdeen B. Sc. Mutrition & Dietetics Robert Gordon's HND Hotel & Catering

CLASS 5.

William Milne George Paton Michael Smith Richard Thomson Iain Beange John Calder Ian McDonald Derek Walker John Clark Malcolm Reynolds Colin Vaughan Kevan Robertson Rhona Brandie Marion Gentles Carol Massie Ruth Millar Pauline Ritchie Vivien Ross

Moira Sim Rachel Smith

Shona Grant

Katrina Parsey

Catriona Campbell

Kenneth Kinnaird

Syme's Sawmill Carrbridge McKellar Engineering Apprentice Mechanic Norman Smith's Syme's Sawmill Carrbridge Apprentice Electrician Officer Cadetship with P&O Waiting to enter Customs & Excise Ferranti Edinburgh Hotel Management Telford Edinburgh Also Member of British Junior Ski Team Farming Aviemore Centre Apprentice Panel Beater Norman Smith's Farm Work W. Anderson Glack Farm Sauchen Job Creation Office Work Highland Regional Council Inverness

Bank of Scotland Inverness Tech. Medical Secretary's Course Aberdeen Civil Service Aberdeen Civil Service National Insurance Waiting to enter the W.R.A.F. in February Landmark Nursing Craig Dunain Inverness Doing 'A' levels at Ripon Grammar North Yorkshire Rosalind Archibald College in Dundee Accountancy

CLASS 4.

John Gordon Forestry Work Strathspey Estates

indrew Bans Work Experience Co op

Neil Bruce Elgin Central Engineers Apprentice Mechanic

Tom Burns Inverness College Catering On release from Nethy Hotel

Douglas Gordon Gamekeeper Glentanar Estate Aboyne

Andrew Grant Apprentice Painter with father

James Grant Apprentice Coachbuilder Norman Smith's

Alan Harrold Apprentice Plumber D.&K. Maclean

Owen Hogg Trainee Manager Co op

Raymond Mackintosh Apprentice Electrician A. Pirie

Tony Maclean

David McLeod Apprentice Painter R. Davidson

Robert Ritchie Apprentice Mechanic Father's Haulage firm

Fred Robertson Trainee Keeper Duke of Atholl's Estate Calvine Ronnie Stephen Apprentice Sawdoctor Syme's Sawmill Carrbridge

Alison Munro Inverness Tech. Pre Nursing

Rosemary Alexander Grantown Co op

Lorraine Grant Elgin Tech. Child Care

Jill Hogg Office Work Pinewood Restaurant Aviemore Centre

Elizabeth Kennedy Seafield Lodge Hotel

Shona McBain College in Aberdeen Window Dressing

Margaret McMillan Married June 1978
Lillian Ross Working in Inverness
Gillian Adam Royal Bank of Scotland

Audrey Maclean Inverness Tech. Secretarial Course

Helen Rose Duncraig Castle College Plockton Catering

Gladys Fraser Muckrach Lodge Hotel

Diane Hamilton Apprentice Hairdresser Marjory's Brian Grant Apprentice Joiner Colin Lawson

Tom Hawthorne Merchant Navy (B.P.)

Solutions after postscript.

SPACE CROSSWORD

ACROSS:

1. It is everything (8)

4. The god of the sea (7)

5. The Sun is one (4)
8. The nearest star (3)

10. America's Space Administration

11. A cloud of gas in Space (6)

13. Our galaxy (5,3)

DOWN:

2. The brightest planet (5)
3. The engaged planet (6)

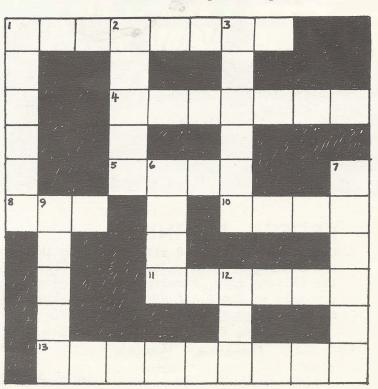
6. A singular Gemini (4)
7. A collection of 5 across (6)

A collection of 5 across (6)
 Major and minor animals (4)

12. A docking port

)

(3)



THE BEST OF THE BUNCH

CAT stalking a bird

I was up a tree when I first saw the sleek, stealthy, dark shape of a cat winding its way through the dense undergrowth towards its prey. He came right under the tree in which I was sitting. His dark round eyes looked cruel in the dim twilight. Although now about twenty yards away, each step took him nearer his unsuspecting prey. Then he took longer, faster strides until almost in striking distance. But the bird realised its oncoming peril and took to flight — it didn't get far.

Graeme Walker.



FROSTY MORNING

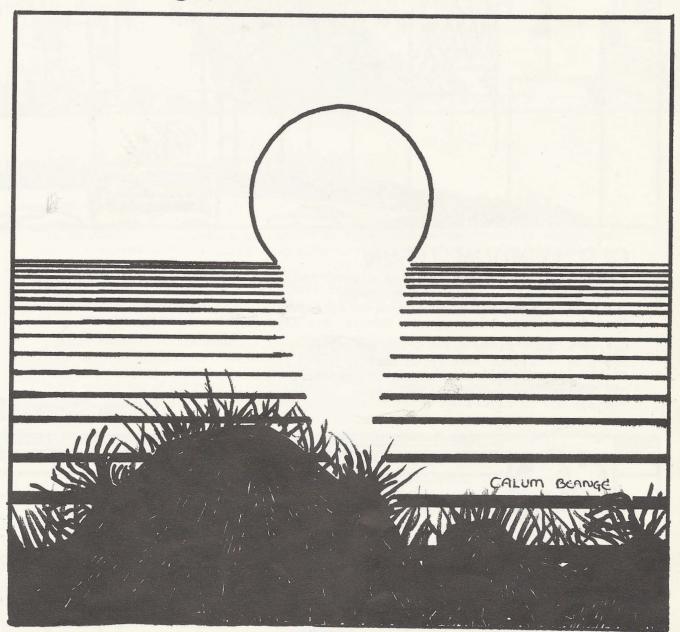
The ground is covered with a white silken gown sprinkled with diamonds. The blazing sun dominates the pale blue sky with its rays reflecting on the silvery snow, dazzling you. Branches are covered with shining crystals of frost and snow. The hills seem to roll on like ripples on a sea of milk with small shady gulleys winding their way down.

Malcolm Smith

SUNSET

There was an orange yellow glow on the horizon and a path of golden light reached out across the rippling sea, like a road surfaced with solid gold. The sand dunes, silhouettes, were smooth crowned with a spikey head-piece of dry rustling grass. Then slowly the sphere of burning gas slipped silently into the sea and we were covered by a blanket of blackness. The red glow of the clouds was gone and the stars twinkled in the dark crisp sky.

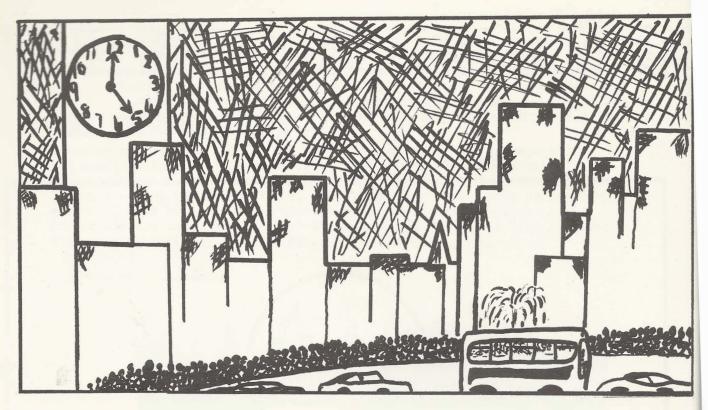
& Pinie



SUNRISE

The sun appeared in the sky, a bright flaming ball of fire. It lightened up the dark sky until it was bright and glistening to look at. Rays of blazing light shot out in all directions and seemed to make paths through the clouds. They darted among the trees in the forest and warmed everything roundabout. The sun stayed in sight all day, sometimes getting dimmer and then brightening up, until at last it settled down behind the clouds again.

tyn Macgilluray



OLD LONDON TOWN

It's late afternoon and the five o'clock rush, Old ladies hurry and businessmen push; The streets are a-laden with cars on their way Through another rush hour of a London town day.

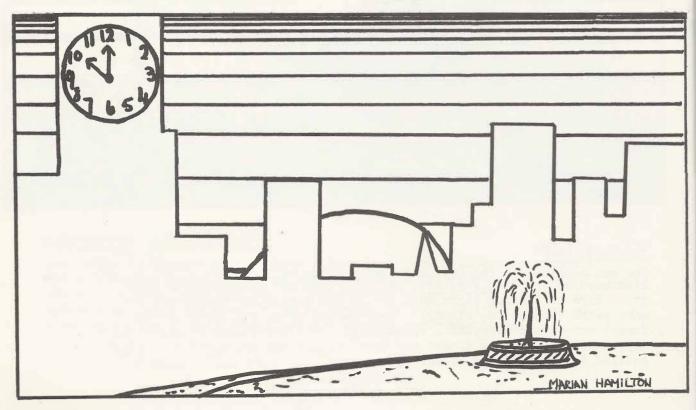
But it's ten o'clock now and the square is bare,

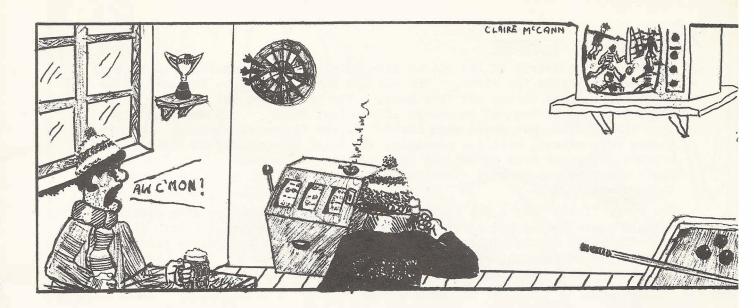
Old bits of litter just lying there.

The running of the fountain and the quietness of the street,

Old London Town is now fast asleep.

aranda Simmonds.





Footballius Supporterius

....."and we'll really shake them up when we win the World Cup....."

(ex-popular song)

In Scotland, for a couple of months of this year, a new breed of animal has been realised - "footballius supporterius". This fascinating species has now been catalogued:

<u>HAUNT:</u> Usually found in public bars until a time called 'kick-off', which results in a mass migration to the nest with supplies to keep them going through the 'game'.

NEST: Home, to this animal, is adorned with collected pieces of tartan, turf and the national flag (very colourful). In the main part of the nest - the living-room - there sits an srticle which no 'footballius supporterius' nest would be without - a television. This machine seems to have magnetic effect, drawing tens of thousands of these animals towards it at the aforementioned 'kick-off' time.

FOOD: During the high season, food is neglected although vast quantities of liquid refreshment are required by this animal.

MARKINGS: The species has wrapped itself in mystery and intrigue about its markings. They are multicoloured and the varieties of these colours are endless, stretching back to the days when their warring ancestors once roamed this country.

CRY: A distinctive cry is heard round about 'kick-off' time, i.e.
'Wurgonywinracup!' or 'Wearrapeepul!' (great emphasis on the 'r's' in
these cries) During 'ragem' cries such as 'Whiragoal!', 'Therefsalassie!'
or 'Passusacanoexport!'can be heard. Most of these animals have the same
name as can be heard when one makes a dubious comment about the forthcoming
'gem', i.e. 'Awc'monJimmae' or 'Whad'yehink yeareJimmae?'

TEMPERAMENT: After 'ragem', if their side has lost this species reverts to its animal instincts and systematically hunts, in packs, any public bar in the locality (taking refreshment on the way) for any lone supporter of the opposition.

STATUS: In past months status was incredibly high but it has recently been lowered as their team has not been doing too well.

This fascinating species has been highlighted in television programmes and can be seen any Saturday afternoon, looking stunned and disillusioned, at the stands in Hampden Stadium.

Syanne Wilson.

NIGHT LIFE

Midnight: The swirls of fog glided like spirits underneath the bridge, over the park and along the river. The air was damp and close — so close as to make one perspire though not from heat. The two tramps sat in peace on the stone—cold bench, donated in memory of the last Mayor. But who ever read that inscription, now green with moss? He was forgotten already. The two tramps were silent, each one savouring the thick heavy smell of their cigarettes, salvaged from an ashtray in a cafe in the better part of town. The smoke rose and mingled with the fog, making whirling patterns underneath the streetlamp.

The river flowed just a few yards away from their feet, alive with minute animals whose bodies had never once been graced by the sun. A fish glided into the murky depths - alone. His fishy friends had long since passed away or had been caught by the kids with nets or jamjars. Yet he survived. A permanent dullness tinged his once glittering scales, due to the mud in which he lurked all day. He saw a flash of light above.

The shorter tramp flicked ash into the river and returned to bask in the glory of a bottle of methylated spirits - a rare treat. His movements were slow and wavering and occasionally he would direct his luminous face towards the lighted police station. 'We'll have to watch it tonight, Charlie,' he leered at his companion who was also in a stupor.

The lights of the town seemed to light the sky and make up for the absent moon - their heavenly counterpart.

A dustbin's clatter shattered the night's cool serenity and the culprit, a cat, yowled with terror and surprise as a shower of freezing water rained down upon him from the icy heaven of a fourth floor window, closely followed by a stream of insults to hurt any self-respecting 'moggy's' pride. Unabashed the cat slunk with feline grace back into an alley whence it came and would remain for many a year yet.

The dull purr of a car's engine resounded through the night air as it ran over the eyes so fearlessly gleaming up out of the shiny wet tarmac, as they disappeared and reappeared as their oppressor's wheels ran over them. The car came to a temporary stop while a laughing voice hailed it from the corner of a grimey street. The laughter was carried away by the car, and they both disappeared into the foggy distance.

The tramps had fallen to sleep, snoring monotonously with each inhaled breath. The bottle lay empty, dangling idly from Charlie's hand as its shiny label flickered in the streamy light of the brightly advertised dance-hall across the river whence the gaily dressed men and women ran dancing to their cars humming the odd tune of the latest jazz group. The tawdry, yet highly-fashionable, poster which heralded this as the 'snappiest joint' in town was hidden among the shadows.

I pressed my nose against the window and watched the drops of condensation run in rivulets down to the corner of the window only to disappear somewhere — I guessed that there must have been a hole in the window frame. I glanced across the street to see what the neighbours were doing — having a row as usual, I supposed; but for once I was not interested. The cool, foggy air was distracting and I stared as if bewitched at the coils and luminous particles of the swirling fog which seemed to be travelling from one end of the town to the other in a continuous flow. I stared across the park to the river which seemed to have a ribbon of gossamer flowing on top of it.

The flicker of a tiny light in the park could be seen and I could just distinguish the blurred figures of two men - tramps I supposed - get up and totter slowly away to be engulfed in the morning mist.

alrida Anhibald



AUTUMN WOODS

There are the stately ladies with quickly fading crowns of gold, rust, copper and bronze. The wind takes every little jewel on the crown and entices it to dance. It does so, and rustles with bubbling laughter. Often the jewels become so bewitched by the wind at this time of year, when there is some strange, crisp magic in the air, they forget they are part of the crown and fly with the wind, but not for long. They soon come to grief when they leave their mother, and come to an earthen grave where they pass on to the next world. The trees seem saddened by this thought, and as one after another they slope steeply down the forest, the fading jewels fly screaming all around.

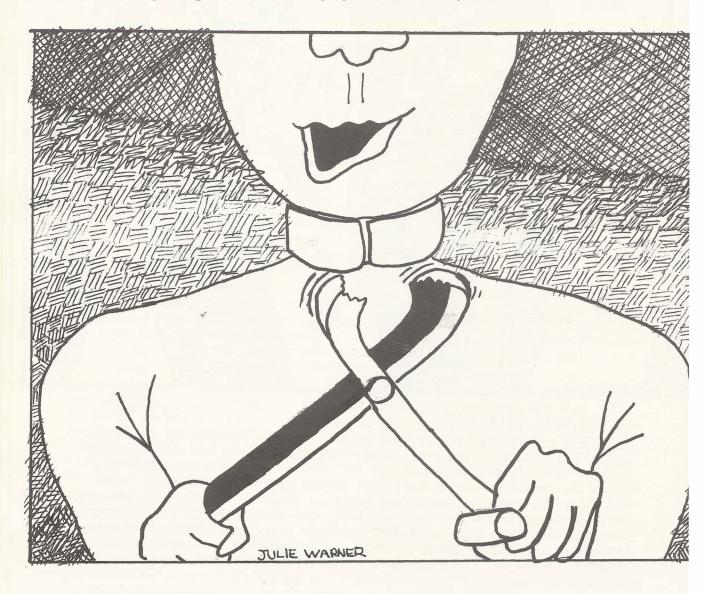
Everywhere is deep and rich with fading leaves. A dog snuffs its way through them and rolls and kicks, not knowing that it plays on dying, maybe dead, things. I am almost at the top of the hill on an earthen path between the trees. Above me it seems there are very few trees compared with the densely populated slope below. To my right the path drops steeply, and forks, where the path to my left goes downhill, following the trees. The right fork rises steeply again, opposite me. Although the sky is grey, it does not matter. Everything has a warm glow. Suddenly the sun breaks through. The sky is a yellow grey with white frills. Everywhere is bathed in golden light, momentarily, for then the light fades and everywhere is grey once more.

Hilary Gray.

A VISIT TO

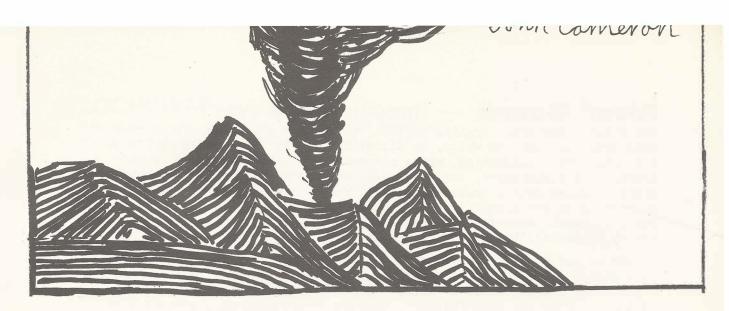
Beads of perspiration appeared on my forehead. I broke into a cold sweat. A drop of water rolled down my forehead. My clothes stuck to me. I was tense, my muscles ached and a pain was starting in my neck. My leg was itching but I made no move to scratch it.

There was a high pitched whining as the handle turned in its socket. The door creaked on its rusty hinges. Tap, tap, tap came the footsteps on the muddy floor. Every joint, every bone, every muscle in my body ached. Another drop of sweat trickled down my face. The steps stopped at the cupboard to my left. The cupboard creaked slowly open. The lights were swung round so that the brilliant flame of light dazzled me. My eyes automatically shut and before I knew what was happening my mouth was forced open and a long sharp needle was roughly shoved into my mouth.



There was a stinging pain in every part of my mouth before the needle was retracted and a pair of shiny pliers replaced it. I didn't feel a thing because my mouth was so sore that a little more pain didn't hurt. There was a ripping sound as the tooth gave way, followed by a stream of blood which I immediately swallowed. The lights were pulled up and I pulled myself to my feet and staggered to the door. Out in the fresh air a breeze cooled my face as I walked up the street.

JAMIE Scobbie



HURRICANE

An Interpretation of Mars: The Bringer of War from The Planets Suite by Gustav Holst.

The air was cool that day and the sky a funny colour. There had been warnings of gales but no one took any notice. This particular day there was a shout from one of the young island boys, "Look at that big cloud; it's moving fast." No one took much notice, but when an adult shouted in a shaky voice, "He's right; it's coming straight for us," everyone rushed and saw a huge, black cloud, thin at the top, big and broad in the middle and narrow at the bottom. This cloud was different from any other; it was like spirals of smoke whizzing round and round — it looked very fierce.

All the people realized what it was - a hurricane.

After word had got round, the griefstricken onlookers panicked and ran to grab some of their precious belongings. They ran to and fro like startled ants. One old man among them shouted to call order among them. He gave orders of what to do, in a loud voice that thundered at them - not fierce, but firm and demanding. In the middle of the island was a big house, well built and the strongest on the island. There they had to seek shelter. After this they ran in their panic and left their adviser - a cripple - sitting beneath a tree where he had been enjoying the sun. He'd always rested there beneath that old tree. As his friends ran past him he did not shout out to anyone. This was his last day.

As the people ran up to the house many women remembered their fishermen husbands who were out at sea. Stricken with the terror at the danger their husbands were in, they stopped and screamed. Some men who had been left behind pulled them up to the place of refuge.

Minutes afterwards when everyone was safely inside (except) for the old man) there was a lot to be seen to. Bits of furniture were hastily piled up at the windows to help keep the fierce wind out. Doors were barricaded, women and children made comfortable and draped in blankets to keep warm. The men were working fast and soon the windows and doors were boarded up.

Then it came. The wind was tremendously loud, like a lion roaring. The women clutched their children in terror. Outside they could hear their houses being blown to pieces. Now and again a tree tunbled to the ground with a big crash.

Suddenly after an hour of noise everything was still again. The people listened and then, after the doors were unbarred, everyone ran out rejoicing. Then when they saw the mess their faces dropped. Trees lay broken on the ground, houses were wrecked, gardens torn to pieces and there below the tree lay the old man's body. People stared and women wept. His face was red with blood, his body lay beneath a bush and was crushed. If only, the people thought as they began to make repairs, if only we had taken him with us.

Rhona MacInnes.

River Scene — through whose eyes?

The quiet river goes gurgling past me, with trees and grass, which once were green but now are white, on either hand. My senses tell me I'm in a strange, yet fascinating, white new world, as yesterday's greens and browns have disappeared, buried in some unknown form. Everything seems richer now, as grass, trees, bushes and fences all have white gems glistening on and around them. The sun is rising and bringing with it a red sky, which, according to shepherds, is a warning. I hop on, looking for my breakfast, but all I find is white.

I come across some of my friends who are also hungry. The sun has gone in behind a cloud now and the sky is grey again. Nothing is sparkling anymore and a wind chills my skin. Something floats down past my nose. It lands softly and more follow. They're covering me so I scamper back to my burrow and wait quietly. Luckily, I find some food in my home from some days beforehand and eat it for my breakfast. Not so hungry now, I sit with wonder and watch this early morning storm. Clouds of flakes are burling and twisting in the wind, then landing softly on the ground.

I seem to have been sitting for ages now and my hunger has returned. Outside the sun shows its face again, full up now and bringing with it a new sparkle to everything. The river gurgles happily and my friends and I run along its banks foraging for food. Coming to a bridge, we see long pointed spears hanging from its sides. Cattle are munching what they can find in a nearby field and conversing in a language I cannot understand. Birds flutter past us, some with worms in their mouths. The river has an icy margin and ducks are skating on it, whilst some others are swimming and diving in the river. We watch them for a while and then make our way home.

Darkness is falling and I eat the bits of food collected on the homeward journey. Then I wander down to the river's edge. The sun is setting fast and the red sky is reflected in the river which gurgles past me, jumping and rolling over the stones and boulders which make up its bed. My friends and other creatures are slowly ploughing their way home - some fast, some slowly. But I just sit and watch.

Some time has past now and it's dark. A lonely feeling engulfs me. The sky is black and no moon or stars can be seen. The river seems louder now and is my only companion. Nothing moves and nothing can be seen - the only noise that I can hear is my best friend the river.

Caroline Maffat.

WINTER DAY

The hot dazzling sun beats down on the cold, crisp, frost-hardened snow and the hills are covered with a dazzling white smooth blanket. The white coated trees have ice-laden branches, bent double with the weight. The twinkling frost is lit up by the bright sun and the indentations on the snow covered field have dark bottoms of ice. Instead of the dark roads there are slippery white paths. High overhead the sun is beating down on all life on earth.

LOCHINVAR a parody

Now this is the tale of a young man in love Who searched the wide border For to find his sweet dove. He set off to find her at Netherby gate But a bad omen falls and he is too late.

O Young Lochinvar came out of the west In a blue hairy jumper and pink woolly vest. He wore baggy trousers and big clumpy shoes And he rode a white stallion that looked very used.

He swam, he ran and he rode day and night But she had consented to marry a knight. O young Lochinvar entered Netherby hall Where he tripped and he stumbled and fell on her shawl.

She shouted with anger and stared at the ground For there was her shawl all muddy; she frowned And dragged it from 'neath him and spoke to him then I hate you young Lochinvar get out of this glen.

Wendy Hamilton

1. Susan Low

THE SECRET GARDEN

In class 6W we have been reading 'The Secret Garden' by Frances Hodgson Burnett. The story is about three children getting to know each other and is set in Yorkshire about a hundred years ago. We have not finished the story yet, but we have met the three children, whose names are Colin, Mary and Dickon. Colin is a rich boy who lives in a big house on the moors. Mary has been orphaned and stays there too. Dickon, a poor boy, lives on the moors in a cottage. He has eleven brothers and sisters.

We've picked the best adjectives to describe each of them:-

pale, skinny, spoiled, selfish, sour, bossy, bad-tempered, wretched, Mary is:

contrary, rude.

Colin was: pale, sickly, thin, miserable, bad-tempered, hysterical, frightened,

black-haired, big-eyed.

Dickon is: ragged, poor, friendly, contented, cheerful, charming, gentle,

musical, polite, sensible.

Teresa wrote:

Dickon has a turned-up nose And he roams about the moor. His mother's full of caring Though his family's very poor.

We used the rhyme 'Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary' and wrote one of our own:

Lady Mary, quite contrary Till Dickon was her friend. He'd a turned-up nose And ragged clothes

But he won her round in the end.

It's a good story. We like it - and we're sure you'd enjoy it too!

Our Nature Poems

In autumn the apples are ripe to pick,
The leaves flutter down in the cold breeze,
And dark rain clouds floating above
Drop rain on the trees of autumn.

Iain Lambie P4.

In autumn the leaves are falling, In colours brown, red, and gold, And the beautiful autumn sun shines. People go for walks in the wood, All the animals run.

All the scarlet poppies grow in the gardens. Combine harvesters gather in the harvest And the corn shakes in the breeze.

Carol Cumning P4

In autumn it rains so hard There is a sunset at night time.
There are leaves on the ground,
The trees are so bare.

The poppies are whispering,
The corn will soon be cut,
The new seed will soon be sown,
The farmers stop their work.

HELEN RAINY BROWN P4

Night Falls

When night falls the clouds come out, shadows grow big and the trees are dark. The bats start flying, the stars are spying and the birds are crying. As night goes by there comes a light. Suddenly it is the end of the night.

John Mackenzi

Grantown - on - Spey

When you journey in the Highlands,
There's a town where you will stay
For a fortnight in the summer,
Which drives all dull cares away.
Midst heather hills and rippling stream,
Where wild flowers bloom so gay,
There's no place like this lovely town
Fair Grantown - on - Spey.

The peaceful walks o'er hill and dale Where trees and birds hold sway.
There's no one tries to stop you While rambling on your way.
When darkness overtakes you
At the closing of the day,
Just make for home and bed
And dream of Grantown - on - Spey.

P. by Teresa Delmar

Adventure in Space

Looking out of the one tiny window of the rocket, I could see nothing but dark, wet, miserable space. THUD! The rocket had stopped and landed on some kind of planet. Quietly I got out and slowly walked towards an enormous four-legged thing which turned out to be a space ship on wooden legs. Beside the space ship tall, green, black, furry monster. The space ship had a Union Jack on it so I knew that it came from Britain.

Flashing in the distance was something that hurt my eyes every time I looked at it. Suddenly lots of shining things approached me. What was I to do standing there in the middle of nowhere? All of a sudden the torches went off. Lots of people rushed at me with funny sorts of pistols. As one was ready to strike me I rolled over and fell..... out of bed. What a relief! I had only been dreaming.

Sheryl Ellis PYM.

Mathematics

It was Friday 20th October when our teacher was explaining long division problems. "It took 26 men to dig a hole in " Scott and Michael were whispering to each other and laughing. He went on, "Water leaks out of a bucket at the rate of 26 millilitres a second" His mumbling, droning explanation did not make sense to me and I still didn't know how to do it.

The air was stuffy and it made me fidget about restlessly in my seat. The seat was hard as well and made my bottom sore. Outside, the sun was beating down invitingly. At the window was a blackbird singing, free and untroubled by mathematical problems.

I still couldn't do the problem. I tried multiplying and dividing and I read it a lot of times and I still could not do it. I asked Craig if he could, but he said he couldn't. We were all trying to get it, so Keith asked the teacher to read it to us again. "It took 26 workmen to dig in 45 days".....

There are workmen in our school and they keep on shouting to each other through the loft because they are fixing the lights and rewiring the school. I heard the workmen say it would take 26 workmen to rewire the school... and all of a sudden I found out how to do it and I was first to finish and I got two house marks.

Signed
Alister Laing
Pr7 S

The Haunted House

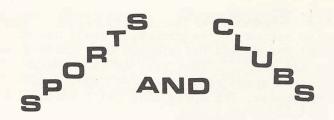
Walking up to the gates of Manfield Manor, I saw an owl on the highest branch of the old, gnarled tree. I pushed open the old, creaky gate on which hung a bat's nest, broken and wrinkled.

Slowly, I walked to the open door, which was hanging on one hinge, and peered cautiously into a dark, furniture-filled room lit only by one window, beside which hung old, ragged curtains covered in cobwebs.

At that moment, a spine-tingling, blood-curdling scream came from a bedroom above me and I started to climb the creaky stairs. Suddenly, to my horror I saw it

A green transparent thing came gliding one foot off the ground and landed beside me. It reached out a bony arm and made a grab. Fortunately, it missed, but suddenly the house was full of horrible laughter as I tried to escape. The magic doors swung shut and I was trapped. I noticed a red potion in a green bottle and threw it at the thing with full force. I hit it and as suddenly as it had appeared it disappeared. I rushed out of the manor, swearing never to go there again.

GRAHAME MACKENZIE P.7M



GYMNASTICS ...

Throughout most of the year there have been two training sessions for gymnasts. On Tuesday lunchtimes there was a combined Primary and Secondary group - mainly floor and beam but with a little vault and bar work. On Wednesdays after school there was a senior group which concentrated on harder movements and ballet. The Scottish championships did not take place this year due to administrative problems. However on two occasions selected groups have enjoyed a day's coaching from Mr. Benzie an Olympic club coach. Those involved were as follows: Course One - D. Allan, F. Chevasse, S. Robb, H. Gordon, N, Bans, J. Warner and F. Walker. Course Two - F. Chevasse, S. Robb, C. Grant, M. Ross, V. McLean, F. Davidson and Millar.

Shirley Robb.

CANOEING ...

Canoe club membership increased this year to a record 20. There were some good trips to Morlich and the Spey, ranging from complete beginners to proficient paddlers. The highlight of the season was a weekend trip to Falls of Lora, River Awe and Grandtully (River Tay). Hopefully the next major event will be to a Novice Slalom.

BADMINTON ..

This school year was one of the school's better seasons. In the North Schools Tournament, Malcolm Reynolds won two out of a possible three titles at the open age group.

In the Under 16 age group Aileen Ferguson won singles, and mixed doubles partnered by Michael Ferguson, who also won the boys under 16 singles. These results enabled Malcolm, Aileen and Michael to take part in the Scottish National Championships at the Bells Sports Centre in Perth. Alistair Mutch, Amanda Munro and Ann Ferguson joined them to win the North of Scotland Schools League for the first time. Michael Ferguson also qualified for a week's coaching by the National Team coach at Inverclyde National Recreation Centre in Largs.

Unfortunately, the Under 14 age group were not as successful, but with a little more effort we feel sure that they will improve during the coming season.

We would like to thank Miss Beattie and Mr. Ferguson for all their time and effort without which all these results would not have been possible.

M. Ferguson

SKI REPORT...

The first race of the ski season was the Scottish Schools Race. junior section of this race was held first, at Glenshee, and our team of Ross Maclean, Paul Moen, Jane Dunlop and Susan Godlington came third. Cairngorm with a team of John Clark, Colin Grant, Peter Kuwall and Donald Grant, Grantown narrowly won the Scottish Schools Race, with only four seconds separating the first four teams. In this race John Clark was first equal individually.

After beating teams from all over Scotland, Grantown lost the Boyd Anderson, which is only open to schools from Moray and Nairn. took place in extremely bad conditions on Cairngorm. Because of the weather, the junior section of the race had to be cancelled, and only senior results were used in awarding the trophy. The school was narrowly beaten by a Gordonstoun team which had come fifth in the Scottish Schools

The last race the school competed in was the Cairngorm Juniors and our team, with Andrew Dobson as the fifth member, won this race by a wide margin. In the individual placings, John Clark again had a good result and came This ended a successful season for Grantown's racing team.

Away from inter-school competition, the Saturday and Thursday afternoon ski-groups were well attended from January to Easter. The house races were won by Roy in bad conditions - unfortunately this race also saw the disqualification of the Revoan team because of a lack of finishers.

Donald Grant

SAILING ...

After a cold start to the season the group settled down to regular training sessions at Loch Morlich. Several of the newcomers to the sport have now 'gone solo' and Ian Smith - Chief Sailing Instructor at Abernethy Outdoor Centre - has agreed to run R.Y.A. assessment courses during September. thanks must go to the Spey Valley Sailing Club, Doug. Godlington, Miss Jardine and Captain Dobson, for the use of launching facilities and boats.

RIDING

This year Miss Anderson started a riding club for all secondary pupils. During the first two terms not much actual riding was done because of bad weather. However, we ran two discos to raise some money - part of this we donated to 'Bransby Home of Rest for Horses', where we adopted a Dartmoor mare, named Smartie. In the third term, we started weekly lessons at Nethy Bridge Riding Centre run by Mrs. Pat Taylor, and the remainder of our 'disco money' helped pay for this.

On Monday 12th June, the Riding Club went for a visit to Logie Farm, Ferness. This establishment is run by Mrs. Hilleary who gave us a short talk on the care of a pony at grass and a stabled pony. The Riding Club wishes to thank Mr. Liggat for giving up his time to drive us to Ferness, Mrs. Hilleary for her interesting talk, Mrs. Pat Taylor for our riding lessons and Miss Anderson for setting up the club.

Karen Davison

Shona Mackintosh



DRAMA

Drama Club was started by Mrs. Barley at the beginning of the autumn of 1977. About fifteen 1st and 2nd year pupils came on the first meeting at Monday lunchtime. The group included only two boys at first but later this increased to five. Our first major performance was for the Christmas Concert and gave the club something to aim for. It was a great success and I think all members thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

In ordinary meetings, when there was no preparation for any shows, we practised many skills which included miming and being able to stand up in front of a large audience and speak without being self conscious. Another item we did quite regularly was making up interviews.

Our most recent performance was 'Here is Your Life'. Some of the props. were made by the group: the pair of large cameras were made by Donald Scobbie out of squash bottles, shoe boxes, etc.

Mrs. Barley also had a senior drama club which put on two perfermances for the school - at the Christmas Concert they performed 'Scrooge' and at the end of the Easter term a short play called 'Five Green Bottles'.

Fiona Walker

FOOTBALL

This year the school ran 3 football teams: a 1st and 2nd eleven consisting of players 15 - 17, and an under 14 team.

1st XI: N. McIver, A. Grant, K. McKenzie, O. Hogg, I. Gordon, B. Grant, K. Kinnaird, M. Anderson, D. Gordon (Captain), C. McKenzie, R. Stephen, and R. McIntosh.

2nd XI: C. Grant, G. Fiddes, M. Robertson, T. Hawthorne (later to play for 1st XI), J. Gordon, D. McLeod, A. George, G. Arbuthnott, S. Kennedy, I. McGregor, C. McLean and M. Millward.

Most of the fixtures were played on Thursday afternoon although one or two were played at weekends. The first eleven achieved better results on the whole, drawing 2-2 with Speyside High School and Abernethy Outdoor Centre, beating Kingussie 4-0 and losing to Keith Grammar School and Milburn, 4-0 on both occasions. Our under 14 team played two games, losing the first to Nairn and beating Kingussie. We also entered an under 17 team for the Northern Constabulary Police Knockout Cup but were put out in the second round by Dingwall, who won 5-2. In the first round we defeated Markinch Youth Club 7-2.

At Mr. Matheson's suggestion, every player from the first and second elevens completed a 'sponsored dribble' which raised £150 for new football equipment. Without the aid and enthusiasm of Mr. Matheson, who selected and trained players, this year's competition would not have been possible and we offer him our thanks.

Hevin Mackenzie

VOLLEYBALL...

Earlier this year it was decided that the school should enter a senior boys volleyball team for the North of Scotland triangular tournament. Team members were to include E. McCulloch, K. McIntosh, P. Williams, D. Grant, D. Clark and A. Liggat with D. McLennan and D. Chevasse as reserves. Training sessions were held every Tuesday after school to improve the team's skills and during one such session the staff of Coylumbridge Hotel were invited to play. The match ended in a conclusive win for Grantown. Unfortunately in the triangular tournament, after having beaten Forres 3 - 0, we were knocked out by Gordon schools after 3 very close games. Speyside High School went on to win the tournament. A few training sessions later and we were back at Speyside High School games hall where we managed to steal one game from the champions! After the success of the senior team, a junior team was set up, training each Wednesday lunch hour. Unfortunately they haven't yet had any matches with other schools.

AK.S. Liggat

ORIENTEERING ...

The first competition of the seven members of the orienteering club was at Culbin, near Forres. Although we found this competition very difficult, some of our better orienteers managed to find all 7 points! The next competition we entered for was at Kingussie where we found the course much easier. Also, it was more fun as it included wading (and some swimming) across a relatively deep river. However, it was all worth while since partners Fiona Walker and Sheonaid MacGregor came in 1st. Altogether, the club has enjoyed all competitions throughout the year, including the ones we found difficult!

Fiona Walker

HILLWALKING ...

Last Autumn senior members of the club were away for two weekends - one to walk through Glens Dee and Tilt, and one to Kintail. During the latter the energetic ones completed the South Cluny ridge which is a superb day walk. There were also four junior walks in the Cairngorms. These continued in the Spring and included a strong junior group walk to Ben MacDhui. The annual senior expedition climbed five very good hills in the Loch Morar area The weather was good (for 1978) but did not compare with the previous year's trip, when we were thoroughly spoilt. The year was rounded off by another senior group exploring the Loch Avon area of the Cairngorms.

ATHLETICS ...

Sports Day, held this year in rather overcast conditions, did not prevent the usual crop of good performances, with three new records and eight best performances being set. The school's annual participation in the Primary and Secondary South Highland Athletic Meetings brought notable performances from B. Alexander, P.7 - 1st in the High Jump - and A. Thomson, 3rd year - 1st in the girls under 16 age group. The South Highland cross country Championship held this year in Inverness brought a first for Colin MacLean in the under 15 age group with Gary Fiddes a close second. Athletic champions were as follows:

Junior Girls: Tracy Millward Junior Boys: Neil Mutch

Intermediate Girls: Marion Hamilton Intermediate Boys: Shane McFarlane

Senior Girls: Alison Thomson Senior Boys: Kevin Mackenzie

Nicola Bans

Primary Girls: Karen Laing Primary Boys: Scott McMillan

Ian Ross

Ronald Mathiese J.

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP ...

As usual the 1977 - 78 House competitions provided keen and enthusiastic encounters between all houses. The final few events in the house 'battle' saw Roy and Revack fight it out with Roy coming out on top after the athletic events.

Yearly House results 1977 - 78 were as follows:

Roy House - 37 points
Revack House - 33 points
Revoan House - 24 points

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

During the year Bronze awards were gained by Morven MacLean, Amanda Munro, Audrey MacLean, Aileen Ferguson, Evelyn Mooney. Gillian Adam, Michael Ferguson, Peter Kuwall, Patrick Williams, Helen Rose, Ann Ferguson, Alison Forbes and Patricia Laing. Unfortunately there were no Silver Awards but this should soon be rectified. The most important event of the year, however, was the presentation of gold awards to Daphne Duncan and Fiona McCafferty at Holyrood House in February. This was a major achievement which should inspire younger members of the group.

Slardine

Stonefield House

BED and BREAKFAST also TEAROOM



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FORMER PUPILS' SECTION



GOLDEN JUBILEE 1928 - 1978

FOR MER

PUPILS'

SECTION

By the time you have reached this point in this jubilee issue of the magazine you will have had ample evidence that the adoption of the new printing process has given considerable opportunity for innovation and, we hope, improvement. At the time of writing, we are still somewhat diffident, to say the least, about our skills as amateur compositors, but we hope nevertheless, that the F.P. Section will contain the usual features and be both easily legible and acceptable.

It may be that, in the future, increasing costs and problems of size will make it impossible for us to continue to publish the complete list of members every year; instead, we would ask you to keep the current issue of the list for reference, and we

would publish annually details of additions and amendments. It is however difficult to arrive at any firm decision about future issues until we see how this issue works out in practice, and we would welcome our readers' opinions and advice on these matters.

Once again may we thank all those F.P.'s who wrote to us or called with well-filled information slips, and especially all those who included donations to club funds.

Arrangements are in hand for the Christmas Dance on Friday, 29th December in the Waterford Estel.

We apologize in advance for any errors in the lists and we would appeal to you to send us any corrections which may be necessary.

Obituary

The school and the clubs lost one of their staunchest supporters with the death of James Grant Enthusiasm, diligence, generosity Bruce in May. and cheerfulness endeared Jimmie to his teachers in his schooldays, and these qualities earned him a wide circle of friends in later life. One of the One of the honorary vice presidents of our clubs, he was a sportsman, churchman, gardener, genial host to visitors and locals alike, good neighbour, generous friend. He bore increasingly poor health with patience and fortitude, but had, nevertheless, a mercifully peaceful passing. We shall miss his never-failing interest in school affairs and his presence at Former Pupil and Old Guard functions.
To his wife Chrissie and daughter Shona we extend the sincere sympathy of the clubs.

The Grantown community suffered the loss of one of its most prominent and respected members with the death of Dr. James Williams in March. On completing his secondary education in Grantown, Dr. Williams graduated M.B. Ch.B. in Edinburgh, and returned to practice in Grantown in 1925. Held in high esteem by his colleagues and patients alike, Dr. Williams was twice medical superintendent of the Ian Charles Hospital, and for some ten years chairman of the Inverness-shire Health Executive Council. Williams interests extended to many other fields however, and many local bodies benefited from his participation. These included the Congregational participation. Board of the Church, the Masonic Lodge, the Angling Association and the Bridge, Curling and Golf Clubs. Public recognition of the value of his services came with the award of an M.B.E. in 1971. Former Pupils will remember his address as guest of honour at the Biennial Dinner in 1972. To his wife, son and Former Pupils daughter we express the sincere sympathy of the clubs.

A founder member of the Old Guard and headmaster of Aviemore Primary School since its opening in 1969, Alexander MacIntyre was a highly respected member of the Aviemore community till his untimely death in November. A graduate of Edinburgh University and a Golf Blue also, Mr. MacIntyre was an all-round sportsman, and captain of Boat of Garten Golf Club. Before coming to this area, he taught in Wick, Buckhaven and Lybster. We send the clubs' condolences to his wife Mabel and family.

We record with regret the death of Mrs. James Duguid, M.A., B.Sc., (Rhea Pyper) in August at the age of 82. Mrs. Duguid was dux of the school in 1914 and taught in Edinburgh and Inverness before accompanying her husband to Salisbury, Rhodesia. She returned to Scotland in the 1950's and taught in Edinburgh till her retirement. Predeceased by her husband and by her sisters, Ella and Mabel, Mrs. Duguid leaves no close relatives. To her remaining relatives we send our sympathy and assure them that she is nevertheless remembered in the school and in the community.

The death of $\underline{\text{Joseph Beange}}$ in September was yet another serious loss to the local community. The large number of mourners at his funeral and the large variety of interests they represented was testimony to the esteem in which he was held and the wide range of his interests and influence. After leaving school he served his apprenticeship as a dispenser locally before moving to London and qualifying as a chemist in 1934. In London he built up his business till he was owner of four chemist shops. He returned to Grantown in 1963 for health reasons, but continued to run a pharmacy business in the High Street till his retirement in 1976. His interests beyond his professional life were very wide-ranging and included Town and County Council work, G.I.T.A., the Boy Scouts, the Football Club, the Curling Club, the Gun Club and latterly the Strathspey Fiddle and Accordion Society which was largely his creation. To his wife Netta and his three sons and daughter we send the sincere condolences of the clubs.

Brief mention was made last year of the deaths of Miss A. Cameron and Miss E. Lawson.

Alexandra Cameron (late of The Knoll) who died in September 1977 attended the school from 1911 to 1917, and was dux in her final year. One of four sisters, originally from Badnedin, Nethybridge she entered teaching, and became Infant Mistress at North Berwick High School, from which she retired to Grantown. To her sister Mary, who lives in Forres, we send the sincere sympathy of the clubs.

Edith Lawson also died in September 1977, at the age of 80. Although living in Folkestone, she kept regularly in touch: indeed her last communication with us regrets that "for the first time for many years I will not be paying my annual visit to the Highlands, when I always visited my friends in Grantown - what happy memories these were!

friends in Grantown - what happy memories these were!"
Edith spent 21 years on the staff of the school
before leaving in 1942 to go to teach in London.
In 1949 she became Lecturer in Speech and Drama at
Furzedown College, where she later became head of the
department. To her former colleagues, and to her
sister, Mrs. G. Munro, who joined her in Folkestone
in 1975, we send our sincere condolences.

We send the sympathy of the clubs to Simon and Jane Macaulay on the loss of their mother in February: to the Templeton family (formerly of The Lodge, Castle Grant) whose mother also died in May: and to Valerie and Michael Dewar who lost their father in July: to Mrs. Mitchell (Jan Templeton) whose husband died in January, 1978: to Mrs. Springall (Jessie Stuart) whose brother died in March: to Mrs. Stuart (Marion Paterson) and daughters Ann, Rita and Elizabeth on the loss of husband and father in September.

BIRTHS

We are pleased to record the following:

- in September, 1977 a son to Walter and Isobel Ross. in November a daughter to Sherie Walker (nee Sutton).
- in December a son to Stewart and Judy Hutcheson
 - December a son to Stewart and Judy Hutches (nee Collyer).
- in January, 1978 a son to Jennifer and Alistair Jack, and a son also to Joe and Susan Burgess (nee Archibald).
- in April a daughter to Ainslie and Marion Cruickshank, a daughter to Tony and Jill Twist, a son to Cheryl and Johnnie Ross and a daughter to Paddy and Sheila Wood.
- in July a son to George and Joan Macarthur (nee Paterson).

Congratulations and best wishes to:

Stewart Grant who became engaged to Doris Edward from Tomatin in December; Susan MacGillivray who became engaged to Douglas Smith, L.L.B. in March; Stuart Macdonald who married Carol Blackwood in April; Duncan Grant (Jnr.) who married Betty Tocher in May; Elizabeth Terris who married Brian Lobodzinski in July; Janette MacDonald who married Ian Smith in August and Fiona Ledingham and Iain Cumming who married in September.

A company of 66 listened appreciatively to excellent addresses by John Milne and Pat MacLean in the Grant Arms in April. John's theme was change, and he spoke of how the "centre of gravity" of Strathspey seemed to be moving away up the valley. No doubt he will have been interested to see the successful opposition to the move to change the name of the Spey Valley Tourist Organisation to include Aviemore! Members attending from outwith Grantown included Dr. and Mrs. Bain, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wilson, Betty Mutch, Catherine Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Ross, Bertie Mackintosh, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Templeton, Jeanette Munro, Mr. and Mrs. Ian Forbes. Former Principal Mathematics Teacher George McKenzie (now Rector of Buckie) and wife Nan were also present.

"SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER" 1934.

Alex. McIntyre's widow has kindly lent us an autographed programme of the above. The principals were: Hamish Templeton, Dorothy Shivas, Ian McPherson, Margaret Davidson, Mabel McWilliam, Tom Hunter and Angus Stuart. If any member would like to see it please let us know.

NEW MEMBERS.

Most of our new recruits are from the current There follows a list of their school leavers. names and their intended careers.

Tan Beange: P. and O. Shipping Line, John Calder: Customs and Excise, David Clark: Mechanical Production Engineering (Napier College), Mairghread Davies: Economics and Accountancy, Edinburgh University, Lorna Forbes: H.N.D. Business Studies (Aberdeen), James Gordon: E.Sc. (Physics) (Edinburgh), Brian Grant: Joiner, Shona Grant: Mursing (Inverness), Diane Hamilton: Hairdresser, Kenneth McIntosh: Civil Engineer (Napier College), Raymond McIntosh: Electrician, Anne Munro: Business Studies (Aberdeen), Rachel Smith: W.R.A.F.

Besides, we have enrolments from sisters Evelyn and Maureen McMurray; Evelyn is a State Enrolled Nurse in Chichester and Maureen a pharmacist at King's Cross Hospital in Dundee, and also from Eileen and Alasdair Calder. Eileen completed her course at Inverness Technical College most successfully, gaining a national award, and is now with Messrs. Bowmaker, while younger brother, Alasdair, is an apprentice binder with Highland Printers, both in Inverness.

SWIMMING CLUB MEMBERS 1978

James Calder; James Calder (Jnr.); Alan Gordon; Robert Grant; Anthony Green; Harry Green; Billy Laing; Robert Lawson (Jnr.); Brian McCulloch; Michael McCulloch; Donald McLeod; Alistair Masson; Colin Matthew; Duncan Rose; Shirley Baxter; Mrs. M. Brazier; Mrs. E. Cruickshank; Mrs. S. McKenzie; Seonaid McLure; Mrs. M. Masson (Secretary) Linda Stevenson; Mrs. W. Stirling; Mrs. S. Sullivan: Wendy Taylor.

FISHING COMPETITIONS

The OLD GUARD FISHING COMPETITIONS were again most successfully run at Lochindorb by John Stuart and Frank Calder. The cup went to associate member Mr. A. Paterson of Forres, a previous winner. In the annual triangular Old Guard v. Pupils v. Staff match the Pupils won and the Old Guard were last in spite of the efforts of former champion Ian McPherson!

OLD GUARD FISHING CLUB MEMBERS 1978

- F. Calder; I. McArthur; J.J. McCulloch;
- P. McGregor; I. McPherson; A. Paterson; G. Paton; W. Rattray; A. Rennie; E. Robb; J.C. Shand;
- R. Shand; N. Stone; J.R. Stuart (Secretary);
- J. Willacy.

LOCAL

1978 will probably be remembered above all for its weather. February brought the worst blizzard for 30 years, with a repeat performance on a smaller scale in April, then to the dismay of gardeners and growers, a swingeing frost (-22 degrees F.) on 14th June and summer days being very few and far between.

The school year seemed particularly crowded with the concert at Christmas, a week written off in February because of the storm and the coordinated descent in April of a team of inspectors to study the effects of implementation of the Munn and Dunning reports.

What would strike the returning exile? Certainly the amount of new building now approaching completion, with the still controversial High Street redevelopment the most notable example. In spite of the controversy, the new homes look trim and modern, and do not radically alter the character of the street.

A festive season visitor could not fail to be impressed by the decorative illuminations which have now become a regular feature, and are certainly a credit to all the local bodies who cooperated to ensure their installation.

Work on the A9 continues, with the in-filling of the gorge at Slochd perhaps the most impressive of the earth-works.

Steam trains are now in regular operation on the Boat of Garten - Aviemore line of the Strathspey Railway, and the company has hopes of one day reaching as far as Broomhill and perhaps even Grantown!

Changes are on the way for Speyside House, dubbed the "Granite Heart of Grantown" by local historian (and F.P.!) George Dixon. There is a project afoot to turn it into a Planned Town Centre, but this will depend, as usual, on the requisite funds being

The vast amount of voluntary work on the Primary Department playing field is now approaching completion with the help of extra labour provided by the job creation programme. The final result should be an enormous improvement.

Now to the activities of the local members:

Winnie Anfield retired from her part-time post in the Home-craft Department in June. We wish her good health and happiness in retirement. Sheila Archibald now lives in one of the new Coppice Court houses. Daughter Susan (now Mrs. Joe Burgess) is not far away at Burnroad House nor is brother Ian Macpherson in Greenhill.

John Burgess is to marry shortly and move away yr. We wish him every happiness there, though to Ayr. he will be greatly missed in many spheres here, not least the Kirk, the Grantown Society and as fear an tighe and courier for many a gathering of strangers and locals.

Frank Calder has been busy with the arrangements for the Christmas Dance. Mrs. Clarke (Alison Ronaldson) keeps busy as a most efficient secretary of the Parent-Teacher Association and also with Sunday School work.

Ainslie Cruickshank often makes music with history teacher Alistair McKenzie who entertained us at the Dinner. John Cumming is a hard-working elder of the Kirk. Raymond Davidson begins a two year stint as Golf Club captain.

John Duncan is still piloting the F.P. Swimming Club through its problems with great good humour, ably assisted by secretary Mrs. Margaret Masson. John's wife Anne regularly produces fine floral decorations for functions in the School Hall.

Jessie and Margaret Fraser now have their pup (dubbed "Kuri", the Maori for "dog") and are anxiously mothering it through its destructive stage.

Miss Grant and Miss Legge are off on their annual trip to Tongue. Sally Grant is now doing secretarial work at the Ian Charles Hospital, while sister Susan, who trained as a beautician in Edinburgh, is meantime helping father Nigel at Seafield Lodge.

Sandy Ledingham is one of the enthusiastic band who help run the Grantown Society. Harry McGregor is still active as the secretary of the Football Club while Ian Paterson is chairman of "United".

We met a seemingly ageless Mrs. McLaren (Jeannie Nicol) looking very well at the "Squayre Fayre". What an advertisement for retirement these former Grantown teachers are! Mrs. Maclean (Jill Ross) has been active in the P.T.A. and with summer swimming arrangements.

The McLeod family are prominent in sport above all. We were grateful also for their help with the Primary field improvements. Isa McPhail finally won the first prize for window displays this year after being three times runner up. John Stuart was third in his new tackle shop.

Ian McPherson made a joyful return to Grantown in early summer and your editor and he at last enjoyed that long planned outing on the loch. The S.N.P. branch also nabbed him with great speed as secretary.

Elizabeth Main and husband Donald have now extended their carpet and upholstery business to take over Beale and Pyper's on Tommy Gordon's retirement. Daughter Pamela is to go to Edinburgh to do a medical secretary's course.

Jean Paterson was the worthy recipient last September of a presentation in recognition of her services to the town and area. We continue to be indebted to her also for considerable assistance in preparing these columns. Brother "Jock" is busy at the moment retiling parts of the school pool.

George Paton is a regular attender at the Lochindorb competitions.

Mrs. Ross (Margaret Davidson) is due to retire in October. Flower arranging will be one of her retirement hobbies - she is now president of the local club.

We wish James Shand well as he starts out in a painting business on his own account.

News from the Outposts

Mrs. Angus (Ella Wood) missed the Biennial Dinner as she was on a trip to South Africa. Dr. Bahzad (Christobel Terris) continues in private practice in Wisconsin. Bruce Bain has a new address in Yugoslavia where he was visited by "Doc" and Mrs. Bain this summer. "Doc" is now proficient in Serbo-Croat.

Mrs. R. Balfour (Dorothea Smith) sent good wishes from Rhodesia. Mrs. Adrian Banks (Lorna Stephen) holidayed in Grantown in summer, where her husband Adrian likes to sail on Loch Morlich. Mrs. Booth (Netta Hunter) regretted missing what "must have been a nostalgic F.P. reunion".

Mrs. Braid (Pamela Gibson) reports the marriage of her son Ronald, and the arrival of her first grandchild, Lucy Emma born to her daughter Rosemary. Congratulations to Iain Brown on the award of a Philosophy Prize at Stirling University where he has completed second year. Stanley Buchan says, "I get older every day; I am 78, but like Johnnie Walker I keep going on!"

We were pleased to send enrolment forms to Sandy Calder for Eileen and Alasdair who had to leave G.G.S. when Sandy moved to Inverness. Eileen has meantime done very well in gaining SCOTBEC's National Award for hotel receptionists on the completion of her course at Inverness Technical College. The award was presented at a ceremony at Stirling University by the German Ambassador.

Eva Cameron entered her eighties in July. Congratulations! Congratulations to Douglas Carse on his B.Sc. in Civil Engineering. Sister Dorothy has gone back south to Yorkshire, continuing her work with horses. Mrs. Chapman (Irene Edwards) reports meeting Sheina Donaldson (for the first time!) over a badminton net in Nottingham. Sheina and partner won, but Irene pleads injury! The other Mrs. Chapman (Elizabeth McDonald) sent another batch of those most decorative New Zealand stamps. She had a visit from Jessie and Margaret Fraser in the course of their trip.

Mrs. Craig (Dorothy Calder) sent a greeting and a donation to funds from Knockando. Mrs. Cowan (Wilma Irving) is now an assistant at her local nursery school for R.A.F. children, a job she enjoys. She met parachutist David Ross at last year's Tee-side Air Day where he jumped with the Falcons, and swopped news. Mrs. Davidson (Betty Kirkwood) is now established in Strathaven. Husband David is manager of an Electrical Instruments business in East Kilbride. They had a quick trip to the West Coast this summer, leaving the two boys with Grannie Davidson.

Walter Dempster appreciated the Grantown Society exhibition and "a long blether with George Dixon" this summer. Willie Dobson is due to start flying training with the R.A.F. on completion of his B.Sc. (Agri.) in June 1979. Margaret Donald keeps adding to her nursing qualifications and enthusing about the view of Big Ben and Parliament from her ward window. We were pleased to hear from Fiona Donn that her parents are well and that sister Deirdre is enjoying her work with the Department of Health and Social Security.

Congratulations to Daphne Duncan on the achievment of a Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award. Daphne has completed the first year of her Commerce course in Glasgow. Sister Dianne is secretary at the Wildlife Park at Kincraig and brother Edward was one of the first students to complete a course on Fish Farming at Inverness Technical College.

Andrew Duff has just completed a year in the responsible job of Aberdeen University Charities Treasurer. In the time left over he has been working for a degree in Anatomy. His family moves to Tarves this autumn. Mrs. Dunbar (Margaret McLean) reports that her daughter Sheila, who is a S.R.N. and midwife, was due to be married in August. Mrs. Fearnley (Maureen Macaulay) enjoyed meeting old friends Mike and Anne Munro and the Oliphant sisters at Janette Macdonald's wedding. Maureen also enjoyed being hostess to Mairi Macdonald for some weeks this year.

Sine Fergusson is Canteen Manageress of the Bank of Scotland Staff Training College in Edinburgh. Rabid nationalist (and keen grandmother) Mrs. Forsyth (Nancy Gray) is besides a dedicated garden lover. "I don't even think bad of Maggie Thatcher there" she avers. David Fraser is to be congratulated on his promotion to Senior Inspector of Taxes. This has involved his transfer from Glasgow to London. Mrs. Fraser (Elspeth Mitchell) is still in Beauly. Her husband Bill, latterly a technical teacher in Ross-shire, but at one time on the staff of G.G.S., has had to give up teaching because of an allergy to hardwood dust.

Robin Fraser still manages his branch of Boots in Aberdeen. "Five of my shop staff became pregnant during the year", he says, "but I deny all responsibility." Mrs. Gardiner (Wilma Watt) has one 17 year old daughter a student at Witwatersrand University and a champion show jumper, and another 7 year old ready to follow in big sister's footsteps. "Me", she says of herself "I never do anything worth reporting!"

Shona George has completed the first year of Probation as a Primary Teacher at Alvie School. Allan Grant keeps busy in N.S.W. He is a second year P.E. College student, plays football each weekend for his local team, and has a dance band with a permanent engagement in a Sydney hotel. Fiona Grant (Glencairn) is a Staff Nurse in the Heart Unit in Edinburgh Royal. The other Fiona Grant (Mullingarroch) is meantime receptionist at The Boat Hotel, and is doing a day release course at Inverness Technical College.

We have a new address from vet. Fatrick Grant. Shelagh Grant enters the final year of her course at Edinburgh University. Mrs. Greig (Margaret Grant) visited her aunt Miss Gillies in July. "Not impressed by the High Street 'New Look' but enjoyed my visit all the same", she comments. Sheila Harris says "all is well with the Harris clan". We congratulate her on an appointment as A.P.T.Guidance in Haddington. Brother Harry is doing lab. work in Saudi Arabia for a year.

Mrs. Harris (Kathleen Dunn) teaches Primary 1 at Andover School, Brechin. Mrs. Harvey (Catriona Johnston) has completed her Dip. Ed. and starts teaching French and German in Dundee this August. Bonne chance! Albert Hastings has taken over a newsagent's and gift shop in Nairn, but is at present living near Forres. Fiona Henderson enjoys her "very varied and interesting social work" in Gilmerton, while brother Peter is doing a General Science course at Heriot Watt.

Mrs. Hepburn (Rita Mackay) had a special birthday present this year - her fourth grandchild, Jill's daughter, Fiona arrived timeously. Andrew Howlett says he is enjoying working in the paint business with Berger. Duncan has a change of address in Aberdeen.

Tom Hunter finds "hospital life if anything busier" and uses the little leisure left to "keep the jungle at bay" in his garden. Marr Illingworth and family were home from North Carolina in July. He has a daughter and son both at college. Brother Edward is to be congratulated on a new appointment as Marketing Manager for Scottish Amicable Life Assurance. Chemist Alistair Jack is now manager of Boots in Arbroath. We saw his son Gordon christened in Inverallan in April.

Colin Keith called to order his "mag." while here in August. We had a long chat about this and that, including his indebtedness to Dr. Bain for good guidance while in school. Many viewers will have seen Colin interviewed by Donny McLeod on T.V. in connection with a driving competition in which he took part. Rodena Kelman completed her first year College of Commerce Medical Secretary course with distinction and continues this year in Aberdeen. This summer she entertained tourists five nights a week at "the Boat" with her Highland dancing.

Mrs. Lugg (Jean Burgess) (another wine-maker!) reports contacts with Agnes McDougall, Jean Kydd, Mrs. Irving and Margaret Davidson. She had a brief visit to Grantown in May also. Mrs. Macarthur (Joan Paterson) resigned in March from the Infant Room at Millbank, Nairn "to prepare for the regal state of motherhood". Now there's a positive attitude to the washing of nappies!

We met Simon Macaulay at Grantown Show and caught up on his and sister Jane's news. Sandy McCook, entering second year Photography at Napier says "there's more to it than just firing the shutter;" We noted Sandy also fires his rifle successfully in the Dulnain competitions. Alistair MacDonald is now an oil well test technician with Flopetrol, Aberdeen. Mairi MacDonald completed a post-grad. Secretarial/Linguist course in Aberdeen, and has successfully applied for a post in the Foreign Office. In a nice "newsy" letter she extols the hospitality of Mrs. Fearnley (Maureen Macaulay) with whom she spent some time in Aberdeen.

Rev. Sandy Macdonald was inducted to St.
Andrew's, Paisley in February, after ten years as minister of the Old High Kirk, Kilmarnock. Janette MacDonald joined the Smith clan in August, (see weddings!) after a year's teaching in Dumfries. She has now also taken up a post as geography teacher at Trinity Academy, Edinburgh. Since marriage in March, Stuart MacDonald commutes between his London office and Giffnock. Quite a way to commute!

Congratulations to Susan MacGillivray on completion of her B.Ed. She starts teaching in Edinburgh in August. Further congratulations are in order, since the interest in the Law reported last year has blossomed into an engagement. Andrew MacGregor is now chief sterling dealer with the Royal Bank in London, while wife Patricia (nee Lawrence) teaches primary in Chelmsford. Gordon MacGregor delivered his slip personally and compared notes with us regarding conditions in Alyth and Grantown. Gordon is a keen fiddler and was to be seen bowing enthusiastically with the Fiddle and Accordion Society during the "Squayre Fayre".

Douglas McInnes says he now has a badminton team in Millburn which can beat G.G.S., and he is working on a ski team to the same end. However the poor snow supply in Inverness is a handicap. We would willingly have exported some in February Douglas! David McIntosh who enters final year Hons. Electric and Electronic Engineering at Heriot Watt spent the summer at Ferranti's. We had a nice letter from Mrs. McIntosh (Iris Forbes) who "keeps her hand in" with odd spells of supply teaching. She has also become a member of the Congregational Board of Lhanbryde Church. Donald McIntyre is a big figure in the world of Geology, lecturing at more than 30 universities all over the American continent. He was interviewed on Radio Scotland in August. Brother Ranald has his own business in Bothwell as an Engineering Consultant and Accident Assessor.

We had a telephoned report, via school secretary Evelyn Grant, informing us that Gilbert Mackay is about to take up a post as a Research Officer with the Education Department of Glasgow University. Congratulations on the appointment. Dr. Sandy Mackenzie is the current president of Banff Rotary Club. Angus Mackintosh says "another quiet year or so it seems in retrospect!" We enjoyed a visit from Mrs. Edith Mackintosh when she was up to attend Elizabeth Terris's wedding. Mrs. Mac. is now happily settled in with Marjory in Helensburgh.

Patrick McLean's slip contains the one magic word "Retirement!" Raymond McMurray enters 2nd year Biological Sciences at Edinburgh after spending the summer at work on the new A9. James Macpherson makes an annual trip to the Shelter Stone. Peter MacPherson records the fourth and final graduation in his family, that of Fiona, the youngest. Rachel MacRobert is teaching in Farr Secondary, Bettyhill now. She maintains her interest in dog breeding.

Alan McTaggart in Queensland "enjoyed a visit from my mother who managed to make the long flight from U.K. to explore the goings-on down-under". Neil McTaggart comments on a visit to the "home country" for the Law Society Annual Conference at the Aviemore Centre: "Hardly Strathspey as I remember it!"

John Milne is "looking forward to retirement at Christmas this year". We just glimpsed Bill and Judy Mitchell at the Kirk Fete. They have a new address in a road called "The Wicket" - not very appropriate for a golf professional!

Jane Morris enters 2nd year in her Art History course in Edinburgh. We had a brief telephone conversation with Mrs. Munro (Gertie Lawson) when she was here in August. Jeannette Munro "enjoyed the Reunion very much - a happy and successful evening" she says. Mrs. Murray (Ann Stewart) predicts a happy event in February. We shall reserve a space in next year's magazine. Mrs. Murren (Fiona MacDonald) starts Midwifery training at Raigmore in September.

Betty Mutch is celebrating her Golden Jubilee as an F.P. this year. She visited Mrs. Munro (see above) in Folkestone and "had a marvellous gossip". We are delighted she has agreed to do the honours at the Prize-Giving in 1979.

Ernie and Amelia Oakes have been busy renovating the house at Ashfield over the last two years. It was nice to see them again at the Christmas Dance. Beatrice Oliphant is now a Midwifery Sister at Raigmore. Mrs. Parrott (Catherine Douglas) wonders what she will do with herself now with both boys in school. Mrs. Rae (Mona Grant) reports in her usual cheery vein that she has taken on the job of play leader with the local playgroup. Like another of our regular correspondents she seems to feel unfulfilled if she hasn't a birth or a removal to report!

Bill Reid's family now numbers two boys and a girl. Bill is still a keen chorister with Edinburgh Choral Union of which he has been treasurer for 4 years. Mrs. Robertson (Davis Thomson) paid us a call in the holidays and told us of her work teaching English to adult immigrants in and around Glasgow. Alex. Ross has another addition to the family - but only a puppy this time! He is now Detective Inspector at Lavender Hill. Charles Ross continues in Animal Research at Edinburgh University and has bought a flat in Edinburgh.

Margaret Ross (late of Broomhill Station) has an understandable nostalgia for the days of steam. This year she travelled on five of the "Great Little Trains of Wales". Perhaps the Strathspey Railway Co. may one day bring steam trains back to Broomhill! Victor Ross has been elected vice-chairman of the Institute of Electrical Engineers for Scotland and also of the E.E.S.B.A. for S.W. Scotland. Walter Ross has been bothered by back trouble this summer. We send best wishes for a complete recovery.

Dr. Bill Sellar sends a highly satisfactory report of the progress of his twins (now 12) and daughter (now 9) at their schools. After her scholarship at Zurich University Barbara Smith enters the Junior Honours French and German classes at Aberdeen. Catherine Smith sent a very nice appreciation of the Dinner, including the amusing comment "I'm sure I knew about 75% of the company, not recognising some of them immediately, but such a laugh when the truth dawned!" John Smith continues his ecological studies at Edinburgh. Mrs. L. Smith (Elspeth Gow) having taught for a year in Peebles, is off to Singapore, where she is to be teaching English to the Chinese. "It should," she savs "be vellv intelesting"!

Mrs. Speer (Morna Mackenzie) is also studying for an Open University Arts degree. Nicholas Spence sent us a letter full of interesting news, his election to M.I.B.E., his appointment as programme coordination manager for the production phase of the Tornado aircraft, a meeting on the Channel Ferry with John Clark, reminiscences of football games with Leonard Grassick, Grant Mortimer, Grant Ross and Brian MacKerron, his activities with the Munich Scottish Association etc. He also sent an article about Bavaria for which we hope we may have room, but the F.P. section seems to get longer every year!

Mrs. Springall (Jessie Stuart) enjoys the magazine and also enjoyed a trip north in March. Mrs. Squires (Isa Moyes) is recovering from a coronary thrombosis. We wish her well. She was "delighted to have a 'phone call from Peter MacNicol who was passing through Mirabel International Airport". Rita and Elizabeth Stuart had to make hasty journeys from Paris and from Northern Canada respectively on the sudden death of their father in October.

Neil Stuart has taken part in "Carmen" at the Edinburgh Festival for two years as an extra. "A great experience", he says, "to see these professionals at work, especially the producer". Bright and breezy as ever, Richard Surtees called on us in August and entertained us with some great stories about his early days. We enjoyed reminiscing also about former school trips.

James Templeton's slip says "Now retired". We see he received an inscribed crystal goblet marking the end of his 2½ years at Alves Primary, and we wish him a long and happy retirement. Hugh Tulloch sees similarities in the economic problems of Canada and the U.K. "Let's hope", he says, "some of the chickens coming home to roost lay some golden eggs!" Mrs. Twist (Jill Hepburn) drew our attention to the fact we failed to remove her from her job as staff manageress for Marks and Spencer on the birth of her son. Now she has another reason to stay at home!

Mrs. Vickerman (Seonaid Grant) is now teaching in Keppochhill Primary School, Glasgow. We record belatedly that Mrs. Walker (Helen Scott) moved to Albyn School (Aberdeen) in 1970. Her daughter Brenda graduated last year and is to marry in Sentember.

Mrs. White (Marjory Mackintosh) is working in general (dental) practice in Helensburgh where her husband has a new appointment. Congratulations to Dr. Margaret Williamson on qualification as a Member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in Edinburgh. Mrs. Wilson (Ada Imray) now has two sons medical graduates, the elder, Neil having also been married this year. Ada herself now teaches maths. full-time.

We were pleased to receive slips from:

Mrs. M. Allan; Mrs. D. Butler; George Catto;
Allan Chisholm; George Coutts; Mrs. M. Davidson;
Mrs. M. Greenwood; Donald Gunn; Mrs. Jean Hogg;
John Irving; Alistair Jack; Mrs. J. Kydd; Mrs.
K. Laing; Mrs. E. McClelland; Keith McKerron;
Angus Maclean; Isobel Maclean; Elizabeth McLeod;
Mrs. A. MacSween; Mrs. I. Orford; Ian Ritchie;
Mrs. M. Shiach; Mrs. P. Spalding; Alistair Surtees;
Gordon Templeton; Mrs. E. Threadgold; David
Winchester and Mrs. Sheina Weston.

 $_{\psi^{\prime}}$ We have quite a bit of news of our members in the services this year:

Staff Sgt. Alan Anfield is off to the Canadian Army on an exchange posting for two years as an ammunition instructor, which will certainly be a welcome change from Germanv and Northern Ireland.

Peter McMillan, now promoted to S.A.C., successfully completed a driving course at St. Athan.

Congratulations to Flt. Sgt. David Ross on the award of the Air Force Medal. Parachute instructor David has made over 1,000 jumps, including some from 35,000 feet to test prototype oxygen equipment.

Congratulations to Thomas Stuart also, on promotion to Squadron Leader. After 3 years in Berlin he takes up an appointment at H.Q. Strike Command, High Wycombe.

Chief Technician John Stuart's circular was returned marked "Gone away". Can anyone help with an up-to-date address please?

Former Pupils and Old Guards

Honorary President - Dr. J. BAIN, O.B.E., B.Sc., Ph.D.

Honorary Vice-Presidents - Miss J. I. MUNRO; Miss J. M. PATERSON; Mr. R. WILSON, M.A.: Mr. G. E. DONALDSON. M.A.. B.A.

President - Mr. LEWIS GRANT, M.A.

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CONCLUSION

We wish all our readers wherever they may be a Happy Christmas and a Good New Year, and we conclude with an article on Bavaria sent to us by Nicholas Spence.

T.S.

Gruß Gott aus Bayern!

There is a story told of how three Bavarians were sitting drinking beer in one of Munich's famous hostelries, the Hofbrauhaus, when they were joined at their table by a gentleman from northern Germany. His attempts to start a conversation were a failure - the three sit looking into their quart ings as though they were deaf.

A young girl from the Salvation Army comes around making a collection, and the north German drops a two-mark piece into her box. She looks questioningly at the others: "And what about the other gentlemen?" At which one of the Bavarians raises his head and says: "We four are together!"

That little story probably says more about the Bavarian's relationship with his German compatriots than ever any lengthy explanation could. He would like to be left, as far as possible, in his "royal Bavarian peace." But, when the bill comes round, he remembers German solidarity, and the laugh is on his side.

To talk about the Bavarians is automatically to acknowledge the existence of their counterparts, the Prussians. Even to-day, when Prussia as a political entity has ceased to exist, the Bavarian cannot live without his opposite, the Preuss, as he calls him. When a Bavarian talks about a Preuss, he means a German who is not liked abroad or at home.

There is a little card that one can buy here, printed in English, which says, "It is nice to be a Preuss, but it is higher to be a Bayer!"

Bavarians are the only Germans who display the Bavarian lion as well as the Federal eagle, on the frontiers that they share with foreign countries, displayed under the words, "Freistaat Bayern", which shows the independent nature of the people.

The dialect spoken in Bavaria is very thick but I find its sing-song rhythm pleasing to the ear. It differs considerably from the northern dialect and anyone who has studied German in school stands about as much chance of understanding the Bavarian dialect as a southern Englishman would have trying to converse with a farmer at Turriff Show!

Do not be misled into thinking that the Bavarians are simple-minded folk, as a recent Federal test showed that Bavarian school children are the brightest in Germany!

Some find the Bavarians heavy going, others find them quaint. They like meals of simple country fare washed down with vast quantities of beer. Occasionally they don their leather breeches, which have made them famous throughout the world, and the ladies put on their very attractive dresses, called Dirndls.

The image of Bavaria, held in the minds of a lot of people, is a land in which people are perpetually yodelling, singing, playing the zither and drinking beer, a huge Alp where some church feast is always in progress, where chamois leap among the rocks and dumplings dance on the plates, where the bells of happy cows are incessantly ringing and the farmer's daughter awaits her peasant lover at the bedroom window!

While films and tourist propaganda do their best to preserve this image, it has little foundation in reality. Only when it comes to beer drinking are the Bavarians true champions. Their maxim is live and let live, and their unwavering dream is the Bavarian way of life.

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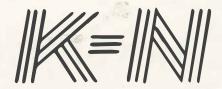
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