

# FORMER PUPILS' SECTION



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\* OFFICEBEARERS \*  
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*Honorary President* - Mr JOHN DUNCAN

*Honorary Vice-Presidents* - Mr A.M. GRANT; Mrs JOHN GRANT; Miss JEANNETTE I. MUNRO; Miss JEAN PATERSON,

*President* - Mr MALCOLM MACLENNAN B.Sc.,

*Vice-Presidents* - Mr F. CALDER, Mrs S. ARCHIBALD,

*Past President* - Mr LEWIS GRANT M.A.

*Committee:*

Mrs A.M. GRANT; Mr I. MACPHERSON;

Mrs M. MASSON; Mr W. MITCHELL;

Mrs J. MITCHELL; Mrs D. RITCHIE;

Mrs MARGARET ROSS M.A.; Mr J.R. STUART,

*Sec. & Treasurer* : Mr J.R. SMITH M.A.



# editorial

When Paddy Wood returned his slip this year from what he calls "suburban Culloden", he made the perceptive remark that inflation did not seem to have caught up with the magazine. In fact the price has remained unchanged at £1.00 since 1984. Former Secretary Jeannette Munro wrote in similar vein... "The magazine must be the best bargain there is!"

There are two reasons for this - first: so many members are good enough to include something for funds when ordering their mag (in fact the first hundred members to send orders this year included a total of £225 to pay for the 100 magazines! (and for this on-going generosity we are very grateful, as it has enabled us over the years to meet our bills for materials and postages fairly painlessly); and the second reason is the generous terms for use of the School's reprographic equipment which we have always enjoyed. *We might mention at this point that latterly the machine used for the main printing has been a "copy duplicator", a cross between a photocopier and a stencil duplicator, which is considerably cheaper to use than a photocopier (but which unfortunately does not allow us to use photographs!)*

Now what all this money talk is leading up to is that we have been alerted by our President, School Rector Mr Malcolm MacLennan, that, in these days of stringent control of local authority finance, the School cannot afford to treat us as leniently as in the past, and we may therefore have to consider an increase in price for the next issue. We propose to see how this issue goes, then talk it over with the committee at the autumn business meeting, before next year's circulars go out. Of course we are sure you, the members, will wish us to continue with our support of the Prize-giving and the Library. Of late we have been donating £100 to each annually. And if we know our members, we are sure the level of support we will receive from you will allow us to continue to meet our commitments and still balance our accounts!

**COINS OF THE REALM!** For the first time ever this year we lost a magazine payment in the form of a £1.00 coin which had departed through the bottom corner of the envelope, leaving a fairly clear impression behind. We don't intend to mention the member's name, (and a magazine will be sent!) but, as an increasing number of members do choose to pay in this way (more, since £1 notes ceased to be produced in England!) we thought it sensible to mention that there are other, safer means of sending money. Our financial advisor, (Ann in the Savings Bank!), for instance, does not bat an eyelid at a cheque for £1 (or more!) made out to GGS,FP Club! Archie Liggat had another solution...He wrote: "See Dad for payment...Better than putting a coin in an envelope!" But this method, though certainly effective, is limited in application!

This leads us on quite naturally (as you will see!) to the next topic which is the arrangements already in being for the

## BIENNIAL DINNER 1995 SATURDAY 22ND APRIL BEN MHOR HOTEL.

The speakers who have already agreed to take part are:

### MRS DAVID LIVINGSTONE WILSON (ADA IMRAY) and SQUADRON LEADER ARCHIE LIGGAT R.A.F.

Further details will be sent with the circulars next November, but we like to have the main arrangements in being in plenty of time for the benefit of members who may be planning to come from a distance. We are sure our speakers will attract a goodly audience, and will have plenty of interesting stories to tell us!

We must mention that these are not the only forthcoming attractions which your committee has in store. We did approach BRUCE BAIN to be the speaker at one of our functions, and we did so with more than a little hesitation because of the current crisis situation in the former Yugoslavia, where Bruce's wife and daughter are frequently separated from him by circumstances beyond their control. Bruce has been in touch by telephone however, and would like to be able to speak to the 1997 Dinner. We pray that the Balkan problems may reach an amicable solution long before then, and that Bruce, Mira and Tania may travel unimpeded back to Grantown to enjoy the welcome which will certainly await them.

We are looking forward to seeing the magazine in print this year as we have been using two new typefaces. The "news" items have been done in Roman type and the lists in Sanserif. We trust that our readers will find this an improvement on the former ordinary "typewriter" style.

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# BERT REMEMBERS. . . . #  
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Inspired by previous contributions from Mariel Grant, Meta King (Mrs Stevens) and "the mysterious J.R.A.", former Geography teacher Bert Mackintosh has finally plucked up courage and let us have some of his reminiscences in the form of a letter to the editor. We quote:

"Dear Editor,

**THREE LITTLE LADS FROM SCHOOL.** "When I was looking at some old photographs recently, I found one taken by Mariel Grant. It showed three little Cromdale boys with schoolbags on their backs, looking ready to set out for home. They were Willie Cruickshank, Kenneth McCabe and myself. Thank you Mariel...it still gives pleasure after 65 years!

**IN THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT.** Our English Teacher, Mr. Robertson I also liked very much and was sorry when he left us at the end of my fifth year. He went to study for the priesthood and wrote me several letters while he attended the Scots College in Rome. I last saw him when I visited him at the little chapel in Clochan (near Buckie). Bob Wilson told me at an F.P. Dinner exactly where to find his grave, but I was unsuccessful...I fear I must have gone to the wrong cemetery.

One of his assistants in English was Constance Rose Brown. Until recently I sometimes met her in Edinburgh's West End, a gentle and very frail old lady. Often she spoke of the husband who shared her life for so very few years till his life ended in the cruel war against the Japanese. She had happy memories of GGS however...in spite of the "rowdy boys" mentioned by J.R.A.!

**AVEC CÉDILLE S.V.P.** Miss Ross of the French Dept. was an excellent teacher, though J.R.A. says he was not one of her favourites. I may have been, as I got good marks for French, but if I was, it did not save me from the tawse! The heading for home exercises was "THÈME FRANÇAIS", and if we did not get that exactly right, it was the tawse! Once I was horrified to notice that I had missed the vital cedilla and, in spite of my pal Kenneth trying surreptitiously to pass me a pen from behind, with the teacher's eyes upon us, I could not make the correction and had to go out and accept my punishment!

**THE RECTOR'S SCOWL** I was sometimes sorry for Miss Ross if she arrived late for our lesson on a wintry morning after skidding along the icy road from Nethy in her little Morris-Oxford. The Rector was liable to arrive with a scowl to administer a reprimand to the latecomer!

**TO THE HILLS!** Unlike J.R.A., I never excelled at sport, but I did develop early an urge to get to the top of a mountain. In 1931 I think it was, I persuaded my eldest brother Angus to lead a group of us to the top of Cairngorm. The 1982 issue of this magazine contained a picture I had taken on a similar expedition in 1932. On that occasion we were accompanied by Mr Wilson, Miss Alanach and Miss Lawson. Did we all cycle the 20 odd miles to Loch Morlich...or did someone provide for a few the luxury of a car?? The little Morris-Oxford was not there, its owner having declined our invitation as it was a Sunday, and she said she was "a daughter of the manse".

**PROBLEMS OF SUBJECT CHOICE.** Frank Roberts was listed some time ago in a corner titled "Lost Boys"...I do hope you have found him. (Still posted "Missing", I fear. Ed.) He was a popular classmate who started to study Greek in 4th Year, being the only person to do so. The Rector tried unsuccessfully to persuade me to do likewise though I would have preferred German, but that could not be arranged. I don't know how enamoured Frank was of his Greek, but I do remember how gifted he was at art. Somewhere I have an autograph book with a couple of Frank's sketches, drawn doubtless at the back of a classroom during a dull lesson!

**CLASSMATES.** I remember all the names mentioned by J.R.A., but I think he mentioned only Jack Cooke and Harry Fraser from my class. We were an agreeable crowd, perhaps older than J.R.A. Here are a few more names to jog memories of us: Evan Mackintosh, Peter Macpherson, Cathie Smith, Betty Phimister, Annie McCracken, Nan Donaldson and

Yours truly,

BERT MACKINTOSH."

## EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT OF THE AUSTRALIAN BUSH FIRES IN THE SYDNEY AREA IN JANUARY 1994 BY

JOHN HOLMES

It was a terrible time, there were fires everywhere, all roads in and out of Sydney were cut, with the Pacific Highway Northwards worst affected; people in their cars stuck there in queues many kilometres long for three days or more. Temperatures were very high, many houses with near combustible temperatures. Winds were pretty high also. The Eucalyptus trees gave off highly inflammable gases where the fires were, so that, when ignited, fireballs shot all over the place even knocking people off the roofs of their houses which they were hosing down. The fires travelled at unbelievable speeds, and many houses just exploded, giving the occupants sometimes only seconds to evacuate. Even glass melted in close proximity to some folk who somehow managed to survive. In many cases flames passed over some houses and didn't burn them. We could see many of the fires and flames especially at night, tree top height and above, from our back balcony upstairs; also the blue lights of the police cars and the flashing white lights of the Bush Fire Brigades. These Brigades were simply marvellous and without them God knows how much worse it would have been.

We were lucky here. Fortunately for us the flames didn't jump the Georges River nearby. We cannot see the river from here as it is down in a series of valleys, but we can see the other side a few short kilometres away (2½ miles say), at least where our view is not obstructed by trees. There are lots of trees around here. Surprisingly the vast majority of people still don't realise the danger they were in. Some because they didn't have adequate views, whilst others just couldn't comprehend the situation. Vast numbers of people however did lose the sense of security that their homes normally gave them.

The foregoing text is an extract from a letter written by F.P. John Holmes to describe the situation to one of his relatives. We felt sure our readers would appreciate its realism and graphic qualities.

### GOLDEN & RUBY WEDDINGS

Congratulations also to Mr & Mrs EVAN MACKINTOSH who celebrated their Golden Wedding in June, and likewise to MR & MRS MYLES RITSON (WILLIAMINA KEITH) who celebrated theirs in January '94, and to MR & MRS JOHN GRANT (BETTY TEMPLETON) who celebrated their Ruby Wedding in December '93.

## News

### from the

### Outposts

Our thanks to MRS ALLAN (MONA McLEAN) for her good wishes which she extends also "to all the FP's...especially the "oldies!"...among whom she seems to count herself!

We enjoyed a pleasant chat with 82 year old MRS ANGUS (ELLA WOOD) who telephoned us from Elgin to say she had no news to put on her slip. We were able to give her some news of Jean Paterson and Betty Mutch, and we learned that she had seen the '93 issue of the mag by courtesy of retired "headie" John Milne who also lives in Elgin.

MRS ATKINSON (WENDY SHAND) ordered her mag from her home in Aberdeen, but had "no change" to report.

MRS BAHZAD (CHRISTOBEL TERRIS) travels a lot with her husband George, and had just returned from the States when she wrote her slip. In Pennsylvania they were caught in a snowstorm which "brought Speyside acquired driving skills to the fore!" She also came across our former PM, (yes, the one with delusions of royalty!) signing her memoirs in New York City.

MRS BANKS (LORNA STEPHEN)'s girls are growing up... Caroline is in the final year of her Maritime Studies course at Cardiff while Madeleine is completing her second year of Business Studies at Bristol. We wish continued success to both!

### NEW RECRUITS

We are very pleased to welcome to the membership the following : ---

ANDREW M.S.SHEWAN from Carrbridge who is to study Computing Science at St. Andrews.

NEIL F. McINNES, also from Carrbridge, who is to study Business Administration.

E. FIONA JACK, from Nethybridge, who intends to take a qualification in Equine Studies.

JENNIFER EVEREST 39 SW High St. who is studying Engineering + European Studies at Strathclyde, and who has just spent six months studying German in Darmstadt.

MRS S. HENDERSON (ELAINE DAVIDSON) (formerly Dunalastair) Killearn, who graduated from Moray House in 1972. More details in "News from the Outposts".

### ENGAGEMENTS & MARRIAGES

Congratulations and Best Wishes to the following on their engagement:

FRANCES BEANGE who became engaged to be married to DAVID HANNAN from Thirsk in May,

and to the following on their marriage:

in December 1992 GEORGE FINDLAY and Australian-born LEANNE WAITE,  
in May, Dr EUNICE ALLAN and MARK ATKINS in INVERNESS,  
in June, ALISTER LAING and FIONA MACDONALD from Durnain Bridge,  
in August, FIONA McCAFFERTY and ADIE ADAMSON in Lerwick,  
In September, SALLY GRANT and GORDON GREENLEES in Barbados.

One of the saddest slips we have ever received came this year from NICOLA BANS to inform us that she had lost her husband of less than two years in a senseless traffic accident caused by a drunk driver. No words are adequate to express the shock and horror we are sure all our members will feel at such a needless waste of a life. Nicola is trying bravely to face the future...she has moved to Surrey to be closer to her family, but has kept on her secretarial job in Great Yarmouth meantime. She has also decided to revert to her maiden name. Be assured Nicola, you will be very much in the thoughts of all your Grantown friends.

We are never quite sure whether to treat CALUM BEANGE as an "exile" or a "local" as his HQ is still in Grantown but he works with the Finance Dept. of Highland Region in Inverness. So here he is as an "exile" this year!

We think we detect a hint of nostalgia in the slip of Calum's brother IAIN BEANGE when he writes: "Just finished my last trip as captain of the Jostelle, as I am leaving the sea life now to work for a law firm in London as a Marine Investigator. Back to studying again (Law) for another five years! 32 years old and I still don't know enough! We wish you all success in this new career direction.

Sister of the aforementioned pair WPC FRANCES BEANGE is



# Obituary

## JAMES J. GRANT

JAMES J. (JIMMIE) GRANT died suddenly in the Ian Charles Hospital on 9th June 1993. He was 81 years of age. Although his health had not been good for a number of years, he made light of his problems, and always had a cheery word for everyone. His many friends will remember him in a variety of situations which speak of his wide range of interests: many will picture his dapper little figure appearing from behind the curtain which hid his tiny office in Mackintosh & Cumming's, the outfitters business which he owned and operated for 40 years, and in which he maintained an interest to the end of his days, some will see him with a snooker cue in his hand, wielding it skilfully, and dispensing good advice to the less skilled. Others again will see him on the end of a Dutch hoe, and also in this situation, ready to share his gardening expertise to the benefit of all. Gardening was one of his great loves, and his service to local horticulture was outstanding, as a senior office bearer of the local society from its inception till failing health forced him to relinquish office in 1986 after ten years as Flower Show Manager. We remember him as a loyal member of our club, serving on the Committee for many years, and always interested in our affairs. To his wife Netta, with whom he shared 53 years of marriage, and to his daughters, Gay and Kathleen, we extend the sincerest sympathy on behalf of our members.

## MRS VICTOR ROSS (DOROTHEA MAY GEDDES)

MRS VICTOR ROSS (DOROTHEA MAY GEDDES) who died last June was a tower of strength both within her own family and in the Bearsden community where she spent 42 years of married life with Victor. They had a son and a daughter and four grandchildren. In the community she was known as a good and practical worker, quiet, efficient and selfless. To Victor she was over the years a constant and loving support in many ways, including her help to him in his voluntary work with the Bearsden Fiddlers and with his efforts on behalf of the Benevolent Fund for the Institution of Electrical Engineers in Scotland. To Victor, to Carole and Douglas, and to the grandchildren we offer on behalf of our members the sincerest sympathy with them in their sad loss.

## MARGARET FRASER

MARGARET FRASER died peacefully at home on 9th September 1993 after some long weeks of illness which she bore with great courage and composure.

In Margaret we lost one of our members who had an exceptionally long association with the School and the Clubs, both as a pupil and as a teacher. On leaving the School she studied at Aberdeen University and gained the degree of M.A. before training as a teacher. She held teaching posts in Elgin Academy and the former Nethybridge Junior Secondary School before joining her elder sister Jessie on the Grammar School staff in 1961. Margaret taught mainly Mathematics and Arithmetic and was held in high esteem by her colleagues and her pupils as a most competent and conscientious teacher. Both sisters shared many interests, serving together many years with the local Red Cross branch and joining in the activities of the Church Guild and the T.W.G., so it was no surprise when, in 1977, they decided to retire together. We remember well the happy occasion of their retirement party on a fine June day when they entertained the whole school staff (both Primary and Secondary Departments as it then was) in the garden at Zealandia. They used their retirement to travel, to cultivate their garden, to look after their dog Kuri (whose Maori name is a reminder of their New Zealand trip) and to continue their lifelong habit of visiting any friends or neighbours who were unwell.

As the Fraser family were originally from Nethybridge, Margaret was interred in Abernethy Churchyard, and the large attendance at the service was a testimony to the high regard in which she was held in the community.

We send on behalf of our membership the sincerest condolences to Jessie, and pray that she may continue to be endowed with the special strength with which she has borne the pain of the separation from her sister and lifelong companion.

We extend condolences on behalf of the Clubs to the following members who have suffered bereavement in the course of the past year:

MRS OLLASON (MARGARET GRANT) who lost her husband Peter in February 1993.

the STEWART family, JANE, ANN and JAMES, who lost their mother in March 1993.

NICOLA BANS whose husband Brian fell victim to a needless traffic accident caused by a drunk driver on 14th May 1993.

Mrs McKENZIE (JEAN MacLACHLAN) whose son Alastair died in Tasmania in July, aged 35 years.

the CALDER family (of the Waterford Hotel) whose mother died in August.

COLIN and OLIVE KEITH who lost their 25 year old son Colin in tragic circumstances also in August.

WALTER DEMPSTER whose mother died in Kingussie in September.

MRS MURDO MACKAY (RACHEL MacROBERT) whose father, Sandy, late of Tombain, died in Elgin, also in September.

DONALD GUNN whose wife Betty died in Dingwall in October.

JOHN IRVING whose wife Sheila died in October also.

JAY and GRANT WARD whose mother died in Riversdale in November.

MRS JAKEMAN (DIANA McINTOSH) and her brother ANGUS whose mother died in Manchester in December at the age of 102. She had resided with Diana for many years and retained all her faculties right up till her death.

MRS CROPP (E. MARGARET TEMPLETON) who lost her husband Paul in London, Ontario, also in December.

DOUGLAS McINNES who, in January, lost his father Murdo (who ran the former drapery business, Byers & Smith, at the corner of Spey Avenue and the High Street.)

MAJOR JOHN CLARK whose mother Mary died also in January.

MRS WEBB (MARGARET TEMPLETON) whose brother-in-law, Ian Ross, was the victim of one of the many climbing accidents during the icy conditions of the past winter.

MRS IAN SMITH (JANETTE MACDONALD) whose father died suddenly following an operation in Raigmore in March.

## BIRTHS

We are delighted to announce the following "Happy Events":  
in April,

a son to Mr & Mrs DAVID CLARK (SHEONAI MacGREGOR),

in June,

a daughter to Mr & Mrs JAMES GORDON, born in Rotterdam.

a daughter to Dr & Mrs RAYMOND McMURRAY,

in July,

a daughter to Mr & Mrs SANDY McCOOK,

in August

a daughter to Mr & Mrs STUART FARQUHAR (AMANDA MUNRO),

a daughter to Mr & Mrs BRIAN FRASER (VALERIE GRANT), and

a son to Mr & Mrs ROBERT ERSKINE (MICHELE HEAWOOD).



# LOCAL NEWS

Words fail us when it comes to finding polite adjectives with which to describe last year's summer, and we are sure most gardeners and visitors would agree! The Grantown season was however enlivened for both locals and visitors by the usual Show and Games, and by a Rock Concert (1) at Heathfield, and the two river races, the Charity Duck Race and the Raft Race both of which drew good numbers of supporters, and raised welcome cash for various charities and the Festive Lights Fund. The latter continues to ensure that Grantown has one of the best Christmas displays in the North. A White Christmas added to the atmosphere this year, but it was followed by one of the longest icy spells of recent years which made walking on any untreated surface a real hazard...and many of the paths in the nearby woods were in any case turned into obstacle courses by the trees blown down during the gales at the turn of the year. As we pen these lines however, there are signs that spring is on the way, the fallen trees are being cleared, the snowdrops are out, the crocuses just beginning and hope springs eternal in spite of recurrent snowfalls reaching up to and beyond the Ides of March!

There has been no lack of controversy in Grantown over the past twelvemonth with the arguments about the reorganisation of local government calling forth quite a bit of division of opinion about the relative merits of Grantown remaining part of Highland or returning to its former berth in Moray. Much can be said on both sides, and we remain resolutely perched on the fence!

The other main source of public debate has been the Health Board's apparent determination to close down or reduce one or other (or perhaps even both!) of the local Hospitals in Grantown and Kingussie. This stirred up so much public outrage that over five hundred people gathered for a protest meeting held in Inverallan Church and the officials were sent homeward in no doubt that they were being told "tae think again"!

It has been a difficult year in the School with all the disruption to classes caused by the building being completely rewired, and at the same time the Swimming Pool being out of commission because of the modifications being made to allow a certain amount of public access. This proved to be a more involved job than at first foreseen, due to structural problems, but the Pool is now back in use by the school, and the new Swimming Association is inching its way forward, trying to meet all the requirements of the various user groups in spite of the many incidental costs (insurance, lifeguards, pool charges, supervision, collection of payments etc.) which, in these days of financial stringency, the Region is anxious to have met as far as possible from local resources.

The normal Prize-giving Ceremony had to be cancelled last year because of the rewiring operations...only the ceremony of course, the prizes were awarded as usual, and the FP contribution to the costs was of course also made as usual.

Both local Secondary Rectors (Kingussie and Grantown) condemned the incomplete picture of the work done in Secondary Schools (particularly those with smaller numbers of pupils) given by the so-called "League Tables" of Results, and they found a supporter in our local teacher/politician Simon Macaulay, who is Assistant General Secretary of the Educational Institute of Scotland.

For the first time in some 25 years the School marked Christmas with a very successful Christmas Service in Inverallan Church. There was some excellent music, both choral and instrumental, and one of the prayers was offered by a group of pupils.

The Strathspey (Steam!) Railway Company is planning to extend its line with the eventual object of reaching Grantown and having a terminus at the Woodlands Industrial Estate (more or less where the old station stood!) Already one can see sections of line being stored in readiness near Drumuillie where road, river and railway come close together.

Changes are afoot at Revack Lodge where there are plans to develop tourist orientated attractions, and also at Castle Grant where the latest wheeze appears to be to split it up into a number of residences. We shall see. In fact within about a fortnight of our writing the last sentence the scheme has apparently collapsed!

On the public works front, a large water supply tank is being built up at Craggan, into which will come our future supplies, piped in from far away Loch Einich, and there are some signs of preparations for the construction of the Grantown by-pass which will eventually save the juggernauts having to take to the wrong side of the road to get round the "Strath" corner, and instead direct them along the riverside to the projected mini-roundabout at the New Bridge.

The local curlers have been lashing out on a new Clubhouse and new tarmac floored rinks at their ponds down below the Drill Hall, and Barry Main has been showing how it should be done as skip of Strathspey "A".

The Nethy golfers seemed to prove that local knowledge counts for something as both the Ladies and the Gents teams won the opening matches against outside opposition in last year's Centenary celebrations.

On now to the doings of our Local Members:-

MRS DAVID ASHER (ISOBEL BRUCE) retired from her post as Deputy Head of the Primary School last summer and received a video camera as a leaving gift from colleagues and friends at a most enjoyable "do" in the Craiglynn.

We had an opportunity to be most favourably impressed by the professional expertise of District Nurse MRS MURRAY BEATTIE (ELIZABETH REID) when she called to pay a "follow-up" visit to Iris after the latter's stay in Raigmore.

One of our Vice-Presidents, the popular Assistant Janitor at the Secondary School FRANK CALDER also retired last autumn and was given a rousing send-off by pupils and staff alike. To mark the occasion his immediate boss, Senior Janitor Leonard Grassick, burst into verse, seven verses in fact, of which we are pleased to quote the first and the last:

'Happy retirement Frank, health, wealth and happiness,  
No more noisy children, no more janitorial stress,  
No more setting up the Hall, no desks beneath the stage  
No more awkward teachers nor cleaners in a rage!....

So when you wake on Monday, remember there's no School,

Just come along on Wednesday, it's Pensioners in the Pool!

A long and happy retirement, for this we can only pray...

We will ALL miss you saying: "And how are YOU today?"

Frank had the enviable reputation of seeing a job requiring to be done and quietly going to get on with it without needing to be told, a most desirable quality in many lines of business, but especially in a school janitor.

MRS CALLUM (SANDRA PATERSON) has returned to the front desk of the local Bank of Scotland branch where she greets customers with a cheery smile, even though they arrive with a bagful of small change to be counted!

Former Burgh Chamberlain (and also for many years Angling Association Secretary) GEORGE CAMERON has moved into Grandview Residential Home (the former Palace Hotel) just round the corner from his old abode and place of work. A little bird told us that one of the younger nurses describes George as "A lovely man"! The little bird was a former (lady) colleague who is likely to pay you a call next time she is in Grantown, George! We would wager that you are blushing!

En route for a Retired Teachers' Lunch in Elgin in November VERA CAMPBELL had an unfortunate skidding accident near the Half Davoch fork. She had a car full of passengers including Margaret Jack, Sheila Wilson and Margaret Ross who suffered the worst injuries (cracked ribs) and was out of circulation for about a month. We felt really sorry for Vera particularly as it is she who does all the hard work keeping the local S.R.T.A. branch going by

chasing up our subs etc. The one consolation was that, judging from the damage to the car, the injuries might have been far more severe.

We are pleased to welcome MRS GEORGE CRAIG (DOROTHY CALDER) back to the ranks of the "Locals". Her husband having retired from Glenesk Distillery, they have moved back to Grantown and are installed at An Sgòran, South Stret.

RAYMOND DAVIDSON had some anxious months last year as his son Craig, an R.E. sapper, did a tour in the U.N. peacekeeping force in Bosnia and found himself dodging sniper fire and landmines. Craig also distinguished himself more recently as a member of a recordbreaking bridge-building team which won an international competition in Germany against teams from four other nations.

MRS JACKIE FARQUHAR (ROSEMARY DUNN) now runs a popular Exercise Club in Inverallan Hall and raises cash for Charity in the process.



Mrs SQUIRES (ISA MOYES) now 93 years young and with badly impaired vision, nevertheless managed to fill up her slip and to write a letter to enclose with it. She lives in a small private nursing home of which the proprietor is a friend. It is situated in Laval West, Quebec Province, Canada. Isa manages to take walks in the garden and "down the avenue" with a walking aid which is fitted with tyres and brakes. Her big event of the year was a motor trip of 650 miles to Toronto where she was guest of honour (and made a little speech!) at the wedding of her nephew, Michael, a civil engineer who graduated with great distinction in Bridge Engineering from York University. She sends kind regards to all F.P.s. You are an absolute topper Isa! You definitely deserve the Effort and Achievement Prizel

MRS STEVENS (META KING) managed to find two excuses for having to subject herself and husband Morton to a cruise round the Greek Islands! No 1 is a bit lame... "There haven't been many Moray Firth sunsets to bask in recently!" No 2 is more credible: "It is 50 years since Morton was buzzing around there in an MTB and he prefers to view them again from the deck of a cruise liner!" Bon voyage!

MRS STOREY (BARBARA SMITH) writes: "It is amazing how the words GRANTOWN GRAMMAR SCHOOL jump out of the page at you...in my job as Personnel Officer with Booker Tate lots of C.V.'s land on my desk, and recently I received an application from a fellow Former Pupil. I didn't know him, but I discovered that he knew many of the senior girls who had been baby sitters for me! His name is Andrew Scott, but he is not one of our members, and Barbara didn't manage to recruit him! She tells us also that Catriona (our eldest grandchild! (9 this year)) is now attending a French & German Language Club in Thame...maybe the first step on that slippery Mod. Langs slope!

We were delighted to hear again from LACHLAN STUART who reports having had "several genial visits from former school mates last summer which revived pleasant memories." Lachlan's impaired eyesight prevents him from much in the way of travel, so he is particularly grateful for visits.

TOM STUART "finally retired last March after almost 43 years in Government Service." He now has a part-time post with the Bucks. Probation Service and finds that he has more time for golf, holidays and grandchildren. Like so many pensioners, he wonders how he ever managed to find time to work!

MRS SUTHERLAND (ELSPIT McINTOSH) is "still finding retirement as attractive as ever" down in Denny, particularly since her daughter Mhairi and family are now within 5 miles. Gran finds her 17 month old granddaughter Victoria "a joy"! Elspit returns regularly to Nethy and is "delighted to see Grantown looking so much more prosperous these days!"

Former Head Teacher at Alves JAMES TEMPLETON has been in failing health for some time and "is never very far afield now," writes his wife, Barbara, "but he is always interested in news of Grantown." We send friendliest greetings on behalf of the Clubs.

After "five operations of varying seriousness" company secretary JIM THOMSON now reckons he has passed his MOT and got back to work with Sunds Defibrator. He also reports success for himself and his wife Barb in a new hobby... "Silver medallists in Ballroom/Latin Dancing (Wrinkly Category!)" Congratulatory!

Matrimonial matters are currently playing a big part in the preoccupations of MRS VICKERMAN (SEONAI GRANT). She writes: "My elder daughter Jill's wedding in June '93 was a great success. Grantown weather was kind to us, and the Grant Arms did us proud. We now look forward to Morag's wedding in '94!! Yes," she adds feelingly, "I'm saving hard!"

MRS WALMSLEY (ELLA SLATER) sent us a pleasant greeting from her home in Northwood, Middlesex when ordering her magazine.

JAY WARD has a family of three, all at university, one daughter doing pharmacy and a son and a daughter doing accountancy. "Thank God the dog can't apply for university entrance!" Jay reflects ruefully. He predicts a career move for himself next year when he is to move to the London and S.E. area as Sales Manager for the London Herb and Spice Co. (still within the Cadbury Group).

"Apartheid was in force for much too long and created total racial stigma", writes WILMA WATT from Transvaal...separate entrances, queues, park benches, rail carriages, taxis etc. In spite of the situation being rectified by enlightened politicians, the aftermath of such lengthy suppression is in many cases militancy and aggression. The majority just want to get on with their jobs and their lives but are intimidated daily. Faction fighting and killings occur daily too...so depressing and unnecessary when ALL political leaders call for peace...Our worst fear is civil war...With its sunshine, wildlife, gold and diamonds, this is a wonderful country...we must somehow end the violence." Pray God they may succeed!

MRS WEBB (MARGARET TEMPLETON) is to be off to Lyon (France) in July "to act as a substitute Granny" at a wedding in the family she used to work for. We wish "Bon Voyage et Bon Retour!"

MRS WESTON (SHEINA DONALDSON) reports two changes in status for herself and husband Roy...becoming pensioners and grandparents! Sources of gratitude and pride respectively! Sheina and Roy hope to visit Canada this year, where brother Keith's daughter Sally is to be married in August. Of Sheina's boys, one is in Middlesbrough with BT, one in SW France and the third busy preparing for A-Level French... "I feel his knowledge is surpassing mine!" Sheina admits!

We are grateful to Jean Paterson for pointing out to us that Dr David Livingstone Wilson (greatgrandson of the explorer and missionary whose name he bears) is in fact the husband of one of our members, namely retired teacher MRS WILSON (ADA IMRAY). Dr Wilson has been back to Africa, where he too was formerly a medical missionary, and has been retracing the last two journeys of his famous ancestor to mark the 120th anniversary of his death. As we reported last year, Ada has been spending some time teaching English in Poland and paid a brief visit to Grantown between semesters. She spoke enthusiastically of the satisfaction this experience had given her. And her latest bulletin reports travel to three continents and three countries within a twelvemonth. This included a visit to Calgary at Stampede time, followed by "a spectacular drive through the Rockies to Vancouver". Unfortunately two tries at contacting Mrs Ritson (Mina Keith) by phone were unsuccessful. The third trip was to Africa, visiting Zambia, Zimbabwe and Botswana and even including a white water rafting expedition on the Zambesi during which they flipped on the first rapid! Exciting stuff! "I can recommend it," Ada comments!

Shortly after we had written the foregoing paragraph, and as we were still looking for a second speaker for the '95 Dinner, we thought it would be a good idea to approach Ada, and we were delighted when she agreed. We look forward to hearing her.

"Life is still the same down in suburban Culloden," states PADDY WOOD, "and I think that after 13 years I can say we have settled!" His wife Sheila and he are kept busy at Raigmore and the H.R. Roads Dept. respectively, but sometimes wonder why they ever gave up the hotel life! Joanna, eldest of their three children, is doing SYS at Culloden Academy before, armed with 5 Highers at 'A', she departs to Glasgow University to do a degree in Maths. "I think Miss Grant, my old Maths teacher, would have preferred Joanna to me in her class!" adds a rueful Paddy.

We were glad to hear again from accountant ALAN WRIGHT who has now left BP at Dyce, and joined a firm based at the London Stock Exchange. (Vision of chaps in shirtsleeves making unintelligible (though apparently not improper!) gestures...but Alan says he has no language problems!) His home is now in Pinner.



We noticed from a recent "Strathie" that MRS O'CONNOR (DOROTHY CAMERON) is trying to track down the story behind a whopper of a salmon (20-30 lbs we reckon) caught in the Spey by a member of the Cameron clan in 1888. A cast of it now hangs in a restaurant in Seattle where Dorothy lives. (And in a lifetime of effort, our best was 10½ lbs!) On her slip Dorothy recounts a visit from Nethybridge couple Roy and Grace Calder who were en route to tour the Rockies, and a 'phone call to Mrs Squires (Isa Moyes) which was "a fine old blether about old times" including the occasion when Isa nursed Dorothy in the Ian Charles after an appendectomy. Dorothy and her husband were also at the Golden Wedding celebration of Myles Ritson and Billie Keith in B.C. They are often in Canada because of their work for the local branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. Our thanks incidentally to Dorothy for making a trans-Atlantic phone call to clear up a point on which we were unsure!

MRS OLLASON (MARGARET GRANT) was the first member to return her slip this year, and on the very day she filled it in she had a long letter from her "best friend" of her schooldays fifty years ago, MINA KEITH (now MRS RITSON). "That certainly brought back some sweet memories", she comments.

MRS ORFORD (ISOBEL CALDER) sends greetings to all from Fergus (Ont.) where in January they were suffering temperatures around -29C with wind chill lowering it still further to -40C! Isobel paid a visit to Grantown last July and was disappointed not to meet anyone she knew...though she did bump into Ian McPherson and Isobel in Inverness!

We hear that the Spanish authorities have finally agreed to accept the Art School qualifications which MRS PACHECO (SUSAN HENDRY) gained in this country, and this will permit her to teach in Spain. Susan hopes to obtain further qualifications to allow her to teach English as well.

Congratulations to MRS RAE (MONA GRANT) who completed her H.N.D. course in Information and Office Management at Inverness last June and won the College Award for this subject in so doing. While Mona was busy working on this course, she was also a frequent visitor to Raigmore where her Mum had two hip replacement operations and "is thankfully much more mobile now." In Raigmore Mona was also visiting her aunt, Evelyn Grant (another highly efficient Office Manager, as many GGS pupils and staff will testify!) Evelyn was in hospital for an operation for the eye trouble which has bothered her since her retirement. Since October Mona has been acting as a relief lecturer at the College and "thoroughly enjoying it.

IAN RITCHIE ordered his magazine from his quintessentially English address in Essex (see list). Do they frown on you if you dare roll an "r" down there Ian?

In Port Moody, British Columbia, MR & MRS MYLES RITSON (MINA KEITH) were joined at an "open house" celebration of their fiftieth wedding anniversary by Mr & Mrs Johnny O'Connor (Dorothy Cameron) which "brought a touch of Grantown to the happy occasion". The celebration was organised by the daughters of Mina and Myles. An editorial pat on the back to Mina also for getting in touch with Mrs Ollason (Margaret Grant) in response to our request in last year's issue.

We received a comprehensive compendium on the doings of the Ronaldson family from Alison (Mrs Clark q.v. for Alison's news). JESSIE RONALDSON is in her 47th year as a Sunday School teacher, having started in Grantown with Vera and Margaret! Jessie is also still involved with the WRI and WRVS besides her church work. MICHAEL RONALDSON and his wife Anne are preparing to take over as baby sitters shortly in Peterborough where their daughter is expecting her second child. Anne and Michael became friends with Beatrice Oliphant (District Nurse at Rogart) when Anne's sister, who lived there, became terminally ill and moved down to Inverness so that Anne could look after her.

ALEX ROSS reports with some relief his "escape" from Investigation of Complaints against the Police and his transfer to the International and Organised Crime Squad "which has taken me to a few interesting countries already (we wanted to list them, but had to refrain due to ongoing investigations).

"Even at 40!" CHAY ROSS continues to keep fit on the Black Isle with cycling and hockey. Daughter Zoe is looking forward to the arrival of a brother or sister in March. Details in the appropriate column provided the happy event makes our deadline! Chay enjoyed Colin Clark's 40th celebration in Shetland, but not the "stressful" plane trip!

Our thanks to railway enthusiast MARGARET ROSS (ex Broomhill) for a nice letter. Margaret reports that she has now completed her Trans-Canada by Train journey by covering the last stretch she had to do, from Banff to Vancouver. For good measure she also travelled by steam train from Vancouver to Squamish. "A most enjoyable holiday," she comments.

Congratulations to MRS ROSS (PATRICIA MACDONALD) on the birth of her first grandchild last July. Her slip was returned from Florida where she was spending the winter in the sun. "Better than having to move snow" (at home in Ontario), she adds, together with a note for the information of Donnie Macbeath...she is the niece of Tottie Wood, not her grand-daughter. (See story in '93 issue.)

WALTER ROSS reported in from Chislehurst, but had no news.

Dr. BILL SELLAR confirms that he retired from the N.H.S. in January of '93, but is "still working daily". "Super!" is how he sums the situation up!

MRS SELMAN (ELISE KIRK) is trying on behalf of a friend to track down one of the evacuees who came to Grantown from Edinburgh in 1939. The evacuee was ELMA SIMPSON, and any of our readers who has an address or other contact is asked to get in touch with the Editor who will provide further details. Elise herself did not meet Elma as she left Grantown in 1939.

Recent recruits MR & MRS IAIN SMITH (JOAN FRASER) hope, by means of the mag., to identify a mystery caller who is "an old school friend who always calls when we are out...but meets the postie!" Come on now, own up! The Smiths report also "an enjoyable but exhausting 3 week endurance test/holiday in China last year" and the birth of their second grand-daughter.

MRS IAN SMITH (JANETTE MACDONALD) is looking forward to attending the Silver Wedding Celebration of Mr and Mrs Arthur Fearnley (Maureen Macaulay) in Aberdeen this spring. Best wishes for a happy "do"! Janette has been back teaching Geography since November to cover a maternity leave. "Nice to be back in the fray," she thinks, though sometimes of an evening she questions as to whether she hadn't enough hassles with her own three youngsters without taking on a further load of thirty per lesson! Janette also recounts her delight at the totally unexpected appearance of a kilted Neil McLure at a concert in which she was singing in Manchester. He gets around the same lad...last time we ran into him he was piping for the guests at the Holmhill M.S. Holiday Centre!

JOHN SMITH (ex-Burnfield) "thoroughly recommends spending February away from Edinburgh." No doubt so would most folks if they had just come back from a holiday trip to New Zealand, Australia and Singapore "tacked on to a business trip to Vietnam"! However "things are due to change in late July," John predicts, "with the anticipated arrival of our first offspring!" He has gathered a little experience in these matters however, by acting as godfather to the first son of David and Sue Wilson last year. Now there's an example of what we might call Distance Learning!

MRS SPALDING (ISOBEL GUNN) was longing for spring to come when she wrote her slip... "This wintry weather seems to go on and on," she writes. Agreed! We think the skiers must have had their fill this year!

NEIL STUART is "guessing at the extra work load the latest lot of educational changes (to our national exam system) will bring" for him. "Why bother changing it at all must surely be the appropriate question!" he goes on, and we are sure many a hard-pressed teacher across Scotland will be echoing those words!

We had a brief chat with ALISTAIR SURTEES when we met him at the Kirk during his October visit to Grantown. He is enjoying retirement and the opportunity to travel a bit. Shortly afterwards he returned his slip, and informed us of his brother RICHARD being seriously ill in hospital. It emerged later that he had renal problems and was not at all well, so we were very relieved when in came a slip from Richard himself explaining that diabetes had now been diagnosed. We trust that he will respond well to the treatment. He tells us that two of his grandsons are now at University and no.3 starts senior school this year. The eldest still runs Richard's old Triumph Dolomite! All good wishes for continuing improvement in health!



replacement pending, then hopes to live forever: Margaret minus a kidney but globe-trotting like a bimbo...latest trip to Cape Cod where she and Alice King no doubt chewed the fat ad nauseam: Donnie (known in the family as the "phantom fiddler") is still in Aberdeen; Betty herself...free as a bird, here, there and everywhere in the summer, and off to warmer climes in the winter! No doubt at all, the Third Age is the best!"

We are indebted to Mrs Stuart (Marion Paterson) and her sister Jean for passing on to us the sad news of the bereavement of MRS MACKENZIE (JEAN MacLACHLAN). Jean's son Alastair (35) died in his sleep in Tasmania in July. His sudden death which occurred while he was at the height of his career, was attributed to the diabetic condition from which he suffered.

We are grateful for an interesting phone call from veteran member, retired Homecraft teacher MRS MATTHEW McKENZIE (JESSIE CAMPBELL) (88) who lives in Aberlour. She called to inform us of the hundredth birthday of her friend, Mrs MacDonald, who is the eldest daughter of former GGS Rector Roddy MacLennan. Interesting too that after three intervening rectorships (Mr Hunter, Dr. Bain, Mr Grant) we again have a MacLennan in charge!

Dr SANDY MacKENZIE has difficulty fitting in his real job as Medical Advisor to the Benefits Agency Medical Service among a host of other voluntary activities, one of which is being President of Aberdeen University Alumnus Association. With the university approaching its 500th anniversary, he is anxious to encourage graduates to join up, and will supply necessary forms and/or information on request. There was a nice picture of Sandy in his presidential capacity (and looking more like his Dad than ever!) in a recent issue of the Graduates' magazine *Gaudeamus*.

Nonagenarian travel enthusiast (and former Science Teacher) MRS EDITH MACKINTOSH sent us an account of her trips since we saw her in Grantown last May: she has "done" S.W. Wales from Tenby, visited cousins in Birmingham, spent a weekend in Somerset and attended the Christening of her great granddaughter in Surrey! We were delighted to receive also a photo of the pair of them (great-gran and baby Alexandra) taken at her 90th birthday celebration in St. Andrews (another trip!!) last September.

We were pleased to hear from Edith also that her brother-in-law BERT MACKINTOSH is making a good recovery after an operation last June. In fact Bert's slip arrived a few days later and we learned that not only had he survived an "annus horribilis" of his own with a month in hospital "and the loss of half my stomach and a chunk of my oesophagus" but he had proved he was back in circulation by writing an article for us. See BERT REMEMBERS...

MRS McLEOD (ELIZABETH MACGREGOR) (formerly of Cromdale) is still in Aviemore, just far enough away to be an "exile", as she is outwith the catchment area of the school.

DR RAYMOND McMURRAY was "pleased to announce the birth of baby daughter Rebecca Kate" (see Births) though he reckons it means "even less sleep now than before!"

IAN MacPHERSON (Jnr.) reports from Rosyth that he is "still freelancing away quite happily" with his art-work. Ian's younger daughter, Tracy (21), graduated LL.B.(Hons)(Edinburgh) in July and his elder girl Julie (23) has left the Civil Service and moved to London to do specialist training in psychiatric nursing. Ian comments ruefully: "I'll be the only one with no letters after my name!" Never mind, you'll still be the Dad of two smart lasses!

PETER MACPHERSON sent us the following account of an experience in Callander with his slip: "One day in summer I took a run to the Trossachs and arrived at Callander where I parked the car and had a walk round the town, looking for an old fashioned licensed grocer's shop which I had known previously (this was also Peter's line of business before he retired), but sadly it did not exist any more. I came back along the High Street to the lights, and when the "green man" showed, I stepped out to cross and became aware that someone had taken hold of my hand. On looking round, I saw a charming, smiling lady...When we got to the far pavement, I thanked my escort for her kindness. She did not speak, but walked away still smiling. On my way home I thought, "This has made my day." But who was she? An angel perhaps?

Our thanks to lawyer NEIL McTAGGART for a nice letter, much concerned with matters matrimonial, for it intimated the weddings of daughters Rhona (Sept '92) and Elspeth (July '93). "Happy events, yes," Neil comments, "but TWO in the space of twelve months?" Our experience in the matter of daughters getting married was similar, and seems to confirm that the infection (if such it is) is readily caught! Neil also tells us that his wife Anne and he "have been married for 30 years without stopping" and admits that this is "a testimony to Anne's tolerance and patience!" Neil is now involved with Highlands & Islands Enterprise Ltd. and has "the easy task of praising and promoting the quality of life and work in Strathspey (and other places)".

MRS MEEHAN (LESLEY CRAIB) is teaching Primary 5 at Rosebank in Nairn and also doing French with her own class and a composite P6/7. We hope the experiment pays off better than it did last time we saw it tried. We have a clear memory of going to the West End Primary in Elgin to watch Bill Baird (yes, the same one who was previously at Cromdale!) teaching French most effectively to a P3 class...it must be all of thirty years ago, and one of the stars of that class was the son of the then Director of Education, W.F. Lindsay, later well known as Radio Scotland presenter Ken Lindsay! We think the scheme fell by the wayside then because of the failure to train adequate numbers of primary teachers in oral work, and we hope it has a better chance this time. Courage mes braves! Lesley still dutifully follows the sporting activities of her husband by acting as scorer for Nairn County cricket team. "Not exactly an honoured position," she comments, "no-one else likes sitting for that long!"

JOHN MILNE's slip was a commentary on this year's return to a rather old fashioned style of winter... "No news of any import," he writes, "simply concentrating on keeping warm, and on my feet on icy pavements!" It may be some consolation to think that if it was like that in Elgin, John, in Grantown it would have been a number of degrees worse!

MRS DOUGLAS MITCHELL (JAN TEMPLETON) has had a second successful knee replacement "op" and is now looking forward to visiting all her family.

MICHAEL MOIR wrote us a nice letter from his new address in Hong Kong. Daughter Nicky (14) has returned to HK after two years at Fettes. She now attends South Island School where her brother Stewart (12) is a pupil, and where her Mum, Ann, teaches Art part-time. A recent addition to the family is a black Labrador of four months. Be warned! Our black Labrador is now nine (years!) and has not grown up beyond the stage of rebellious, but somehow endearing, adolescence! Mind you he *is* computer literate...he knows that the double click of discs being removed from the drives is likely to mean "Walkies!"

SHAW MORTIMER reports the arrival of his fourth grandchild Robbie in Edinburgh in March. Grandad to the power 4! Well done!

JEANNETTE MUNRO continues to have eyesight problems and had to have an "op" for a blocked tear duct in November. Besides this she again has cataract trouble, but the surgeon hopes to deal with this by laser treatment. She enjoyed seeing recent Strathie photos of the senior girls of her day, and also of the operetta "Robin Hood"... "one of several produced by Jim Mackenzie. Apart from first night nerves, we all enjoyed these public appearances!"

MRS MURRAY (ANN STEWART) tells us of an enjoyable College Reunion in Glasgow last May with Carol Beckett (Stuart), Catherine Cooke (McGregor) and Kathleen Brown (Miller) at which they "caught up with the news". (The FP Dinner is quite good for that too! Advt.) Ann reports she is in the process of being "appraised" at work... "Yet more stress!" she comments. In our day an inspector dropped in unexpectedly, sat at the back of the class,

and proclaimed his intention to "look at their pencil jotters!" That was an unnerving experience too, when one thought of some of the things to be found in the said jotters!

MRS NEWBOULD (RACHEL SMITH) finds herself in an ironical situation this year, for, on the very day that her husband Ken leaves RAF North Luffenham for good (having been "retired" early under "Options for Change") Rachel takes over the running of the bar and catering facilities at the Golf Club on the station. Ken hopes now to set up his own car repair business at home. Their two youngsters are growing up; Pamela (6) having had a few ballet lessons, is now looking forward to taking part in a fashion parade at her school, and Susan (4) will start school in September.

Mrs NOTMAN (MAIRI PATERSON) avers that she "leads quite an uninteresting (but very happy!) life!" Most of us do, if it comes to that...Deo gratia. She works part-time in the local hospital, but most of her time is taken up "just being a Mum to Katy (8) and Moray (7)". Not "boring" at all Mairi, but positive and constructive! Sermon over!



still defending law and order in North Tynes and now has an address in Thirsk, which we whizz past on the A1 en route to visit our grandchildren (within the speed limit of course, Officer!)

MRS BECKETT (CAROL STUART) completed a diploma from York University in Global and Multicultural Education last year and is now officially titled Language Development Coordinator. She works in an inner city nursery school mainly with Asian children and their parents and to this end she is "having a go at learning Urdu...(MUCH more difficult than French & German!" she avers, "or has age something to do with it?") Her family are growing up, elderson now has his own home, elder daughter at university, younger two at 6th form college and high school. Ted and she celebrate their silver wedding this April...Congratulations! Even though it prompts some rueful reflections on the passage of time on the part of your editor!

We had a nice letter from MRS BRAID (PAMELA GIBSON) with news of a visit she paid to her doctor brother Douglas and family in Bradford. During this visit Pamela "was delighted to be present at the first birthday party of their first grandchild, Scott".

MRS BRAZENDALE (EVELYN McMURRAY) is meantime in temporary accommodation at 4, Central Ave Ilchester Somerset while a new home building project is under way. She continues her work as a staff nurse in Accident and Emergency in the local hospital in Yeovil. All the family spent New Year in Grantown where both youngsters thoroughly enjoyed the snow and ice, of which they don't see much in Somerset!

MRS BROCKLEHURST (MARGARET McWILLIAM) reports "a busy year" from Newtonhill. She has been looking after and tutoring her grandchildren for Standard and now Higher Grades while her daughter and son-in-law were off on extended leave to the Far East and Antipodes. "Only major crisis was the demise of Gemma's hamster, but the required burial rites having been observed, life resumed its normal pace in a couple of days!" Margaret was to be off to Cyprus for some winter sunshine and was hoping for a better reception than that given to the Queen during her October visit!

The BIG 40 seems to awake an undue preoccupation with physical pursuits and fitness...see also Chay Ross's entry! IAIN BROWN assures us he is still playing football (five-a-side) though he admits: "Not as fast as I once was!" Iain is still with a firm of Edinburgh solicitors dealing with property, and working on further qualifications in surveying.

Our thanks to Mrs Jamie (Eileen Calder) for completing all three slips on behalf of the family. Mum and Dad, SANDY CALDER, "are kept very busy with Hospice work...latest job is collecting "Hippos" (for the uninitiated, collection boxes for the Highland Hospice take the form of various coloured hippos) and doing a Hospice run up North. They love it," Eileen concludes, "but I don't think they ever sit down!" Brother ALASDAIR CALDER is no longer with Speedprint, but works long shifts for Tarka Controls, a thermostat firm. "Not many days off," Eileen reports, "but he still finds time to go shooting occasionally! His daughter Nicola will be two this year."

Civil engineer NORMAN CAMPBELL is being kept busy on the construction of a pumping station at Ardrossan, but still manages to play shinty fairly regularly for Glasgow Mid-Argyll. Through the matches he finds he meets a big circle of friends with similar Highland backgrounds.

MRS CHAPMAN (IRENE EDWARDS) reports that her biggest excitement of the year was provided by "GRAN" who flew down via Aberdeen (for the first time at 81 years young!) to spend a month with Irene & family over Christmas & New Year. Irene's elder daughter is due to depart for university this year to take Maths, Physics and Chemistry... "Not her mother's daughter," adds Irene with a mixture of awe and pride!

Our other MRS CHAPMAN (ELIZABETH McDONALD) writes of her son's engagement and forthcoming marriage next January, and also of a chance meeting at a Therapeutic Riding Congress with a therapist called Kirsten Belch/Lyons whose best friend is Louise Forbes! A small world indeed!

MRS FRED CLARK (ALISON RONALDSON) is one of our favourite correspondents, always providing such a wealth of usable material it's a case of "l'embarras du choix"! From Inverness she writes: "After 13 years here, I still miss Inverallan Church, the Cairngorms, the Spey and all my friends in Grantown, which will always be home to me." She still gets the Strathie, but finds that "a letter from Jean Andersom every so often contains more than a year's news in the Strathie!" Her son Graeme, an expert in Airport maintenance and central heating, has now left home, having been appointed (from a list of 96 applicants!) as a technician with the British Airports Authority.

MRS CLARK (JANET BARCLAY) duly returned her slip from Brechin.

DAVID CLARK's big news is in the Births column. "Big" is appropriate...son Drummond weighed in at 8lb 4oz! "He continues to bring us much happiness," says Dad. David has a new address in Knutsford, the result of a job change...he is now a Sales Director, but still with Marley Tiles.

MARK CLARK has "survived the first year of marital bliss!" and has been off to Australia for Christmas and New Year. He also reports a slight change of address, having moved all of 300 yards along the road in Kirriemuir! And the name of his new house (see list) has a local connection.

MRS COWAN (WILMA IRVING) is to be off to Nepal at the end of March "where No. 1 son is doing a two year stint with the Army...Should be a **very** interesting trip!" We look forward to a report for the next issue! Bon voyage!

MRS CRICHTON (LORNA FORBES) writes that it is now almost two years since she left Aberdeen to go to Lennoxton, Glasgow, where she is working part-time in the Royal Infirmary as a computer secretary, entering information on Coronary Care patients. "This fits in well with school," she goes on, "as Alasdair started last summer, and Ailsa goes to Nursery on the days I work."

CAPTAIN & MRS IAIN CUMMING (FIONA LEDINGHAM) are still at Queensferry Rd. Iain pilots ships on the Forth Estuary, and Fiona is a Community Occupational Therapist in North West Edinburgh.

We noted that Speech Therapist KIRSTEEN CUMMING who has worked in Ireland for the past seven years, joined her sister Marie, well known locally as an expert on the clarsach, to give an evening's entertainment at the Episcopal Church last summer. Kirsteen performed songs, poems and recitations. Since we wrote the foregoing, we have had a slip from Kirsty and we learn that congratulations are in order as she has a new appointment and a change of address. She is now Unit Speech and Language Therapist for the Perth & Kinross Unit of Tayside Health Board and lives in Bridge of Earn.

Our thanks to MRS DAVID DAVIDSON (BETTY KIRKWOOD) for her good wishes. She reports an uneventful year for David and herself from Braintree, Essex.

MRS M. DAVIDSON (MARGARET McBEATH) reports "a wonderful holiday in Cape Cod with Mr and Mrs Bill McCurdy (ALICE KING)".

It has been nice to read some more of GEORGE DIXON'S local history articles in the Strathie again over recent months. We trust that George will be able to publish them in collected form before too long. He has also been taking up the cudgels in the press and otherwise to advocate Grantown's return to Moray in the forthcoming local authority reorganisation. The controversy over the local Hospitals has also prompted George to produce articles about their history. There must be few topics that George can't find historical detail about at the drop of a hat. We wonder if his bed is only accessible by stepladder because of the files stowed underneath! Or maybe the secret is that Central Region's Archives are really just a corner of George Dixon's store!

Hospital matron in Windsor MARGARET DONALD "enjoyed a short visit to Grantown in 1993" and hopes to repeat it in '94. We look forward to seeing you.



MRS EDMUNDS-JONES (JANET DIXON) continues with her work as a Paediatric Tutor at Avon & Gloucester College of Health. We are grateful to her for sending news of the other members of the Dixon family...Lesley lives in Cirencester, her family now grown up and "at college, in business or with family of their own"...Louise, who lives in Glasgow, unfortunately does not keep in good health. George, of course, who returns his slip regularly, gets an Alpha + from the editor and a mention under his own name!

MRS RAB ERSKINE (MICHELE HEAWOOD) has a special reason to remember Hogmanay 1992...she writes: "After nine years of marriage we found I was pregnant on Old Year's Night! What a wonderful way to start 1993!" Now she has a wee lad called Connal. We offer our congratulations. Michele was also promoted to be supervisor of her department at work (the Chest X-Ray Centre in Edinburgh) to which she intends to return in February while Gran and husband Rab will look after the wee chap. Rab is a driving instructor, so can no doubt arrange his lessons to suit this arrangement. There is also a plan to move house this year. Please remember to send us your new address!

JENNIFER EVEREST who has started a degree in Engineering and European Studies at Strathclyde, enjoyed six months (Sept. to Feb.) brushing up her German in Darmstadt. At Christmas she came home to visit her Mum and, in true student fashion, to raise the wind a bit through her holiday job in Walker's Bakery!

MRS M.E. EWEN (BETTY ROBERTSON) reports a contact with a playmate of her days at Crofts of Tulloch...Connie Gordon, who rang her up from Turriff last October. "Whenever we get rid of this white stuff," Betty promises, "I'll be delighted to be off to Turriff!" (Betty's slip arrived 2nd Mar and there was still a lot of that "white stuff" about!Ed.) Betty also reports that she has had to give up her voluntary work for SSAFA for health reasons after many years.

MRS FARQUHAR (AMANDA MUNRO) has moved to a bigger house on the other side of Ellon...just in time it seems, for daughter Siobhan's wee sister arrived on the "glorious 12th" just 12 days after the move! Amanda goes back to her nursing work about the same time as we intend to publish, but has enjoyed her year off looking after her bairns. Husband Stuart is back with Stena Offshore.

MRS FEARNLEY (MAUREEN MACAULAY), we are sorry to report, has osteo-arthritis in both knees and has been forced to give up work and golf. Added to this her second daughter has now flown the nest, leaving only her son at home. "I'm missing all the company," she writes, "Must find something to occupy myself!" May we suggest a word processor...great fun, and doesn't call for much mobility!

TOM FERGUSON, who is with Lothian Health Board as a Services Manager, reports that they are about to go through private tendering again "so here's hoping I'm still still in the land of the employed next year!" Our fingers are firmly crossed for you! Tom's wife (PAMELA MacDONALD) writes that they had a visit last summer from "wee" brother Alistair and his new bride, Australian Grace Koch, and that they hope soon to pay them a visit in Australia. SINE FERGUSSON checked in in good time from Edinburgh.

GEORGE FLETT is in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia where he is Catering Manager at a large Sports and Recreation Centre. We are grateful to Mrs Fraser (Stella Stewart) for providing us with this information and George's address, as we had lost track of him for a time. Since we wrote the above however we have had a full report from George himself detailing his career first as a chef in locations as various as the Four Seasons, Aviemore, the Tree Tops, Aberdeen, the Navidale, Helmsdale and 16 months in Algeria (learning spoken French the easy way!). Following this he did a two year course in Hospitality Management, graduating from Napier in 1991, and joined the Al Riyadh company as Assistant Operations Manager (Catering & Promotions). He looks after Marketing, Public Relations, Security and Cultural Events as well as catering and is responsible for over 50 staff, describing himself as "overworked, overweight and underpaid!" But he promises to keep better in touch from now on.

MRS FORSYTH (NANCY GRAY) complains that she suffers from writer's cramp from composing articles and letters to the press. She has also of late done a few short historical programmes for BBC radio. She looks forward to another gardening season and more SNP campaigning. Her first grandson is now studying law at Aberdeen.

SHONA FRASER is still enjoying her nursing work in the Surgical Dept. of Ninewells Hospital, Dundee.

MRS WILLIAM FRASER (ELMA MITCHELL) joined her local over 50's badminton club and found an English lady member who had a kent face, but she could not place her. It turned out on inquiry that she was an evacuee during the war who was in her class at GGS in 1941-2! Her name was an unusual one, Petrana Miller, in case anyone else remembers her!

Our thanks to JOHN GILL for his greetings and good wishes and also for sending us some copies of specialist engineering periodicals to which he subscribes and which he offered to pass on to the School if they were of use. We have taken these to the Technical Department where John's offer was gratefully accepted as a "valuable resource".

MRS DONALD GORDON (ANN PATON) checked in from GLAMOURhaugh Ave in Huntly...we have eventually discovered with some disappointment that that intriguing name is alas! nothing more romantic than the name of a local watercourse.

JAMES GORDON writes from Holland that his wife and he are "delighted with the birth of our daughter Hannah Louise in Rotterdam on 4th June." Please see to it that she grows up with the enormous advantage of being bilingual!

James's sister MAIRI GORDON had no change to report from Edinburgh where she is still busy as a medical secretary in the Dept. of Diabetes at Edinburgh Royal.

We were pleased to hear from Martin Grant that, although the Australian bush fires in the Sydney area were fairly close to one of his son ALLAN GRANT's sports shops, no damage was done. It must have been a terrifying experience nevertheless, as can be seen from John Holmes' account.

"Life really begins on retirement!" states MRS ALLAN GRANT (MARGARET TELFER) formerly Head Teacher at Tyrie, Fraserburgh. "Don't know how I ever found time to go to work, as I'm so busy with hobbies and socialising!"

COLIN GRANT scored a first by sending his news by means of a fax c/o the Business Studies Dept in the School! He has now been running his own environmental services business in Glasgow for about a year, employing environmentally friendly methods to "clean contaminants from land using bacteria which eat the nasties". He goes on "I thought ski-racing was nerve-racking till I started running my own business!"

Having completed the conquest of all the Munros, we hear that DONALD GRANT has now set out to do the round of the Corbetts. How many pairs of boots will that entail we wonder?

Both FIONA AND SHELAGH GRANT are still in Edinburgh, where they had a family party to celebrate their parents' Ruby Wedding last December.

Our sympathy goes out to DONALD GUNN in Dingwall as he struggles to come to terms with the death of his wife Betty which took place last October after a long illness.

GRAHAM GRANT has started to study for a Maritime Law Diploma with a view to doing an external Law degree with London University and, with his son Christopher now 18 months "and at the cute, cuddly and clever stage", he finds he is quite busy and home life is hectic!

We congratulate Golfing Holiday Organiser JENNIFER GRANT on her success on home ground last year when she was Ladies Champion at Abernethy in the Club's Centenary Year. Well done! We were pleased to hear from PATRICK GRANT about his new appointment as D.V.O. for Grampian and the Northern Isles and his



consequent move to Bieldside (just outside Aberdeen on the North Deeside Road)... "Hopefully the final move," he writes. His youngsters, Sarah and Andrew, are "happily" (the inverted commas are Patrick's!) attending schools in Cults. This is our home airt and we have seen the wee primary school in Cults developing over the years till the educational provision there is now one of the most sought after in the area.

WALTER GRANT reported in from Aberdeen where he now lives in retirement from his work as head of his building firm.

Following her marriage (in romantic Barbados!) to policeman Gordon Greenlees last summer and their setting up house in Inverness, we have moved MRS GREENLEES (SALLY GRANT) from the Local to the Main List, although Sally is meantime continuing her clerical job in the Grantown Police Office. We wish them every happiness...and safe commuting up and down the A9! Incidentally Sally is still much engaged in Canine Welfare with Grantown Dog Rescue.

From Lancashire MRS GREENWOOD (MARY WINCHESTER) reports that her only visit North this year was for three days in Tomintoul... "and it rained!". Mind you, three days without rain would have been difficult to find during that most changeable of summers!

MRS GREIG (MARGARET GRANT) reports "a good year at the Flower Shows" for both herself and her husband both winning cups at Kingsbarns and prizes at St Andrews. They also did a Rhine Cruise last June, and were planning a winter trip to Cyprus.

ALBERT HASTINGS is still busy in his Gift Shop in Nairn.

MRS HENDERSON (ELAINE DAVIDSON) who has just become a member (by means of a swift exchange of letters culminating on our deadline day!) taught for 12 years in Lambeth, but returned to Scotland last year because of her husband's job with Allied Dunbar. They have two youngsters Carrie (9) and David (7) who are now at Glasgow Academy.

MRS HIGGINS (PAM MACPHERSON) is "looking forward to taking Dad (82 years young Peter MacPherson!) to visit her sister Fiona and family in Zaragoza, Spain at Easter". Bon voyage!

From Sydney JOHN HOLMES sent us a vivid account of the January bush fires which raged around that area and caused enormous damage and destruction. We hope to have room to print his story. John also reported that his wife Norrie and he were due to set off on an 11 day cruise aboard Cunard's "Ocean Monarch", sailing from Sydney to Cairns and returning by air, around the time we hope to publish. Bon voyage!

MRS HUNTER (FIONA HENDERSON) has "spent the last year helping to start the fundraising initiative for Scotland's first Children's Hospice, so PLEASE SUPPORT C.H.A.S.I." In her spare time she has been practising her golf assiduously. determined to beat her Dad who has taken up golf again after many years!

TOM HUNTER bears up courageously in spite of his health problems. In his own words: "Same old story...this year it was a stroke, paralysing my right side. Recovering now, but forbidden by colleagues to drive or work....and can't write properly! Otherwise fine and cheery...maybe good enough to raise a coarse chuckle with old friends, to whom warmest regards!" Reciprocated on many sides assuredly!

MARR ILLINGWORTH enjoyed his summer trip back to Grantown but would like to have seen more kent faces at the Cattle Show. With David Ross Marr paid a visit to Lachie Stuart at Port Gordon which he describes as "very special" and he urges other contemporaries to drop by and visit him.

ARTHUR INNES has moved back to his old address in Edinburgh after a brief sojourn in Torrance.

We were saddened to learn from JOHN IRVING of the death of his wife Sheila in October. "She is sadly missed," he adds feelingly.

New recruit FIONA JACK is aiming for a degree in Equine Studies which entails two years in the School of Rural Studies at Clinterty

to gain a H.N.C. followed by three years further study to complete the degree. Best wishes for success!

MRS JAMIE (EILEEN CALDER) tells us that they are building a house at present, and until it is ready, they are renting a farm cottage outside Muir of Ord. Her girls love the freedom and the animals. Best wishes to you all, and our thanks for your other bulletins on the doings of the Calder clan.

Our sincerest sympathy goes out to COLIN KEITH, to his wife Olive and elder son Andrew on the loss of the younger member of the family, their son Colin, who was extremely well known in the world of Squash as a former Scottish champion and internationalist who had represented his country 30 times. Troubled by injury and illness earlier in the year, he suffered from depression and took his own life in August.

GRACE KIRK sent regards and good wishes from Edinburgh and reported thus: "A fleeting visit to Grantown last summer kept the memories alive...and provided unfailing therapy to counteract that ageing feeling!" Nice thought, Grantown as the elixir of youth!

ALISTER LAING and his bride Fiona had an auspicious start to their married life when they won the first "Confetti Call" prize in a promotion by the Alliance & Leicester. The prize was a building society account complete with the first deposit of £50! They are now established in Lossiemouth.

MRS K.LAING (KATHARINE TEMPLETON) is still active as a Community Midwifery Sister at the Eastern General Hospital in Edinburgh.

PATRICIA LAING has "finally got round to buying my flat in Aberdeen." It is situated "within a stone's throw of Aberdeen's most hallowed ground"...Pittodrie of course! Patricia is still with British International Helicopters and, following the successful management buyout of the former Maxwell company, she is secretary to the Commercial Director. She adds wryly: "I still don't have a pension of course, since Robert Maxwell decided he needed some spare cash!" We feel for you..."entrepreneur" can be a very dirty word indeed. We have since learned that the outlook for those robbed of their savings towards their pensions is a bit brighter and that is welcome, but it doesn't change our feelings for that blackguard one little bit!

We were pleased to hear again from WILLIAM LEDINGHAM in Banchory and hope he may manage to make it to the forthcoming Dinner.

JILL LENNON is still finding constabulary duty at Albany St. an enjoyable lot (in spite of the song!). She does intersperse it with plenty of travel, recently it was Singapore and Sumatra in the company of her "good buddy" Lorna McIntosh, and now that the latter is working in Australia for seven months, Jill is planning a month touring with her in September. Brother Greig is "on course for a first in Biology at Nottingham" and is contemplating a PhD. Robin is with a firm of accountants which is relocating to Leeds which he doesn't fancy...an avid Scotland supporter, he'd prefer further north!

MRS LILLEY (JANE MACAULAY) had no major changes to report but finds that life is never dull. Part of the reason for this may be that "daughter Alison has just acquired a cello, to compete with son Andrew's trombone!" A suite for cello with trombone obbligato would certainly be interesting!

Congratulations to HELEN LOFTUS who has successfully completed her training at Eastbourne General Hospital and is now a fully fledged Clinical Officer. Helen also received an award for excellence and was recognised as "Trainee of the Year" from the County of Sussex. Well done!

Environmentalist DOUGLAS LOW has found a congenial job as a Countryside Ranger with Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park near Largs and is continuing his studies with the Open University. After a three month holiday including a trip to Swaziland and South Africa and a Christmas visit to Grantown, Douglas's sister KAREN LOW wrote us a nice letter full of news from Grindelwald, from the top of what she calls "MY mountain" where she looks after skiers. In Swaziland



she met Anita Moen "who is doing very well and has just got engaged." In April Karen is to move into a new and larger apartment with a terrace and sun from early morning till sunset. Those angling for an invitation should form a queue (behind the editor of course)! All three members of the Low family were together at home for Christmas for the first time in ten years, but there is more than a strong possibility that the youngest member SUSAN LOW will be moving closer, to Newtonmore in fact, this spring...depending on planning permission (Good luck! Ed.) Susan also forecasts a transfer to the McDonald clan in April. We promise to report that in the appropriate column in the next issue! And all good wishes in that connection too!

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ANGUS GORDON, now Convenor of the District Council, took the salute when the bands of the Queen's Own Highlanders performed in the Square last autumn. He also spoke up clearly and boldly for the retention of the Ian Charles Hospital at the crowded public meeting held in Inverallan Church.

We were pleased to see that our Past President, former Rector LEWIS GRANT was honoured last winter by the Sports Council for his services over some 25 years to the sport of ski-ing in Scotland. Lewis has been instrumental in fostering the efficient administration of ski racing, both at inter-school and at senior level, and has used his computing skills to develop speedy and accurate methods of recording and collating racing results "on the hill". He was presented with an impressive and suitably engraved piece of Caithness Glass at a ceremony in Kelvingrove Art Galleries. His predecessor, our other ski-ing Rector (who, twenty five years ago, chose a pair skis as his retirement gift from his pupils!) would have thoroughly approved.

Former Lady Advisor MARIEL GRANT was finding that she had some problems of mobility living on her own at Woodberry, so she decided in December to move into Mount Barker Residential Home where she is now happily ensconced and enjoying life. We send our heartiest congratulations to her on reaching her 90th birthday early this year.

Our congratulations to MARTIN GRANT on his ordination as an elder in the congregation of Dulnain Bridge Church.

Our unqualified apologies to STEWART GRANT for our "wrong spy" in last year's issue. We took an original advertising photograph in the Post Office window to be an example of Stewart's work, but we were wrong! In mitigation we can only say that it was the original approach which led us astray, as we remembered that it was Stewart who took some of the best photographs of the Senior Pupils ever printed in the magazine, by breaking away from the traditional groupings and backgrounds. See the 1982 edition for example.

We noted with pleasure the marriage of Margaret, the daughter of Mr & MRS GEORGE HAMILTON (EVELYN MACKINTOSH). It doesn't seem all that long ago since Margaret missed one of our school foreign trips through coming down with a bout of German Measles!

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ANGUS GORDON, now Convenor of the District Council, took the salute when the bands of the Queen's Own Highlanders performed in the Square last autumn. He also spoke up clearly and boldly for the retention of the Ian Charles Hospital at the crowded public meeting held in Inverallan Church.

We were pleased to see that our Past President, former Rector LEWIS GRANT was honoured last winter by the Sports Council for his services over some 25 years to the sport of ski-ing in Scotland. Lewis has been instrumental in fostering the efficient administration of ski racing, both at inter-school and at senior level, and has used his computing skills to develop speedy and accurate methods of recording and collating racing results "on the hill". He was presented with an impressive and suitably engraved piece of Calthness Glass at a ceremony in Kelvingrove Art Galleries. His predecessor, our other ski-ing Rector (who, twenty five years ago, chose a pair skis as his retirement gift from his pupils!) would have thoroughly approved.

Former Lady Advisor MARIEL GRANT was finding that she had some problems of mobility living on her own at Woodberry, so she decided in December to move into Mount Barker Residential Home where she is now happily ensconced and enjoying life. We send our heartiest congratulations to her on reaching her 90th birthday early this year.

Our congratulations to MARTIN GRANT on his ordination as an elder in the congregation of Dulnain Bridge Church.

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WALLACE Jane Spey View B. of Garten; 74 Sanda St Flat 211 N. Kelvinside Glasgow G20 8PS. Tele-ad Canvasser Scotland on Sun.  
 WALLACE Rona Spey View B. of Garten; 57 Boundford Rd Catford London SE6. Sen. Sales Support Executive, Continental Airlines.  
 WALLING Mrs Eric (Isobel JACK) Isla Cottage High St; 278 Holland Rd Holland-on-Sea Essex CO15 6NR.  
 WALMSLEY Mrs R. (Ella SLATER) Dip. D.Sc. Viewhill Speybr.; 41 Moor Pk Rd Northwood Middx. HA6 2DH.  
 WALSH Mrs R. (Rhona CAMERON) M.A. Westering Lane; 1322 Golden Bear Forest Cove Kingwood Texas 77339.  
 WARD Grant G. 7 Church Dr B. of Garten; Pack Horse Inn Southowram nr Halifax Yorks. Publican.  
 WARD John J. B.A. 7 Church Dr B. of Garten; 3 Forest Grove Kilmarnock KA3 1UP. Div. Sales Manager Premier Beverage Products.  
 WATT Wilma J.F. 109 High St.; c/o Mr T. A. McDonald 71 Jones Ave Brakpan 1540 Transvaal RSA.  
 WEBB Mrs M. (Margaret J. TEMPLETON) 21 The Square; South Ct Allanton Duns Berwickshire TD11 3JZ.  
 WESTON Mrs Roy (Sheina M. DONALDSON) M.A. Morven; 79 Pinewood Dr Lancaster Pk Morpeth Northumberland NE61 3ST.  
 WHITE Mrs Nicholas J. (Marjory E. MACKINTOSH) B.D.S. Bracklinn; 6 W. Montrose St Helensburgh G84 9NB. Dental Practitioner.  
 WILLIAMSON Margaret E. M.B.Ch.B. M.R.C.P. 13 Kylintra Cresc; Ingrebourne Centre Hornchurch Essex. Consultant Psychotherapist.  
 WILSON Mrs A.J. (Helen A.K. SCOTT) Mountlea Balmenach; The Bungalow Denhead of Orrock Balmedie Aberdeen AB4 0YN. Teacher  
 Albyn School (Retd.)  
 WILSON David LL.B. (Hons) Drumrunie B. of Garten; 30 Balfern Gr. Chiswick W4.  
 WILSON Mrs David L. (Ada R. IMRAY) M.A. Dip. Soc. Sc. A.M.I.A. Somerville High St; Oakbank Montrose Rd Auchterarder PH3 1BZ.  
 WILSON Mrs John (Audrey MURRAY) Wester Gallovie; 65 Rose St Aberdeen. Teacher Culter Primary School.  
 WOOD Barry 9 Dulaig Ct; Journalist Sunday Express Glasgow.  
 WOOD Michael A. Dip. Tech. Ed. 9 Dulaig Ct; 2 Keltlyhill Cresc Keltly Fife KY4 0LD. Teacher St Columba's H.S. Dunfermline.  
 WOOD Patrick G.C. Seafield Lodge; 6 Moray Pk Ave Culloden IV1 2LS. Highland Region Employee.  
 WRIGHT Alison B.Sc. (Hons) Valleyfield Tormore; 21 Claremont Gr. Aberdeen AB1 6RF. Microbiol. Lab. Manager  
 Grampian Food Tech. Centre.  
 WRIGHT Alan M.A. (Hons) C.A. Valleyfield Tormore; 15 West Ave Pinner Middx. HA5 5BX. Anderson Consulting  
 WRIGHT Herbert John B.Sc. (Eng.) C.Eng. M.I. Mech. E. M.A.S.M.E. High St; 78 Esther Ave Cambridge Ont. N15 4L6 Canada.  
 WRIGHT Mrs H.J. (Shona CALDER) 3 Macgregor Ave; Address as above.  
 WRIGHT Stanley 33 The Square; Millhead Riverside View Spring Gardens Frome Somerset. Fuse Development Manager Beswick Ltd.  
 YOUNG Mrs Stuart (Elizabeth WALLACE) R.G.N. Spey View B. of Garten; 5 Arne Walk Blackheath London SE3.

## H.M. Services

BEVERIDGE Craig Broomfield South St; Private 24906495 17 Port & Maritime Regt HMAV Ardennes Marchwood Southampton.  
 CLARK John S. B.E.M. 30 High St; 9 Raigmore Ave Inverness; Major QM 33 Engineer Regt. (Expl. Ord. Disp.) Lodge Hill Camp Chattenden  
 Kent ME3 8NZ. Transfers to semi-retirement in "civvy street" (Inverness) September 1994.  
 DOBSON William B.Sc. (Agri) Milton Nethybr.; Chapel Corner Garsdon SN16 9NW. Squadron Leader Hercules Pilot RAF Lyneham.  
 LIGGAT Andrew Brierlea Mossie Rd; Flt. Lieut. RAF Regt; Box 273 Off. Mess R.A.F. Laarbruch BFPO 43 Germany.  
 LIGGAT Archie M.S. B.Sc. (Hons Ae. Eng.) Brierlea Mossie Rd; 10 Tudor Court Caergeiliog Holyhead Gwynedd LL65 3LL. Squadron Leader  
 i/c Central Flying School Hawk Squadn.  
 McMILLAN Peter K. 13 Ellanwood Rd Carrbr.; 12 Argus Pl Bishopmill Elgin. S.A.C. RAF Lossiemouth.  
 ROSS David A.F.M. 4 Railway Houses Dava; 3 Gorsedown Cl Whitehill Bordon Hants GU35 9QH. W.O. Parachute instructor.

## SERVICES NEWS

CRAIG BEVERIDGE now belongs to the Royal Logistics Corps and has successfully passed the second section of his training. We sense that he was not disappointed when a trip to Gibraltar last year lasted longer than scheduled due to engine trouble! He appears to have managed to pretend also that he was not enjoying a ski-instructor's course in Austria! At present he is at sea for six months, and expects to get a six month posting in May.

Major JOHN CLARK has decided to take voluntary redundancy after 35 years in the Army, and goes into "Semi-retirement" in Inverness in September. Best wishes for a smooth transition!

Flight Lieut. ANDREW LIGGAT recently returned to his wife and year old daughter after another four months in the Falklands. He found that he had missed the first tooth, the first steps and the first words of his youngster, but perhaps it is some compensation that he is in the process of having three summers in a row to enjoy...his last visit to the South Atlantic meant he had to suffer three consecutive winters!

Congratulations to Squadron Leader ARCHIE LIGGAT who received the Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service in the Air in the Birthday Honours List last year, following his stint as Display Pilot for the Phantom. We saw the video of his routine taken from inside and outside the cockpit...breathtaking stuff! Now he is being moved from the command of the Hawk Squadron No 234 which is being disbanded, and takes over as O.C. Central Flying School Hawk Squadron. His wife Liz is also expecting their second child shortly after we go to print. These developments led to the formulation of the following equation: New job + New baby = Busy year ahead! Our good wishes all round!