

FP Magazine 2001

EDITORIAL & FOREWORD

It was very gratifying to receive so many replies from F.P.'s and also little bits of extra news in letters along with the forms. Many thanks also for the generous donations enclosed. This enables the Clubs to continue the support of prize giving and library for the school and meet the costs of producing and posting the magazine. We welcome a number of new members and hope they too will enjoy the magazine and continue to support the Clubs. The Biennial Dinner, as always, was a great success and our thanks to Peter Taylor for his amusing tales of his school days in Grantown Grammar and all those who produced photos from their school days.

Margaret Masson

The AGM of the F.P. & Old Guard Clubs was held on 8th November 2001. Noted that Bill Templeton and Mrs Seonaid Vickerman met up with school leavers resulting in a good response of new recruits. It was unanimously agreed to again donate £650 towards school prizes and library. The committee was re-elected en bloc and would try to recruit new members on to the committee. For anybody interested in keeping in touch by email there is a web site www.friendsreunited.co.uk with GGS FPs listed from as early as 1952.

FP Disco for the 'young ones' in the Waterford Hotel on Thursday 27th December 2001. (See you all there, Daphne)

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, Mrs Margaret Ross, Mr Ian Smith,
Mr Bill Templeton, Mrs Seonaid Vickerman

EVELYNE ALLAN (Geddes)

Nothing to report

GILLIAN BEVERIDGE

Finished at U.N.I.C. last June and graduated with my BA Hons in Community Studies. Had a 9 month contract with Cardiff County Borough Council as an Aftercare Social Worker and have now moved to Pontypool to work for the Children's Society as an advocate for children and young people affected by the Child Protection Process or are looked after by the Local Authority.

Cardiff is still as brilliant and "happening" as ever. We have bailed out the football association and provided the best FA cup final ever as well as the continued excellent rugby competitions. My new flat is even closer to the Millenium Stadium and the bay development. Cardiff is the place to be and long may I be an adopted Welsh person. It was great to see some old school mates at New Year and the plans for a reunion are at the thinking stage. Any ideas e-mail me:.

MRS L D PAMELA BRAID (Gibson)

My eldest granddaughter graduated last year from Durham University and is now teaching in Japan for two years and is having a wonderful time. She has already visited Thailand and Laos and plans to do a lot more travelling.

BRUCE BAIN

Rediscovered my golf clubs last year and have been revisiting several old haunts including GGC. Amazingly enough, spending more time on the course and less at the 19th than in an earlier age.

MAIRI BLAIR (Fraser)

Degrees MBCHB, MRCP(UK) FRCP(C). I live in B.C. with my husband of 25 years and two children – Neil age 13 and Catriona age 8. We have a busy life – I work as a medical consultant and my husband Peter is a surgeon. We enjoy all outdoor activities and return to Spey Valley as often as possible to visit family and friends. It was fun to look up old acquaintances.

ROSEMARY M.CHARLISH (Masson)

Life very busy with two teenagers and a toddler. Enjoying my new job as air stewardess with Eastern Airways.

ALISON CLARK (Ronaldson)

Sorry no news this time. Pleased still to be able to enjoy gardening. Graeme still enjoying his part of the management team at Terminal 3 Heathrow also his home in Bracknell.

MARK CLARK

Late telephone call with change of address.

ROB A. CLARK

During the last year I have been “bitten” by the travel bug. In March 2001, I travelled by coach with a party of fellow officials and footballers of Strathspey Thistle for their second visit to our twin town of Notre Dame de Monts. As I am also in the committee of the Grantown & District Twinning Association, it was a great experience to visit there with the friendship and welcome of our hosts everything and more I had been told about. My personal highlight of the visit was the Scots Evening (in which over 300 locals attended) and the whole Strathspey Thistle (all in kilts) went on the stage at midnight and gave full voice to “Flower of Scotland”! In the first two weeks of July I visited Belgium, staying at the home of my girlfriend Sally Peeters. The main reason was to attend a wedding of her cousin and meet almost all of her family. However while I was over I was shown all the major sights and cities of her home country and also had the honour of laying a poppy wreath on behalf of the Royal British Legion – Strathspey Branch. Sally then returned to spend three more weeks in town – her second visit here. Now as I write, I am soon to be flying away again! At the start of November I am going on a short visit to Dublin and surrounding counties in the Republic of Ireland visiting along the way some of my mother’s friends and family. Finally – as it appears more and more popular, I would like for anybody from my class at GGS to get in touch by e-mail. My address is

WILMA COWAN (Irving)

Nearly forgot to return the slip. Thanks for the reminder from brother John and Margaret Masson. Spent an enjoyable four days in Grantown last October. First visit in about 4 or 5 years. Must try and make it oftener. Met one or two known faces.

DOROTHY F CRAIG (Calder)

No news this time.

MRS PAUL A CROPP (E Margaret Templeton)(Dip.D.Sc)

Moved over from London, Ontario to Vancouver in November 2000 to be near my elder daughter Patricia and her family. Have settled into my much smaller house, bought myself an automatic car and enjoying my new surroundings, my grandchildren and great grandson. May visit Scotland next year.

SHIRLEY A FINDLAY (Masson)

Sold our house so I have moved in with mum – complete with husband, 3 kids, a cat and a rabbit until we find another house. Had a great holiday in Tunisia in the summer and in Italy in October.

JANE A (NANCY) FORSYTH (Gray)

Still here, a little more bent with old age, but as full of life as ever. Have another great grandchild, Jodie Dawn, thus ensuring that we will not go off the face of this earth like rotten tatties. Had a surprise visit from Elizabeth (MacGregor) and her husband. As you would expect our tongues never stopped (mine anyway). The husbands were giving queer looks – how come we married these quines? Good taste loons, good taste. They would be the first to admit, life is still exciting. Yuk! Have just heard that Willie and myself are both now retired employees of the Halifax Bank of Scotland – is nothing sacred? Think I'll join the Proclaimers – Politics no more. Writing no more, Voting no more.

ELSPETH M FRASER (Mitchell)

Keep busy with secretarial duties for Beauly Senior Citizens Association. Play badminton two mornings a week at local 60+ Club. With five grandsons and two granddaughters nearby I never weary. Also I am a fairweather gardener and golfer – local 9-hole golf course designed by my brother Bill is on my doorstep. What more could a girl want?

MARLENE A FRASER (McWilliam)

Allan and I are enjoying our retirement, 5 years on. We spend many holidays each year at Grantown-on-Spey. Fortunately the family were able to retain Burnroad Cottage, so we have our base there and keep track of all our roots.

MAIRI GORDON

Still doing secretarial administration work at The Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Edinburgh. Will be finishing Guiding at the end of this session after 14 years.

ALISTAIR JOHN GRANT

Re-married August 2000 to Mary, a nursery nurse. Two grown-up daughters from first marriage. Amy at University in Southampton. Anna just about to spend a year in New Zealand.

FIONA GRANT

Life goes on apace – still kept busy – lists do not grow less. Looking forward to a visit to Wimbledon in July and a few days in London.

MRS JOHN GRANT (Mary Elizabeth Templeton)

Still enjoying our long walks, though much curtailed by the Foot & Mouth epidemic. Very pleased in early May to be able to get access to our favourite haunts. I am off to Wimbledon in July with my daughters and then hope to spend some time in the Lake District in September with the family.

Pleased to have a chat with Hugh Tulloch and Ada (Imray) Wilson and husband at the FP dinner – a most enjoyable evening.

SHELAGH M GRANT

Instructions from home! – so had better return my slip post haste. Dad and I are off to the Loch Lomond Golf in July and all to the Lakes in September. Pleased to read news of former FP friends in the Magazine. Best wishes to all.

SALLY N GREENLEES (Grant)

Gordon and I kept busy with the twins, now two & half years old. Very proud of Stewart, my brother in achieving Scottish Photographer of the Year and delighted for Susan, my sister, on her marriage to Duncan Riley in May.

MARY I GREENWOOD (Winchester)

No news.

I M HEPBURN (Rita Mackay)

No news

PAM HIGGINS (MacPherson)

The past six months have brought the full gamut of emotions; my father Peter MacPherson, died in November 2000 at the age of 87 (see accompanying obituary) and it was with heavy hearts we attended his funeral in Burrelton, Perthshire, and then travelled to Grantown for his interment at the old cemetery at Inverallan. We greatly appreciated meeting again some old Grantown friends on that day – Gordon McGregor, Betty and John Grant and Ian MacPherson. Then on 1st March we experienced a thoroughly joyous day when daughter Caroline married Michael Sykes in North Yorkshire. Putting all thoughts of blizzards out of our minds, we all dressed to match the historic location, in the garb of the 1700's. It was one of the best days we can ever remember – and all the guests looked as happy and magnificent as the newlyweds!

JEAN HOGG (Cruickshank)

Enjoyed the Biennial Dinner meeting up with old friends and acquaintances, also Hugh Tulloch who I hadn't seen for many years even although he didn't recognise me!

ANDREW M HOWLETT

Change of address to Achnagoichan, Dell Road, Nethy Bridge PH25 3DG

D M MARR ILLINGWORTH

Nothing to report

EDWARD ILLINGWORTH

Nothing new to report

JOHN IRVING

No news this year having reached three score years and ten. Tommy Stuart's reminiscences of teachers reminded me of last school concert before World War 2 when six boys including myself had to perform "The Rag Dolls" (possibly Primary 2) in the old Grantown Cinema. One teacher he omitted was Mr Thornton (Thorney to the pupils) who taught Latin and History and was also Sports Master.

MAY D JOHNSTON (McKenzie)

Would love to hear from anyone who remembers me! A postcard will do!

KATHARINE G LAING (Templeton)

Nothing new to report

MRS JEAN LUGG (Burgess)

Still soldiering on. Thanks to friends I am getting to all my outside interests, even if I am the oldest there. Family and friends insisted on celebrating my 91st birthday in July 2000. Have just had a cataract removed from my right eye and find the world a much brighter place. Hoping to finish off a lot of sewing. Every good wish to the FP Club.

MRS E M McCELLAND (Lawrence)

I am now the proud grandmother of Jenna (born August 1999) and Jonathon (born September 2000). Attended my niece's wedding at Easter and met up with Harry MacGregor (Chemist) and his three sisters, Katherine, Margaret and Karen. It was lovely to talk about the old days in Grantown. As you can see by my new address I've moved house. As old age creeps up on me I decided a smaller house was the answer.

ALISON G T McCONACHIE (Grant)

Still part-time staff nurse at local hospital. As kids grow up more and more time spent as taxi driver. Son Bruce lucky to go away to Watersports holiday with school in the south of France.

GORDON McCONACHIE

Still with Scottish Executive Rural Affairs Department. Dealing with ever increasing bureaucracy within the rural economy. Had a five week stint in Dumfries and Galloway at height of foot and mouth outbreak – some very distressing situations encountered.

JAMES MacDONALD

Quite a hectic year. Cruised in the Aegean and Black Seas last Autumn and then in January flew to Cape Town to join the ORIANA and cruised to Madagascar, the Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Singapore, Borneo, Bali and finally Australia where we spent two weeks in Sydney – tremendous place. On the way home, by air this time, we had two very busy days in Hong Kong before getting to London just as winter was finishing. High light of the year though, was going to Bristol Cathedral to see our granddaughter getting her BA and LLB degrees.

ANNETTE McGREGOR (Hogg)

This year saw me working in three branches of The Royal Bank; Newburgh, Glenrothes and Perth. Some mornings it was a case of which branch am I going to. All the hard work paid off and I was successful in my application for Branch Manager at Perth South Street. Eilidh is about to sit her standard grades and Kim is about to go into second year. We are all still swimming, Eilidh and Kim competitively. I enjoy training but not the race – too old I feel!

AILEEN SANDRA McINTOSH (Ferguson)

North of Scotland School's Badminton Champion. Left school to work for Bank of Scotland. Married in 1983 - two children, Vicki born 25th May 1986 and Christopher born 19 October 1989. Returned back to Bank after birth of Christopher and now work at High Street branch, Inverness. Own the Coppice Hotel with husband Norman. My twin brother Michael works in Norway in oil business and has three boys and sister Ann who is married with 2 girls lives in Kincardine Bridge on Forth.

DONALD B McINTYRE

I lost touch with school and didn't know until too late about the Dinner on 31 March. Better luck next time! I may have forgotten to let you know that we moved from Kinfauns to a flat in the very centre of Perth. The flat was newly built on the roof of an existing building, and we were more able to construct the layout as we wanted – which was important for our son, Ewen, who is in a wheelchair. I keep very busy with a wide range of interests: printing pipe music for the Piping Centre, Glasgow; reviewing and editing publications; lecturing on geology and computer language etc.etc.
(The Club is not a registered charity, M.M.)

RANALD McINTYRE

Still “retired” and busier than ever! Occasionally “helping out” at Electric Scotland.Com, the largest visited Scottish internet site. Sometimes submit photos and Scottish information to them. My little candle managed to extinguish a large beam of a coal contractor who finally withdrew an application for open cast coal mine only 750 m from our house – but the coal is still there! As yet I have not been able to persuade our local council to make footpaths, erect signs for the anticipated visitors to the Reforming of the Forth & Clyde and the Union Canals – but wait! Another interest being “Family Trees” – mine and others; to date I have 850 names with three sides of families going back to early 1600’s. Many thanks to all who prepare the Magazine and also those that keep us up to date with their lives. A special thanks to Thomas Stuart who, in the last issue, reminded us of the debt we have to all teachers and those who care for and look after the school.

MRS ELIZABETH R McLEOD (Macgregor)

Spent an enjoyable afternoon with Nancy (Gray) and Willie Forsyth at their home in Avoch. Later in the year we moved to our new home in Aviemore and have enjoyed re-organising the house and now the garden.

NEIL McTAGGART

As life in the legal world takes further leaps forward into new regions and levels and prepares for quantum leaps to come, retirement for me is perhaps not inappropriate. It has come unexpectedly and does find me somewhat unprepared. I left my “day job” with Balfour & Manson on 31 October, perhaps just in time as my other roles as chairperson of the Scottish Bible Society – note our new name – and session clerk of Holyrood Abbey Church suddenly expanded to fill any vacuum. Now that we have found a new Executive Director for the former and celebrated the Centenary of the building of the latter, Anne and I are looking for a new role or roles for the next few years.

IAN D MASSON

This year’s events included getting engaged to Samantha in May and having a great time in Sierra Leone which was an experience and in July moved to Balmenach. Still an active director of the Grantown Museum.

MARGARET J MASSON (Stuart)

Had a knee replacement in November which has given me a new lease of life – even took place in a sponsored walk in aid of the Wishbone Orthopaedic Trust. Enjoyable short visit from brother Ian and sister-in-law Nancy from Sierra Leone in August. Get much pleasure from the grandchildren who seem to be growing up so fast.

BILL MITCHELL

Enjoying married life once again. It will soon be a year – how time flies. Daughter Anne lives in Cheshire with two teenage daughters. Son Stuart in Surrey with three sons, William, Jack and new arrival George on 30 December 2000. Hard work being a granda but very enjoyable. Last October was involved as an extra in Monarch of the Glen. One of the Clan MacDonald at the Glenbogle Highland Games. Still playing golf and beating my age occasionally. Step-daughter Rona works at Meadowbank in Edinburgh and stepson Donald is enjoying his first year at Carolina on a soccer scholarship. Marr Illingworth occasionally gives him a phone call and hope they will be able to meet up sometime soon. I enjoy a few games of golf with George Illingworth when he is up at his caravan in Grantown but also appreciate a few rounds at Elie and St Andrews. What could be better than a game on the Royal & Ancient Golf Course. “Keep swinging”.

ELIZABETH MUTCH

The ageing process goes on apace but I am still in full control of my own life with many happy memories of my school days. Looking forward to my 90th birthday in July – God willing!

MARGARET OLLASON (Grant)

Hope I am not too late to get my magazine. Unfortunately I have been rather ill during the last five months so things got neglected. However all is well now, I hope.

(Not too late and hope you are feeling better. MM)

ISOBEL ORFORD (Calder)

It was a sad journey back to Grantown in February of this year when our mother died at the age of 97, having lived most of her life in the Grantown area. Both my sons spent a day reliving old memories, so I would just like to say to anyone who saw five strangers hanging around their property they were harmless. Les, my eldest son spent a year in Grantown school before we moved south. Both boys have happy memories having spent many holidays in their younger days in Grantown. Mark, my younger son will always remember fishing at the Dava burn and at a few of the lochs with his Grandpa, something he still enjoys. I am now convinced Grantown in February is colder than Canada!!

MRS JOHN PATERSON (Margery G Macaulay)

Delivered my slip when up seeing my parents. My husband is in the USA for 3 weeks (June). We are both kept very busy and I do supply teaching when required. Hope to holiday in October. Looking forward to next year's mag.

RONALD PHILIP

I had a great time at the Clan Grant Reunion at Nethy Games. Specially glad to meet George Dixon again after 40 years and Margaret Masson too, of course! and everybody else. We stayed at the caravan park and thoroughly enjoyed it, first class.

MRS MARGARET I PHILLIPS (MacKenzie)

Enjoying living in Forres after many years in Tomintoul. Had an enjoyable trip to London visiting my sister Anna MacDonald (MacKenzie) in May.

MRS SUSAN RILEY (Bettoli/Grant)

Now Mrs Riley!!! In May this year Duncan (old schoolmate!!) and I got married in South Queensferry. The four of us now living happily in Grantown.

DAPHNE RITCHIE (Duncan)

Thought I'd put pen to paper as promised – almost – fingers to keyboard doesn't quite have the same ring to it. Nothing much to report. Another year has flown by. There was major upheaval in the house, adding on another bedroom, study and bathroom, and the garden still hasn't recovered (not enough time spent in it). Busy golfing (and getting wet), teaching and "playing" on the computer – received an SQA certificate for having passed a unit in Multimedia at Intermediate 2 level i.e. not quite Higher. If that isn't enough, I could fill a space with a story about Hugh, my brother-in-law, who has been Captain of Grantown Golf Club for the past 2 years. (Sorry to all non-golfers).

Hugh, the Captain, was first on the fourteenth tee in his fourball. Eyeing the ball, he swung his club and sliced his shot over the high fence and into the car park where the ball crashed through the windscreen of an approaching car. The startled driver lost control of his vehicle and it bounced off three parked cars. Hugh raced round to the crash and was relieved to find that the driver wasn't hurt. Jimmy Turnbull, the local Sergeant, just happened to be walking his Dalmation down towards the woods and spotted Hugh standing next to the crashed cars eyeing his ball. "Just what are you going to do about this?" demanded Sergeant Jim. Hugh looked up. "Well, the first thing I'm going to do is change my grip."

WILLIAMINA RITSON (Keith)

Have enjoyed watching our great grandson Braeden, grow into a lively one year old. Celebrated our 56th anniversary last year when our grandchildren welcomed us into the 21st century by giving us a computer. Had a surprise 80th birthday party at Country Meadows Golf Club. Didn't play much golf last year, it was either too hot or too wet, two reasons which never stopped us before. Perhaps we are just getting too old! Spent a lot of our time at our trailer

watching the birds using the feeders and houses which Myles has built for them. However we had to close up earlier than usual because Myles had a heart attack early in October. He has bounced back and has been attending Saturday Dayschool classes on computers. He also took a Bob Ross painting class and on that day I went with him and took a Reflexology class. Again thanks to all the members of the committee for their work in producing the "Mag" and best wishes to all for 20001. My sister Elsie is still in Grandview Nursing Home suffering from Alzheimers. Happy to still have my old school friend Margaret (Grant) Ollason whose letters recalling our schooldays brightens up our golden years. Had a long telephone chat with Marr Illingworth and he gave me Alice (King) McCurdy's telephone number and I had a long chat with her too. By the way my number is ... and Myles says that our e-mail address is

DAVIS ROBERTSON (Thomson)

Firstly apologies for the lateness of this reply. I'm currently in the process of moving house and came across the magazine. We, (Jimmy, Wilma and myself) met up again for the first time in many years to celebrate the marriage of my son Iain to Lynne. Where do the years go? On the work front, like many others of similar age, I'm sure the McCrone deal for teachers will make me plan for retirement! I can just about see the light at the end of the tunnel!!

JESSIE RONALDSON

Continue with interest in W.R.I., W.R.V.S. and Senior Citizens' Clubs.
(Sadly Jessie died in October. MM)

MRS MARGARET ROSS (Davidson)

Family are still basking in Craig's Olympic success having just enjoyed his "Freedom of Grantown" occasion which was attended by as many relatives as could make it on June 28th. Now he is training for the World Championships later this year. Granddaughter Nikki graduates again in July P.G.T.D. and has signed a two-year contract to teach maths in a Private School in Hong Kong. Calum too, is adding to his Hons. Degree and should finish in February. Family 3 – Chay's - has just enjoyed their first holiday abroad in Brittany, pronounced a great success by all concerned. Visited by 7 grandchildren and one lovely great grandchild (Vikki's daughter). Granny finds life very interesting.

MARGARET A ROSS

After two cancelled attempts, it was third time lucky to attend the F P Dinner at the Coppice Hotel. What an enjoyable evening I experienced. From start to finish, I was in such friendly company. My sincere thanks to Margaret for her superb organisation of the event. The company at the table was most enjoyable (including M). Having the opportunity to chat after the meal was excellent also. I enjoyed the speaker's stories of Grantown of some years ago. Sunday morning

breakfast time was really “down Memory Lane” with Hugh Tulloch recalling to Evelyne (Geddes), Edward Illingworth and me, tales of the old days such as the Science room and hill-climbing expeditions. I won’t divulge names of teachers – you can guess! I was glad to meet Catriona (Grant) McArthur at her first FP Dinner (after all those years away for both of us). I correspond regularly with Ella Walmsley (Slater) and Marjory Taylor (Cattanach). Of the “older” FP’s, I write or phone Margaret Ollason (Grant) who has not enjoyed best of health recently and Diana Jakeman (McIntosh). The latter two were classmates. Recently Diana was invited to a ceilidh in Manchester where she had the great pleasure of hearing Mrs Janette Smith (MacDonald) sing. Personally I have had a wonderful season enjoying classical music concerts including those at Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama where such wonderful work is being done by students. Also, I was invited back onto a committee of Glasgow branch of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society.

PATRICIA H ROSS (MacDonald)

In July I had a knee replaced then in October I had the second knee replaced. It’s great to be free from pain, and to be able to go up and down stairs again. We had our 50th wedding anniversary with my brother and family over for it, my husband had his family from Aberdeen, Hants, England, Montana and California. We will be in Grantown in June then travelling in Scotland and England.

VICTOR JAMES ROSS

BSc.C Eng. F.I.E.E. Retired. Eagerly awaiting annual visit from daughter Carole who lives in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Good luck with your Dinner, which I am unable to attend.

MRS CONSTANCE H.C. SHAW (Gordon)

Bank Officer (Retired). I’m sorry I’ll miss the Biennial Dinner again as I still haven’t got the all clear with the venous ulcer I’ve been suffering from. I still enjoy “Scrabble” and doing educative scrapbooks. Had my usual card and letter from Isa Squires at Christmas. Isa takes such an interest still in Grantown.

IAIN & JOAN SMITH (Fraser)

The family were saddened last autumn by the death of Iain’s brother Sandy. He had served in the Royal Navy for many years and on retirement, after various postings around the country with “Children First”, eventually went to live in Exeter.

MRS ISOBEL SPALDING (Gunn)

May I thank most sincerely F.P.'s for the kindness and sympathy shown to me after the death of my husband Peter last August, and of brother Donald who died in July one month before Pete. I sympathise with other F.P.'s on the loss of a loved one. Millenium year was not a happy one for myself and the family. I am awaiting knee surgery. I had to postpone it last September owing to stress and worry, so soon after Peter's death and Don's passing. I shall miss our happy trips to Grantown over the past years, and were always made so welcome on calling on friends. I look forward to the magazine and all the news it contains. Keep up the good work.

THOMAS B STUART

With one week to go to the return deadline, and in the middle of a postal strike, this slip may not arrive on time. I delayed my response until after the recent family holiday in western France hoping for some interesting or inspirational event. Alas not. However, touring around one day I was amazed to see "Grantown-on-Spey" on a road sign. I had stumbled on "Notre Dame de Monts", our twin town in France – very picturesque and pretty, but on a bank holiday afternoon almost deserted.

ALISTAIR GEORGE SURTEES

Enjoying retirement. Plan to be in Grantown in September. Have been holidaying in Italy for the last few years, enjoying the sun. I look forward each year to receiving the magazine and getting the news of old friends.

BILL & RITA TEMPLETON (Marshall)

Still enjoying life in Nethy Bridge, keeping the garden in order, going for walks and golfing (still badly). Had a very enjoyable spring break in a farm cottage near Kirriemuir, then a super two weeks in Ireland in June. If the money lasts out we plan to have a week in Oban in late September – the midges should have gone to sleep by then! In between these journeys we have enjoyed visits from the family – especially our six grandchildren who seem to grow like mushrooms.

MRS T S B THOMSON (Vera Mortimer)

Nothing really of any interest to report this year. Keep the magazine coming!

SEONAIID VICKERMAN (Grant)

Looking forward to a holiday in the States this summer. Walking in the National Parks. I enjoyed making contact with a few past (I won't say old!) friends this summer. Pat Grant (Nethy), Margaret McWilliam and Irene Lornie. I still have photographs of Margaret and Irene on picnics when we were all in primary school.

ELLA WALMSLEY (Slater)

In the Autumn of 2000 my husband Robert and I had much pleasure in meeting Margaret Ross in Glasgow. We recalled friends from our class who left G.G.S. in 1945.

In June our son Malcolm and his wife Annie had Ellie Pauline, as sister for Jack who is 2 years old. We immediately headed up to Sheffield where they live to greet our 8th grandchild. Also in June, we were in St Quentin, France where my pen friend Paulette from school days, had lived. We attended the wedding of my Godson Stephane and Nathalie. It was rather unusual as after the Priest had married them, he baptised their three children. Our Golden Wedding was celebrated on 4th August 2001 and we managed to have four guests who had been at our marriage in 1951. One was Claude (Paulette's cousin) from Nice. Sadly Paulette, her brother and Eliane, her best friend had died. We were delighted that Eliane's son Francois and his four sons joined our celebration in August. Robert and I first met in Paulette's cafe so we have happy memories of St Quentin. This was all due to our French mistress who gave me Paulette's address. I still have her first letter. The envelope was opened by censor in April 1945.

JAY WARD

Now National Sales Manager for brands such as Typhoo, Chivers, Hartley, Smedley, Lockwood, Cadbury (beverages not confectionery). 30 years happy marriage due in November, four weeks after first grandchild!

SHEINA MARGARET WESTON (Donaldson)

It will be a great pleasure to go north for a change, when we attend the FP Reunion. We tend to go south to visit our family. We have three grandchildren in north London, the most recent addition born on 14 October 2000. Our youngest son Peter works in Peterborough and lives in Stamford, a very attractive town to visit. Our third son works in the North East. Our trips to Scotland are usually to the Border towns and the beautiful gardens of S.W. Scotland.

SANDRA WILLOX (More)

Duncraig Castle College for 2 years. Married in 1980 and have two children, Kelly 19 and John 16. I work at the Coppice Hotel. I also take Cub Scouts.

ADA WILSON (Imray)

Now moved from Auchterarder to Helensburgh. Over a year passed before this was accomplished. Two gardens to do and regular journeys between the two before a successful outcome. Can now look forward to the end of stress and a holiday!

KAY ELAINE WILSON (Ross)

Since my last report I am now also working two nights a week as a youth worker for secondary school age which I am really enjoying. I am up to the minute on the latest pop stars and fashions thanks to the knowledge of the teenagers that I work with. My two boys are getting on well at school and are both budding "Scotland" stars for football.

NEW RECRUITS

Alexis Wallace Milne, 3 Balmenach Road, Cromdale
Career intentions – MA in Accountancy and Legal Studies at Aberdeen University.

Carina Anne Jack, 36 Dulaig Court, Grantown-on-Spey
Make-up Artistry, Theatre & TV at James Watt College, Greenock

Gemma Buxton, Ard-na-Coille, Station Road, Carrbridge
Year out in South Africa then Law & Social Policy at Edinburgh University.

Kirsten Walker, Drumuille Steading, Boat of Garten
Stirling University

Kevin Smith, Balno, Nethy Bridge
Mechanic – Rattray's Garage

Lucy Christina Grant, The Neuk, Grant Road, Grantown-on-Spey
Career intentions to become a primary school teacher

Pennyghael Jane Scott, Ivy Cottage, Dell Road, Nethy Bridge
Scottish Ski Team

Roseanne Elizabeth Muldoon, Birchmoor, Tomintoul Road, Grantown-on-Spey
PH26 3NN. Adult Nursing, University of Stirling (Highland Campus)

Jenny Candlish Masterson, Muskoka, 6 Rowan Park, Carrbridge. A year out (working locally, music tutoring) then go on to uni/college to work with horses or primary education.

Alex James Whitehouse, Torridon, Carr Road, Carrbridge PH23 3AD. Royal Navy – Steward.

OBITUARY (We apologise for any omissions.)

Mrs M Barclay (Hastilow), latterly of Mount Barker, Grantown-on-Spey

Evan MacKintosh, 28 Lundin Road, Crossford, Dunfermline (formerly Ardchattan, Dulnain Bridge)

Sympathetic mention goes to the following members:-

Mrs Alison Clark, 112 Cradlehall Park, Westhill, Inverness & Michael Ronaldson, 52 Cradlehall Park on the death of their sister Jessie Ronaldson.

Eric Pirie Westerton Cromdale on the death of his father Sandy Pirie.

Mrs Williamina Ritson on the death of her sister Elsie Keith.

Mrs Elizabeth Bremner & Dr A MacKenzie on the death of their father James MacKenzie, latterly of Kenmore, Grantown-on-Spey.

Lewis Rattray, Lyngarael, Grantown-on-Spey on the death of his mother Mrs E Rattray.

Alistair Jack on the death of his father, Gordon Jack, latterly of 32 Strathspey Drive, Grantown-on-Spey.

Mrs Shona Wright, Mrs Isobel Orford & Sandy Calder on the death of their mother Mrs Isobel Calder

Mrs Pam Higgins on the death of her father Peter MacPherson. (see separate page)

To the Cooke & MacGregor families on the untimely death of Richard Cooke.

Andrew & Bill Reid & Mrs Elizabeth Beattie on the deaths of their father & mother. Mr T Reid was principal science teacher for 18 years and Mrs A Reid taught in the primary school for 9 years until their retirement in 1979.

To the family of Mrs Archibald Beveridge (Elizabeth A Gordon) MA, previously of Lower Delliefure and latterly of 16 Hazelden Gardens, Glasgow, who was Dux in 1944 died in April.

Obituary – Peter S MacPherson (Contributed)

Peter MacPherson was born in Grantown in 1913. Although he and his family left their home at Struan, Grant Road in 1956, he remained in his heart, a man of Grantown all his life. The MacPherson family had been Grantown folk for several generations; Peter's father, Angus, having a coachbuilder's business on Spey Avenue.

Peter attended Grantown Grammar School until the age of 16, when, on the death of his father, he had to leave, in order to support his mother and younger sister. He became a grocer and was well known during the years he worked at Strachan's, on the High Street. He was active in the life of the community, being a proud member of the Old Guard and was Scoutmaster for a number of years. During his years in the Scouts he learned to love exploring the Cairngorms, and how to play the bagpipes – a lifelong passion. His interest in music extended to playing the double bass in the Strathspey & Reel Society. Throughout World War 2, Peter served in the Scots Guards, enduring much of the worst of the London Blitz while guarding Rudolph Hess at the Tower of London. He saw some of the fiercest action of the war, landing in Normandy on D-Day. He was seriously injured during a battle against SS Forces as the allied troops made their sweep through Europe towards Berlin. Until the year before his death, Peter was always at the heart of the annual act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in Burrelton, a proud soldier with his medals and bagpipes, one of the select few, remembering wartime experiences, and the many comrades he lost during active service.

After the war he returned to Grantown, becoming an Elder at Inverallan Church in 1948. He continued to serve in his capacity as a churchman during the years after he left Grantown, as an Elder at the Parish Churches of Cupar Old, Fordoun and finally at Cargill – Burrelton, where he and his wife Margaret, spent their retirement years. One of the proudest occasions of his life was a service and presentation to mark his 50 years service as an Elder of the Church of Scotland, in 1998.

Throughout his life, Peter was a man of high principles, with the Highland regard for a good education, insisting that his children, Pam, Stewart, Malcolm and Fiona benefit from the higher education that took them all on to the professional careers that he himself was denied.

He was always at his happiest on his return visits to Grantown, strolling up the High Street, and chatting with old friends. He is interred at Inverallan Cemetery, together with his wife Margaret, who predeceased him by 9 years. A son of Grantown has finally come home.

Supplement January 4th 1902

2nd Reunion of Former Pupils' Clubs

Excerpt from the minutes of the above taken by Jas Templeton, The Lodge, Grantown-on-Spey.

The second anniversary of the Grammar School F.P. Club was celebrated by a very successful and enjoyable Dance in the Palace Hotel last night. There was a large attendance of members and friends, and dancing, which commenced at 9 o'clock was continued with occasional intervals till 2.30 am. The following are a list of those present: - Ladies – Mrs Anderson, Gordon Hall; Mrs & Miss D Barclay, Misses Black, The Hawthorns; Miss Cameron, High Street; Mrs Goff & Mrs Turner; Mrs & Miss Grant, Reidhaven; Miss Grant, Balliefurth; Miss Grant, Cromdale; Miss Grant, Cherrygrove; Mrs Grant, Underwood; Miss Johnston, The Gardens; Miss Imray; Mrs MacIntosh, Caledonian Bank; Mrs MacLennan; Miss Mackenzie, Blantyre; Miss Nichol, Misses Philip; Miss Coles; Miss Dawson; Miss Smith, Inverallan; Miss Smith, Granite Villa; Misses Thomson, Heathfield, Miss Winchester; Gentlemen - Captain Grant; Captain Grant Smith; Provost Grant; Lieut Samson; Srgt Mortimer; Messrs G Anderson, Clark, Balmenach; Dewar, Kingussie; I Imray; I W Jones; John Grant & Ian Grant, Underwood; James A Grant, Edinburgh; Jas Grant, Caledonian Bank; James Grant, Cromdale; James Grant, Cherrygrove; Bertie Goff; G Harvey; A Mackenzie, Blantyre; Tom MacIntosh, Caledonian Bank; Evan MacIntosh do; Graham MacIntosh, National Bank; Wm Macdonald, Home farm; R MacLennan, MacPherson, Kingussie; John Mann, J P Mitchell; D Rutledge; James Stewart, Achnarrow; Wm Thomson, Heathfield; Ward, Balmenach.

Late Late News from Rona Wallace and Mairi Ross

Plans for Reunion 2002 - Do you remember the famous Grantown rock band called MINCE-U-TUB? No? Well, I have to admit it's been a while since their last single! Which is why we thought it was high time we all caught up with each other (that is – if you want to meet up with old school pals).

Mairi Ross and Rona Wallace are thinking of planning a reunion for the Grantown Grammar year of 1978. We are hoping to choose a date in May 2002 for this, and have a planned day of activities finishing with a 'Big Bash' in the evening. All of this is dependent on whether we get any interest in it or not!

Please email your interest to Mairi on [...](#) or Rona on [...](#) or call us on 01463 741602 or 01479 851316. (Please pass along to anyone you think might be interested in this reunion, also any ideas that you have or if you'd like to offer some help!)