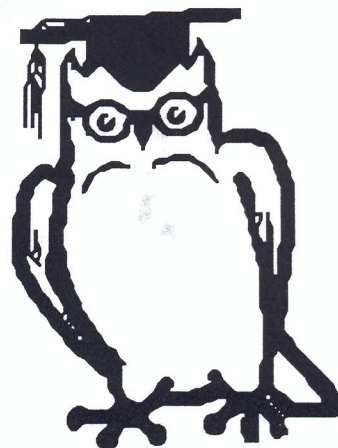
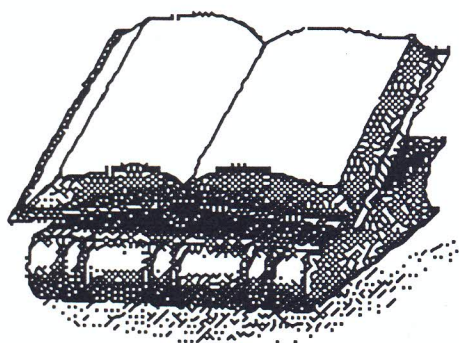


GRANTOWN GRAMMAR SCHOOL
FORMER PUPILS' AND OLD GUARD
CLUBS

MAGAZINE
2000



EDITORIAL AND FOREWORD

Welcome to the first magazine of the Millennium. It was very encouraging to receive replies from members in response to sending out information slips to those we had not heard from for some time. Please keep sending your news items. We hope to have a good turn out for the Biennial Dinner next year (details with your magazine). It's a good opportunity to meet old friends and catch up on news. Congratulations to our local Olympic hero Craig MacLean (see separate page). Many thanks to the committee and Maree Thompson, who unfortunately due to pressure of work can no longer continue as editor.

Margaret Masson
Secretary

Thank you again for all your responses. Unfortunately, due to time commitments this magazine will be my last as editor. So if any of you out there feel up to the challenge please let the committee know.

Maree Thompson

At the AGM of the FP and Old Guard Club on 6th November condolences were extended to Malcolm MacLennan, President, on the death of his father. It was agreed to donate from the club £325 to the School library and £325 towards prizes. The Committee was re-elected en bloc.

COMMITTEE

President – Malcolm MacLennan
Honorary President – Miss Jean Paterson
Mr A Martin Grant, Mrs Betty Grant,
Mr Frank Calder, Mrs Shirley Findlay,
Mrs Chrissie Grant, Mrs Margaret Masson, Mrs Daphne Ritchie,
Mr David Ritchie, Mrs Margaret Ross, Mr Ian Smith,
Mr Bill Templeton, Mrs Seonaid Vickerman

Gregor Allan

Continuing to develop Schroders Investment Bank in Jersey and Guernsey. I am currently studying for an investment exam in July. My twin brother Sandy is still climbing and currently in Nepal. The family are all well. My sister Eunice continues to lecture at Aberdeen University. I continue to pipe and our band launched a CD last year after winning the English Championships in May 1999. Recently appointed the deputy chairman of the Jersey Cheshire Home. All in all, "our table overfloweth" and thankful for it.

Lauren Anderson

I am now almost finished my first year of my midwifery diploma at the University of the West of England. I am really enjoying the course especially the placements in hospital and the community. I have made lots of new friends but still get homesick having moved so far away. If anyone from my year has the time to write to me, I'd really like to hear from them.

Mike Anderson

Enjoying an extended stay in New York courtesy of work.

Bruce Bain

Dividing my time between Belgrade and Budapest. Last year was a very difficult one for my family.

Gillian Beveridge

By the time you read this I should have passed my BA Hons Community Studies course. I am having a great time living in Wales, especially when the rugby is on. I live pretty close to the Millennium stadium so can enjoy the atmosphere in my back garden or the pub. I am looking to join a Youth Offending Team on completion of my course and enjoy the luxury of having some money in my pocket. I was at home for New Year and thoroughly enjoyed the celebrations in the Square. To anyone reading this from my year at school – when are we having our reunion? We said that we would meet up in five years – that was seven years ago!

Jean Birrell (Donald)

Nothing to report.

Mrs L D Pamela Braid (Gibson)

Nothing to report.

Mrs M Brocklehurst (Margaret McWilliam)

Sad news. After a long illness my husband died peacefully at home on Saturday 12th February 2000.

Emily Butler-Lee (Campbell)

Nothing to report.

Alexander Calder

Nothing new to report.

Alison Clark (Ronaldson)

The year 2000 had a sad start for me with the sudden death of my husband. Thanks to all FP's who sent kind messages of sympathy to us. Graeme's career with British Airport Authority saw him move last August from Aberdeen Airport to Heathrow Airport as part of the Management Team at Terminal 4.

Mark M Clark

This is year number 12 with CSC. Changed job within HQ last year to Director of Southern region (Edinburgh to South Yorkshire). Not ideal living in Blairgowrie. We moved here temporarily in April and are currently building a house near Perth (bad move!!) Andrew and Jennifer are 4 and 2, with Jennifer being equal to hell on legs!

Robert Clark

During my time at Grantown Grammar I gained 6 'O' Grades and have since returned to take Scotvec modules in computing at evening classes. I left school to become an assistant in the Royal Navy at HMS Raleigh in Torpoint. However a serious accident on the assault course resulted in breaking my ankle and after 13 weeks in plaster was medically discharged. I have been working for the last 7 years at John Garden and Son Sawmill in Carrbridge although I have been off due to back injury. I write the football reports for the Strathy and Strathspey Thistle matches. I am an active member of the Grantown Twinning Association and also do a lot of on-line work for the John Denver Memorial charity "Dreams of Freedom" of which I am the official Scottish representative.

Email: ROB220272@yahoo.com

Wilma Cowan (Irvine)

Not a lot to report this year. Kept busy in retirement with baby sitting the grandchildren (the Teletubbies and the Tweenies become quite interesting after a while) and a couple of committees on our local estate. Keeps the ageing mind alert, I suppose.

Raymond Wm Davidson

In January this year my wife and I flew out to New Zealand to visit my sister Betty. It had been 1986 since our last visit. She stays in Blenheim in the North East side of South Island. We had so much catching up to do. We also caught up with June Anderson and her husband Bill. June is formerly Ardenbeg, Grant Road. They also stay in Blenheim. Had many long blethers with her. We toured most of South Island on this visit. Looked up George Cruickshank (Clury Farm). He is in Mosgeil near Dunedin. Spent hours with him reminiscing. I also played a few rounds of golf on their beautiful courses. On our way back to the UK we spent some time in Hong Kong. Too many people. We enjoyed our trip to New Zealand very much. A beautiful country. After three months away it was good to get home to Grantown again and just in time for the opening of our golfing season.

Sine H Fergusson

I have been busy birdwatching, RWVS, reading and walking.

Shirley Findlay (Masson)

Enjoying playing tennis and occasional golf when time permits between working and fitting in with the girls' activities.

Mrs Nancy Forsyth (Gray)

Although retired (I thought!) the millennium took over. Filled over 160 planters for all the pensioners in village with spring flowers – with help from other pensioners. We called our project "Togetherness" – a great success. On Hogmanay we fed over 560 hungry folks – soups, sandwiches etc. Then to cap it all received the Civic award in March.

As they say all good things come to an end, Willie and myself have decided to retire again. To the Forres area as this huge garden is getting too much for us oldies. Will miss this place – Avoch, pronounced OCH. It was the last place God created and he said "Och well that's me, finished".

Marlene Fraser (McWilliam)

Nothing to report.

Valerie Fraser (Grant)

Nothing to report.

Robin Urquhart Fraser

Nothing exciting to report.

Jim Gordon

Moved into our new house in Ulverston. Enjoying life in Cumbria and even manage the occasional hill-walk, kids notwithstanding.

Mairi Gordon

At the time of writing I have been a whole three days in the post of Orthopaedic Secretary in the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Edinburgh. I am still Brown Owl of my local Brownie Pack. I have recently returned from holiday in the Holy Land. It was such a wonderful holiday visiting lots of places – we were even on a camel!

Pamela Glasse (Main)

Nothing to report.

Allan Grant

We hope to be home during the Olympics as we think that Sydney will be an extremely busy place. Jack and Gill McLean are coming over to watch Craig cycle in the Olympics. Had a nice meal with Kenny MacDonald when he was over here in the Scottish shooting team. We are building another house so the progress of that will depend on whether we make it home in September or not. It was great to spend an evening in Sydney with Paddy and Sheila Wood on their 25th wedding anniversary partially as I was the best man all those years ago. We are up for our 25th this year in October. Sadly I noted that Aberdeen held up the wrong end in the Scottish league this year. Here is hoping that next year will be better.

Fiona M Grant

Still kept busy in P.A.E.P. Now interested in research work in Ophthalmology which is most interesting.

Jennifer Grant

Still enjoying life down South, although managing to take regular therapeutic trips back home for fresh air in the lungs. (And the odd trip to Edinburgh to watch the occasional therapeutic rugby match.) Sunworld became JMC Holidays last September with much fanfare so, having moved into Public Relations, there was a fair amount of work involved with that. One of my jobs involves producing and editing our monthly internal magazine, so my sympathies lie with "The Ed" – not an easy task!

Mrs John Grant (M E Templeton)

Sadly my brother Gordon Templeton, Aberdeen, died in January 2000. My sister Margaret (Cropp) was home on holiday in April/May. Together we visited sister Jan (Mitchell) she now lives in Oldmeldrum. Last September had a visit from Hugh Tulloch (Toronto) and his sister Christine (Bass). Their visit to Grantown has been a wonderful experience. So much to see, so little time. Pleased also to have a call from Poppy and Pete Spalding when visiting Grantown earlier this year.

Patrick Grant

The middle years fly by. My son Andrew is to join his sister Sarah at Edinburgh Medical School. Meanwhile I managed to complete my Munros on the dizzy slopes of Cairnwell – before the knees finally give up!

Shelagh M Grant

Had two months in London but now, thankfully, back in Edinburgh. Plenty holidays planned – may even take the parents on one.

Sally Greenlees (Grant)

There is never a dull moment with twins Emma and Fraser who are now 20 months old. We have settled in to life in North Kessock and enjoy it very much. Still look forward to regular visits to Grantown.

Mary Greenwood (Winchester)

Nothing to report.

Margaret Greig (Grant)

Thank you for the magazine which was awaiting me when I returned from our usual winter holiday in Cyprus. The weather this year wasn't up to usual but I suppose they needed the rain. Fortunately for Senior senior citizens we both keep well and active.

Donald Gunn

Enjoyed reading the mag. Keep up the good work.
(Sadly since this reply Donald has died)

Albert Hastings

Nothing to report.

Isobel Hepburn (Rita Mackay)

Nothing to report

Mrs Malcolm Higgins (Pam MacPherson)

Continuing to enjoy every opportunity to escape from school work by walking in the beautiful Peak District with our Border Terriers, Briar and Struan. My father (Peter MacPherson) now at the grand age of 87, not very mobile nowadays, but still independent in his own home. He still talks of his daily cycle journeys between Grantown and Boat of Garten before the War – obviously stamina building as he was still cycling in his seventies!

Jean Hogg (Cruickshank)

Hardly seems like 17 years since I returned to Grantown and have taken an active part in the community. Such as Vice president of the Senior Citizens Association, volunteer at Grantown Heritage and committee member of Grantown and District Arthritis Care.

Andrew Howlett

I am retiring in July and Isobel and I will be heading back north of the border.

Fiona Hunter (Henderson)

I am still working as a counsellor in Edinburgh. We are off to explore Meribel this summer. As a skier I have been to the Alps many times but never seen them green.

D M Marr Illingworth

I do appreciate all the time and effort to produce a wonderful magazine. For those who wish to supply telephone numbers I feel it would be very helpful. Trust it won't cause too much extra work if you think it is worth while.

Telephone: 828 456 8808

Edward Illingworth

Still enjoying retirement. Golf, birdwatching, holidays abroad – can't be bad.

John Irvine

My son Keith is now a kitchen manager with Millhouse Inns Limited. We had a coach tour to Valkenburg last year and thoroughly enjoyed it. This year we are going to Ostend.

Grace Kirk

I have moved from my perch two flights up to a retirement flat but still with a glimpse of the hills. A lift to the third floor is a great improvement. Thank you for a very interesting magazine – evoking many memories.

Katharine Laing (Templeton)

I gained a BSc in Midwifery and had an article published in the British Journal of Midwifery. My sister Dorothy and husband Dave came home in August 1999 from South Africa to spend a holiday here. First time home for Dorothy in 23 years. They spent some time in Edinburgh with me and also stayed in Grantown at Glengarry. Dorothy did not see much change in Grantown.

Shirley Laing (Robb)

Nothing to report. Email – aalaing@compuserve.com

William Ledingham

Nothing to report.

Karen Low

As I eventually fill in this form I am sitting in Grantown spending a few days here and in Edinburgh with my sister and her family. We have just bought a house in Switzerland, these will be my only holidays for the year. As for careers, family events etc. nothing new to report there!

Jean Lugg (Burgess)

Still plodding on and keeping up all my usual interests. Getting to the stage where I am the oldest there. Main excitement last year was in July when friends decided to celebrate my 90th birthday with a garden party at Luya. Iain Burgess brought his family from England, and Glasgow relations joined us. The marquee in the garden was not needed, as it was a perfect day. Iain supplied the bubbly and friends a magnificent buffet. We had a lovely reunion. There were more pictures taken of the buffet than of me. Every good wish to the magazine and club.

Elizabeth Main (McGillivray)

We are now enjoying our new home in Strathspey Drive. After thirty three very happy years at Kinruve, the flitting was a little traumatic but it has all settled down now.

Ian Masson

Trips this year included France with the Tennis Club and America with the Atholl Highlanders. A great time was had. Have also reached the qualification of Nissan High Tech Technician after weeks of intensive training in London. Not enough hours in the day to do everything I want to! Email ianmasson@totalise.co.uk

Margaret Masson (Stuart)

Managed to get back to Ghana in December but not so pleasant to come home to the cold weather. My brother is now moving to Sierra Leone, not the ideal holiday destination at the moment but not ruling it out completely! Had an enjoyable evening at Sheena Ogilvie's meeting up with Marlene McWilliam and Wilma McDonald who was home from South Africa reminiscing about half forgotten classmates and teachers, including their nicknames! Always busy with visits from the grandchildren.

Julia Macadie (Fraser)

I have two sons, Iain, 23 and Duncan, 21. Iain graduated from Glasgow University with a Masters in Information Management and is due to start working in Aberdeen for an IT company in October.

Duncan is due to start year five of a Masters in Electronic Engineering and Business studies at Strathclyde. My husband James is a partner in a Quantity Surveying business in Inverness. My sister Catherine who lives in Glasgow – has two children. She is head teacher in a school for emotionally and behaviourally disturbed pupils. Alistair is married with five children and stays in Caithness. Mairi is married with two young children. They have lived in Canada for 21 years. Evelyn lives in Maidenhead and is a consultant for an IT company. James is married with two daughters and is executive director of tourism for Stirling, Loch Lomond, the Trossachs and Argyleshire.

Simon MacAulay

Still Assistant General Secretary of EIS – never dull!

Alison E T McConachie (Grant)

Involved in part-time nursing duties in our local very busy small hospital and occasionally out on community duty. The three children have to be ferried to their after school activities in Inch, Inverurie and Huntly which keeps us both very busy.

Gordon G McConachie

Still kept busy in the Scottish office (Agric. Dept.) Thainstone. Keeping farmers right in their numerous form filling – but enjoy visiting the various farms in Aberdeenshire.

Emma MacDonald

Have almost completed first year at Heriot-Watt University. The year has gone well and am hoping to pass my exams in May. Hope all is well at GGS.

James MacDonald

Highlight of the year was seeing in the millennium in Edinburgh. The atmosphere in Princes Street was terrific. Earlier in the year we went to the Edinburgh festival which was also most enjoyable.

Stuart MacDonald

Still working in the hydro business, now for GE of America. We have now returned to live in the area and son Ross attends Grantown School. Looking forward to meeting old acquaintances.

Wilma McDonald (Watt)

Re-married at home at 9am on 09/09/99. Reading through last year's magazine I was surprised to see that no matter how far afield people travel so much remains the same. I play Scrabble, Trivial Pursuit and do crosswords like so many others. About three times a year a Trivial Pursuit evening is organised in aid of Guide Funds. About 16 teams of 6 play. I have my own team of myself, my husband, my daughter, son-in-law and a couple of friends – a cross section of brains. We usually come between third and eleventh, but it is for a good cause.

My husband and I are both interested in wildlife so on the first Sunday of each month we join the "Walk for Wild Life" at Johannesburg Zoo. It's a 10 kilometre non competitive walk and funds go to WWF. I see other Grantonians have enjoyed the fantastic relaxed atmosphere of Kruger Park. We try to go at least once a year. It's a marvellous experience with lions walking along side your car, cheetah's sunning themselves in the middle of the road and baboons hitching a lift in the boot of your truck.

I will be over in Grantown in July when the whole "foreign contingent" descends on Davis for Iain's wedding of the Millennium. If anyone recognises me, I hope they will speak to me.

In June 2000 in a cold bone dry South African winter, one theme was running through my head "Oh my Scotland I am coming home to you and on 4th July I landed at Glasgow airport. The weather was great for my first week which was spent with Davis in Clydebank. The two of us really enjoyed ourselves, amidst all the build up for Iain's wedding on 5th August. I then spent a week with an old friend whom I hadn't seen for 20 odd years. That week she took me to territory in the Borders which I had never visited in my life. Then she took me a week up to my favourite city, Aberdeen and from there through to Grantown. I would like to say thank you to Seonaid and Isobel for such a lovely afternoon and to Sheena, Marlene and Margaret for such a pleasant blether from LONG years ago.

Scotland is not totally neglected in South Africa. While I was over the golf and Grand Prix were on and I wouldn't be the only person supporting David Coulthard. For those of you who remember Jean Gough (Mortimer) I spent a lovely couple of days with Jean and Fred in West Bromich, when I went down to a family wedding in Walsall. Jean never changes; she is always so welcoming and relaxed.

Then back up to Scotland for THE wedding of Davis' son Iain. All my family came over from South Africa and Germany. My two sons-in-law and my three grandsons all wore kilts and as "furriners" we were all utterly enthralled by a truly MAGIC wedding.

We will all be back – to the hospitality and history that is my home and my heart - Scotland.

Annette McGregor (Hogg)

I am very busy at work. I am now the branch manager of the Royal Bank in Newburgh. Swimming is still my top hobby, however I am spending more time coaching with less time for me to get wet. Eilidh is studying hard with 4th year about to begin. We may have to change the car again as she is getting a new, bigger double bass. Kim is about to start high school, he still loves rugby and met the Scottish squad a couple of months ago.

Gordon MacGregor

I am still fiddling and putting the money to charity. With four grandchildren I am now back to school times and holidays. With so much on my plate I feel as if I am on a retirement of a seven day week with a 24 hour day! We both, along with other members of the family enjoy coming to Grantown.

Douglas McInnes

When I retire, will I enjoy my holiday as much? It might happen in the next couple of years.

Angus McIntosh

Nothing to report.

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Angus McIntosh

Nothing to report.

Iris McIntosh (Forbes)

Our daughter Fiona had a second baby son in December and this event was followed one week later by our son Stuart announcing his engagement. Certainly made for an exciting start to the Millennium. Harry and I are to be attending the Vantage Chemists' conference in Dubai in March and will fit this in with a visit to the grandchildren in Peterborough – not sure which trip will have the greater appeal!

Ranald McIntyre

Still messing about with computers. My family tree now has 773 names and goes back to the early 1600's. since retiring, I appear to have no time free and wonder how I ever managed to work. How I remember going along the corridor towards the hall after an exam and remarking to fellow pupils "well at least we are all in the same boat" – Mr Hunter's door was open and he called me into his room. Very quietly he pointed out "Ranald – not a good thing if the boat is sinking!"

Gilbert MacKay

I have just been promoted to professor of learning and communication difficulties in this Faculty.

Gilbert MacKay, Research Co-ordinator, Room 531, Faculty of Education,
University of Strathclyde, Jordanhill Campus, Glasgow G13 1PP, Scotland

Tel (44) (0)141 950 3354

Fax (44) (0)141 950 3151

URL <http://www.strath.ac.uk/Faculty/Education/gmk.html>

John MacKenzie

I moved from Aberdeen to Fort William in December 1997. I am working for Scottish Natural Heritage covering the West Highlands. Greatly enjoying the west despite the occasional shower and the odd midgie!

Evan Grant Mackintosh

I retired some years ago, and I turned 86 on my last birthday. I am of fragile health but soldiering on. My greatest pleasure nowadays is sitting in the garden on a warm sunny day. I was sports champion of Grantown Grammar school around 1930, I was also captain of rugby, golf, and athletics. I visit Strathspey regularly – at least twice a year even now. I still return home to Dulnain Bridge.

David McIntosh

Nothing to report

Mrs I E Mackintosh

Nothing to report

Sheila McLaren (MacDougall)

Nothing to report

D. P. McLean

Nothing changes – not even the jokes!

A McLeod

Nothing to report

Elizabeth McLeod (Macgregor)

Nothing to report.

Ian MacPherson

Currently pending moving to West Yorkshire and to “tying the knot” with Pam, my fiancée. I am still a freelance artist who can work from any location. It must be quite unusual that I and my younger daughter Tracy, will be married to our respective partners this year. Pam has fallen in love with Strathspey and its fly-fishing waters! She hopes to pursue her career as a paramedic in the Highlands.

Lesley Meehan (Craib)

Nothing to report.

Bill Mitchell

Married Morven MacGregor a school teacher from Aviemore on 17 April 2000.

Denise Mitchell (Grant)

I put off filling in my info slip as I knew I would have moved by the deadline. We moved at the start of May to a house we had built. It was supposed to be ready before baby number two was born. However Niamh Christina was born on 18/04/00 and the house wasn't finished. We are in now and the last box has been unpacked. Our eldest daughter Alyssa who is 2 is keeping me busy. I have turned into a taxi service for her already. She has a better social life than we do with playgroup, toddlers and crèche. Craig and I often wonder what we did with our spare time before we had them.

Edith Valerie Moore (Dewar)

After 32 years as the head master's secretary at Aberlour House, I am taking early retirement in the summer and hope to have more time to play golf and travel. My mother has just celebrated her 96th birthday and is now very happily settled in Mount Barker Residential Home.

Alastair Mutch

I am a team manager with Scottish Hydro Electric in Inverness.

Elizabeth D Mutch

I am now almost 89 years old, but life still holds its surprises. Some weeks ago I caught up with an old school friend whom I had not seen since 1932 – Edith Nicol now Clark (Balmenach) she is living in Keith with her second husband. Edith was dux and science medallist in 1927 and I won them, plus the maths one in 1928. In 1927/28 we used to practice the Charleston in the corridor leading from the hall to the cloakroom, happy days!

Margaret Ollason (Grant)

Enjoying the magazine – well worth waiting for – thank you! I spent five weeks in Scotland at the end of summer, stopping for 2 days in Edinburgh before heading up to Nethy Bridge. I met many old friends and neighbours in Grantown. I was very impressed with Grand View Nursing Home where I went to visit Elsie Keith, my good friend Mina Ritson's sister. I also had a brief encounter with Margaret Ross. It was good to see her. It was then on to Caithness and then to Aberdeen where my daughter Frances and her family live. Then back to Edinburgh for a few days at the festival. I returned home in early October feeling great. Just wished I could have bottled some of that glorious highland air.

Isobel Orford (Calder)

Spent one week in Grantown at the beginning of April, visiting my mother in the Ian Charles hospital. I met no-one we knew. The weather was kind to us but I think it was colder than Canada. Hopefully more news next time.

Jean Paterson

Nothing new to report. The last magazine was very good.

R G M Philip

I joined the Clan Grant Association of America a few years ago at Dunedin Highland Games in Florida. I also went to the Grandfather Games in North Carolina – great stuff. This year it is the Nethy Games in August and I hope to see a few well kent faces there.

Daphne Ritchie

School:- Keeping my head above the rising mound of paper on my desk, most of it Higher Still materials.

Golf:- This is my last year as Lady Captain of Grantown Golf Club. I have been playing lots of golf and the handicap is down to 23!

Holidays:- St Andrews for 2 weeks in the summer to watch the golf and play golf. Won three Nike golf balls off Michael Campbell (NZ) in Beat the Pro at Drumoig.

Gardening:- The garden has a neglected look about it.

Husband:- Also has a neglected look about him, but he is very understanding.

Jessie Ronaldson

I appreciate the magazine and the work involved in producing it. It is good to keep up to date with FP members especially those "mature" like myself.

Michael Ronaldson

Nothing special to report this time.

Williamina Ritson (Keith)

1999 was an eventful year for Myles and I. Still able to take part in the Pacific Open Heart Open which was held in Hope – not too distant from here (Port Moody, Canada) We became great grandparents for the first time in December which made our Christmas family gathering a special event. I miss my telephone chats with sister Elsie who is now a resident at Grandview Nursing Home and unable to converse. I lost my sister Agnes early in the year. We exiles truly appreciate the magazine that is indeed unique. Thanks to all members of the committee and best wishes for 2000.

Davis Robertson (Thomson)

The condolences of the FP club was much appreciated following the sudden death of my husband last September. I am currently preparing for an invasion of visitors from near and far for my son Iain's wedding in August. Wilma and family are coming over from South Africa and Germany. I am still working with bilingual pupils in schools in East Dunbartonshire. I am definitely beginning to feel my age trying to keep abreast with the ever changing force of education.

Margaret Ross

Though yet having health problems and no foreign travel, I am able to enjoy the huge programme of cultural events offered by the City of Glasgow. Two much younger FP's will note how the magazine has been a link between them and my nephew Christopher (Jordanhill School) He, his wife and children now reside in Jersey. He is also a C.A. by profession. Through church, Caledonian Society and listening to the Pipe Band they are now friends with Gregor Allan, his wife and family. Rozelle and Grace are classmates at Jersey College for Girls.

When studying and a member of Glasgow University Air Squadron he met Archie Liggat. Their paths divided. Archie to flying and Christopher to finance. In January 2000 I received a phone call telling me that between two meetings at Compass Centre Heathrow Airport, walking along a corridor, he recognised the B.A. Officer walking towards him as Archie. He spoke to him, they had a brief and most pleasant chat before Archie departed for Hong Kong and Chris returned to his afternoon meeting. Over the years, thanks to the magazine I have been able to keep Christopher informed of Archie and his family. This last magazine I could refer to and tell him of Greg his wife and family whom he met more recently. Christopher is coming home for a school reunion in late June.

Margaret Ross (Davidson)

Bob died on 28 February 2000 after three years suffering from Parkinson's. My grandson Craig (Gill's son) a sprint cyclist, is training for the Olympics in Sydney this year. He has just won silver in Moscow. Chay added a BSc to his other qualifications the year before last. This year his wife Jackie has taken her nursing degree and is to graduate in July. She still works in a hospital in Dingwall. They have a daughter of 19 and two wee boys – Chay, 6 and Struan 3. Johnnie's daughter Nikki who took her Honours in Maths last year has gained entry to Moray House in September and hopes to qualify as a secondary teacher of maths. Calum graduates from Art college in July of this year and intends to work in Edinburgh. All of them were FP's from GGS.

Patricia Ross (MacDonald)

I go, in July, to get two new knees. I am in a research programme and go twice a week for therapy. We enjoy being in Brantford and are able to see our grandchildren more.

Victor Ross

I am a retired Commercial Director.

Connie Shaw (Gordon)

I still enjoy scrabble with my friends, also doing educational scrapbooks and floral art. I haven't been to Grantown recently due to ill health for the last year and a half. Best wishes to all.

Ian Smith

In the course of the last year we have enjoyed calls from Bruce Bain who impressed us with his extensive knowledge of the complicated world of central European politics. He is based in Belgrade. Mr and Mrs David Davidson (Betty Kirkwood) who spotted us in the depths of our herbaceous border and came in for a nostalgic chat about GGS of Dr Bain's days. Mrs Edith Mackintosh (formerly of the science department) a hardy perennial, unscathed by the passage of years. She took advantage of a lift north from her son Angus who was off up to the high tops of the Cairngorms (again!). And of course Barbara and Rachel with their offspring the eldest of whom are now halfway through secondary school.

Janette Smith (Macdonald)

My household is rather fraught at the moment. Stewart is sitting his A Levels and Jenna is sitting her GCSE's. Calum and I try to stay out of the way as much as possible. At school we've brought in a new Behaviour Management Programme and I am the year co-ordinator. This means more of my time is called upon. Weekends are sacred. I have completed my counselling service for students in school that is proving successful. Best wishes to all.

Iain and Joan Smith (Fraser)

Like everyone else who has retired we are wondering how we ever found time to go to work. Amongst other voluntary things we enjoy the company of grandchildren in Inverness and also that of the two in Hanover. Visiting two or three times a year makes a grand excuse for a holiday and lets us revive the German lessons of "Slim" Mackenzie. Weren't we all well taught.

Isobel Spalding (Gunn)

Nothing new to report. The years are slipping by too quickly and I have slowed down a lot these past few years. I look forward to the magazine and all its news.

Meta Stevens (King)

Nothing to report

Barbara Storey (Smith)

I have failed to return my slip for a couple of years and have been ticked off by the previous editor and worse still, my little sister. We are all still in Thame where I continue to work for Booker Tate in what is known as the "Human Remains" Department. Mike is glad to hear his job as Research Director with the British Potato Council is safe for another five years. Catriona is just completing year 10 and will have a busy time with GCSE exams in the not too distant future.

Thomas B Stuart

No family news of any consequence. However a recent TV advertisement for the teaching profession containing a phrase "No-one forgets a good teacher" set me recalling my own teachers. This may revive some memories for some of the older readers.

My Teachers by Thomas B Stuart

Infants 1&2

Miss Legge – a gentle introduction to letters and numbers. Miss Butter – slates and slate pencils. Multiplication tables by rote (never forgotten).

Miss Gray (P1) the start of serious learning. Mrs McIntosh(P2) – copy writing. Miss Paterson(P3) – readings from Wee McGregor. Mrs McLaren (P4) very strict and emphasis on maths. Miss Alanach(P5) Final preparation for secondary school.

Secondary

Miss Grant – Maths and Art

Miss Fraser – Science

Mr McKenzie – French

Mr Donaldson – English and History – carried on from the seeds sown by Miss Paterson.

Mr Hunter – Head teacher and Maths. Initially in my teenage eyes a figure of fearsome authority but a dedicated teacher to whom I owe a debt that can never be repaid.

Marjory Taylor (Cattanach)

Spent a lot of time last winter taking care of our newest granddaughter who was born last July. There is a good reason young women have babies – grandma's don't have the same stamina. We are back from Tucson, Arizona where we found a home for next winter so that we can escape the rain and colder winters of the Northwest. If things go according to plan we will visit family and friends at home in Grantown and Glasgow this summer.

Bill and Rita Templeton (Marshall)

Nothing to report really. We are both enjoying retirement. We go for lots of walks, enjoy gardening and visiting family. Its tough at Christmas – we have six grandchildren. Bill plays a lot of golf (badly) and enjoyed his spell as president of the North District Scottish Golf Union.

Maree Thompson

It has been a very busy year. We had a family reunion, all descendants from my great grandmother on my mum's side. There were hundreds of us! We found out that we are the poor relations and we told the rich side of the family to "get stuffed and take their money with them" in the mid 1700's. Rumour has it that members of our family (Hay) used to own the island of Barbados – not quite sure how much I believe it though. My mum moved to Falkirk in January 2000, to be housekeeper for the Abbeyfield Society very sheltered housing. Work has been really busy too. I am still working for Standard Life in head office and was promoted a couple of months ago. I have also been moved departments. I now work for the Group Pensions Programme, working to cut costs and maximise efficiency. Other things I have been doing through work are: CV2K – members of staff go into schools and run workshops on CV's, going for an interview and starting work. I am also a Modern Apprenticeship Assessor, I have one apprentice. No holidays this year, just a long weekend in Durham with my boyfriend, Andrew.

Vera Thomson (Mortimer)

Nothing much to report – just looking forward to springtime and warmer days for I am itching to get work done in the garden. I do not do very much hard graft there now, mostly pottering. I was very interested in the articles from Jimmy Allan and George Dixon. Thank you for all the good effort necessary in keeping the magazine alive.

Hugh R Tulloch

In September of 99 I was lucky to drive self and sister Christine from her Welsh home to Grantown without incident. Great hospitality from Ada Wilson (Imray) and David in Auchterarder, in Grantown from Betty Grant (Templeton) and John, and in Hopeman from Keith and Diane McKerron. Wanted to visit more but time constrained. Thanks to Ranald McIntyre for kind note. Last year gave John and Shona Wright the requested treasure map for a Cuban vacation, but no word since – did John yawn during a Fidel speech?

Seonaid Vickerman (Grant)

Golf hasn't improved despite retiral! Too busy with two grandchildren Angus and Kirsty. We enjoyed a short visit from Wilma Watt this summer.

Ella Walmsley (Slater)

In October 1999, I had a happy reunion with Nan (Hamilton) Smith when my husband and I were invited to lunch at her home in Inverness where we met her husband, Robert. We chatted together as if it was but yesterday we were in Grantown. Time just flew by with their kind hospitality. Nan and I were in the same class at GGS the 1945 leavers and had not seen each other since then. Our thanks go to Margaret Ross who gave me Nan's address. Also through Margaret I met Marjory Taylor when she and John were in London. In March 1999 Marjory's son David and his wife had their first child.

Jay Ward

Will soon have the mortgage paid off! The children all away now – two chartered accountants and a pharmacist. Now discovering what discretionary income is!

Sheina M Weston (Donaldson)

In 1999 Roy and I attended a family wedding on a ranch near Calgary. While in Canada we visited my brother Keith and his wife Gay in Kamloops and they took us around. We also met his daughters Sally and Jill. Sally is married to Brad and has two children. Jill is getting married in September 2000. Both live in Vancouver. Victoria, Keith's eldest daughter works as a lawyer for the World Trade Organisation in Geneva. The last time we saw the family was at Sally's wedding five years ago. Recently on a trip to Inverness I met up with one of my great friends at school, May Johnson (McKenzie). She is currently living in Bucklyvie. We sat in a hotel in Stirling and chatted non-stop for three hours.

Kay Wilson (Ross)

Since my joining the FP's club I have started working again part-time with the Educational Department of the Local Council in Alloa. I am really enjoying being back at work and I have a terrific boss. We deal with secondary age pupils at one of the local Academy's in the Behavioural Support Unit so it has certainly opened my eyes. My two boys are now nearly 9 and 5 and the youngest starts school in August.

Patrick Wood

The highlight of 99 was our visit to Australia and Asia to celebrate our 25th Wedding Anniversary. In Sydney we met up with fellow Grantonians Allan Grant and his wife Di; David Scott and his family. What better way to spend the evening of our anniversary than having dinner in a restaurant overlooking Sydney Harbour Bridge with Allan – our Best Man. It was such a memorable evening for my wife and I. The children have all left the nest although they still return on an as need basis.

New Members

Paula MacKenzie

Intends to go to college to study accountancy.

Sarah Jack

To do business at university

Alisdair Murray

Anglia Polytechnic University, Cambridge to study 20th Century European History and Politics combined with German.

Emma Kennedy

Intends to study business at university.

Nicole Lawson

Career intentions – physiotherapy.

Lindsay Reid

To read medicine at the University of Edinburgh.

Jennifer Baird

Thinking about teaching or journalism.

Obituary

Mrs Mary E Robertson (Hastilow), latterly Mount Barker and formerly Achnagonalin, Grantown-on-Spey.

Sad to note the death of James (Jim) Herd, Nairn, a popular former technical teacher at Grantown Grammar.

Sympathetic mention goes to the following members:-

Mrs Alison (Ronaldson) Clark, 112 Cradlehall Park, Westhill, Inverness on the death of her husband Fred.

Mrs Margaret (Davidson) Ross, Sandelands, 69 Strathspey Drive, Grantown-on-Spey on the death of her husband Robert.

The Grant family on the death of their mother, Mrs Jessie Grant, late of Fraser Road, Dulnain Bridge.

Mrs Lorna Banks and Mrs Lindsay Napier on the death of their mother Mrs Helen Stephen (Byers), 14 Woodside Court, Grantown-on-Spey

Mrs Isobel Spalding (Gunn), 35 Springfield Road, Aberdeen on the death of her husband Peter and also her brother Donald latterly of 5 Macrae Crescent, Dingwall.

The family of James D Calder, latterly of Waterford Hotel, Grantown-on-Spey

Gordon Jack, 32 Strathspey Drive, Grantown-on-Spey on the death of his wife Mary (McWilliam)

Mrs Margaret Brocklehurst (McWilliam), 67 Cliff View, Newtonhill, Stonehaven on the death of her husband.

Mrs Mona Rae (Grant), 7 Wade Road, Milton of Culcabock, Inverness, on the death of her mother Isobel Grant, latterly of Ballintua, Grantown-on-Spey

CRAIG ROSS MACLEAN

Born Grantown 31.7.71

Craig is a former pupil of Grantown Primary and Secondary Schools from 1976 to 1989 and then Stevensons College, Edinburgh (HND Instrument Technology).

He started racing BMX in the early eighties after helping, along with dozens of others, to build Grantowns BMX track. It proved highly popular while BMX racing was sweeping the world and it proved to be a great apprenticeship for Craig's future cycling career.

Craig first tried track racing proper at Edinburgh's Meadowbank Velodrome after trying most disciplines of cycling – road racing, grass track and mountain bike racing and soon discovered this was what suited him best. In a comparatively short time he worked his way to the top in Scotland taking five national titles in 1995.

By 1996 he was on his way - racing in the World Championships for Great Britain. He has raced for them ever since competing in every major competition in the world and gradually climbing the ranks as he has gained experience and strength to reach silver medal position in 1999 and again in 2000 in the world championships. And the one that was the icing on the cake- **Silver medal at the Sydney Olympics** –just 0.4 seconds away from gold behind France in the three-man team sprint with team mates Jason Queally and Chris Hoy.

Future plans for Craig and his team mates will be the normal circuit of world cup events to qualify for The World Championships each year, the Commonwealth Games 2002 in Britain, and the 2004 Olympics in Athens.

FIRST REUNION SUPPLEMENT

Dec. 29th 1900

A short excerpt from the minutes of the above meeting taken by Jas Templeton, The Lodge, Grantown-on-Spey

The Grantown Former Pupils' Club formed at the beginning of the year held its first reunion in the Palace Hotel, proving to be one of the most interesting and enjoyable social functions. Sir Felix Mackenzie, President occupied the chair and there were about 40 present, who, together represented the long period of 67 years from the time of the Rev. Dr Forsyth, the oldest pupil in the room and occupying the place of honour on the chairman's right.

Apologies for absence were intimated. After supper, which was served by Mr Hastilow in excellent style, and to the entire satisfaction of the company Mr Felix Mackenzie who came next to Dr Forsyth in seniority as pupil, delivered a lengthy address, admirable alike in matters as in manner, in which he recounted some of his early experiences and gave interesting memories of the old country gentry, a class who have now disappeared and who were wont to turn out to the annual visitation of the schools by Presbytery. He mentioned also Professor Grant and Dr Forsyth as two old pupils who had become authors and concluded by wishing prosperity to the Club. The "Imperial Forces", The Former Pupils' Club", "Lady Seafield", "The Town and Trade of Grantown", "The Profession", "The School Staff", "School Management Past and Present" "Grantown Lads in other lands" and "The Ladies". Songs were interspersed by Mr D Fraser and Mr J S Grant. The chairman's health being pledged with Highland Honours, the gathering dispersed after singing "Auld Lang Syne". In the course of Dr Forsyth's address he read a report of a Presbyterial Examination of the Grammar School conducted by Rev. Mr Martin, Abernethy and Rev James Grant, Cromdale in the year 1834 from which it appears that Latin, Greek and Mathematics were among subjects taught. Prominent names in prize lists were - Lewis and Nathaniel Grant, Craggan; James Mckerras, David Stewart, Garthkeen; John Howcatt, Adam Grant, Felix C Mackenzie; Francis W Grant; Wm Grant, Ballintua and Orphan Hospital boys - James Grant, Colquhoun Ross, John Shaw, John Grant, John Robertson and specially distinguished Donald Macdonald, Clury, uncle of Sir Claude Macdonald, James Macdonald, father of Sir Claude, James Forsyth, Dell of Abernethy, Wm MacPherson, Grantown, Duncan Burgess, William Forsyth, Grigor Gordon, Ballintomb, John Grant, Balliefurth, Alex Grant, Dreggie, Alex Taylor, Elgin, John Ross, Anne Fyfe, Grantown, Jessie and Margaret Hepburn, Margaret Fraser, Eliza Christie, Balliemore, Ann Grant, Marion Grant, Grantown and Lillias MacQueen, Gaich. The joint secretaries Mr Harvey and Lieutenant Samson have to heartily commended for the excellence of their arrangements for the reunion.

A Piece on Local History by J.R.A.

The connection between the 13th Earl of Seafield – who inherited the ancestral home, Castle Grant, and is today the owner of the vast Strathspey Estates – and Lord Strathspey, the 33rd Chief of Clan Grant, who is the 5th Chief who has not owned any Grant lands, does not seem to be generally known.

We go far back in history and note that Sir Lawrence Grant, Sheriff of Inverness in 1263, had a son John who became “Lord of Lands in Strathspey” in 1316. In 1735, Ludovick, Chief of Clan Grant, married Lady Margaret Ogilvie of Cullen, eldest child of the 5th Earl of Findlater and 2nd Earl of Seafield. Ludovick thus eventually succeeded to the Seafield Earldom as, though the Findlater title could only pass in the male line, the Seafield title could pass through the female line. As we shall see, in 1915 this was to have far reaching consequences. The Clan Grant Chief thus became Ogilvie-Grant, Earl of Seafield.

The 7th Earl became Chief in 1853, and in 1858, because of service to the government, was created Lord Strathspey and sat in the House of Lords. In 1879 he was appointed Knight of the Thistle. Sadly, because of family turmoil, he, by permission of the Court of Session, dis-entailed the Estate so that his only son could leave the lands to his mother Caroline, if he had no family.

Tragedy struck in the late 19th century – FOUR deaths in the space of seven years. The Earl died in 1881. His only son, Ian Charles, the 8th Earl and 2nd Lord Strathspey, died aged 33 in 1884 to be succeeded by his uncle the 9th Earl who died aged 71, in 1888. His successor Francis, the 10th Earl, had a very rough time. As a young man he had emigrated to New Zealand but times had become very hard and he had to take up labouring to keep his family from virtual destitution. However Caroline the 7th Earl’s widow did come to the rescue with a financial remittance. He died in December 1888 – the year he had succeeded to the Earldom.

His son James Ogilvie-Grant became the 11th Earl and the 6th Lord Strathspey. Born in New Zealand in 1876 he succeeded at the age of twelve.. In 1898 he married a New Zealand girl and in 1906 their only child Nina was born. At the outbreak of the 1914 war he was commissioned in the 5th Battalion of the Cameron Highlanders and sadly was killed at the battle of Ypres in 1915.

Now we come to the significance of the marriage of Ludovick in 1735, to Lady Margaret Ogilvie, the daughter of the Earl of Findlater and Seafield. The Seafield Earldom could pass through a female so her husband became Earl of Seafield as well as Laird of Grant. Now Nina aged 9 – the only child of the 11th Earl became Countess of Seafield “in her own right”. The Barony of Strathspey and the Laird of Grant descended to her cousin Trevor born in 1912, so he became 17th Lord Strathspey and 32nd Chief of Grant. Nina died in 1969, being succeeded by her son Ian, born in 1939. He has two sons and, born this year, a grandson.