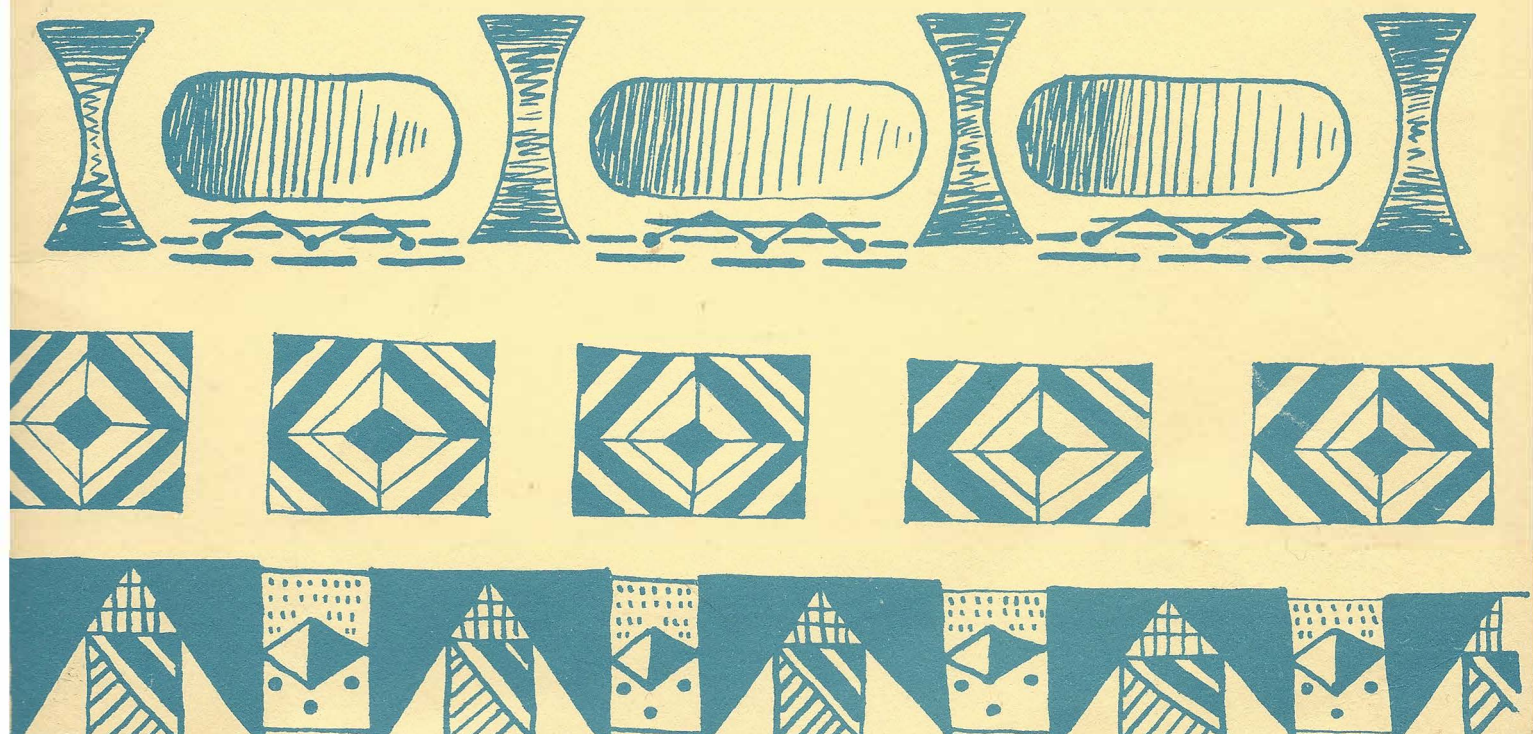


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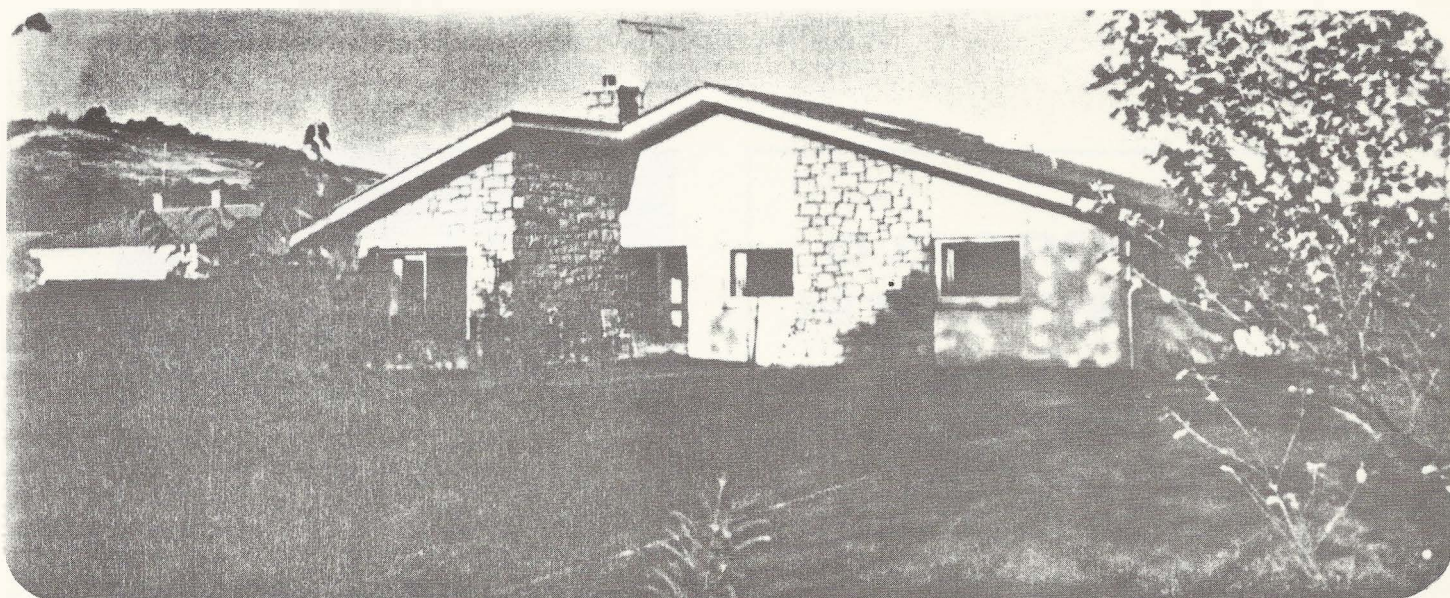
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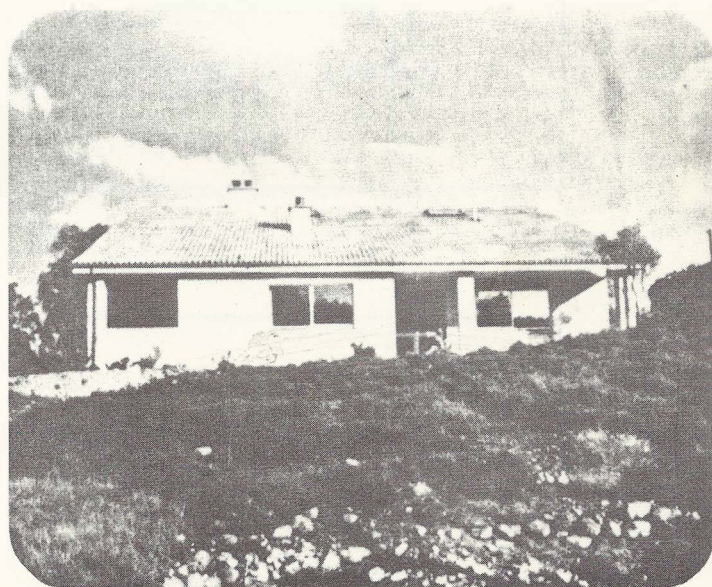




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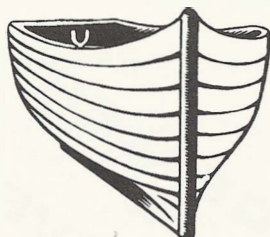
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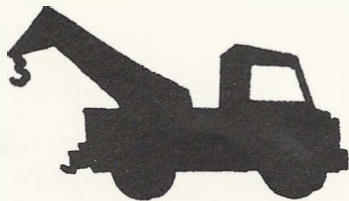
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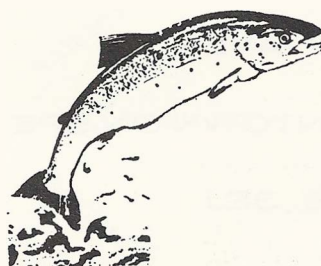
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Debbie Milne

### Staff Advisers

Jane K. McDowall

R. Higgott

Barry

Paula Fitcham

Allen Hansen

All artwork and vignettes are done by pupils.

## editorial

The months between the publication of one year's magazine and the next seem to pass with amazing rapidity. In these days of recession we would like to thank our advertisers for their staunch loyalty to the school. Without their support, financing the magazine would be an impossibility.

We hope that you will find something to whet your appetite in the various sections of the magazine, which vary from artwork and creative writing on the part of the pupils to news of past-pupils in the former pupil's section of the magazine. Even photographs are dotted through the issue to provide both pupils, parents and other interested parties with mementoes of a particular occasion.

We have not yet exhausted ideas for change in future issues and will continue to experiment in order to please all types of readers. It remains for us to wish everyone a rather premature New Year's greetings and enjoyable reading!



# SCHOOL NOTES

Another year having passed, it is time to review events which have occurred both in and outwith school. News of staff and sports are treated separately in other sections of the magazine.

This year two trips abroad were organised for pupils. The first was organised by Mr Mackenzie, Principal Teacher of History, and was to the First World War battlefields of France and Belgium. A group of twenty-six pupils, accompanied by Mr Mackenzie, his wife and Mr Liggat, enjoyed the trip which was made in April. Later, in the autumn break, Mr Thom, Principal Teacher of Modern Languages, arranged another trip to France. On this occasion First and Second Year pupils were joined by pupils from the feeder Primary schools to make a group which totalled eighty-nine. The eleven adults who accompanied the trip should probably be recommended for a medal! The trip was to the coast of Normandy, but several excursions were made to venues as diverse as the Bayeux Tapestry and Mont St. Michel, as well as a day-trip to Paris. Most would agree that it was an eventful holiday. Two further trips are in the preliminary stages of organisation, one to the Rhine in the summer of 1982 and the other a ski-trip.

A number of theatre trips were made in the course of the year. These included a visit to Eden Court at Inverness to see Russell Hunter as Shylock in Shakespeare's 'Merchant of Venice'. Two further trips were made to the new Pitlochry Festival Theatre, the first to see an English version of the classic 'The Miser' by the French playwright Molière and the second to 'The Murder of Auguste Dupin' based on a character from an Edgar Allan Poe story.

A less formal trip took place towards the end of the summer term when a group went to the Royal Highland Show at Inverness. In contrast, a group of Higher and Sixth Year pupils went to Elgin Academy to attend a lecture given by the Scottish poet Norman MacCaig.

As well as these trips outside school, we were able to welcome various visitors who came to school to entertain or speak to us. The most outstanding visit was from the Theatre Workshop who gave an impressive performance of 'Taboo- a lesson in living and dying'. This play was an adaptation of the story of the death of Jane Zorza from cancer and moved both staff and senior pupils who saw it. Another enjoyable performance was given by the Norwegian School Band who were in Grantown in June. Most of the members of the band were Primary School children and they played a variety of music, both Norwegian and other kinds. The band was celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation.

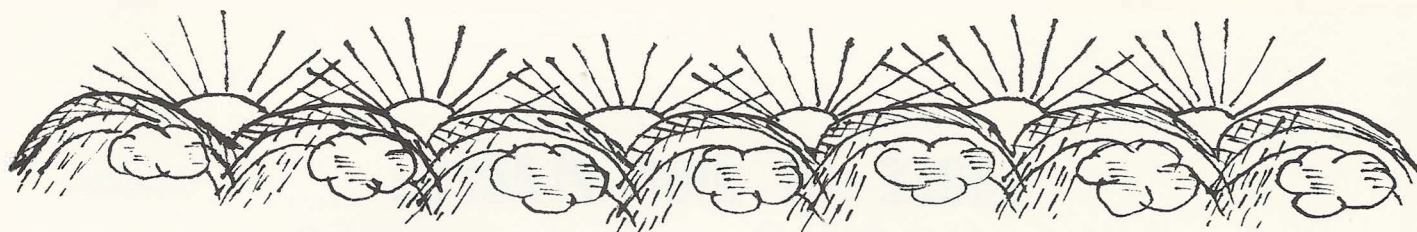
On a religious note, the most distinguished guest we received this year was the Rev. Dr. Andrew Doig, Moderator of the Church of Scotland. He had an informal meeting with senior pupils whom he left with an impression of his friendliness and interest. In similar vein was a visit from Pastor A.A. Pokorny of the Austrian Bible Mission who gave a talk on the problems of refugees. His talk brought to life the last fifty years of European History, leaving us considering how fortunate we have been to have escaped such experiences as he described.

Other talks were given to senior pupils by schools liaison officers from Aberdeen University and Robert Gordon's Institute of Technology on courses available for further education at these establishments.

At the end of the summer term a massive fund-raising effort was undertaken by pupils to raise money towards the purchase of a school mini-bus. The fund-raising was done in the form of sponsored activities, varying from disco-dancing to a sponsored spell. The sum realised from the afternoon was supplemented by the money raised at the P.T.A. stall at the 'Squayre Fayre' in August.

The money raised from the Dr. Bain Memorial Fund was put towards a magnificent trophy display cabinet which now has pride of place in the entrance hall. The cabinet was dedicated at the annual prize-giving ceremony in June by the Rev. Dr. Grant.

This year's Harvey Dux Prizewinner was Shirley Robb.



## STAFF NEWS

During the course of the year we have welcomed several new members of staff to the school and said goodbye to a few others. At present we are in the lucky position of being fully-staffed.

The situation was not so favourable during the terms between the publication of the last issue of the magazine and this one, especially in the English Department when Mrs. Barley broke a leg ski-ing, a fact which added to the problem of understaffing caused by the departure of Miss McLennan. In this instance rescue came in the person of Mrs. H. McInnes and Mrs. M. Ross respectively until Mrs. J. Cairns joined us at the start of the new session.

The Science Department has seen the arrival of two new faces: Mr Lowell joined us in January from Doon High School, Dalmellington to teach Biology and A.P.&H., and Mr D. Calder at the beginning of the August term to teach General Science and Lower Secondary Mathematics classes. As five teachers into three Science labs. definitely will not go, all must be eagerly awaiting the arrival of the new Science lab, hopefully some time after Christmas. This will be sited near the Music room.

We will miss Mr R. Kenny of the Art Department who left us in January to join the Art Department of Forres Academy. He was temporarily replaced by Mrs. Fischer, but not for long. Mrs. Fischer became our second casualty of the year when she broke her leg. There is no truth in the rumour that the school is jinxed! Early in May the breach was filled when Mr A. Lawson arrived from Inverurie Academy to take the post of Principal Teacher of Art, previously held by Mr Liggat who is now Assistant Depute Rector.

We welcome yet another member of the Campbell family to the Secondary Department but this time as a teacher rather than a pupil. Mrs. Campbell joined the Home Economics Department at the beginning of this term from Inverness Academy. It must be quite a relief for her not to have to make the journey from Grantown to Inverness and back each day now. Still in this department, Mrs. McRobert retired from her post of Principal Teacher of Home Economics after many years of service to the school. We wish her health and happiness in her retirement. Mrs. Mathieson was promoted to the position vacated by Mrs. McRobert.

After an absence of five years, we saw the return of a former pupil to the school. Miss Daphne Duncan has now joined us as a teacher in the Business Studies Department.

Mrs. Lamont left the Modern Languages Department in July bound for the Middle East where her husband is to work. However, as her departure did not take place as early as she anticipated, she has been able to help out on a couple of occasions this term when staff were absent. Her position has been filled by Mrs. Offil, a teacher of French and German, whose husband is a teacher at Gordonstoun.

Mrs. Herd has returned to school once again to swell the numbers in the P.E. Department. Although only part-time, she has taken the burden of the large numbers of pupils who come from the Primary School for P.E. Together with Mr Mathieson, she hopes to start a Ballroom Dancing Club for Senior pupils later this year. We wish them luck with this noble venture.

It only remains for us to congratulate two members of staff on their marriage during the summer holidays. In the last issue of the magazine we announced the engagement of Mr Young of the Maths. Department and Miss Wray of the Music Department. Mr and Mrs. Young now make our third married couple teaching in the Secondary Department, and we wish them the best of luck for the future.



# THOSE IN HIGH PLACES !



## HEAD GIRL:

CLAIRE McCANN: The last thing I wanted was to create a national scandal.  
(Norman Scott)

## DEPUTY HEAD GIRL:

MARIAN HAMILTON: O tiger's heart wrapped in a woman's hide. (Shakespeare)

## HEAD BOY:

CALUM BEANGE: Men of few words are the best men. (Shakespeare)

## DEPUTY HEAD BOY:

GRAEME WALKER: Why what a very singularly deep young man this deep young man must be. (W.S.Gilbert)



PREFECTS:

BACK ROW (left to right)

- DONALD SCOBIE: There's no hiding love from lover's eyes. (John Crowne)  
KEVIN TRAILL: I am a bit of a showman and I don't mind admitting it. (J. Thorpe)  
IAN FRASER: You have beaten the snail in slowness. (Plautus)  
JOE McADAM: A little nonsense now and then  
Is relished by the wisest men. (Anon)  
JOHN IVERS: I would have been deeply offended if they'd left me off this list.  
(John K. Galbraith)  
DOUGLAS LOW: Genius is one per cent inspiration and ninety-nine per cent  
perspiration. (Anon)  
JOHN SMITH: I have made my contribution to society and I have no plans to  
work again. (John Lennon)  
MARTIN MACKENZIE: A little uncertainty is good for everyone. (Henry Kissinger)

FRONT ROW (left to right)

- TRACY GRANT: Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay! (Song Title)  
SHIRLEY ROBB: Home is a girl's prison and a woman's workhouse. (G.B.Shaw)  
DEBBIE ALLAN: Come, come, come and make eyes at me. (Harry Tilzer)  
RHONA CALDER: Least said soonest mended. (Proverb)  
JANE WALLACE: Brazil, where the nuts come from. (Brandon Thomas)  
FIONA CHAVASSE: I left the room with silent dignity but caught my foot on the mat.  
(Walter Weedon Grossmith)

Not photographed:

SHEONAI MacGREGOR: A dreamer of dreams. (Bible)

JENNIFER GRANT: A three day week is better than a no day week (Edward Heath)



# where are they now ?

## Class 6

Andrew George  
Timothy Pott  
Sherie Brazier  
Alison Paul  
Caroline Ramsay  
Helen Connet

Edinburgh University Business Studies and Accounting  
Aberdeen College of Commerce - Business Studies  
Go Go Dancer - Crazy Daisies Nightclub - Aberdeen  
Dip. Primary Education - Aberdeen College Ed.

Edinburgh University - Pharmacy

## Class 5

John Cameron  
Mark Clark  
George Gordon  
Nigel Grassick  
Russell Gray  
Sean McGowan  
Ross McLean  
John Ormiston  
Eric Pirie  
Malcolm Smith  
Ian Munro  
Linda Buchanan  
Norma Cameron  
Jane Dunlop  
Helen Fridge  
Lorraine Gordon  
Jill Lennon  
Lyn McGillivray  
Lorna McIntosh  
Shirley Masson  
Sue Martin  
Kay Ross  
Rosemary Shand  
Fiona Walker  
Nicola Wilson  
Debbie Wood  
Mairi Shaw

Balliemore Farm  
Pre - College Farm Work at Novar Estate Alness  
Coulmakyle Farm  
Apprentice Painter with Andy Grant  
Apprentice Chef - Duke of Gordon Hotel Newtonmore  
Beating  
Cairdport - Aviemore  
Strathclyde University - Applied Geology  
Robert Gordon's Aberdeen - Electrical Engineering  
Pre - College Farm Work at Congish Farm  
Tulchan Estate  
Grant House  
Grant House  
Ian Charles Hospital - Auxiliary Nurse  
Tuckshop Carrbridge  
SRN Nursing Edinburgh Royal Infirmary May  
'A' level course at Margaret Dane School Herts.  
SRN Nursing Edinburgh Royal Infirmary May  
Loriston Hotel Ballater Under Cook  
Moray Tech. Elgin Computing  
Nanny with Episcopal Minister's Children Grantown  
Inverness Tech. 1 Yr. Secretarial  
Palace Hotel Grantown  
Inverness Tech. 1 Yr Secretarial  
Inverness Tech. 1 Yr Secretarial  
Moved to Basingstoke England  
George Watsons College Edinburgh 6th Yr Course

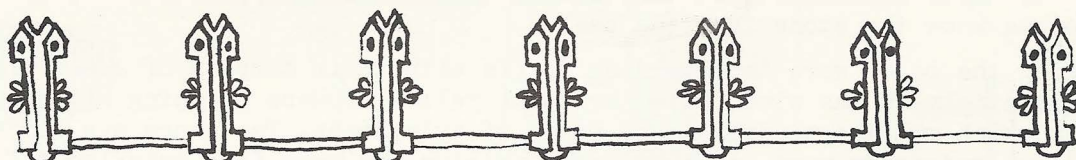


#### Class 4

John Brazier	Inverness - Tyre Company
James Carmichael	Beating
Sandy Fowler	
Ian Laing	Apprentice Butcher with J Farquher Grantown
Robin Lennon	Lower 6th at Bishops Stortford Boys High
William McMillan	McDonalds Garage Carrbridge
Eddy McTavish	
Neil Mutch	Sandwich Course Inverness Tech. Plumbing
James Williamson	Ferranti Edinburgh
Patricia Alexander	Grantown Bakery
Maureen Gordon	Grant Arms Hotel
Glenda Lawson	Kirkcaldy Tech. College - Confectionery
Eilidh McKillop	
Shona McIntosh	Elmwood College Cupar - Agricultural Secretary
Julie McLean	Inverness Tech. 1 Yr. Hotel Reception
Cindy Taylor	Apprentice Hairdresser Aviemore - Unit 10
Julie Nicholson	Heatherbrae Hotel Nethybridge

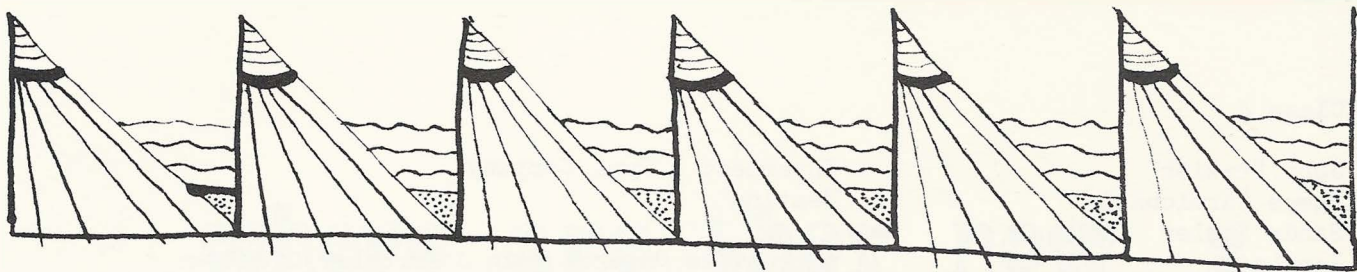
We would also like to wish the best of luck to those pupils from classes 1, 2 and 3 who left during the course of the year to move to another area.

Catriona Gray	Emigrated with her family to Australia
Sandra Guthrie	Douglas Academy, Milngavie to further her music studies
Catriona Wigham	Bearsden Academy, Bearsden near Glasgow.
Margaret Hamilton	Strathallan, Perth.
Paula Massie	Glasgow
Craig Lamont	Gordonstoun
Fraser Lamont	Gordonstoun



Once again this year we had a large intake of pupils to Secondary 1. We hope that they will settle down well in the school and make the most of all that there is to offer both academically and in extra-curricular activities. Other new-comers to the school since our publication are as follows, and we wish them well, too :

Class 6	Emma Noble
Class 5	Amelia Leapman
	Lorraine Miller
	Karen Jones
	Fiona Stewart
Class 4	Craig Bonnington
	Norman Campbell
	Roy Miller
	Kenneth Shaw
Class 3	Andrew Coles
	Paul McKerron
	Stephen Sandilands
Class 2	Kenneth Bonnington



## sea symphony

Rachel Campbell

The sea came rolling in, waves both long and short, spreading up the uneven, white sand as if someone were trying to smooth the sea; every time it became level, another wave appeared and another, all at equal times like a metronome beating slowly and constantly to its own music. The metronome beat on and on as the last seabirds came to shore for the evening, their droning cries adding the accompaniment to the sea's constant beat as they slid across the yellow disc of the moon.

The moon's golden glow paradoxically cast silver shadows on the sheltered beach, picking out each performer as the show moved on. The wind whistled in the spray like a herald summoning attention for the star of the night's show, and the waves which hit the rocks were cymbals, clashing cymbals, at the climax. The moon discovered the star, a grey seal, along with its backing team. They had come in to the cove to shelter from the imminent storm, as they always did.

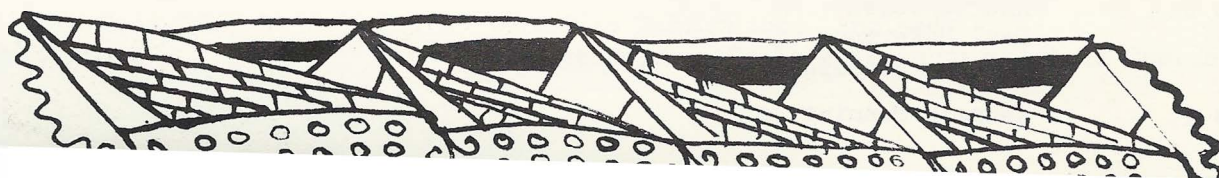
The first seal pulled himself out onto the beach and turned again to the sea where his companions' heads stuck out against the silver sea like the black notes on a piano. The first seal raised his flipper as if to conduct his choir and orchestra; the sea responded with a crescendo of cymbals and the slow metronome beat. The wind whistled before becoming silent as the seals began their symphony of barks and wails, like the trombone in a Russian symphony. They bowed and the returning seabirds applauded the performance before turning again for the safety of the shore.

Climbing up the beach, the other seals became like the smooth pebbles and when they stopped for their evening's rest they became stone, still, grey, smooth - only the moon would let us know the stone from the seal.

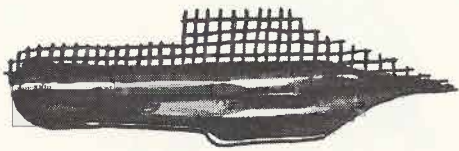
Surrounding the beach were the guardian cliffs with their carpets of green blowing slowly but definitely in the wind, with the small yellow flowers drooping slightly with the soft rain which met the cliffs with a sound of xylophones. The storm was coming; the air was damp and salty, warm and humid; the moisture on your face trickled off. Was it rain or sweat?

The tempo of the sea increased and the beats became louder and louder, faster and faster. The cymbals clashed against the rocks; the wind blew louder, its notes booming against the cliffs, whilst the xylophones sounded out across the sky which was once, no longer, smooth blue velvet. Now a cloud of fury, it swallowed up the moon, leaving the symphony continuing to crescendo in darkness. A flash of light tore across the sky carrying with it the furious uneven booming of drums which hit each rock and cliff, awakening the seals to sing the final chorus and the seabirds to accompany once more.

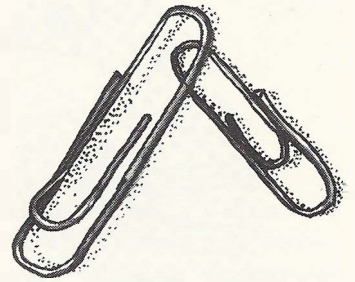
Again and again the light came with booming drums. The animals were restless and they screamed incessantly. But their dirges failed as the wind overcame the storm and the noise once more became music. Then the xylophones stopped, the cymbals stopped and the bird's wails diminished as the soft moon returned and the sea played on with a steady beat, minus the cymbals. It was cold now the storm had gone and the wind was chill. The birds sensed the cold as they had previously sensed the storm and flew inland to evacuate their clutches. Only one remained to beckon the sunlight as the music was adagio.



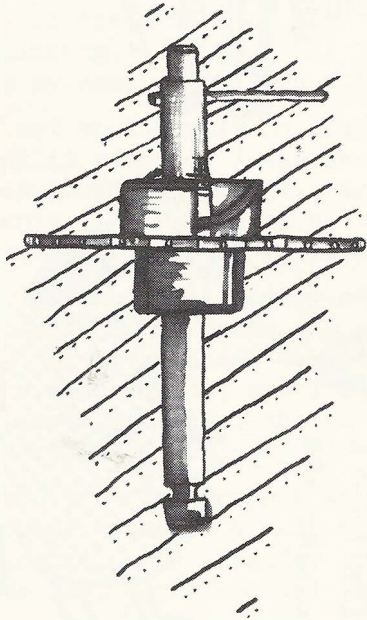




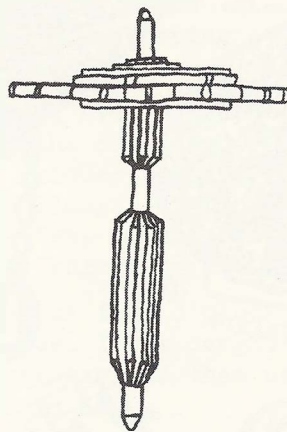
c.m.



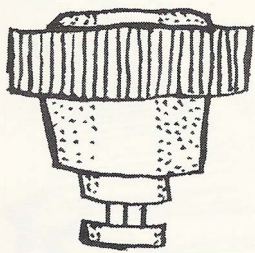
Claire McCann



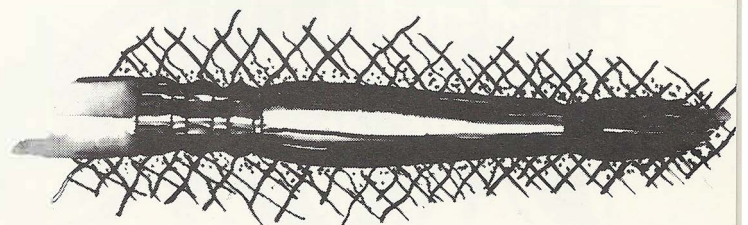
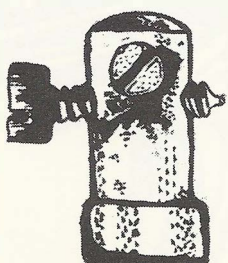
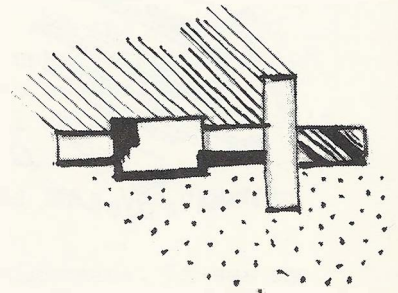
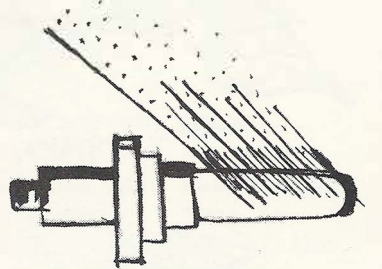
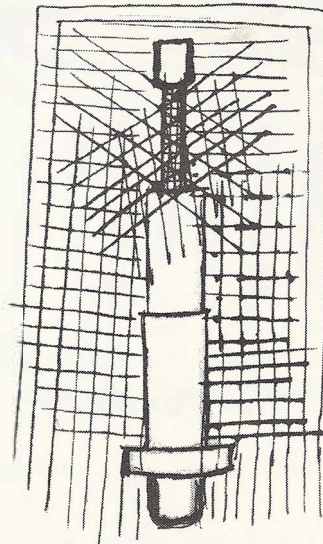
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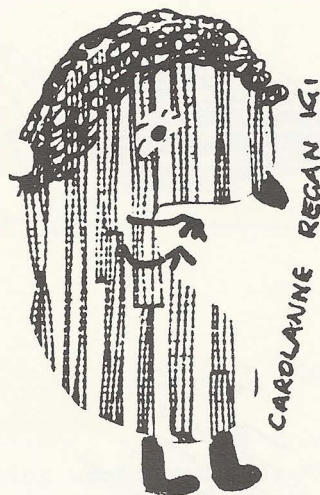




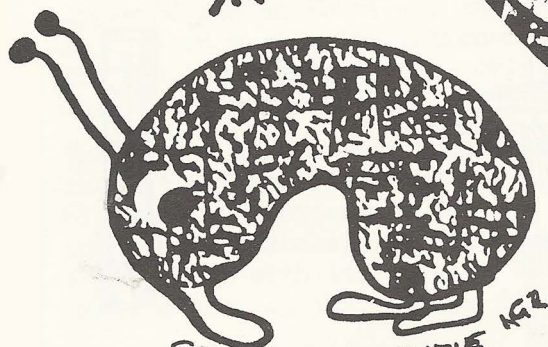
KAY GRAY 1G2



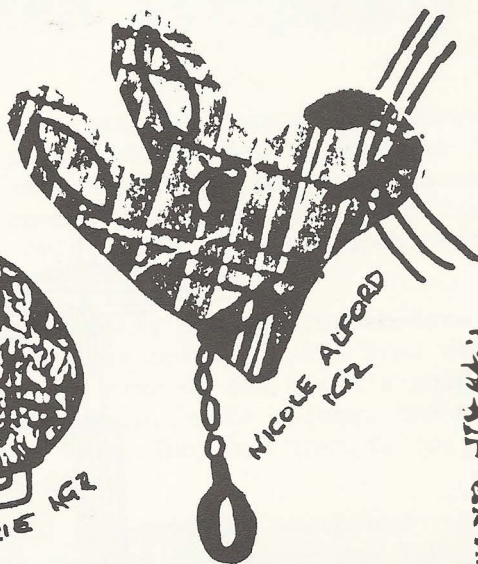
WENDY THOMSON 1G1



CARDLAINE REGAN 1G1



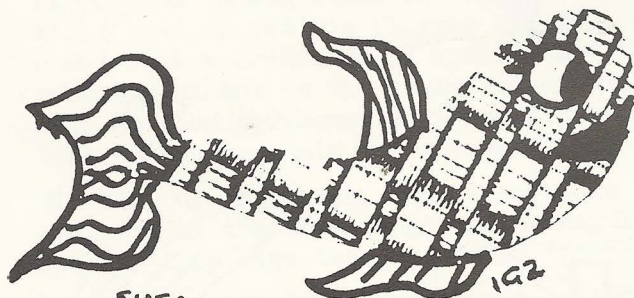
GILLIAN MACKENZIE 1G2



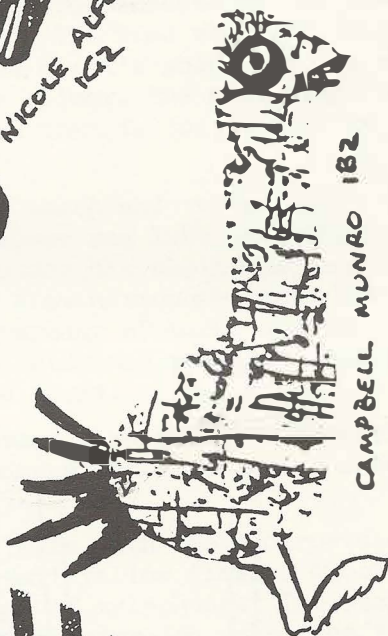
NICOLE ALFORD 1G2



JANICE DUNN 1G1



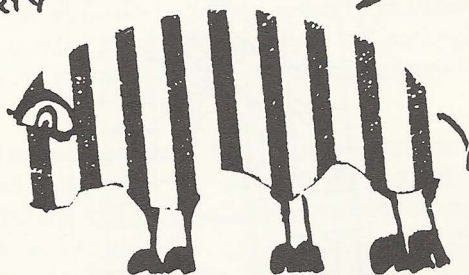
SUSAN McCAFFERTY 1G2



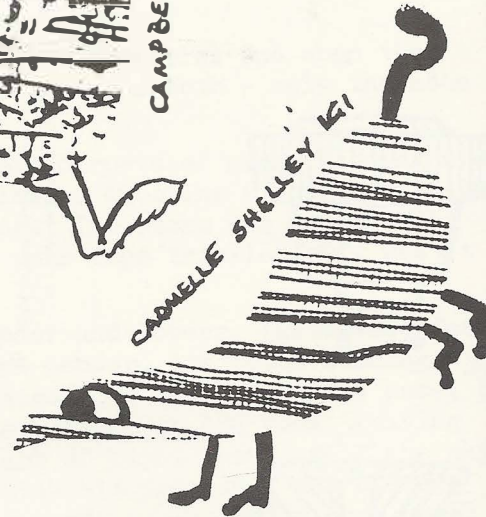
CAMPBELL MUNRO 1B2



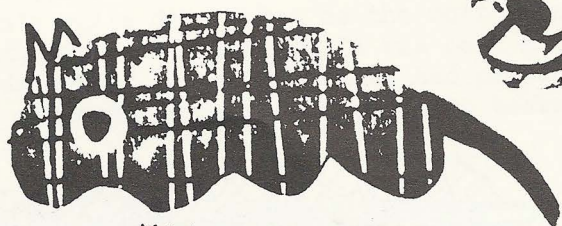
LYNDA FINDLAY 1G1



SHONA FRASER 1G1



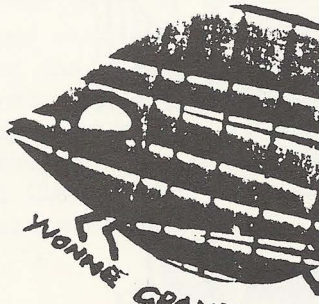
CADIELLE SHELLEY 1G1



KAY GRAY 1G2



STEPHEN GEORGE 1B2



YVONNE GRANT 1G1



# nightmare

Swerving and lurching in a most alarming manner, the bus raced along the twisting country road. Staring straight ahead, through a grey haze of mist and rain, I saw the sharp bend in the road ahead. I was vaguely aware of a feeling of cold fear and certain doom. Suddenly, from around the corner, a huge lorry appeared, swaying dangerously in the middle of the road. I felt the bus lurch beneath me and then I was falling, spinning, sinking as if flung into a bottomless pit. A thousand screaming voices filled my head, terrified screams...

I sat up abruptly in bed and tried to rid my head of the screaming. I closed my mouth and it stopped. I was sweating and my breathing came in quick, sharp gasps. My heart was pounding violently against my rib-cage, but relief had taken the place of fearful panic. As I lay back on the soft pillow, sweet calm sweeping over me, and drifted into peaceful sleep, I relaxed.

By morning, all memory of the nightmare had gone. Even on the bus to school I thought nothing of my dream. At school, I escaped from the drudgery of class routine by gazing out of the window, daydreaming. I watched the raindrops weave their weary paths down the window pane, and I thought of the Easter holidays, the things I would do, the places I would go. And I thought of my elder brother, Ben, on his skiing trip to Val d'Isere. He would be arriving at the resort today, lucky thing!

Such were my thoughts when the school bell rang at four o'clock. At once the sleepy school awoke in a mad and joyful rush for the bus. I was caught up, caught up in the excited, noisy chatter of the other pupils, more excited than usual because today was the last day of school before the Easter holidays.

But suddenly I was no longer a part of this carefree, happy scene. I was inside a glass bubble, unable to communicate, cut off from the outside world. I saw the faces of my friends, their lips moving, but somehow I could not associate this picture with the distant babble of voices in my ears. As I gazed out of the window, I saw the bend in the road ahead and the lorry, huge and menacing, lurching insanely in the middle of the road.

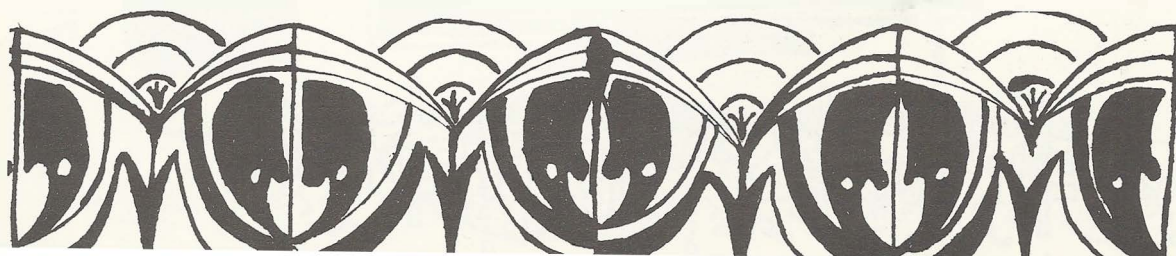
As the horrors of my dream returned vividly to my mind, I wanted to scream, to tell someone of our assured destruction. But I was paralysed with fear, helpless and alone in my terror. I felt the bus swerve wildly and my fear found its voice as I was screaming and grasping my head in my hands, my eyes tightly shut. 'What's wrong? What is it?' Voices from reality filled my head and I stopped screaming. The trundling of the bus brought relief sweeping over me and I felt hot tears burn down my cheeks. I was glad to be alive.

As I walked from the bus stop to my home, I mused on my nightmare and the events of the bus ride home. I was relieved, but at the same time I had an uneasy feeling which I couldn't explain. When I entered the dining room, I got a terrible shock to see my mother slouched in a chair, crying. A new fear filled my mind as I asked, 'Mum, what's happened? What's wrong?'

'It's Ben,' she blurted out, without looking up. 'He's been killed in a bus crash on his way to the ski resort.'

Suddenly I saw it all so clearly. It wasn't me in the bus in my nightmare. It was my brother - my poor, dead brother, Ben.

C.J.W.

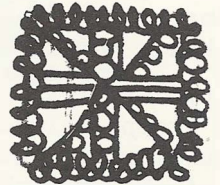




# Bonfire Night

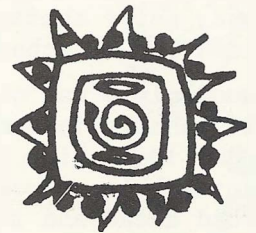
On Bonfire night I love to see  
The fireworks everywhere.  
They hop and jump and twist and  
You can see them here and there.

The bangers , they're so noisy,  
Bang, crash, bang they go.  
You set them down and light the  
Then wait until a bang they show



I love to see the sparklers  
They're beautiful when they fly.  
Their long, thin , silver bodies  
Shine up against the sky.

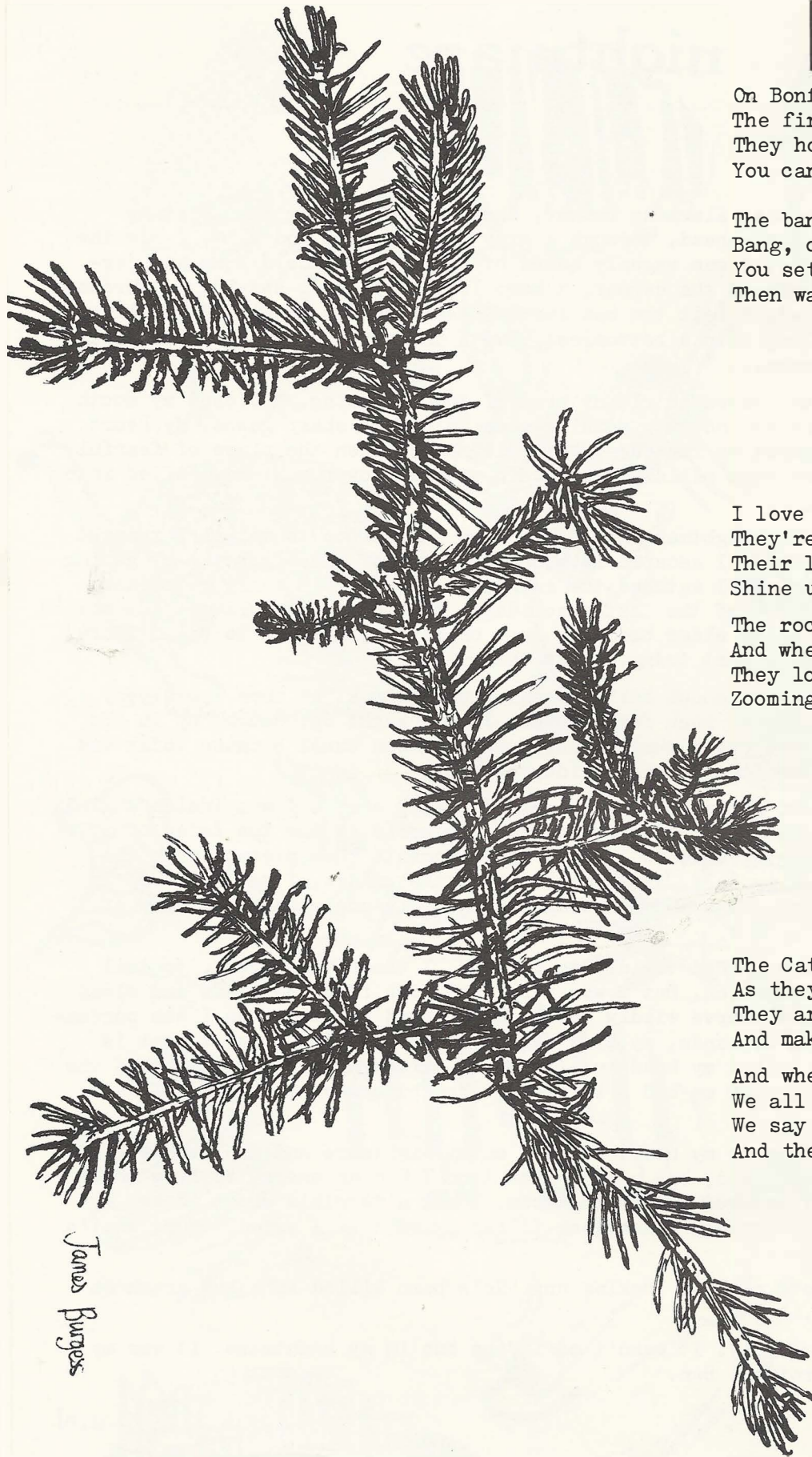
The rockets they are wonderful  
And when they set off and race,  
They look like flaring space shi  
Zooming out into dark space.



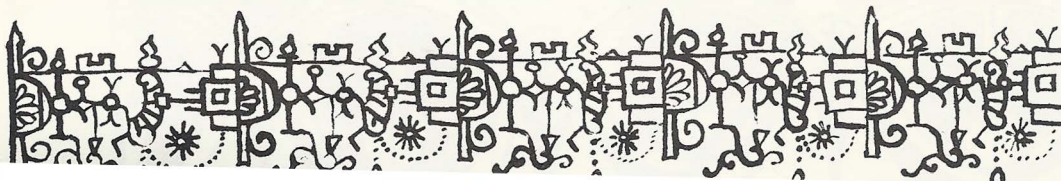
The Catherine-wheels I love to  
As they flutter round and round  
They are like shining golden di  
And make a fizzing sound.

And when the bonfire's over  
We all shout 'Hurray',  
We say good-bye to all our frie  
And then we walk away.

Mary H



James Burgess





## an old man i know

His old face, withered and wrinkled with age, is topped by a shock of white hair. This old and weathered surface surrounds two bright -blue, twinkling eyes, sharp and alert defying the passage of time. His smile is warm and gentle, and his words have a knowledge and understanding which only experience can give.

Now rather bent and thin, his body has been drained of its youthful strength and stamina and reduced to a crumpled shell. Were you to see within the shell, you would discover it yet contained a willing, resilient spirit. .

He sits now looking out on the land on which he toiled for a lifetime. He ponders on the memory of its every mood, its hardships and its beauty.

He lives alone with his memories of a life spent, rather bewildered by the modern world and little knowing what it stands for. Its technology is far beyond his comprehension and, conversely, its people cannot understand his simple ways. He is living in two worlds and unable to break the barrier between them.

Sometimes someone reaches out and tries to bring him nearer to today. His pride and his resistance to change is strong. People don't understand that he is content in his own world, at peace with people, nature and, more importantly, himself.

S.G.

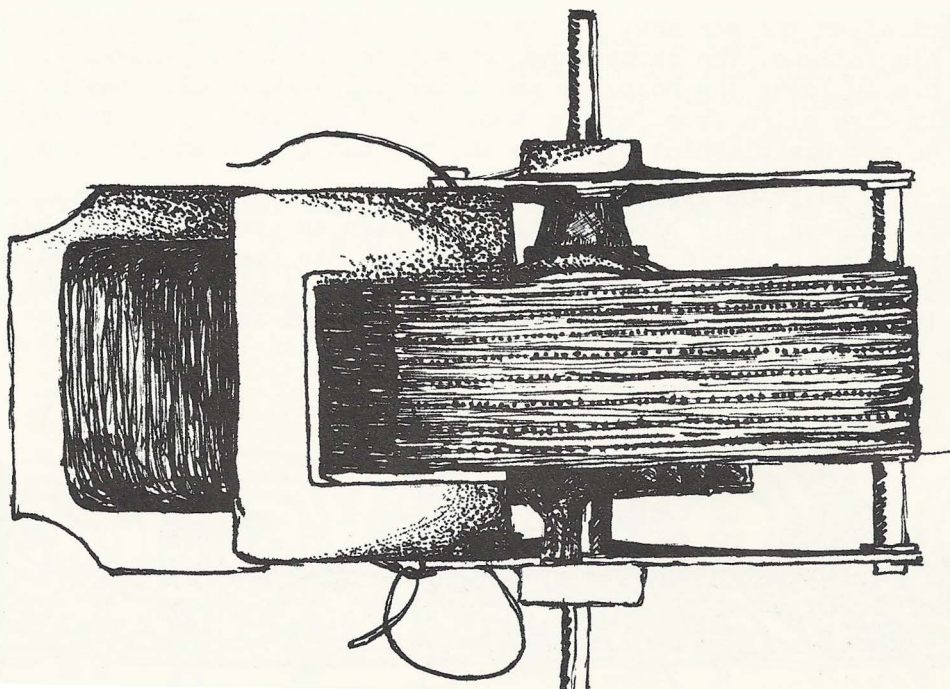


Today I would like to inform you of a bird which we Scots eat quite often. The bird is now becoming extinct as foreigners are coming over our borders in droves to shoot this poor creature for fun. Scottish people, of course, eat this animal as their traditional meal with 'tatties and neeps'.

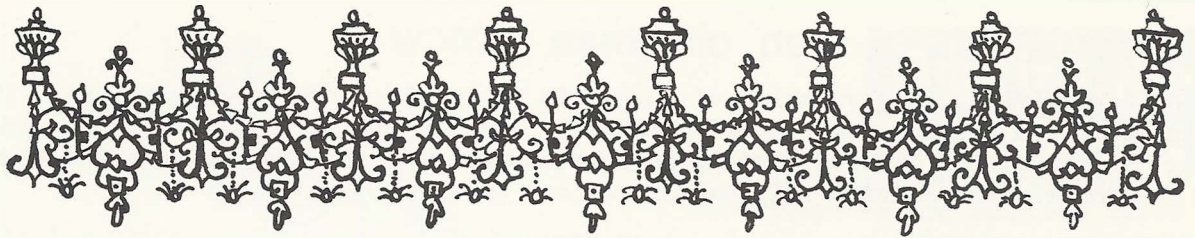
The bird was found to be edible by chance. When out shooting one day, a Scottish laird happened to shoot down a black creature which was in his line of fire. The laird's faithful gundog, Gis, ran to retrieve the fallen game and brought it to his master. Though we call it a bird, it has in fact no feathers merely a black tough skin around it.

On arriving home, the laird put the bird in the cooking pot with the rest of the birds that he had shot. When taking the cooked birds out, he dropped his strange catch on the floor. Hitting the floor, it burst open and Gis, very hungry, ran to clean it up. As he was unable to hide his annoyance, the laird cried out, 'Ha, Gis, stop!' Noticing the dog's enjoyment, the laird bent down to try a bit himself and found it to his liking. This was how haggis was found to be edible, and how it got its name!

5A.



Alex Chapman



## the biter bit

KL 2A

David was a vet. His brother Kenneth had gone through medical school and qualified as a doctor. Kenneth was now at the Victoria Infirmary working on a revolutionary new treatment which would cure cancer patients. However, the Victoria was not one of the better financed hospitals and was on a tight budget. This meant that Kenneth was often on call for emergencies.

After one particularly hazardous but successful emergency, to deliver premature twins on a remote island in the Outer Hebrides, Kenneth found himself being interviewed on the news. He took the opportunity of telling the public about his research and the next day money came pouring in. David had seen him on the news. He phoned up to congratulate his brother. Kenneth invited him over for a weekend and David accepted.

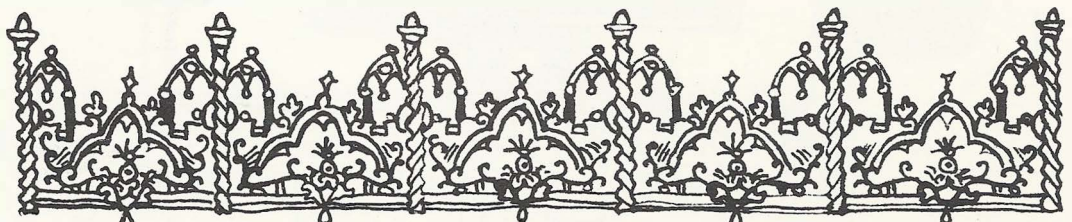
On Friday night David arrived with his suitcase and sleeping bag. The brothers went down to the local pub. David drank too much. He always had, even when they were at college. Back at Kenneth's house the two sat down to watch television for the rest of the evening. David fell asleep. The room was dark except for the blue light of the television screen. Both brothers now slept, the blue light dancing across their weary faces.

Kenneth spent the rest of the weekend with his brother and left early on the Monday morning, thanking David for his hospitality. When he arrived back at his surgery, his patients were waiting for him. It took longer than usual to get through morning surgery. When he had finished, he received a call asking him to go out and have a look at one of Johnston's cows. 'Has been behaving very strangely lately,' Johnston told Kenneth. 'Doesn't seem interested in anything no more.'

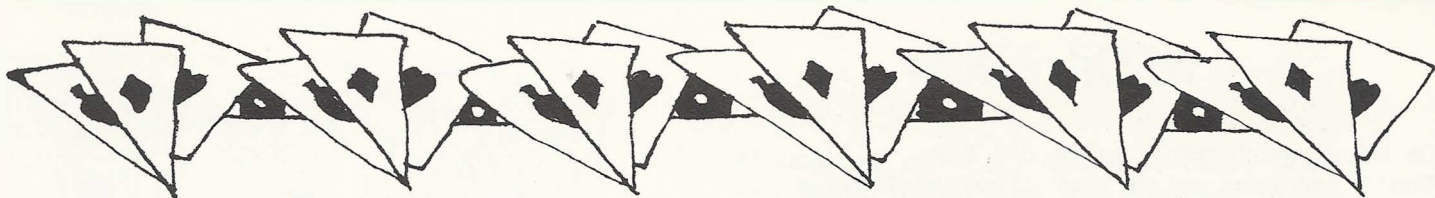
This was definitely a case of depression. The poor animal was left inside the barn day with nothing to do, no variety in life. Kenneth prescribed some anti-depressant and advised Johnston to take the animal out a bit more, give it something to do.

David was tired after the weekend, but he would be needed at the hospital so he had to shrug off his fatigue. The phone rang. It was the doctor on duty-call. It was impossible for him to leave the hospital and there was a child ill, having trouble with breathing, only five miles from David's home. David put down the receiver and dashed for his car. He put his flashing light on the top and sped down the road.

The house was in a built-up area but David found it quickly. The boy was lying on his bed on his back. He was badly bloated, his face like an over-stretched balloon, almost void of features. David wasted no time. He took out his bag and rummaged through it for a knife. Eventually, he found the right one. He felt his way down the boy's ribs and inserted the knife. The child jerked and the bloated face turned blue. No air escaped, only blood...







## moment of decision

The wind blew his hair away from his face, revealing the chubby tear-streaked visage of a twelve year old. His large, brown eyes turned to slits through which he could hardly make out the winding, empty road ahead.

The tall, old trees bent their heads as if to mourn his slow and lonely march along the dry pavement, against which dry leaves rattled, resembling volleys of machine-gun fire. His gym shoes padded against the ground but the sound was borne away by the wind which howled around him.

He broke cover and marched slowly on to the bridge. The single arch built of a sand-coloured rock was opened so long ago, and although moss-covered and much eroded it seemed to blend into the darkening landscape of trees and hills. The road back looked dark and sinister, amplified by the howling of the wind through the gap in the forest wall. But he didn't look back.

He reached the middle of the bridge and placed his hands on the edge. Quickly lifting one leg, he slid over the other side and his feet made contact with the ledge. Now he was on the edge, looking down into the nothingness of the black swirling torrents which gushed from under the bridge and broke on the boulders, severing the black torrents into jets of spray which flew gracefully in a pure parabola downstream to mingle again with their own kind.

He stopped and appeared to wake from his catatonic state. His will cracked and disintegrated like brittle ice. His mind cut in and began to relay messages which were vital to his well-being; his grip on the bridge tightened. So, Sean hadn't invited him. What if the others agreed? One little incident out of all that had happened did not justify this. Sean, Jim and he went back to the triad they had formed in their first year in the same class. They had fooled and laughed, joked and played and still come top in the tests. All that could not be wiped out because of one small incident. He always thought people were against him, was almost paranoid about it.

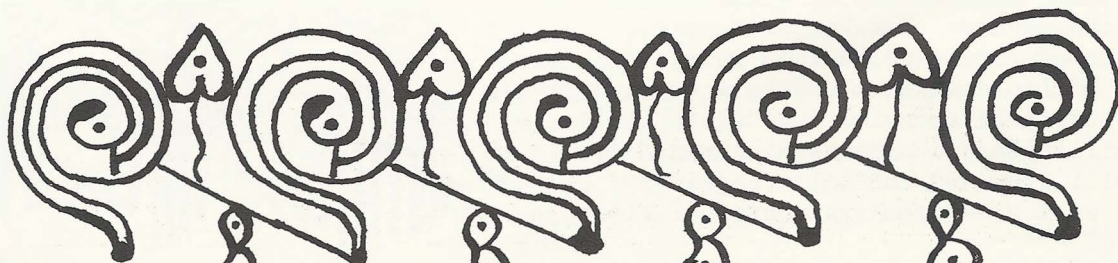
No.

If the world was against him he realised that it wouldn't matter. He alone was worth living for, and no series of disasters or defeats would make him give up that most dear and precious gift of life, willingly. He would remain forever himself, the silent and inscrutable person he was, because he cherished his own thoughts and feelings more than the world's friendship.

He vaulted back over the wall and marched up the road the way he had come but a short while ago, daring anything that might be lurking in the darkened wood to take him on. A dark figure against a sombre landscape, he went on his way, his coat swirling around him like some mystical person.

He would not be swindled of life ever.

James  
Scobbie

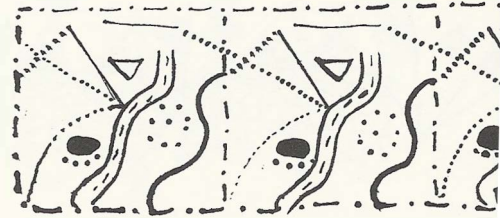




## TO A TRAMP

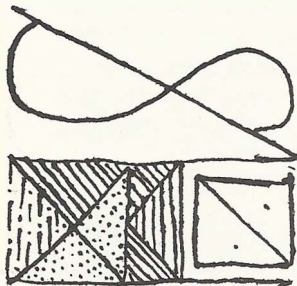
Oh happy wanderer, gentle old man,  
 Won't you take me on your timeless travels  
 Along the twisting, winding country roads ?  
 For I love the sweet smell of drenching leaves  
 And the soaking earth beneath my bare feet;  
 The dappled sunlight shining through the trees,  
 Dancing among the dewy blades of grass.  
 Beauty of nature is beyond reason,  
 Beyond question, beyond the simple man.  
 If time should stand still, please let it be now,  
 While I for once escape life's turmoil,  
 Knowing and loving this tranquility,  
 This quiet, simple joy and peace of mind -  
 Gifts that are yours forever, old trav'ller.

C.W.



## TO THE ONE YOU HATE!

One eye of a dog  
 The feet of a hog  
 Two bat's wings  
 Three bee stings  
 A pinch of salt  
 Don't make a fault  
 Then take a pig's tail  
 Mix it with a silage bale  
 Put it in a rusty pot  
 Make sure it's nice and hot  
 Worm's warm guts  
 A squirrel's nuts  
 Dish it out onto a plate  
 Give it to the one you hate!

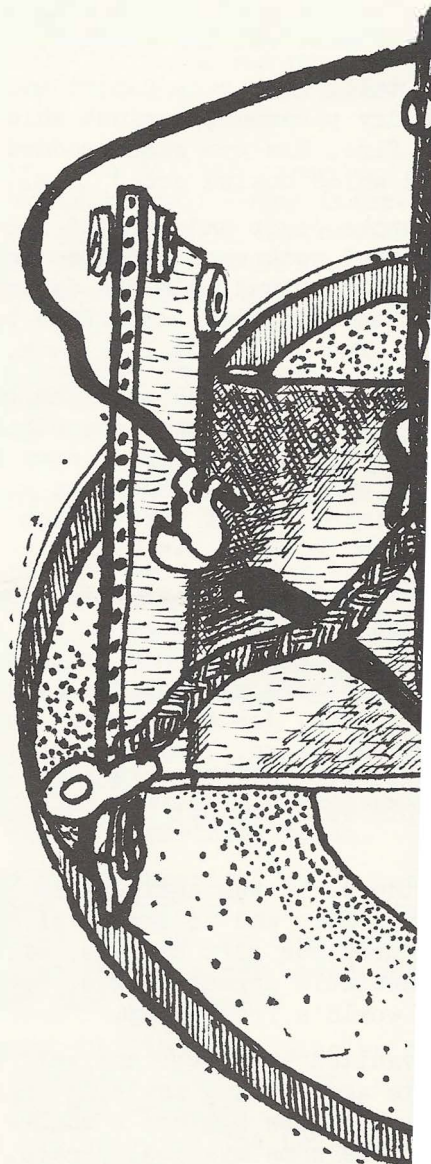


Brian Ritchie

## to autumn

The leaves are turning all golden and brown.  
 They're starting to curl and fall to the ground,  
 Spreading like a blanket on the wood's floor.  
 Apples are ripening and hay has been cut  
 And laid for storage as winter fodder.  
 The days are shortening and mornings are frosty.  
 The north wind has the nip of winter  
 Bringing the message that Winter's near.  
 It will transform the world into white;  
 The trees will stand stark and bare until spring  
 When the buds will show and burst into life;  
 The ice will melt and streams will run free.  
 Flowers will grow and add colour, again  
 The world will rise from its months of sleep.

SG



## FIRST SNOW

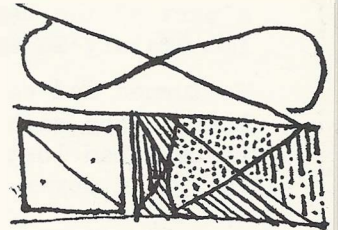
Slowly and silently the snow falls down  
Gradually blanketing the sleeping town,  
Rapidly carpeting the ground with snow  
Blotting out from view the moon's wintry glow.  
Under the heavens the little town sleeps;  
From under the eaves the hungry birds peep.  
A flea-bitten cat pads along the street  
Looking in doorways for scraps to eat.  
A small rusty car speeds along the road  
Swiftly shaking off its snowy load.  
A scraggy black tom screeches on a wall  
Quickly silenced by an angry call.  
The dawn is coming now, lighting the day,  
Telling of the first snow in its own way.

D.N.

## SPELL

The nose of a mouse  
The knees of a flea  
The beak of a sparrow  
The skin of a pea  
The lugs of a bat  
The hair of a dog  
The warts off a hand  
The frogs from a bog  
The moss in a wood  
The thumb of a hand  
A smelly old sack  
And a green rubber band  
Mix them together  
Add some salt  
Then you have  
Some witches malt!

Graig Lambie

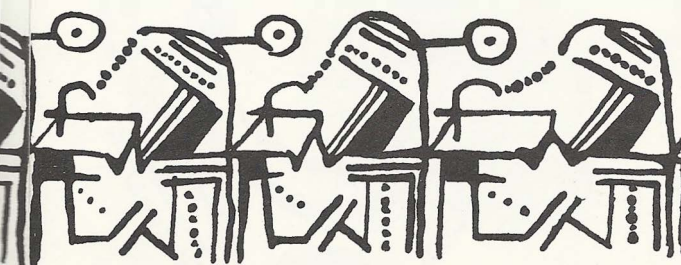
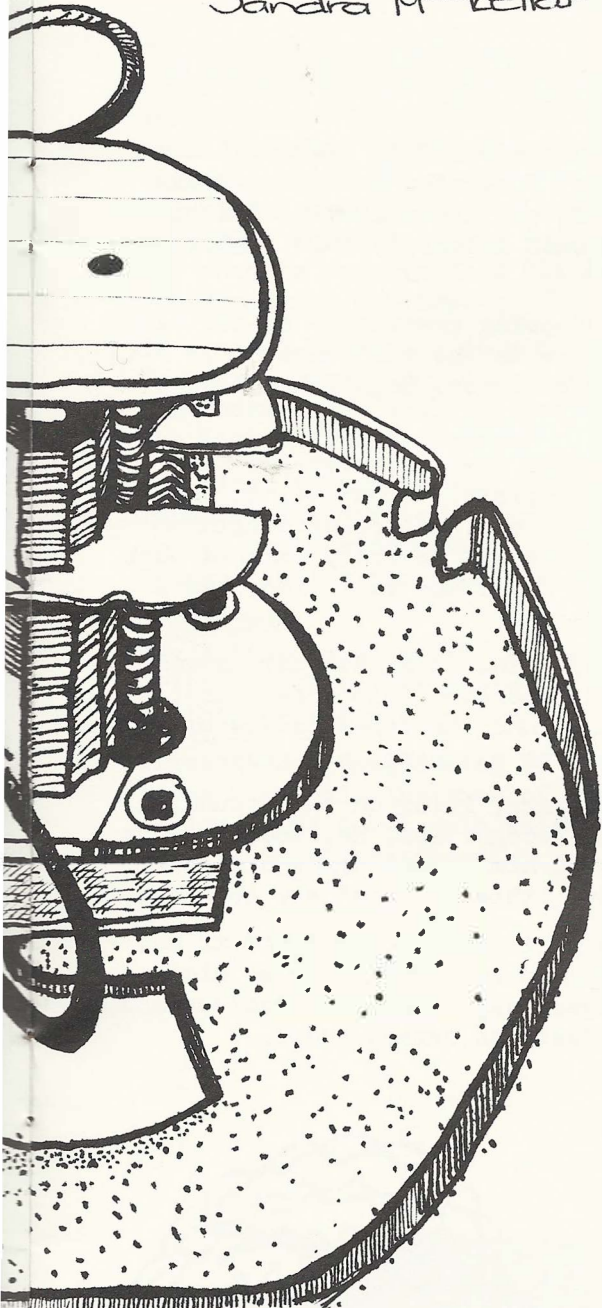


## night hunter

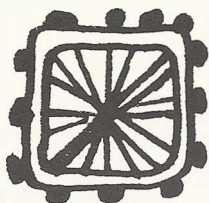
The sleek black cat stared wistfully from his perch;  
He watched the world about him with disdain.  
The laughing children did not aid his search.  
He viewed the rustling bushes but in vain.  
The garden emptied- silence fell and then  
The cat descended slowly from the wall  
To look more closely for his supper, when  
A light rustling of paper made him crawl  
Closer and closer to a mysterious noise.  
His talons crept out, set to maul asunder  
His victim, be it bird or furry mouse.  
To him it's food to satisfy his hunger.  
Then he leapt with venom on his prey -  
A meal to satisfy for that day.

Craig Walker.

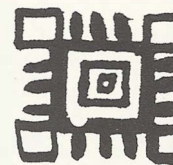
Sandra McKellar







# rags



Being three years old, and going shopping in a large city, proved to be quite an experience; it was an experience which has stuck with me throughout my life- or what has passed of it.

I insisted on carrying my teddy bear, more commonly known as Rags. He accompanied my mother and I from grocer's to draper's, from butcher's to shoe shop.

He was really special and so understanding; He'd never interrupt, only listen. I did love my Rags. His almost furless body, bare in most parts, comforted me in my dreams and in my waking hours. His one eye, glazed with a coating of the remainder of a hard-boiled sweet from a previous encounter, watched me with such intensity that I knew he was real.

I looked over the iron railing of the top floor of the shopping precinct - as did the People were milling about as if they were bees in a hive, with the war monument as 'queen bee'. They carried bags containing their own form of honey. Rags liked honey. This fact was enforced by the honey stain on his ear.

Disaster struck! My teddy bear was now somersaulting through the air, arms and legs flailing in all directions, his hard-boiled eye staring helplessly up at me. At once a whirlpool of thoughts did double-back dives in my mind, and I was drowning both mentally and physically in my own tears. Rags hit a rail and was severely punched back into mid-air, in an ever-losing battle of desperation and fear. The wall, too, had a better right hook than the bear.

I watched in silent disbelief through tears of sorrow and pain. It might just as well have been me hurtling through the air. My bear had now degenerated into a feather-like object, disliked by the creations of man - walls, railings and the cement steps of the street. Those steps ripped him, chewed him and spat him out onto the pavement, his grave.

We ran down, Mother and I; I was blinded by fear. I saw there, lying on the ground, grotesque image of a bashed teddy bear, distorted beyond recognition. He, too, was not a part of the bee-hive of life- or was it death? I picked him up but threw him down immediately in disgust, disowning him. I could never love 'this'; 'this' was not Rags.

We turned and walked away; my head filled with thoughts of what Rags had meant to me. Love, mixed with empty feelings of loss, collided with warmth and comfort in my mind. Maybe I had lost my best friend, but memories still linger deep in my subconscious as they will never fade to non-existence nor be dashed to death on cement steps.

*Rhona Calder*



## machineville

- OBJECT : SEWING MACHINE - Inventor W. Hunt - Date 1832 - Description, mainly domestic uses as machine to speed up the connection of cloth by thread  
- see illustrated computer graphic on page 1000E - appeared in manually operated version first, developed into an electrically powered version, then phased out by molecular welding.
- OBJECT : LIFT - Inventor E. Otis - Date 1852 - Description, a box on a system of wires to transport people to and from different levels of a building - see building computer graphic 1.

The historian rested from his task; he sank back into a deep armchair, or more accurately he mentally sank into a deep armchair, and the computer which monitored his thoughts then provided his brain with the electrically prompted stimulus which allowed him to feel as he thought. He thought about his task. He had been thinking his book since he was sixteen and after fifty years he was still less than a quarter of the way there. He was thinking a book which dealt with the inventions and technology, the progress through the centuries which had lead to his present exulted state. It was indeed a tremendous task and when he was finished his consciousness would be released and his brain cylinder then would receive another.

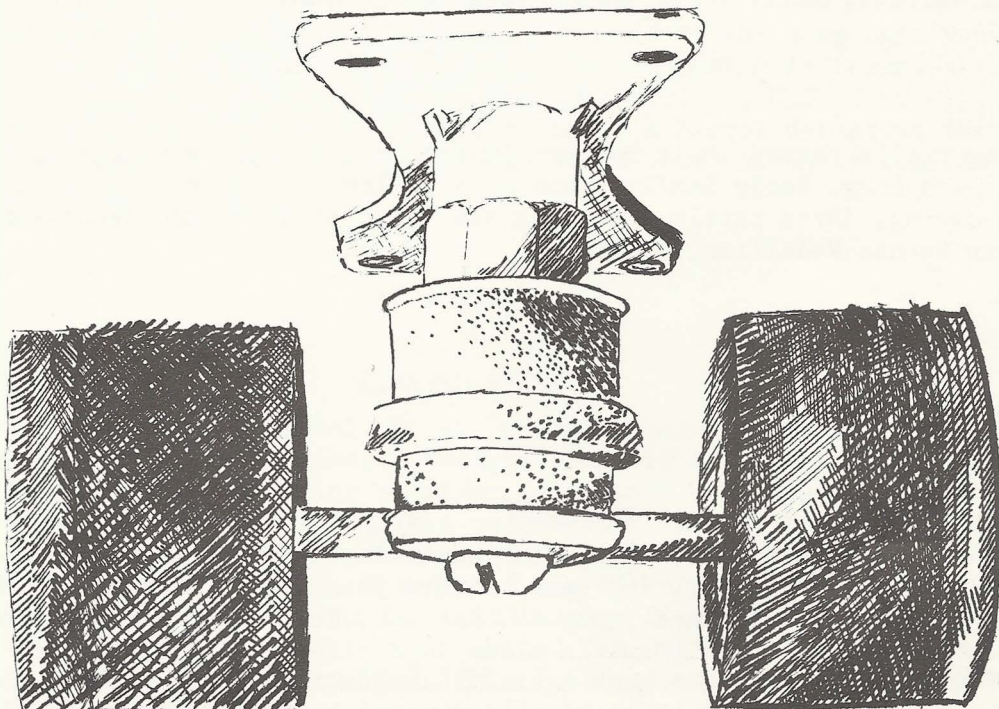
He decided he wanted companionship. The computer gave him companionship of a kind but he soon grew tired, for electrical stimuli, although a stimuli which provided a substitute for the masses, could not satisfy the historian because he had read of physical people who lived without a computer.

The first thought the historian had had against the computer had caused an electrical impulse of sufficient magnitude to rouse the computer core. It pondered over this threat to its world-wide computer control. It was not a great threat, but it was the first. Eventually the core decided the only direct effective action was to re-programme the human.

The saline solution in the brain-tank of the historian pulsed with light as the man's artificial life was destroyed then rebuilt by electricity. During this time the essence of 'historian' was in limbo.

After the re-programming he was no longer 'historian' but 'labourer'. The computer had given his brain the task of producing the mental effort to build the Trans-Siberian railway. The core again relaxed in the knowledge that his town, his city, his world was once again unthreatened.

Sean Sangster





# sports and club reports

## GOLF

Last year the school Golf team played three matches against other schools. All the matches were played at Grantown, giving the team an advantage as none of the other teams had played there before. The first match against Gordonstoun resulted in a victory for Grantown, the score being four and a half to one and a half. The next match was against Elgin; they were a strong team and beat us by five and a half to one half. The last match was played against Forres. We were beaten convincingly, so much so that none of our team members can remember the result!

## SWIMMING

During the year swimming training sessions for 1st year and Primary were run by J. Wallace, Marian Hamilton, Fiona Walker and Annette Hogg; 2nd year training sessions were run by John Ormiston and Mark Clark; senior sessions were undertaken by Miss Jardine. Attendance was good throughout the season. The school gala was held in March when 4 records were broken and a new event - an Individual Medley - was introduced. Champions were : Under 13 Louise Forbes and Fraser Lamont; Under 14 Susan Allan and Craig Lamont; Under 16 Morag Ross and Karen Davidson, Ian Fraser and Paul Moen; Senior Jane Wallace and John Ormiston. Individual Medley winners were Craig Lamont and Fiona Hawthorne in the Under 15 and John Ormiston and Jane Wallace in the Senior section. Very satisfactory performances were given by pupils who attended the Moray District Gala. Most outstanding was the performance given by John Ormiston, who came 3rd in Breast Stroke, 2nd in Fly and 3rd in Front Crawl. Other pupils to be commended for their performances are Ian Fraser, Mark Clark, Ross McLean, Marian Hamilton, Fiona Walker, Rona Wallace, Mairi Ross, Morag Ross, Craig Lamont, Neil Smith and Paula Massie.

The following pupils passed their Honours Award for survival swimming: Karen Davison, Morag Ross, Gwen Hogg, Wendy Hamilton and Rona Wallace. Similar success is reflected in the life saving, three pupils attaining the Award of Merit and twenty-one being awarded their Bronze Medallion.

## RUGBY

We have a new boy to the school, Craig Bonnington in 4th year, whose rugby talents have taken him through 1st year, 2nd year and 3rd year levels at Oban, on to a place in the under 15 North of Scotland rugby 15. The 1981 North of Scotland senior rugby 15 trials saw Craig successfully gain a place in the team which so far has defeated Edinburgh 29-0 and has a further game against Glasgow in the near future.

## **GYMNASTICS**

Gym Club ran from January to June of this year. It was held every Wednesday at lunch time. There were regular members who attended each week. Mr Mathieson very kindly gave up his lunch time to take us. We did several different activities such as vaulting over the horse and box, doing hand-springs, balancing on the trainer beam and doing different kinds of jumps on the trampette. We did floor work, too, such as hand stands, bridges, walkovers, hand springs and head springs. I am sure that everyone who went to the club enjoyed the sessions.

## **BADMINTON**

This season saw a good response to badminton clubs from all years. Attendances were very good throughout the season. Thanks go to all those who arranged and supervised these clubs. Unfortunately, the badminton season was not very successful from the point of view of matches. The juniors won four matches out of seven, but the seniors only managed to win two matches out of six. In addition the 1st Years lost in a friendly match against Kingussie. All team members taking part in away matches must thank Mr McLennan, Mr Nicol, Mr Young, Miss Jardine and Mr Ferguson for giving up their evenings to drive the teams to and from these matches. Teams are also indebted to Mrs Mathieson for allowing the use of the cookery room and equipment for tea when home matches were staged.

## **VOLLEYBALL**

A small squad of senior boy pupils formed the basis of the team this year, and , due to its size, the club was able to spend time investigating different skills and techniques while still finding time to enjoy the game itself. Unfortunately, only one competitive match was played and this resulted in a narrow defeat at the hands of Millburn High School, respectability in the score being saved by some informal ruling in the game.

## **CANOEING**

There are eight pupils in school who are regular canoeists; there are two teachers who regularly give up their time to instruct, namely Mr Young and Mr Nicol. Since the start of term we have been going on river trips each Wednesday afternoon as an activity. The trips have gone as far afield as Aberlour with an average of five miles being clocked up on each trip. The canoeists were as follows: Fiona Ormiston 3rd year, Colin Calder, Chris Sangster, Kenneth Shaw and Craig Walker from 4th year, and Graeme Walker and Joe McAdam from 6th year. On the last session five boys, Joe, Graeme, Colin, Ian and Craig took part in the B.C.A. Star tests. Ian and Colin passed 1 Star, while Joe Graeme and Craig attained the 2 Star. This involved an icy dip in the Spey in mid-October. Joe, Graeme, Chris and Kenneth will be participating in a novice slalom event at Seaton Park, Aberdeen on October 30th.

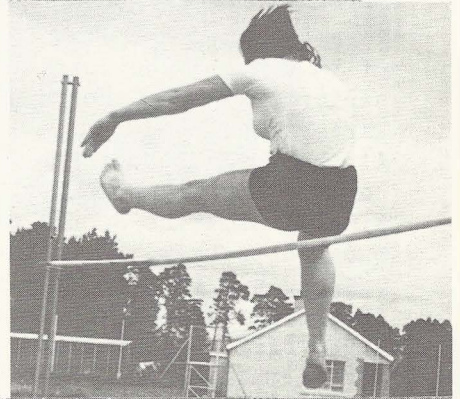
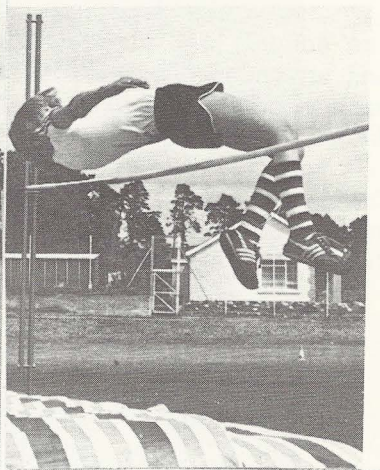




# School Sports.









## FOOTBALL

The school had three teams representing it this year: a first eleven, second eleven and an under 16 team. All three teams had mixed fortunes, but the first eleven did manage to gain a draw against a strong Lossiemouth team. One team member, Stephen Mackay, had his ability noticed in his performances with the local Nethy F.C.. This led to his invitation to play for Celtic Boys Club in a youth festival organised by Eastercraigs F.C., a well-known Glasgow boys F.C.. Since his appearance last April he has been a regular playing member of this famous boys club, a club where many of Celtic's 1st team professional players have had their grounding.

## ATHLETICS

In the school cross-country, Revack won the overall championship in the form of the Norwegian trophy. Alex Chapman broke the senior girls record with a finishing time of 13 min. 53 sec.. In the other races, Neil Mutch and James Williamson tied for the senior boys race, Scott McMillan won junior boys and Jackie Gordon won the junior girls race.

At the Moray School Sports the only noteworthy result was that of Fiona Ormiston who came second in the cricket ball event. The weather was atrocious!

Finally came the School Sports where 4 records were broken. James Williamson finally managed to beat the previous record by 3cm. in a new record jump of 1m. 63cm.. Alex Chapman won the senior girls 800m with a time of 2min. 41.5 sec.. Revoan won both the senior titles. In the intermediate sections Calum MacGillivray won the discus with a throw of 27m. 61cm.. The last record was taken by Sally Gordon who won the shot putt with a throw of 7m. 30cm.. In the junior section Roy won the girls and Revack the boys. The intermediate was won by Revoan in the boys and Revack in the girls.

Champions:

Girls: Rhona Calder (senior), Alison Mackintosh (intermediate), Janice MacGillivray (junior)

Boys: John Ormiston and Joe McAdam (senior), Calum MacGillivray (intermediate), Peter McLeod (junior)

## ORIENTEERING

As usual this term compulsory S3 Orienteering met the usual enthusiasm and shrugging of shoulders. As few actually found the forest, it may be assumed that it was not a particularly good year! However, help is on the horizon of the school's Orienteering world in the shape of Miss Marshall who will aid and abet our Chemistry teacher, Mr Turnbull, in his attempts to instil the excitement of the course into the usual odd collection of pupils.

## BASKETBALL

This term basketball has had an enthusiastic response from the 3rd to 6th year pupils with over 20 boys regularly attending the lunch time sessions. With the inclusion of 3rd and 4th year in the club, not only is the present team one of the strongest ever but also the prospects look good for an excellent squad of players for several years to come.





## DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD ....



The following awards were gained this year in the scheme:

Silver: 4 boys and 13 girls

Bronze: 9 girls

Congratulations go to all these people. Sadly, all the boys and five girls who began the bronze award did not complete it, although most of them have done most sections and the end was in sight. This year end there are 7 new entrants, whilst several pupils and F.P.'S have nearly finished the gold award.





# music

Throughout the year the music department has kept up its steady rate of entertaining both in and outwith the school. In the tail -end of last year it was full steam ahead to produce as many musical items as possible for the concert at Christmas in order to raise money for school funds. The concert was a great success, and both nights the large audience were treated to the talents of Sandra Guthrie - the school's famous flautist - and Graeme Mackenzie who played the piano. The rest of the concert was performed by the 3rd year certificate music class, the recorder group and the choir. However, the pupils got a break when the staff choir sang the stirring 'Wassail of Figgy Duff' which will not easily be forgotten by anyone who experienced it! Even after the concert was over work carried on just as vigorously as several people practised for the Kingussie Festival in March. Everyone did well and, no doubt, gained experience of the competitive side of music. Solo singers were Lesley Craib, Alan Murray, Robert Auld, Andrew Wilson; Mairi Ross and Lindsey Kennedy performed a duet. Sandra Guthrie earned a place at Douglas Academy and the school wishes her well in her further musical studies. With Sandra away her younger sister, Jean, fills her place as in October of this year Jean played Beethoven's 'Moonlight Sonata' at a local concert given in aid of the International Year of the Disabled. The Junior Recorder and Percussion Group also performed.



## DRAMA

At Christmas the senior Drama group took on another major piece of theatre when with the enthusiastic help of Mrs Barley they produced 'The Real Inspector Hound' by Tom Stoppard. It took quite a while to get used to the baffling complexity of the plot and attempting to explain it to others became a favourite occupation of the actors during the weeks of rehearsals! All thoroughly enjoyed Stoppard's rather off-beat humour and the fast pace of the action. Members of the cast were:

Sean MacGowan, Jennifer Grant, Lee Shedden, Jane Dunlop, Melanie MacGowan, Lesley Kay Ross, Denise Grant and Ross Maclean.

Several obliging 5th years joined in on the night as extras.

Jenny, Lee and Sean had no chance to relax as, together with Peter McCann, they went straight on into the intensive rehearsals for our entry in the Moray Arts Festival in January - 'The Man Without a Name'. This fine little satire about the attitude of Superpowers towards poorer countries was performed with quite remarkable talent and vitality by all the cast, and the production received warm and unstinted praise from the assessing judge - indeed, it was the only play in the Festival which got no feedback of criticism at all.



# FORMER PUPILS' SECTION



— 1981 —



# editorial

The Cairngorms, mantled in snow since early October, seem to be issuing a clear warning that an "old fashioned" Grantown winter is in store for us, as we put the finishing touches to this issue of the magazine.

This season brings our Annual General Meeting, and on that occasion Honorary President of last year, Jean Paterson, gracefully proposed that she should be succeeded in office by George Donaldson, retired Deputy Rector, and for many years Secretary and Treasurer of the Clubs, and this was unanimously approved. We wish Mr. Donaldson well during his term of office. The Rector expressed the feelings of all members in saying that this was a deserved tribute to Mr. Donaldson's great service to the School and the Clubs.

Approval was also expressed at the Annual General Meeting of the memorial to Dr. Bain, a fine display cabinet for the school trophies, which is now installed in the entrance foyer, and has been much admired, especially at evening functions, when the internal lighting is switched on. We thank all those who contributed towards the provision of this memorial.

Plans are well in hand for our two regular social functions, the Christmas Disco and the Biennial Dinner. The Disco which has proved so popular with our younger members since its inception two years ago is to take place in the Grant Arms Hotel on Tuesday, 29th December. The Grant Arms is also to be the venue for the Biennial Dinner on Friday, 23rd April. The speaker is to be Mr. Tom Hunter, the son of the former Rector, who is a Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon in Romford, Essex and we hear that a goodly number of far-flung exiles are already planning to attend. Old photographs can be a source of much enjoyment and reminiscence on such occasions, and we can arrange to display any which members might like to bring or send for that purpose. We look forward to a good attendance and an entertaining evening.

We thank all the members who replied so fully on our information slips, and thus made the work of revising the lists and writing "News from the Outposts" both interesting and enjoyable. We apologise in advance for any errors which have crept in, and would be glad to receive corrections, especially of any addresses which are known to be no longer up to date.

Thanks are due also to the large number of members who included generous donations to Club funds when returning their slips. In this connection the decision to raise the magazine price to 80p. brought an unexpected bonus as many members sent £1 when ordering their magazines! These welcome donations go a long way towards meeting our bills for postage of circulars and magazines, and we are most grateful for them.

When despatching the circulars this year we did some approximate statistics on the emigration of members which readers may find interesting. Some 10% of our members have emigrated, with the New World heading the League Table, Canada with 9, and U.S.A. with 7. 8 have gone to continental Europe, 6 "down under" and 6 to Africa - and of course lucky Dr. Ron Philip is in the Bahamas - read "Outposts" to see the reason for the adjective!

Finally we wish all our readers a happy Christmas and a good New Year.

I.S.

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\* NEW RECRUITS \*  
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We welcome to the fold the following new recruits: Michael Anderson who is doing Accountancy and Economics at Aberdeen University; Nicola Bans who has moved to Middlesex, is doing a business studies course, and hopes to join the R.A.F.; Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ferguson (Pamela Macdonald) - Tom is now Catering Manager of the City Hospital, Edinburgh; Lorraine

Gordon and Lynn MacGillivray who are to start nursing training in Edinburgh Royal, and Shirley Masson who is to do nursing training locally; Jill Lennon who moved to Hertfordshire with her family, and is doing some 'A' levels at the Margaret Dane School for Girls with the aim of achieving university entrance next year; Sue Martin who is to spend a year as a nanny locally, before also entering nursing in 1982; Eric Pirie who is to go to Robert Gordon's to do H.N.D in Electrical and Electronic Engineering; Timothy Pott who is to do a Travel and Tourism Business course in Aberdeen; Malcolm Smith who is to do H.N.D. in Agriculture, also in Aberdeen, after some local experience, and Alan Wright, who is doing the same course as Michael Anderson.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* BIRTHS \*  
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Congratulations to the following members on a bumper crop of births! In order of date: in December 1980, a son to Mr. and Mrs. Mike Munro (Anne Strachan) and a son to Mr. and Mrs. Brian Lobodzinski (Elizabeth Terris), in January 1981, a son to Mr. and Mrs. George Grant (Margaret Calder), in February, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Grant, in March, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ross and a son to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Harris in Canada. In April, a son to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Perk (Ann Stuart), in June, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Macleman (Dianne Duncan), in August, a son to Mr. and Mrs. David Macarthur (Joan Paterson).

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\* ENGAGEMENTS and MARRIAGES \*  
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Congratulations and best wishes to Graham Clark and Ailsa Ross who married in November last year, to Eileen Calder who became Mrs. Dennis Ross in December; to Sheila Harris who married Akis Koumides in May; to Jane Macaulay who married New Zealander John Lilley in June, and Mairi Macdonald who married Flight Lieutenant Robert Hankinson in Germany in July.

Best wishes also to the following on their engagements: Shona Grant and David McCulloch; Fiona Grant (Mullingarroch) and Archie McGregor; Barbara Smith and Mike Storey; Raymond McMurray and Carol Ramsay; Peter McMillan and Helen Patterson and Nigel Elrick and Helen Gall from Kingussie.

## SERVICES

Congratulations to Alan Anfield on his commission which he was awarded on his return from his 3 years in Canada. He is now a Technical Staff Officer for Artillery Ammunition in Didcot.

John Clark now holds the rank of Captain, and has been in Germany for some 5 years, but hopes to be posted back to the U.K. next year.

Janet Dixon is now a Nurse Tutor at Princess Alexandra Hospital, Wroughton.

Willie Dobson, now promoted to Flight Lieutenant, is continuing his pilot training on multi-engined aircraft at R.A.F. Lyneham.

Archie Liggat was also promoted to Flight Lieutenant in December last, and is doing basic jet training at Cranwell. He also enjoys continuing his interest in radio-controlled model flying with the club there.

Peter McMillan is due back in the U.K. this Christmas after 3 years in Germany. He has gained qualifications in Stores Management and Computer Operating this year.

Rachel Smith has had a spell in Flight Planning, but expects to be back in the Control Tower at R.A.F. Finningley soon.

Thomas Stuart has found a little time to play golf and see some of Ireland despite the calls of his duties commanding the Engineering Squadron at Aldergrove and the restrictions imposed by the "troubles".

# Obituary

In January of this year there occurred the first of a series of tragic deaths of young people which shocked the whole community and moved us all to share in the grief of the families affected.

TRUDI SUTTON, although a member of our Club for only a year or two, was already making a name for herself in her chosen career of hotel catering, when she went out last year to the Virgin Islands to gather more experience working in a luxury hotel there. In these idyllic Caribbean surroundings a boating accident brought an untimely end to this promising young life. We remember Trudi's pleasant disposition and ready smile from her so recent schooldays, and we send the deepest sympathy of the Club to her parents, brother Ewan and sister Sherie in their great loss.

Only three months later, another boating accident in nearby Loch Alvie brought the deaths of three young Dunblain Bridge men barely in the prime of their lives, and yet another young man WILLIAM EIRICK (better known to some of our readers as BILLY MacMILLAN) was killed in a motor accident in August. Billy was returning home after a night-shift at his job in Walker's Bakery, Aberlour. To his sister Caroline, twins Clive and Nigel and Miss Elrick, with whom he made his home in New Elgin, we send our deepest sympathy.

Now, as we are just completing work on this issue, we learn of the death of GRAHAM MCGREGOR at the age of 20 as the result of a motor cycle accident, and we are stunned by this continued succession of deaths of young people who have scarcely crossed the threshold of adult life. To his father and mother Mr. and Mrs. Peter McGregor (Mary Telfer) and sister Margaret we send sincerest condolences on behalf of the Club.

MRS. GEORGE MORRISON (Rachel B. Campbell) who was dux of the school in 1904, died on 2nd March 1981 at a nursing home near Oxford at the age of 93. We are indebted to her son Donald and youngest sister Mrs. J.M. Mackenzie for sending us details for the following obituary: Rachel Brown Morrison was born at Grantown-on-Spey in 1887, and after her education at Grantown Grammar School, she attended Edinburgh University, graduating in 1906. She was a teacher at Inverness Royal Academy when she married in 1913 Mr. (later Dr.) George A. Morrison, who subsequently became headmaster of Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen. In 1935 Dr. Morrison became M.P. for the Scottish Universities and the family moved to London. After Dr. Morrison's death in 1956, Mrs. Morrison lived in Dufftown, becoming known to a wide circle of friends. In 1967 she moved to England, and lived for some time with her son Donald and also with her daughter Eleanor.

Mrs. Morrison was a musician of some attainment (she played the 'cello), and even in old age she retained a lively eye for all that was going on in her own circle and in the wider world.

We extend the sympathy of the Club to her sister, her three children and seven grandchildren.

In March also took place the death of MRS. W. SCOTT (Mary McGillivray) formerly of Isla Cottage, High Street. To her husband, Mr. William Scott of Nethermuir, Laurel Avenue, Crieff, who informed us of his sad bereavement, we send the sincere condolences of the Club.

With the sudden death of former school janitor JOHN (JACKIE) DONALD in June, the school and community lost a figure well known to, and respected by a long succession of Grantonians who made his acquaintance, not only as he went about his duties in school, but also on the golf course, in G.I.T.A., the Y.M.C.A. and the tourist office. Many F.P.'s will gratefully remember his cheerful and obliging nature, and join in our expression of sympathy to Mrs. Donald and daughters Margaret and Jean (Mrs. Birrell).

We send our condolences also to the following Club members, all of whom have suffered the loss of loved ones in the course of the year: to Shona, Isobel and Sandy Calder on the death of their father in February; to Mrs. Ross (Margaret Davidson) on the death in April of "Auntie Celie", and to the Stewart family, James, Jane and Ann whose father, former Seafield Estate factor Farquhar Stewart, also died in April.

We note that the memory of the late Georgina Turnbull, a member who died in 1979, has been fittingly marked by the provision of a trophy in her former school, Merkinch Primary, Inverness. The trophy was provided by contributions from staff, parents and pupils.

Just as we were about to go to press we received on 1st November news of the untimely death of Bob Wilson while in Australia on a visit to his daughter. Our sympathy goes out to his wife Sheila and family in their great loss. A full obituary will appear in the next issue.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* OFFICE BEARERS \*  
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Honorary President - Mr. G.E. DONALDSON, M.A., B.A.

Honorary Vice-Presidents - Miss J.I. MUNRO;  
Miss JEAN PATERSON.

President - Mr. LEWIS GRANT, M.A.

Vice-Presidents - Mrs. J.D. ARCHIBALD;  
Mr. F. CALDER; Mr. A.M. GRANT.

Secretary and Treasurer - Mr. J.R. SMITH, M.A.

Committee - Mr. J. DUNCAN; Mrs. A.M. GRANT; Mr. J.J. GRANT; Mrs. JOHN GRANT; Mr. A. LEDINGHAM;  
Mr. JAMES SHAND; Mr. JOHN R. STUART.

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\* LATE NEWS EXTRA \*  
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From Brechin Mrs. Harris (Kathleen Dunn) reports that she is "Still teaching!"

Alistair Surtees holidayed in the Algarve but found the sunshine (and the mosquitoes) hard on British skins. He hopes to persuade brother Bobby to come to the Dinner with Richard and himself.

Margaret Ross delivered Mrs. Allan's (Evelyn Geddes) slip to us in time for a mention. Neil McTaggart enjoyed the Induction of Mr. Alston to Inverallan while visiting Grantown. We hear that Raymond McMurray has applied to enter Medicine instead of going on for a Ph.D. as reported in "Outposts".

Mrs. Templeton (Rita Marshall) reports meeting Ian MacGillivray since their move to Leven. Rita's son is a pupil at Buckhaven, where Ian is an Assistant Rector. Former Head Boy Andrew George has joined as a life member and will be added to the list next year. Andrew is off to do Business Studies/Accountancy at Edinburgh University.

Peter McNicol is still travelling around the world, now in the Merchant Navy, after 25 years in the R.N. He finds the magazine useful "I carry it with me wherever I go, and use it to get in touch with F.P.'s." he writes.

Local member "Jock" Paterson has joined the ranks of "lifers". Scott Clark has, we hear, moved from Napier to Strathclyde, but is still continuing the same course in hotel management.

Peter McMillan's engagement, which we noted in the "matrimonial" column, duly became a marriage in mid-October. The "Strathie" carried a nice picture of a mustachioed Peter and his bonny bride. We wish them every happiness.



# News

## from the Outposts

# News

# News

Research student, Eunice Allan, says she is finding out what science is really about as she looks for the "Miraculous breakthrough" while working for her PH.D. Dr. Jimmy Allan can take it easier nowadays with his son following in his footsteps in the practice. Mrs. Allan (Mona McLean) duly reported in from Biggar.

Michael Anderson is "eagerly awaiting" second year Accountancy at Aberdeen, having successfully completed first year. As a dutiful new grannie Mrs. Angus (Ella Wood) went to Cape Town to see her grandson and missed some 10 weeks of the Scottish winter. Dr. Bahzad (Christobel Terris) was back in Scotland from the U.S. in August to attend the 10 year reunion of the graduation of her medical class. Bruce Bain met P.M. Mrs. Thatcher when she visited his firm in Yugoslavia last autumn. Mrs. Bain went to join Bruce for a week in Dubrovnik in September.

Mrs. Banks (Lorna Stephen) and family holidayed in Grantown and Skye in August. Mother Nell accompanied them to Skye and enjoyed the glorious weather. Ian Beange went to college in Glasgow to sit Merchant Navy 2nd Officers' exams. in November. He is now also studying for H.N.D. in Nautical Science. Mrs. Booth (Netta Hunter) sent her slip from her romantically named 'Wishing Well Cottage' at Kinloss. Mrs. Boyne (Doris Cameron) wrote us a cheery note despite being confined to bed by poor health. Her husband and she are overjoyed at the arrival of their first grandchild, Rosemary.

We unfortunately missed Mrs. Braid (Pamela Gibson) when she delivered her slip this year. She is quite frequently in Grantown while her mother is staying at 'Glenwhern'. Mrs. Brocklehurst (Margaret McWilliam) is looking forward to retirement to indulge in her hobbies of bird-watching and stamp collecting. "There is never time to mount them all!". John Burgess was the first to order his magazine this year on one of his frequent visits to Grantown.

Congratulations to Mrs. Butler (Dorothea Syme) who celebrated her golden wedding in July. Mrs. Butler-Lee (Emily Campbell) sent a greeting from Fort William. John Calder has been working in various parts of Europe this summer and comes back to sit exams next May. Sandy Calder wrote us a nice letter from Inverness with news of Eileen's wedding and Alasdair's progress through his printer's apprenticeship. The latter spends some time at Art College in Dundee, and is at present a machineman with "Highland Printers".

We were delighted to have a slip full of good news from former Head Boy, Gillies Campbell, who is now Principal Art Teacher at James Gillespie's; has a family of a boy and a girl; has had an edition of 8 Wildlife Prints published nationally, and mounted an exhibition of paintings in the Stirling Gallery this year. Congratulations!

George Catto says he is "still cycling along" in Inverurie, while Mrs. Chapman (Irene Edwards) is "rapidly degenerating into a daily-walk-to-school Mum!". She lives near Newstead Abbey where Byron once lived. The guide there gives spirited renderings of the poet's work which, says Irene, "conjures up pictures of Mr. Hendry trying to instil a love of poetry into unresponsive 15 year olds in the old school!". The other Mrs. Chapman (Elizabeth McDonald) sent us a beautiful first day cover of Royal Wedding stamps from New Zealand. Many thanks!

Mrs. Clark (Alison Ronaldson) now an "exile" in Inverness after 50+ years as a local member, reports on a Ronaldson re-shuffle in the Highland capital. Jessie has moved into an 'aunty' flat at Alison's; and Michael has moved into Jessie's former home just along the road. Though they have nice views towards the Black Isle, they miss the Cromdales and Cairngorms! A most useful and energetic citizen, Alison received several presentations before leaving Grantown.

David Clark has just completed a 6 month industrial placement with an oil services company in Aberdeen before tackling the final year of his production engineering course at Napier. Brother Scott has done a year of his Hotel Management, B.A. and worked over the summer with Bill Lawson's building firm. Mrs. Clark (Heather Mathieson) was too late to get a mention last year, but did order her magazine in time! Adrian Cooke reports on a trip to Canada last year, and a visit to Alistair MacDonald there. Adrian is considering a move to the Middle East where brother Stanley has been working for some time. Mrs. Cowan (Wilma Irving) is due to return from Cyprus next May. She watched Scotland beat Israel at football in Tel Aviv last February, and was relieved that it was "an enjoyable afternoon with only good natured comments passing between the rival 'Fans'". She also had an interesting visit to the Holy Places in Jerusalem and Bethlehem with 5 other R.A.F. wives from Akrotiri in April.

George Dixon doesn't allow any historical inaccuracy in the Press to pass without a comment, backed by his detailed knowledge of his subject. He took up the cudgels again this year about the 'Clearances'. Andrew Dobson is going to Paisley Technical College to study civil engineering after spending a year with a contractor on the new A9. Margaret Donald is in the process of buying a flat in Primrose Hill. She enjoyed showing her young niece (sister Jean's daughter) around London on her first visit during the Royal Wedding Week.

Dr. Keith Donaldson was disappointed by the Grantown weather when he visited his parents briefly in June after attending a course in London.

Fiona Donn was relieved that the campaign to save Merkinch School from closure was successful - a most unsettling experience nevertheless. Her parents are "reasonably well" despite ups and downs in health. Eddie Duncan is still farming salmon at Lochcarron. Mrs. Fearnley (Maureen Macaulay) reports she had a visit from Allan Chisholm and family this summer. She is enjoying her comparative freedom now with all her children at school. Sine Fergusson just made it in time for a mention this year!

New members Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ferguson (Pamela Macdonald) have a girl of 4 and a boy of 2 who like to visit their grandparents at 'Taormina'. Ian Forbes regretted missing the Cattle Show but did attend Lonach and found the Forbes clan still to the fore. Lorna Forbes is now a fully fledged medical secretary in the Diabetic Out-Patients Department of Edinburgh Royal. Fire-eating Scot. Nat. Mrs. Forsyth (Nancy Gray) promises to attend the Biennial Dinner 'even although it is on St. George's Day!'. Unfortunately we missed Mrs. Fraser (Elspeth Mitchell) when she popped her magazine order through the letter box.

We were very pleased to see Robin Fraser at the Prize-giving, when he came to pay his respects at the inauguration of Dr. Bain's memorial. Robin is much involved in the running of the Aberdeen B.B. Battalion. Mrs. Gardiner (Wilma Watt) writes that her second daughter, 10 year old Cirsteen, is following in her elder sister's footsteps, (or rather hoofprints!) as a prize winning show jumper. A nice photograph of Shonagh George with her Primary classes at Alvie recently graced the pages of the Strathie.

Mrs. Gordon (Ann Paton) celebrated the wedding of her second daughter Joan in July. The latter is to teach Business Studies in Kelso High where her husband also teaches. Fiona Grant (Mullingarroch) has completed her S.H.N.D. in Secretarial Studies

and is now with an investment company in Georgian Charlotte Square, Edinburgh. See also "Engagements!".

Fiona Grant (Glencairn) is now a staff nurse in the Eye Unit of Edinburgh Royal and helps with the training of student nurses in Ophthalmology. Graham Grant called with his slip after nine months sea service and filled in some details of the hazards of Merchant Navy life for us. These seem to include oil spillages and close encounters both with other vessels and with female officer cadets! Graham now goes to College in South Shields for a year. Vet. Patrick Grant has been doing a Post Grad. year in Edinburgh before returning to practice in Braintree. Shelagh Grant writes that she has thoroughly enjoyed the variety of work she has been doing while 'temping' in Edinburgh since completing her Graduate Secretarial Course.

Shona Grant, enjoying final year nursing training at Raigmore, also has news under "Engagements". Susan Grant plans to be home in January to prepare for her wedding in March. Meantime she is coping with a polyglot situation in her fiancé's family hotel in Interlaken - four languages are spoken by the staff alone! Mrs. Gray (Barbara Hepburn) retired from teaching a year ago through ill-health, and is now down in Chatham. Mrs. Greenwood (Mary Winchester) had an enjoyable caravanning holiday in the North in June.

Mrs. Greig (Margaret Grant) writes "I could have a show of presents - it is like getting wedding gifts..." the reason!... she retired this summer from her post at Macalpine Primary, Dundee. Donald Gunn also retired in February after 32 years with Shell/BP. Good luck to all these pensioners! Mrs. Hankinson, a new name for our list, is the former Mairi MacDonald who married her R.A.F. Flight Lieutenant in July at Rheindahlen in Germany.

Mairi was posted to the H.Q. there in April 1980 by the Foreign Office. She is full of praise for the way her family, including bridesmaid Angela, coped with the wedding in foreign parts. We regretted being unable to be there to express our good wishes in person.

Harry Harris is in charge of a blackbird depredation project in the Canadian prairies - any tips on how to keep the beggars off our rasps? He also reports the arrival of a 9lb.6oz. son. Congratulations! Mrs. Harvey (Catriona Johnston) holidayed in Romania after a busy spell at St. Saviour's when her head of department was absent. We visited her parents in July in Dunbar and found them well, active and happy in the new 'Inverallan'. Following his Grantown experience, G.B. is to resume invigilating S.C.E. exams. in the local school. Bill is still finding his bus-driving leaves him plenty of leisure to pursue his Ballooning interests. Albert Hastings has a new address in the evocatively named Dulsie Drive, Nairn.

Susan Hendry always turns up trumps with plenty of news. A move is imminent to a nearby village where a house is being renovated for her. She had a visit from brother John this summer, and hopes to be in Scotland in December. Mrs. Hogg (Jean Cruickshank) had an enjoyable week-end with sister Margaret at Mains of Garten in May. Mrs. Hollins (Maureen Gardner) attended the Prize-giving and Memorial Inauguration also, and enjoyed talking to many of her former teachers. She has been taking an adult French conversation class in Morton-on-Swale since Easter. Andrew Howlett reported no change for himself and brother Duncan.

We had the pleasure of showing former Rector Mr. Hunter's son Tom and daughter Netta (Mrs. Guthrie Booth) round both the new and the old schools last year when they paid a short visit to Grantown, and we look forward to their next visit which will be for the dinner in April. Marr Illingworth enjoyed coming home to Scotland from the U.S. for a "lovely visit" in August, and brother Edward reported in from Newton Mearns. Changes of address for both Innes brothers, Arthur and Walter, were given us by sister Christine. John Irving writes proudly of his son's R.A. activities which include membership of the band and the swimming team.

Mrs. Davidson (Margaret McBeath) when

Alister Jack (senior) met a "disgustingly ageless and fit" pair of fellow F.P.'s (Jack Cameron and Keith McKerron) last summer and made good resolutions about playing more golf. The shorter evenings in Middlesex prove something of a handicap however and make him envy northern golfers. Nephew Alistair (M.P.S.) records "another busy but uneventful year". As befits the son of a University Blue, Colin Keith's son, of the same name, is following in Dad's footsteps in athletic prowess. Aged 12 he won the Scottish National under-14 Squash Championship last year, and now trains with the National squad.

Dena Kelman who is a medical secretary in a busy cancer hospital in Chelsea finds that her job takes her to a variety of places. She has been with her consultant to see prisoners in Wandsworth and foreign "royals" in the Savoy! Grace Kirk regularly revisits Grantown as holidays come around. Mrs. Knopping (Ruth Mathieson) renewed her regular magazine order from Natal.

Mrs. Koumides (Sheila Harris) provides us with another unusual name for the list with her marriage to Edinburgh restaurateur Akis Koumides. She remains in post as a Guidance Teacher in Haddington, and her parents are selling their business in Dunbar before going out to visit their new grandson in Manitoba. Mrs. Laing (Katherine Templeton) is still practising midwifery in Edinburgh.

It was nice to have a detailed and cheerful bulletin from Mrs. Sandy Laing (Lindsay Wood). After some years with the Fraserburgh Tool Co., she decided to go back to school when the firm moved the office to Aberdeen. She has completed now at Buchan Technical College S.N.C. Business Studies, Higher English, 'O' Economics and Maths. "I'd love to have been able to tell Dr. Bain about that" she writes. Her two boys continue mother's tradition of equestrian skills and bring home lots of cups for her to clean! Patricia Laing has successfully completed the first year of her secretarial course at Napier.

Mrs. Lilley (Jane Macaulay) was married in Nethy. in June to an offshore oil technician from New Zealand. They honeymooned in Corsica which Jane had wanted to see since studying Napoleon for a S.Y.S. project! She is continuing her work as a features writer for the Press and Journal. Mrs. Littlejohn (Elsie Young) is Chairman of the Ladies Section of the Rugby Licensed Victuallers Association and was due to organise a trip to Strathspey for them this autumn. Mrs. Lobodzinski (Elizabeth Terris) reports in telegram style "moved to Irvine - gave birth to son in December - time now spent looking after "bundle of joy" (?) and restoring 150 year old cottage. Husband (boring teacher) is now Head of Modern Studies in local sch. The parentheses are Elizabeth's - not the editor's!

Karen Low is taking a year out from her accountancy course at Glasgow Technical College. She kept us right with the Prize Books and Tokens this June, while her parents holidayed in Canada. Mrs. Lugg (Jean Burgess) reports a reduction in the pace of life due to her husband's hospitalisation in November, but she still manages to visit Grantown brother John in Ayr and entertain a wide circle of friends. Mrs. Lynch (Pam Macpherson) still in Derbyshire had "no change" to report. Mrs. Macar (Joan Paterson) delayed her slip a little to be able to announce her second son: "another great nephew for Auntie Jean Pat."! Margery Macaulay is back Berengaria Primary in Cyprus completing the final year of her contract. "Who knows what I may be doing next year?" she speculates somewhat enigmatically. Cousin Simon is still in the Modern Languages bus: in Harris.

Mrs. McEllelland (Elizabeth Lawrence) was to have a visit from sister Pat. in August. We wish Sheila McCulloch well as she sets off this year on her exchange scholarship to Zürich University. She was bridesmaid at sister Kathleen's wedding to David Irvine before departing. Alistair Macdonald was in Alberta with an oil well test firm when we heard from him, but was, we believe, considering move. On their first holiday without the family Mr. and Mrs. John Macgregor (Pat Lawrence) revis



Jersey where they honeymooned 20 years ago. Pat is "still educating the English, and John playing golf".

Mrs. McIntosh (Iris Forbes) has been teaching infants for a year in Lhanbryde. "Demanding", she comments, "they require and expect your full attention every minute of the day". I can just see Miss Legge nodding agreement. We were able to put Iris in touch with Graeme McInnes who is now a trainee Shackleton pilot at Lossie. Donald McIntosh sent regards from Aberdeen. Randal McIntyre continues to run his insurance and engineering consultancy business in Glasgow.

We were pleased to have a slip from Alex. McKenzie last year in time to order a magazine. Dr. Sandy Mackenzie has been able to acquire two medals presented by Robert Grant of Muckerach and awarded to prize-winners in the school more than half a century ago. These will no doubt be similar to those we have on display in the new memorial case and which were awarded to the Pyper sisters in 1913 and 1916. Mrs. Mackenzie (Jessie Campbell) was one of those who kindly helped us by furnishing for our obituary column details of her sister, Mrs. Rachel Morrison, who died in March. Kevin Mackenzie "still enjoying working in the Anatomy Dept. and living in Aberdeen" has gained his O.N.C. in Medical Lab. Sciences and is going on for H.N.C.

Keith McKerron is obviously still full of beans - see Alister Jack's comments! Angus Mackintosh, another fitness buff, "starred" as a 1924 vintage Olympic athlete in the film "Chariots of Fire" part of which was filmed on the beach at St. Andrews. So far there have been no follow-up offers from Hollywood however! Coincident holidays again prevented us meeting Angus's mother, former science teacher Mrs. Edith Mackintosh when she was in Grantown in July. However she wrote us an entertaining account of her quick visits to all her old friends "a few minutes each...just like the Queen Mother!" Bertie Mackintosh complains on his slip about a total lack of response to his appeal for recruits to the United Nations Association. Any takers second time round? We note that Hugh Mackintosh, now Area Chairman of the Young Farmers was much involved with the big Rally held in the Primary School this summer.

Isobel Maclean had "nothing exciting" to report from Renfrew. Congratulations to Morven MacLean who has achieved the necessary qualifications and started a B.A. in Hotel Management at Strathclyde this year. Motherhood for Mrs. Macleman (Dianne) Duncan has meant giving up her work at Lossie swimming pool. Apparently it has brought a few sleepless nights too! Their new house in Lossie is named "Inverallan". Another one!

Mrs. McLeod (Elizabeth Macgregor) is still in Aviemore. Maureen McMurray had an interesting year which included experience of "locum duty" as a pharmacist at three other Tayside hospitals before she took up a new post at Ninewells. When brother Raymond called on us we were delighted to be introduced to his fiancée, post graduate student nurse Carol Ramsay. Raymond graduated B.Sc. (Hons. Pharmacology) in Edinburgh this summer, and is now to start a Ph.D. at Glasgow.

The editor's curiosity was really aroused by the arrival of James Macpherson's package this year - heavy, protected by stout cardboard, marked "School Mag." on the back - What could it be? Some treasured old photo perhaps? It turned out to be the 80p. for the magazine in coins of the realm! Ever been had?? Peter Macpherson sent a friendly greeting from Blairgowrie. The garden and the playing of his pipes, especially old Strathspeys, are his great interests in retirement. Mrs. MacSween (Margaret Ross) popped her magazine order through our letter box in summer. Pamela Main completed her Medical Secretary course, but decided on some foreign travel, and is spending a year in Italy as an "au pair". John Milne had an interesting retirement occupation recently tutoring an 8-year-old non-English-speaking Norwegian boy to cope with a Scottish Primary 3!

Wishart Milne commutes to Pitlochry at week-ends and intends to retire there eventually. We are grateful to him for bringing us a copy of a P.O. magazine containing material of family interest. Mrs. Mitchell (Jan Templeton) reports the marriage of son Gordon who has just completed an exchange year at Washington State University. She also writes that sister Margaret (Mrs. Cropp) hopes to be home from Ontario to attend the Dinner next April. Bill and Judy Mitchell didn't manage their usual summer visit this year but at Easter Judy did "enjoy a good chinwag with Evelyn Hamilton and Rita Templeton". Bill was busy this year with the Ryder Cup golf team at Selsdon. They also intend to be at the Dinner.

Jane Morris sent good wishes from Gloucestershire. She completed her B.A. in 1980, took a qualification in teaching English as a foreign language, and has spent seven months in Spain - the future? "I don't know, but I have schemes...". Shaw Mortimer had no news from Lockerbie. Ed (Sam) Munro is looking forward to a real family Christmas with Pat and family coming home from New Zealand. Son Mike and Anne presented him with a grandson last Christmas. "We're enjoying every minute of him" Mike reports - "and Anne used to think teaching was hard work!". Mrs. Munro (Gertie Lawson) regretted "no news for the magazine".

A nice letter from Jeannette Munro describes a lasting friendship with Grace Kirk begun in Mr. Hunter's first year Maths. class in 1934/5 when they had to share a desk, the class was so large. Plus ça change....! Such accommodation problems are still with us! Audrey Murray has moved from that familiar old flat in Forest Avenue, Aberdeen, and is now established in Holburn Street. She still teaches in Culter Primary. Mrs. Murray (Ann Stewart) says life is "child-orientated", but she manages to fit in some badminton and has revived her former interest in horse riding.

Mrs. Murren (Fiona Macdonald) is now with the Special Care Baby Unit at Raigmore. Betty Mutch provided us with a sympathetic shoulder to cry on when we skidded off the road in January and crumpled the front of the car! We visited her in July also, on the eve of her 70th birthday, and met sister Bobbie and her husband. Betty also hopes to be at the Dinner.

We had the pleasure of doing the "half-crown tour" of the new school with Mrs. Napier (Lindsey Stephen) when she was home from N.S.W. last year. She is moving more into the teaching of social work students and has begun studying for a higher degree. We had a most enjoyable blether also with Ernie and Amelia Oakes (née Edwards) when they called with their form one Saturday. Mrs. O'Connor (Dorothy Cameron) assures us that their notorious volcano, Mount St. Helens, has been behaving better this year, but with a long hot summer the Seattle area has had lots of forest fires.

"Life is good and busy", writes Mrs. Parrott (Catherine Douglas), another F.P. very active in the social work field. In connection with a Domestic Violence Project in Buffalo, N.Y. she spends "much time in court, jails, hospital emergency rooms and labor exchanges. All fun and exciting, and I have developed many dormant skills which got lost in being home with the kids." She sends best wishes to all her 1955-60 classmates. Mairi Paterson likewise is enjoying life as a staff nurse in Leith Hospital.

Dr. Ron Philip has revived an interest born 20 years ago when he used to go "pearling" at Inverallan and Balliefurth - now he spear-fishes for his supper of lobster or grouper along a Bahamas coral reef with a water temperature of 84°F. Idyllic! Mrs. Rae (Mona Grant) is looking forward to "a few hours of peace a day when Peter jnr. goes to school". She sees Mrs. Cameron (Margaret McGregor) quite often as she lives nearby. Andrew Reid is "settling in" in Woking after his short-lived return to Scotland, but they all miss Penicuik and their friends there. Ian Ritchie had no news from Saffron Walden. Mrs. Robertson (Davis Thomson) is still working with immigrant youngsters in the Glasgow area. Unfortunately we missed her when she called with her own and Wilma's slips.

Alex. Ross has moved house, but has had wife "Dot" (Dorothy George) "out doing supply teaching since January, so the place is slowly taking shape". Editor not quite clear whether this means you leave all the jobs to her, or use her salary to finance the improvements?? Alex is still with Scotland Yard's Organised Crime Squad. Charles Ross has just bought a house in Cromarty and hopes to move there with wife, daughter and Alsatian before the end of the year. Since marriage Mrs. Dennis Ross (Eileen Calder) has continued her job with Bowmakers in Inverness, though she now lives near Beauly where her husband runs a painting and decorating business.

In a flying visit to Grantown in August Margaret Ross (Broomhill) managed to meet Jean Pat., Elsie Keith and Miss Grant "really a treat to see them all after so many years away." Mr. and Mrs. Victor Ross (Dorothea Geddes) were off to Canada this summer to visit the family. Dr. Bill Sellar was quickest off the mark returning his slip this year. His youngsters are interested in music, cricket and water ski-ing. Himself "as usual - busy". Mrs. Selman (Elise Kirk) is another member we hope to see at the Reunion in April. Mrs. Shiach (Margaret Smith) dropped us a nice note with news of her daughter's Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award and her acceptance for medicine in Aberdeen this October. Congratulations! Barbara Smith is working meantime as a dental receptionist in Leeds. Catherine Smith has a "very happy retirement - never a dull moment". She toured Speyside last September with the McInnes family and called on Mrs. Nell Stephen for coffee. Mrs. Ian Smith (Janette Macdonald) may have a move in the offing, but is meantime "hanging on to my job (teaching geography at Firrhill) while those around me are axed by the infamous Lothian Regional Council." We had a brief word with another Mrs. Smith (Elspeth Gow) while we were up to our elbows in the Lucky Dip at the Square Fayre P.T.A. stall. Elspeth is still teaching in Peebles.

John Smith (Burnfield), now a geophysicist in Singapore, hopes to be home for Christmas. Mrs. Spalding (Isobel Gunn) writes that her son Neil has completed successfully the 1st year of his B.Sc. (Eng.) at Aberdeen. Nicholas Spence sent us an interesting account of his work with Panavia, building the Tornado, which he assures us, will soon be roaring around the skies of Strathspey. I quote: "PANAVIA is a German registered company, in Munich, whose task is to coordinate the Tornado project on behalf of the three national aerospace manufacturers, British Aerospace (UK), Aeritalia (Italy) and Messerschmidt Bölkow Blohm (FRG). We are some 300 persons strong and cover all disciplines except that of System Engineering which is looked after on a work-sharing basis by the three Partner Companies, as they are known.

The total number of production aircraft required is 809: 385 for the R.A.F.  
324 for the German Air Force and Navy.  
100 for the Italian Air Force.  
so you can see that we have quite a coordination task."

Mrs. Springall (Jessie Stuart) was due to visit Grantown in August. James Stewart works in Utrecht mainly but has "the odd trip to the Sahara" where he says the site workers understand his pidgin French better than the French! Neil Stuart has become an Examination Officer with the S.C.E. Board and has no regrets about leaving teaching - no bells or headmasters! He has enjoyed working with our former Principal Technical Teacher, Bill Corpe, who has been Principal Examiner in Technical for some years. Neil is involved with his local scout group and feels his efforts "go some way towards repaying the work put in by "G.B." over the years in Grantown".

News of the Stuart girls is that Dr. Elizabeth is now at Craig Dunain taking part in a G.P. Vocational Training Scheme, while Rita, still at U.N.E.S.C.O., is to be moving into a new flat in Paris. Ann (Mrs. Perk) spent five months at home last year, but went back to Zambia in June, after the birth of Nicholas Peter. We had a pleasant

evening with Mr. and Mrs. Richard Surtees during their visit earlier this year. Mrs. Sutherland (Elspit McIntosh) has had a busy year, going to the Rockies, Calgary Stampede and the Prairies in Canada, not to mention several visits to Netky. Gordon Templeton had no news of note, but brother Billy was promoted to the Leven Branch of the Royal Bank in spring after seven years in Forres. James Thomson, who remarried in August last year, confesses his wife Barbara plays better bowls than he does. They visited Grantown in May.

We were glad to hear Billy Thomson has been in better health and enjoying watching Ian Botham dealing with the Aussies. Mrs. Twist (Jill Hepburn) has moved "half a mile down the road" in Alloway, and held a children's street party in July on the Royal Wedding Day, which was her own 10th anniversary also. Derek Walker is "kept busy by a constant supply of guests" in the Green Hotel, Kinross, even in these lean times for hoteliers. "Three under school age makes motherhood my main occupation, but one I enjoy to the full" writes Mrs. Walker (Sherie Sutton). Other delights include sampling the stock from the new venture wine shop, opened as a side-line by her solicitor husband and a bit of linguistic stimulation from a German "au pair".

Mrs. Walling (Isobel Jack) was off to the States for a holiday in September, having had the family over from the U.S. in summer. The Donaldson family were reunited briefly when Keith brought Sheina (Mrs. Weston) up for a visit in June. Sheina also entertained Keith's eldest daughter Vicky, who, at 14, had come over from British Columbia on her own for a "grand tour" of the U.K. Sheina's family (3 boys) are starting a "Canada fund" for a return visit. Mrs. White (Marjory Mackintosh) had no special news from Helensburgh, nor had David Winchester from Fort William.

Barry Wood, one of the Nethybridge press barons, is still reporting for Scottish County Press, while brother Michael, teaching in Dunfermline, is kept on the straight and narrow by his better half - a practising policewoman. Alan Wright has completed successfully first year accountancy at Aberdeen University. Stanley Wright lives in "Riverside View", Frome. Has father Jimmy extracted any fish from that river we wonder? Mrs. Walker (Helen Scott) writes that her daughter has completed her 2 years apprenticeship as a lawyer in Aberdeen, while her parents, both in their eighties, and living in Portsoy, still enjoy reading the news of Grantonians in the magazine.

## LOCAL NEWS

Official summer time started a week later this year because of E.E.C. arrangements, and this may have confused the Weather Clerk, but summer really began with the Royal Wedding, and Grantown certainly enjoyed a warm dry prolongation of summery weather well into September.

The extensive road realignment being carried out around Ballintua is well on now, and the new crossing of the Congash burn is under way. Conservationists have been much preoccupied about further ski developments on and around Cairngorm, though they have been happier about the development of the old railway track as the "Speyside Way" for walkers. A population "bulge" has hit both our school and our neighbours at Kingussie and necessitated the provision of extra accommodation - no easy matter in these days of financial cuts. The Scouts have a fine new hut in the Black Park.

There is a proposal to dispense with the local telephone exchange operators in 1984, causing significant job losses, while the previous exchange, converted from Woodpark Villa some 20 years ago, still stands as an empty shell. Telecoms' building budgets are plainly more elastic than educational ones! The old shelter shed in the girls' playground at the Old School has been demolished - a sensible safety measure to improve the view for approaching traffic - but what secrets these stones could reveal if they could only talk!



Now on to the doings of our local members: Sheila Archibald is now president of the T.W.G. Frank Calder has joined the ranks of life members. George Cameron emerges from retirement occasionally to officiate at local and parliamentary elections. He tells us that brother James has also now retired from local authority work in Cowdenbeath. Vera Campbell will be finding more time now for golf since retirement last Christmas after 40 years infant teaching at Nethy. We wish her a long and happy retirement. Ainslie Cruickshank still lays carpets and makes music with local bands. His new home complete, Alex Dick has been busy laying out the garden. Daphne Duncan has slotted nicely into the school staff as an additional Business Studies' teacher. Father John had recently to take a special test for driving double deckers in Inverness - what price the ski road with one of these in February John?

Angus Gordon is active in Community Council work. Alison Grant, now a qualified hotel receptionist, helped us fix up arrangements for the dinner in the Grant Arms. Martin and Chrissie Grant are off to Australia for two months in December to visit Allan. Robert has taken over the running of the main garage business nowadays, while Martin is pensioned off out to the wood "meantime on the right hand side - but no doubt eventually on the left" in his own words! Evelyn Grant is president of Dulnain W.R.I. and was one of the vacancy committee which helped choose Rev. Colin Alston as Mr. Johnston's successor last year.

We have often commented on Jimmie Grant's "green fingers" in the garden, but he is an expert on the green baize as well, as he proves at the Billiard and Snooker Club. Sally Grant still keeps the books at the Police Station, and shares in the family interest of curling. Evelyn Hamilton has just completed a most useful stint as secretary of the P.T.A. Mary Macgregor figured in the awards for indoor bowling this year. Mr. and Mrs. Jim. Mackenzie holidayed in Interlaken, Switzerland this year. Patrick McLean gave a well balanced address at the Prize-giving this year, with a message for everyone. It was nice to have his father-in-law, former South Church minister Dr. Ross, back in school again on that occasion. The McLeod family as usual is prominent in sport, particularly curling and tennis. Isa MacPhail is in the process of selling her shop, and Janet and Sandy have moved into the High Street house.

We had the pleasure of Ian McPherson's company on a pretty dreich Lochindorb evening in June, when we joined in one of the Old Guard competitions. Elizabeth Main and family have moved to "Walton" in Heathfield Road, and Barry, his Edinburgh training completed, joins father in Beale & Pypers. One of the high points of a good Grantown Society year was the illustrated wild-life talk given by Hamish Marshall and Alister McCook, which kept a large audience spell-bound. Sheena Ogilvie has moved from Deshar to fill the vacancy at Nethy which arose with Vera Campbell's retirement, and we wish her well in her new post. "Jean Paterson must be a wonderful person to keep the F.P. section going, for she immediately asked me if I had returned my slip" - we quote a letter from returning "exile" Margaret Ross (Broomhill) and endorse thoroughly her sentiments about the enthusiasm of our honorary president. Brother Jock is building a new house behind Parkburn, so the latter joins the others on the rather sticky property market at present. Jock is also one of those busy setting up a local Dons' supporters club, and on their start of season form they need some support! Son Ian is also involved as secretary of the new club.

Sandra Paterson's cheery smile from behind the Bank of Scotland counter no doubt reassures customers with overdraft worries! Our Disco organiser James Shand and his wife Diane are acting as foster parents for a wee charmer of a baby boy. John "Bookie" Stuart has named his new house "Riverway".

\*\*\*\*\*  
\* FISHING CLUB \*  
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Life-size  
Lochindorb  
Monster!

The series of five fishing competitions held at Lochindorb during May, June and July were as popular as ever, and much enjoyed by all who took part, including quite a number of visitors who are regular attenders.

Apart from visitors, only three Club Members and three Honorary Members attended the opening session, but a warning that the Competitions might have to be abandoned had the desired effect, and the roll rose to 12 members and 9 honorary members. Many of the older members are dropping out, but it was with great pleasure that we welcomed Bob. Wilson, founder of the Old Guard Club, who has now retired back to Grantown. He makes no claim to having formed the fishing section, and, in fact, this is not one of his strong points, but it gives his former pupils great pleasure to teach him.

Results this year were rather disappointing, although on most evenings conditions appeared to be ideal, and one ex-champion, who shall be nameless, only accounted for 12 fish as his total for the best three nights out of the five, which is how the championship is decided. The Cup went to Norman Stone with a total of 45 trout, but Norman's Cup for the best single night's catch was won by his nearest rival, Alistair Paterson, last year's Champion, and third place went to John Stuart. It would be unfair to name the winner of the 'Booby' prize, since this had to be drawn for, but all credit to those who attend regularly without ever catching a fish!

The Club are very grateful to Mr. Laing of Logie for allowing the competitions to continue, and to Jimmy Scott, Gamekeeper, for being such an excellent host.

(Report by Secretary, John Stuart.)

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\* SWIMMING CLUB \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

In spite of rising costs, the club has, appropriately enough, managed to "keep its head above water" in the past year. This is due more than anything else to the assiduity of Secretary, Mrs. Margaret Masson, in ensuring that all fees are duly paid, and the administrative arrangements made with the Highland Regional authorities by President, John Duncan.

The new session opened after the October break with twice weekly meetings on Tuesdays and Fridays, and a slightly shorter duration of swimming. By this means the committee hopes to be able to hire the pool on two evenings per week at least until Easter. Whether this is successful will depend on the support given by members, so do your bit, if you wish the club to remain solvent!

\*\*\*\*\*

# Don't forget!

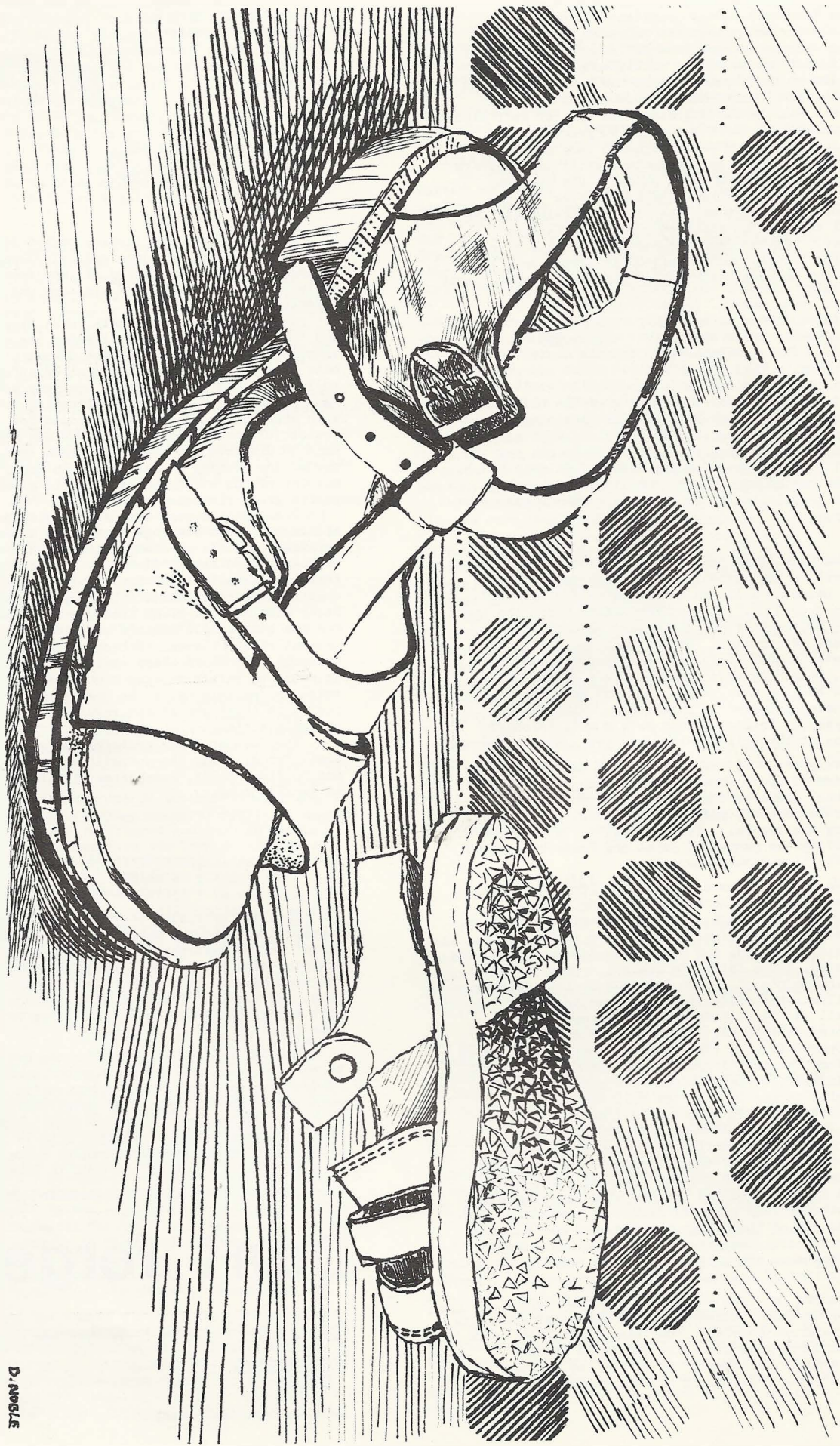
THE DISCO: Grant Arms, Tuesday, 29th December.

THE BIENNIAL  
DINNER: Grant Arms, Friday, 23rd April 1982.

Details from the Secretary.

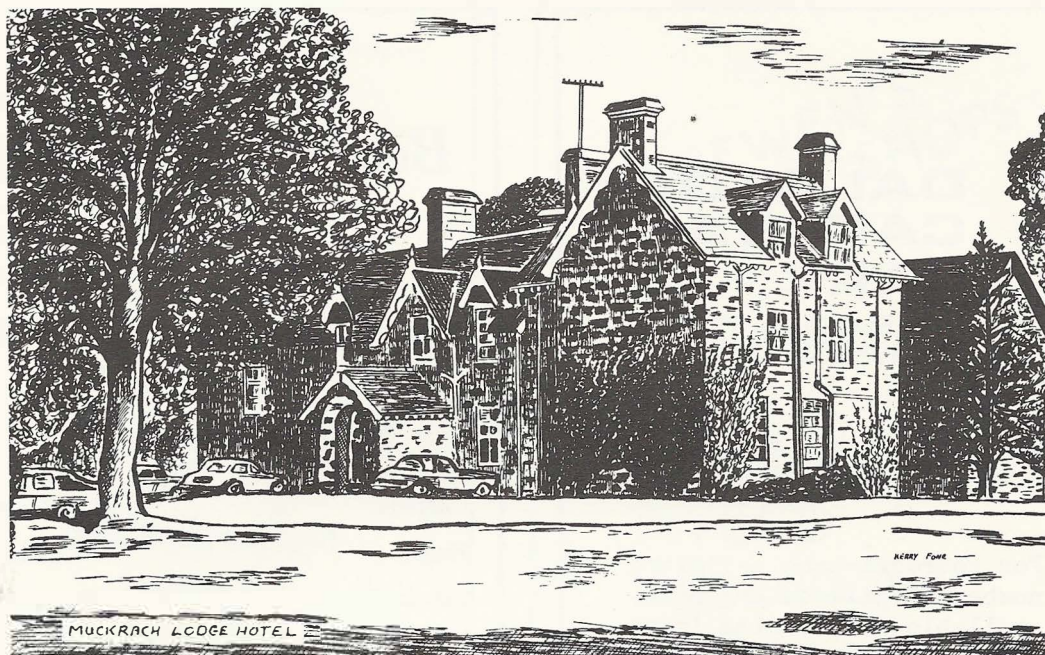


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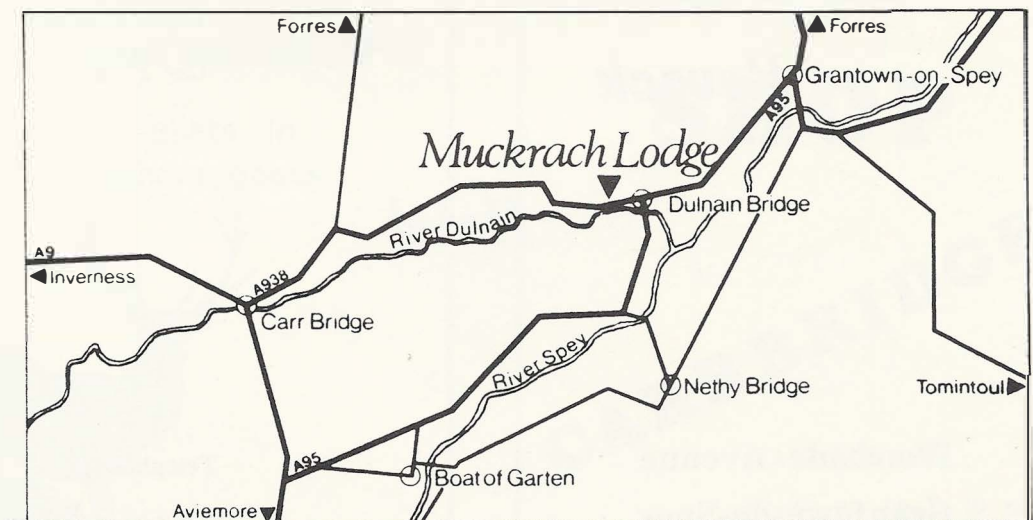
The whole area abounds with wild life of every description - peewits, oystercatchers, curlews and buzzards together with all the game birds are but a few of the frequent visitors to the Hotel grounds as are the timid roe deer and the capricious red squirrel.

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