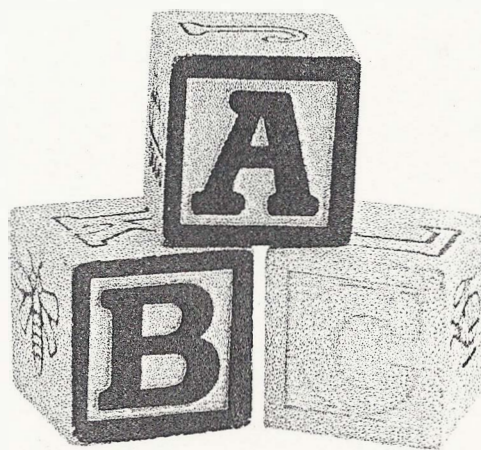


GRANTOWN GRAMMAR
SCHOOL
FORMER PUPILS AND OLD
GUARDS CLUB
MAGAZINE
1998



EDITORIAL AND FOREWORD

Welcome to the 1998 magazine. With F.P. slips being returned from many parts of the world the magazine is a way keeping in touch with "home" and old classmates who sometimes make unexpected visits when on holiday. Thanks again to Maree Thompson as editor and to the committee for their support in making the magazine a success. Unfortunately due to rising costs the next magazine will be £2 but hope our readers will agree is still good value. Best wishes to all.

Margaret Masson
Secretary

Thank you for some very interesting reading. I loved hearing about your stories of when you were at school, and would love to print some more in the next issue. I am glad to hear that the larger print is favoured and would like to put it to better use by printing more news.

I want to hear about your career, family, holidays, hobbies, stories of your school days and anything interesting like poems or even jokes (keep it clean!)

Just as a reminder that because of increased outlays the 1999 magazine is £2, so give me more to type and get your moneys worth.

Maree Thompson

COMMITTEE

Mr. A. Martin Grant, Mrs Betty Grant, Miss Jeannette I Munro,
Miss Jean Paterson, Mr Frank Calder, Mrs Shirley Findlay,
Mrs Chrissie Grant, Mr Malcolm MacLennan, Mr Ian MacPherson,
Mrs Margaret Masson, Miss Sheena Ogilvie, Mrs Daphne Ritchie,
Mr David Ritchie, Mrs Margaret Ross, Mr Ian Smith,
And Mr John Stuart

J R Allan

Senile – but I think only mildly. I promise to let you know when I win the National Lottery. I am an original member of the Old Guards Club and would like to know if there are any of us left.

Mrs F.E. Anfield (Winnie Shaw)

Thank you for a whole morning of “remember this one and that occasion” and for a wonderful address book. We are sadly but gradually cutting down on the heavy work of honey production.

Christobel Bahzad (Terris)

I have recently returned from a pre-Christmas trip to New York. But our suitcase was more adventurous than George and I. It was sent to BAKU and returned after three weeks!

Iain Henry Beange

Claims Executive covering admiralty, pollution and cargo claims – travelling frequently to India and Croatia. Thomas and Katie (now 8 and 5 years old respectively) are both doing well at school at Gosforth.

Sheena S R Beaton (McIntosh)

Retired from High School last Christmas and I'm enjoying every minute of it – there's more time to spend with my four grandchildren. Visited my son and his wife in Dubai in February. I had a wonderful time.

Craig Beveridge

I have now finished with life in the army and moved into catering with Amanda helping to run the family business.

Gillian Beveridge

I successfully completed my HNC in Social Care at Edinburgh. I am now studying for a BA(Hons) incorporating a South Wales Diploma in Social Work at the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff.

Mrs L.D. Pamela Braid (Gibson)

My thanks to all the committee members who continue to produce this excellent magazine.

Mrs M Brocklehurst (Margaret McWilliam)

Our recent travels took us to South Africa, based near Durban at a small town called Scottburgh. On our trip around the country we encountered many places and streets with Scottish names. In a small museum in the Drakensberg Mountains we came across the story of a Hector Mackenzie who named his farm Seaforth! It's a wee sma' world, is it not?

Sandra Callum (Paterson)

I work as a receptionist at Grantown Health Centre

Mrs E C Butler-Lee (Emily Campbell)

Nothing to report

Allan Chisholm

Nothing to report

Mrs A Clark (Alison Ronaldson)

Thanks to past and present teams who helped produce the magazine. Especially to Margaret Masson for taking the task of Secretary. If you want a job done – “ask a busy person.” Margaret’s first memory of school must surely be the distance she and Ian had to walk from Gorton in all weathers – no school transport in those days. Those days when a “mouse” was something with four legs and a tail which she would come across in the farmyard or have as a pet. “Windows” were the things in buildings to let light in and let you see out, and “surfing,” we were taught, was what Australians did on the ocean for fun. To those of us who can’t cope with computer jargon and the Internet, the larger print of this year’s magazine is much appreciated.

Amusing to hear of New Labour introducing children to learning their “times tables. We who had Miss Legge and Miss Butter at that stage in our schooling must surely remember how as a class in unison we recited, parrot wise, in a singsong fashion all our tables. And I’m proud to say it was imprinted on my memory and stayed with me to this day. I expect to hear any day now to hear that copybooks for handwriting are to be introduced. Light upstrokes and heavy downstrokes!

Mark M Clark

After eight years of field walking, I have hung up my “wellies” and moved to Heath Office. I’m still with CSC in Perth as a Sales and Development Manager. Andrew is now 18 months and blethers non-stop. (Not sure where he gets that from.)

John Stanley Clark

I’m a retired army major who goes hillwalking and plays golf. I’ve just finished organising a National Reunion Weekend for 350 Royal Engineers in Inverness.

Mrs Betty Davidson (Kirkwood)

Recently moved to West Sussex. The relocation was for my husband David’s job with National Grid in Guildford, Surrey. For the moment I have reverted to being a housewife! How did I ever have time to go to work! Our eldest son, Peter, is a Chartered Surveyor. Our younger son, Matthew graduated with a 2/1 Honours Degree in Industrial and Business Systems and is now a Logistics Analyst with Solaglas.

Raymond Wm. Davidson

We are planning our return to New Zealand next year to visit my sister Betty and her family. We also mean to stop over in Hong Kong for a couple of weeks to visit Mike Moir and his wife Ann. I have a lot more time to enjoy my golf these days.

Andrew Dobson

I married Jane in 1994; our son George was born in 1995; our daughter Fiona was born in 1997. I am working for Oxfordshire County Council – Highways.

William Dobson

I am now Wing Commander in the RAF flying Hercules Transports.

Mrs Maureen Fearnley (MacAuley)

I'm enjoying the 'rural' life at Spey Bay, just a bit down the river. Any visitors will be welcome.

Sine H Fergusson

Catering Manageress – retired

Mrs I Findlay (Shirley Masson)

Now that all of the kids are at school I am back at work as a canteen lady at Grantown Primary School.

Mrs Jane A Forsyth (Nancy Gray)

At last I've retired from politics. I popped up on the radio a few times regarding Scottish history. I taught history class at Avoch School. Days have certainly changed what with videos etc. The class of over 30 pupils all knew about Andrew De Mora (local hero 1927) they did an excellent project. I'm still gardening it never seems to end. With three greenhouses and one poly-tunnel filled to the brim with plants for sales and other events. I held an open day for the local church raising £500. This year I'm holding the same thing again for the other church in the village. I'm still neutering cats and dogs free of charge – we nearly spent £10,000 last year – but we have halved the number of stray animals in Ross-shire. K9 KAT2 have taken on a larger area and we are now a registered charity.

Robin U Fraser

I had a very enjoyable holiday in Canada in 1997. I visited the Rockies and spent time in Vancouver. The Cairngorms will never be the same! The three granddaughters are now all at primary school in Stirling, so I feel even older. I hope to visit Grantown in the summer of 1998, hopefully I'll see someone I recognise on the High Street.

Valerie Fraser (Grant)

Nothing to report

John Alexander Gill

Nothing to report

Allan Grant

After spending 15 years in the sporting retail business, we decided to sell up and try and get some weekends off and a few more holidays! In June, 1996, we sold the business and I am now back into teaching. I am the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Co-ordinator at the All Saint Catholic Boys College, Liverpool. I also look after the internal sport. Diane is about to start work with the Road Traffic Authority whilst doing a part time diploma in computers

We see David and Cathy Scott quite often, being Godparents to their two boys, Alistair and Rowan. We also caught up with Drew Scott when he visited during January this year. We met up with Mum, Dad and Robert in Penang on Christmas day and after holidaying there for a couple of weeks, they accompanied us back to Australia where they stayed with us until the 24th March. Sydney is preparing rapidly for the 2000 Olympic Games. I would like to send my regards to all our friends in the UK and if you are down this way, please get in touch.

Finally, thank you, to the committee who keep the magazine going. Rest assured that it is well received and appreciated in all corners of the world.

Donald Grant

Seeing a lot of the Far East at the moment with business trips to Japan and a great holiday in Sri Lanka last Autumn.

Mrs John Grant (Mary Elizabeth Templeton)

Nothing to report

Patrick Grant

Please pass on my regards to Iain Smith for his dedication over the years. Time does fly, I qualified as a vet 25 years ago. My daughter Sarah is to go to Edinburgh Medical School in October 98.

Shelagh & Fiona M Grant

Same as usual. Meantime our flat is undergoing extensive renovation. We will be glad to get back to normal. We are all off in June on holiday. With any luck all work in the flat will be completed.

Mairi Gordon

I'm still working as a medical secretary at the department of Diabetes, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. I have been Brown Owl at a local Brownie Pack for the last three years.

Mrs Vincent Greenwood (Mary Winchester)

I don't have anything very interesting to report. Vince and I spent a few days "home" in September and hope to be able to visit again this year.

Mrs W J Greig (Margaret C Grant)

Although I feel past my "sell by" date I still enjoying life and our holidays. As usual we still go to Cyprus for the winter months.

Donald Gunn

I have nothing to report, but keep up the good work.

Francis Hannan (Beange)

I'm married to a police officer. He has been a serving officer for 8 years in North Yorkshire, coming from the Met.

Albert Hastings

Nothing to Report.

Gillian Henderson

The children are now in primary 1 and primary 5. We are visiting Nethy in 1998 for a few weeks. Enjoying the wonderful climate of Western Australia and are sorry not many people pop in from Scotland.

Peter Henderson

Having been back in Scotland for a visit last summer we have decided to sacrifice the Queensland sun and return to Edinburgh where I intend to start my own business.

Mrs I. M Hepburn (Rita Mackay)

Nothing to report

Mrs Malcolm Higgins (Pam MacPherson)

Now the kids have grown and flown,

We have some time to call our own.

Looking forward to retiring,

As vagabonds we are aspiring;

With caravan (a home from home)

There's nothing better than to roam.

Anticipate with joy the day

We see again the River Spey!

(With apologies to William McGonagall)

Jane Hogg (Cruickshank)

Nothing to report.

Andrew Howlett

Nothing to report.

Fiona Hunter (Henderson)

I am half way through my advanced Diploma in counselling which is both interesting and challenging. My brother Peter has returned to Scotland. His family hopes to join him soon.

D. M. Marr Illingworth

Nothing to report.

John Irvine

Nothing to report.

Gordon Jack

Received the Imperial Service Medal for over 50 years service in Britain and Tanzania.

Mary Jack (McWilliam)

Nothing to report.

Debbie Kinnaid (Allan)

Nothing to report

Grace Kirk

I still make the occasional visits to old haunts and revive old memories.

Katharine Laing (Templeton)

Community midwifery sister with the Eastern General Hospital, Edinburgh.

Shirley Laing (Robb)

Our daughter Sarah Amanda was born on May 10th 1996. I am expecting another baby in mid March 1998. In between periods of maternity leave, I work as an Assistant Fund Manager in the private client section of Aberdeen Asset Managers Ltd.

Iain & Wendy Laing (MacBeath)

Our daughter Kirsty Iona was born on July 11th 1995.

Mrs Jean Lugg (Burgess)

I am still getting around. I find that I am the oldest student at Extra-mural classes, the oldest in Antiquarian Society and the second oldest at Embroiders Guild. Fame at last. My American friends are definitely coming over this year. They are coming to see ancient monuments. Me – for instance! On a visit to a neighbour a few months ago I met her brother home from Barbados. Finding I was from Grantown-on-Spey he asked about a college friend of his, last seen in wartime. I was able to tell him his friend, Victor Ross, was alive and gave him the address from the magazine. He immediately made contact and the last I heard they hoped to meet up!

Alice McCurdy (King)

I have no exciting news. I am just trying to grow old gracefully. The snowdrops in my garden remind me of going up to Castle Grant every spring where we children were allowed to pick little bouquets from the lovely white drifts of snowdrops in the Castle grounds.

Evan MacDonald

Still working towards my PhD. Got some results hoping for some more soon. If all goes well I should finish next year (1999). Then? Start looking for a job...

James MacDonald

I seem to be spending too much time away from home. Our second home at the moment seems like the Lake District. However we might have time to visit Strathspey this year. That was the intention last year but we went cruising in the Baltic instead. It was a great experience, especially St Petersburg.

Rhona MacDonald

My RGN finals are due in November. Am I supposed to know something by now? Social life in Glasgow is going well.

Gordon MacGregor

I'm enjoying retirement but I seem to have little or no specific time of my own. I think I am busier now than I was when I was working, playing the fiddle for charity. I am still with the SFO.

Pauline McGregor

I run the barbers shop in Huntly Street, Inverness.

Douglas McInnes

Enjoyed a visit to Andrew Howlett in Nethybridge during the summer. I was visited by Andrew Ross (not an FP) son of Mrs Ross, who was matron of the Ian Charles Hospital for many years. I met Ronnie Douglas (of Revack beating days) in Inverness. He was playing the accordion at the time.

Angus A McIntosh

Nothing to report.

Thomas Donald McIntosh

Nothing to report.

Donald B McIntyre

I published "James Hutton – Founder of Modern Geology" (Stationary Office) marking the bi-centennial of Hutton's death. I laid a wreath on his grave on the bi-centennial day (26 March) and gave many lectures on Hutton and his work.

Ranald C. McIntyre

Still helping out with the Internet – now “Electric Scotland” and some accident investigations. I had occasion to contact Stirling Council Archive and was pleased to talk to George Dixon, who is also an FP. My E-mail address is now:
ranaldin@electricScotland.com

Mrs E MacIntosh

Nothing to report.

Helen McLure (Gordon)

Nothing to report

Mrs Donald A. McLeod (Elizabeth MacGregor)

Nothing to report.

Ian MacPherson

War service in the Seaforth Highlanders and RASC 1939-1946.

Ian J MacPherson

I'm still a freelance artist. I have a grandson as well.

James MacPherson

Nothing to report.

Peter MacPherson

At a special service in the Burrelton Church, I was presented with the Long Service Certificate of the Church of Scotland for having served as an elder for 50 years. I was ordained on March 28th 1945 after having served in the Scots Guards throughout the war. At the service my two sons, two grandsons and one granddaughter flanked me. My other granddaughter, Jill, has gone to London to be an Assistant Manager at Harrods armed with two MA's. Graham (Pam's son) has been appointed a position in the Patent Office, having graduated from Cambridge.

I was pleased to read that Burnfield was getting an award from the Lottery. My father used to paddle in the burn that used to run down there. He also went to school there. As a boy I used to deliver groceries there on a Saturday. I see that Balmenach Distillery is going again. My grandfather bought a bottle of Pure Malt Balmenach 1910 and paid 2/6 for it in Strachans where I was manager before coming south.

Ian D. Masson

I am still working hard in Forres as a Nissan Technician. I had a great time in South Africa and France last year. This year I went to Ghana. I also took a trip to Moscow with the pipe band. The pipe bands (local and Atholl Highlanders) are keeping me very busy.

Mrs Margaret Masson (Stuart)

I had a memorable holiday in Ghana, West Africa visiting my brother Ian Stuart and his wife. Ian is a diplomat with the foreign office who has had various postings such as Barbados, Guyana, South America and now Ghana. Great for exotic holidays! They are able to show us all the interesting places to visit and meet the locals in their own environment. Visits to the local markets selling everything from snails, fish, spices, household goods and materials are not to be missed: apart from the overpowering smells as the temperatures are in the high 90's. A great experience was a trek through the jungle to a tree top walk 40 metres above the ground crossing on swing bridges.

Lesley Meehan (Craib)

Nothing to report.

Bill Mitchell

Judy passed away in April 1997. I was made Honorary Member of Professional Golfers Association.

Denise Mitchell (Grant)

We are enjoying being at home with our daughter Alyssa Heather who was born on October 21st 1997, weighing a rather surprising 9lb 12 ounces.

Mrs Douglas A Mitchell (Jan Templeton)

I spent Christmas and New Year on the Isle of Man with the family. I am now a great granny. My sister Margaret (Mrs E M Cropp, Ontario, Canada) will be home during summer.

Mike Moir

Life in Hong Kong continues to be good despite recent economic problems in the region. The future for China looks very positive. Our daughter Nicola finishes in Fettes College in June and has been accepted in Edinburgh College of Art. Stewart our son has one year to go in Fettes.

A S Mortimer

I took early retirement at the end of September and now have time to enjoy gardening and visit the grandchildren in Aberdeen-shire and Cleveland.

Michael A. Munro

My father Edwin (Sam) passed away in June 1997 aged 82. He was former Dux of Grantown Grammar School. My sister Pat is now home from New Zealand after 23 years. Our oldest son Andrew (17) starts Quantity Surveying degree course at Robert Gordon University in October 1998. Nicholas (14) and Sam (3) are doing well.

Mrs Ann Murray (Stewart)

I moved to a brand new school in August 1997 as a Nursery Teacher. 1997 was a busy year. My 50th birthday was spent in Dublin, my son Stewart was 21 in

September and our daughter Eilidh was 18 in March. Brian is 50 this year and it is our Silver Wedding in the summer!

Elizabeth D Mutch

I'm fighting a losing battle against time and I'm not very mobile, but still sane – I think. My hobbies are:

1. Counting my blessings
2. Boring my friends with "what life was like when I was young." And,
3. Handing out advice (gratuitously) to my younger relatives who ignore it!

Neil W Mutch

I was an apprentice with my father at W G Mutch, and on block release at college. I took over the plumbing business in 1995.

Rachel Newbould (Smith)

I am still involved with the golf club at former RAF North Luffenham, now St George's Barracks (Royal Fusiliers.) some days I'm on the catering staff and other days, green-keeping. It keeps me out of mischief. I'm enjoying life and watching my daughters 8 years and 10 years, growing up. One is a Spice Girls fanatic the other is mad on Alan Shearer and Newcastle Utd!

Dorothy M O'Connor (Cameron)

Still performing my duties as Chaplain of the U.S.A branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. I have just had the honour of being awarded Life Membership in recognition of my services over the last 12 years. I also write a monthly column in the "Can-Vet Klaxon" so I guess my years with the "Strathy" were not wasted.

Beatrice Oliphant

Nothing to report.

Isobel Orford (Calder)

I have nothing much of interest to write about. I have now joined a happy group of volunteers and help out at the local hospital two days a week, which is very interesting. I would just like to wish everyone the best for the year ahead.

Dr R.G.M Phillip

My brother Bob and his wife came out on a golfing holiday and had a great time. They left snow and ice in St. Andrews. I'm looking forward to being in St. Andrews for the next Open in the year 2000.

Daphne Ritchie (Duncan)

Nothing new to report. I am playing a lot of golf and getting wet quite often this summer.

Ian Ritchie

I am now retired and spending a lot more time on the golf course. I am also the current captain of Bishops' Stortford Golf Club.

Williamina Ritson (Keith)

I must be getting really old – our grandchildren did it all – two graduated, one got married and one came with us on a cruise to Alaska. At least both of us maintained good health. Earlier this year I had a wonderful telephone call from Evelyn Grant, there must have been ears burning! As always, I enjoy reading the magazine. Best wishes to all.

Davis Robertson (Thomson)

I am still working as a support teacher for bilingual children in East Dunbartonshire. Jimmy and I are sad to report the loss of our father, Bert, on January 2nd, aged 83. Although he was not a member of the FP's club he had a lifetimes association with the school, he was the "Lollipop Man" at the Primary School.

Jessie Ronaldson

I am thankful for my good health that enables me to enjoy local community activities.

Margaret A. Ross

In March 1997 I had another pleasant meeting in London with Robert and Ella (Slater) Walmsley. Later I had a letter from Marjory (Cattanach) Taylor, USA telling me that she and her husband were coming to the UK in August. She and I had two long phone talks followed by a precious 15 minutes meeting on Queen Street Station platform as she and John left for the Highlands. It was a short meeting but so wonderful after a gap of 50 years. My 1997 holiday was a cruise on board Canadian Empress sailing the Thousand Island area from Kingston to Montreal then up the Ottawa River to the capital itself. What an experience to navigate those huge locks. School geography became alive.

Victor Ross

I am a retired Commercial Director.

Walter Ross OBE

I was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the New Years Honours.

Alison Scott (Stuart)

I retired in February 1997 after 14 years as a Nurse Manager at Chalmers Hospital, Banff.

Elise Selman (Kirk)

I have recently enjoyed some island holidays with my husband Geoffrey. June 1996 Isles of Scilly: June 1997 Isle of Man. October 1997 we will be cruising in the Greek Islands. Where to next summer? We're going to a wedding in the Lincolnshire Wolds.

I always wanted to see where King John lost his baggage in the Wash. I'm *sure* Mr Morrison told me all about that in 1939!

Mrs Connie Shaw (Gordon)

Last July I spent a lovely holiday at Wetherby in Yorkshire with an ex-banking colleague. Wetherby is a lovely village and the shop girls were all very helpful, very elegant and all beautifully dressed. I enjoy playing Scrabble and making educational scrapbooks.

Mrs Margaret Shiach (Smith)

Nothing to report

Iain & Joan (Fraser) Smith

Like everyone else we are so busy in retirement (and enjoying every moment) we don't know how we ever found time to work. Our fourth grandchild was born last August.

J. R. (Ian) Smith

Just growing older and more forgetful (thought I still remember my irregular verbs) I enjoy my weekly "dook" in the school pool with the pensioner swimmers! Congratulations to the team on the 1997 issue, and best wishes for the future.

Janette Smith (MacDonald)

There's not a lot of news this year. I'm still Deputy Head: but not of year 10. I now have year 11. We're about to get rid of them on study leave for their exams – hurray! I don't know who is more worried about these exams, them or me. All of my three children have assessments of some sort over the next few months. Stewart has his GCSEs; Jenna has Key Stage 3 SATs, and Calum has Key Stage 2 SATs. Needless to say my nails will soon be non-existent! I am also a co-ordinator for the incoming year 9 students in September, as having taken one group through to year 11 we now go back to year 9 and start it all over again. Life is quite hectic.

Susan Smith (MacGillivray)

Nothing to report.

Meta Stevens

Nothing to report.

Thomas B. Stuart

I have nothing of real interest to report but now that my better half has also retired we hope to be able to travel north a little more regularly.

Marjory Taylor (Cattanach)

Thank you all for taking over the F.P. magazine. It is always a delight to read, and to catch up on where everyone is and what they are doing. This year I especially thank a former school friend – Margaret A. Ross – for sending me a copy.

Last year was very busy for John and myself. The highlight was coming home to Grantown for a few days. We were lucky enough to stay with Rita Paterson, who treated us royally as usual but we all missed Jock tremendously. The weather was fantastic and I was able to do some walking by the Spey. We also visited Tommy and Sheena Ogilvie and it seemed like we had never left. However our time in Grantown was limited, so I hope to get back soon.

We met up with Margaret in Glasgow even though she hadn't been well, she made a great effort to come and see us. We then took off for England and stayed with Alice (Stuart) and Jack Chambers. As before they made us very welcome. Next, on to London and a meeting with Ella (Slater) Walmsley and husband. Ella and I hadn't seen each other since our trip to France to visit our French correspondents from GGS in 1947! Needless to say we chatted for hours. Our husbands were very understanding!

Gordon Templeton

Nothing to report.

Maree Thompson

I am no longer at Napier University. Having decided that I was doing the wrong thing I applied to drama school. I start a four-year course in Drama and Theatre Arts at Queen Margaret College, Edinburgh, in September. I am not working at the moment although I have been working in Bennets Bar, Tollcross and as a Bavarian Beer Wench during the festival. My film debuted on June 23rd at the Edinburgh Filmhouse, and received an excellent review in The Scotsman. It's a thirty minute epic about the corruption of innocence through experience. The plot is very complicated and contains strong language, violence, debauchery, gambling, drugs, alcohol and black magic. But you never know your luck, I might be on TV next year.

Mrs T. S. B. Thomson (Vera Mortimer)

Not very much to report. I keep plodding on. I am still able to do a spot of hillwalking but nowadays I don't mind if I don't reach the top of a Monro. I still enjoy the twice-weekly game of golf despite the new handicap system.

Mrs Audrey Wilson

Nothing to report.

Mrs Ella Walmsley (Slater)

In September 1997, I had a grand meeting with Marjory Taylor (Cattanach) in London and caught up on the last 50 years! We last saw each other in 1947 in St. Quentin, France where we visit our penfriends. That was organised by Miss Jamieson, the French Mistress. We had both married in 1951. Marjory went to Seattle via

Australia, and I moved to London with my English husband. How grateful we are to Margaret Ross for her efforts to organise a reunion of the leavers of 1945 at the 1990 F.P. dinner which unfortunately neither Marjory nor myself could attend. Just recently I had an interesting meeting with Margaret in London. Sadly my penfriend died but the families kept in touch. In August 1997 my husband and I visited the only daughter Christine and her family in Grenoble. The plan to visit Scotland in the summer and do some fishing.

Patrick Wood

1997 was another indifferent year. No money to spend at the Highland Region or a Raigmore Hospital where Sheila works. At least they can still pay our wages. We went to the United States and Canada in October. It was great and we are going to the West Coast of America this year. The family are still at home or round about Richard is at school, Claire is at college and Joanna is in her last year at Strathclyde University. Courtney our Schnauzer still needs walking.

New Members

We would like to welcome our new members:

Kirsty Ilsa Gray, who is moving on to Fettes College, Edinburgh

P.A. Fergus Napier, who is pursuing a career as a Naval Architect

Cara Macleman, who is pursuing a career in nursing

Pauline MacGregor, who left school a few years back, and now runs her own barbers shop in Inverness.

Adam William Irvine, School Dux 1998, who is taking a year out before studying Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, then hopes to work as a research scientist in that field.

LATE NEWS

Mrs Sheina Weston (Donaldson)

Late return of reply slip from Sheina who says that as OAPs she and her husband keep very busy, that is because everything they do takes twice as long to consider and twice as long to do. They have also joined the Club of OAPs who tour National Trust and English Heritage sites!!

OBITUARY

R. A. LIGGAT D.A.

Although not officially a member, Rob Liggat was throughout his forty year long association with the school and the clubs an enthusiastic and valued supporter of all our activities. He died suddenly but peacefully at home in February from a heart attack. Many of our members will have known him in the classroom as a gifted teacher of Art who shared his talents generously both in the school and in the church and the community. One only has to think of the original and often elaborate Christmas decorations he produced for both the "Old School" Hall and likewise for the "New School", the scenery and props that were created for the school concerts, and of the countless posters he turned out, so obligingly, for almost every good cause in Grantown and the district. Rob was highly regarded by his teaching colleagues and his work in the senior management team as Assistant Rector. He was always willing to give his time for Glenmore Camps, cruises, trips abroad, evening classes and many other activities.

The former "Clachan Players" and the more recent "Grantown Singers" both made full use of Rob's talents and fine singing voice. A committed Christian, Rob devoted a great deal of time and effort to the Church, serving for many years as Clerk to the Congregational Board, where he played an important part in the planning of major alterations to the building. Together with his wife, Irene, he was responsible for the production of the Church Magazine "Bridges" which catered for the joint charges of Grantown and Dulnain Bridge.

Before completing his teacher training, Rob saw wartime service in India and Burma, holding a commission in the Royal Artillery.

To his wife, Irene, his sons Archie and Andrew and his stepson Iain we extend the sincerest sympathy on behalf of our members.

Mrs F. Mason (Mary H. Tulloch)

Mrs F. Mason, a former dux of the school in 1943, died in a clinic in Spain on the 21st of November 1997 after a long period of indifferent health. After leaving school she pursued her studies at Glasgow University, graduating with an M.A in 1946. In the same year she married Frank Mason and joined Standard Life, where her mathematical skills enabled her to make a successful career as an actuary. Some years after her husband's death she retired to Alicante in Spain. She last visited Scotland in the summer of 1997.

We send sincere condolences on behalf of the Clubs to her sister Christine who lives in Wales, and to her brother Hugh who lives in Toronto.

Edwin (Sam) Munro

Edwin Munro, formerly of the Coppice Hotel and Strachan & Co, died peacefully at the Douglasview Nursing Home, Hamilton on the 13th of June 1997.

Remembering that he enjoyed a reputation as a formidable cricketer in his school days, we approached his contemporary Ian MacPherson on this, and Ian obliged with the following memories. We quote: "Sammy became one of the finest bowlers in the history of the School. His spin bowling was almost unplayable...and to rub salt in the wound, when he had demolished our stumps, he would treat us to a broad grin and the distinctive laugh which was his trademark. To Sammy and his like we owe a great deal...for memories become more and more precious as Old Father Time begins to glance ominously in our direction."

On behalf of the Clubs we send sincerest sympathy to his daughter, Patricia and to his son, Michael.

James A. Templeton M.A.

James A. (Hamish) Templeton died in Spynie Hospital on the 19th of December 1997 after a long illness. After leaving the Grammar School he studied at Edinburgh University where he graduated with an M.A. before entering a career in teaching in the Mathematics Department at Elgin Academy. He subsequently was appointed Head Teacher at Bogmoor Primary School where he served for five years before being promoted to Head Teacher of Alves Junior Secondary School. He served as Headmaster at Alves for 24 years.

During the war years he was commissioned in the Royal Artillery and served in the Burma Campaign. A keen Churchman, he served as an elder at St. Giles in Elgin, Pringle Church, Fochabers and Elgin South Church. He was a keen golfer and gifted musician.

To his wife Barbara, his two sons and his daughter, and also to his brother Billy and his sister Betty (Mrs John Grant) we extend sincerest sympathies on behalf of our members.

Sympathetic Mention

We extend sincerest sympathy on behalf of the Clubs to the following members who have suffered bereavement since our last issue:

To **George Paton** on the loss of his sister Ann (May) Gordon who died in Huntly on 10th April 1997.

To **Mrs J.D. Robertson (Davis Thomson)** and her brother **James Thomson** on the loss of their father Robert (Bert) who died suddenly but peacefully in Raigmore Hospital on 2nd January 1998.

To **Mrs J.J. Grant (Netta Duffner)** on the loss of the of her sister Sybil (Mr Armstrong) who died suddenly at home on 12th April, 1998.

To **Evan and Rhona MacDonald** on the loss of their father, William, who died suddenly at home on 12th April 1998.

To **Mrs L. Smith (Elspeth Gow)** on the loss of her father, Pat, who died in Dr Gray's Hospital, Elgin, on 26th April 1998.

Grantown Grammar School

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THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE NA GAIDHEALTACHD
BADENOCH AND STRATHSPEY AREA

Malcolm C MacLennan BSc Rector

December 1998

Dear Former Pupil

GRANTOWN GRAMMAR SCHOOL ENRICHMENT FUND

This capital fund was established in November 1997 with the objective of providing an annual yield which could be used to supplement the budgets which the school receives each year from the Education Authority.

These budgets, which were never particularly generous, have remained at the same numerical value since 1992 and have thus lost value considerably in real terms.

The Enrichment Fund is recognised by the Inland Revenue as a charity and its Scottish Charity Number is SC 027589.

Though the Fund was established in November 1997, the committee decided not to promote it too vigorously at that time, to allow the Strathspey Leisure and Recreation Trust to have priority in their appeal for funds for a new Sports Hall.

Indeed members of the Clubs have already been canvassed for funds by SLRT.

The Sports Hall is still the priority but we'd like to ensure that you know about the existence of Grantown Grammar School Enrichment Fund.

If you are able to make a donation, it would be most gratefully received.

Donations should be sent to The Treasurer, Grantown Grammar School Enrichment Fund, c/o Grantown Grammar School.

In the meantime, on behalf of the Enrichment Fund Committee, I wish you compliments of the season and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Thank you for your continued support of Grantown Grammar School.

Yours faithfully

Malcolm C MacLennan
Rector