

FP Mag 2003 EDITORIAL & FOREWORD

Welcome to all F.P.'s and new members. Due to the mail shot by Bill Templeton this is a bumper issue which we hope will continue. The Biennial Dinner was a great success with a lot of old friendships renewed and family news caught up on. Best wishes for 2004.

Margaret Masson

COMMITTEE

President – Malcolm MacLennan

Honorary President – Miss Jean Paterson

Mr A Martin Grant, Mrs Chrissie Grant, Mrs Betty Grant,
Mr Frank Calder, Mr Bill Templeton, Mrs Margaret Ross,
Mrs Seonaid Vickerman, Mr Ian Smith, Mrs Shirley Findlay,
Mrs Daphne Ritchie, Mrs Margaret Masson

Front cover designed by Sarah MacGillivray
Paintings by Gillian Caldwell and Sam MacGregor

A hastily arranged Committee Meeting was held just prior to publication to discuss progress on the magazine and any business arising from the AGM in April. Extracts from the Meeting follow along with the accounts for 2002-2003.

- 1 **Accounts** The accounts, showing a healthy balance were discussed and approved and are shown on the next page.
- 2 **Magazine** The magazine is almost ready to go to print and should hopefully be on sale about the beginning of December.
- 3 **Disco** There is to be no disco this year (2003) and a disco in Waterford near Christmas 2004 looks uncertain at the moment.
- 4 **Mailshot** It was decided to send out an annual mailshot to the whole membership with the information request slip as it was felt to be important to keep in touch with the former pupils. It was proposed to include Billy Templeton's report on the dinner and AGM with this year's mailing.
- 5 **Recruitment Drive** A recruitment drive is needed to bring new blood onto the committee, which meets just once a year, so it isn't too onerous.
- 6 **Old Guard Club Ties** As mentioned in Billy Templeton's report, a new supply of Old Guard ties would be looked into by Billy, but it could be that the production of only 2 dozen ties would be uneconomical.

GRANTOWN GRAMMAR SCHOOL FORMER
PUPILS'
AND OLD GUARD CLUBS - 2002-2003

2002 RECEIPTS		2003	2002 PAYMENTS		2003
£		£	£		£
1269.19	Balance - Deposit Account	1213.49	650.00	School Donation - Library/Prizes	650.00
2322.38	Balance - Flexible Savings Account	2335.21	40.70	Postages (including mailshot 2002)	177.80
0.89	Interest- Deposit Account*	0.00	52.17	Photocopying	76.36
12.83	Interest - Flexible Savings Account	5.68	10.98	Envelopes and Labels	11.99
108.00	Magazine Orders	248.00	44.88	Paper/Plastic combs	46.56
136.00	Lomac Sales	156.00	0.00	Dinner	1038.50
279.00	Donations	666.00	0.00	Badges for Dinner	11.13
22.00	New Recruits	12.00	17.86	Advert for AGM	18.80
215.00	Disco Profit	0.00	1213.49	Balance - Deposit Account	1302.85
0.00	Dinner Tickets	1038.50	2335.21	Balance - Flexible Savings Account	2340.89
4365.29		5674.88	4365.29		5674.88

* Interest payable 20/11/2003

THE 2003 BIENNIAL REUNION

The response to our call for support for the 2003 Reunion was, to say the least of it, overwhelming. In all we had over one hundred replies – by mail, by e-mail and telephone. We heard from Former Pupils from home and abroad and perhaps the most encouraging feature was the almost unanimous answers to the questions asked in our communications to you. (a) Are you in favour of holding a Reunion Dinner in March 2003, - YES (b) Should we have a speaker - YES and (c) Our proposals re the holding of a short General Meeting at future Reunion Dinners rather than a more formal Annual General Meeting in October or November – YES. Thus encouraged your Committee proceeded to finalise arrangements to hold a Reunion in Seafield Lodge Hotel, Grantown on Saturday 29 March 2003 as indicated in our letters of appeal! A summary of proceedings at the Reunion now follows:-

Malcolm MacLennan, our President and Rector of the School presided over the 2003 Reunion in Seafield Lodge Hotel, Grantown on 29 March and he was very pleased to extend a warm welcome to the sixty five Former Pupils and Friends present. After confirming that all present had placed their order for their meal he convened the short General Meeting and called upon Bill Templeton, a member of the Committee to conduct proceedings. Bill briefly explained about events which had taken place since the AGM in November 2002, the reasons for the appeal which appeared in the Magazine and the encouragement shown which led to this Reunion. In order, however, to comply with the Constitution of the Club it was necessary to formally propose changes to the Constitution. The first proposal was to amend Rule Six to read...

‘A General Meeting shall be held in either March or April 2005 when a Financial Report covering the two year period – 1 November 2002 to 31 October 2004 will be presented for consideration. Thereafter General Meetings shall be held every second year in March or April on the same date as The Biennial Reunion Dinner’....the Proposal was seconded and unanimously passed.

Bill went on to explain that the Financial Statement showing the position as at 31 October 2004 could be vetted by The Committee and, if accepted by them, published in the FP Magazine of November 2004 along with possibly a fully revised Constitution for consideration of members attending the General Meeting in the Spring of 2005. Full details of the Agenda for this General Meeting and arrangements for the 2005 Biennial Reunion Dinner will, of course, be advised to members in the November 2004 FP Magazine.

A second matter which required attention was Rule 2 of the Constitution – ...’to provide annually prizes to the School’. This was, of course, a regular item on the Agenda of every AGM of the Club. In November 2002 it was agreed to donate £650 towards the cost of prizes and library books for 2003. In view of the matters now agreed for the future and bearing in mind no AGM in November 2003 some provision has to be made now for books and prizes in 2004. To provide for this the meeting was asked to allow the Committee to donate a sum of £700 to the School in the spring of 2004 towards the costs involved in library books and prizes for 2004. This was unanimously agreed to.

The final matter dealt with was a proposal that the current Office Bearers and Committee remain in Office until the General Meeting in the Spring of 2005 (bearing in mind provision in the current Constitution for co-option to fill vacancies or add to the number of members.) This proposal was also duly passed.

This more or less concluded the business – it took about twelve minutes and obviously it would be no great problem to conduct future General Meetings on the same night as the Biennial Reunion! One or two other items came up under ‘Any competent business’ - Gordon MacGregor suggested that a further supply of Old Guard Ties should be obtained going on to add that perhaps the tie could include a School Badge on the face of it. The general feeling was that the Old Guard tie pattern and colours should not be changed but yes, please arrange for a further supply. The matter was referred to The Committee. Bill Templeton went on to make reference to the innovation, suggested by Dr Jimmy Allan, of having a golf match at Grantown Golf Club on the day after the Reunion and that a sheet for names of entrants would be passed round later. Indications given earlier suggested that this would be popular. A question was asked about the possibility of a visit to the School being arranged during future Reunion Weekends. Mr MacLennan answered that he would be delighted to arrange for this – on the Saturday morning or the Sunday morning. It was felt that this would be a popular item on the programme and again matters were referred to The Committee to make arrangements for future Reunion Weekends.

At this point the Management of the Hotel indicated that they were ready to serve the meal. Mr MacLennan called upon Gordon MacGregor to say grace before the assembled members and friends set about enjoying a most enjoyable meal.

After the meal our President introduced a former pupil – one Allan J Grant, son of two well known and highly respected Former Pupils – Martin and Chrissie Grant. Allan was home on extended leave from Australia and took up a temporary post in the PE Department of the School for the second half of the school year. Allan, in his address, spoke enthusiastically of his own school years in the 50’s and early 60’s, recalling many memories with humour and frankness. He ended his address with an illustrated quiz – projecting some ‘golden oldies’ on the screen featuring some well-known former pupils. It all proved highly entertaining and his contribution to the overall enjoyment of the evening was greatly appreciated by all. Thereafter there was a spell of general conversation among old school chums – some who had not been at a reunion for quite a few years. By the end of the evening we were all already looking forward to Reunion 2005 – why don’t you come and join us?

W G T

MRS EVELYNE ALLAN (GEDDES)

Looking forward to coming up to Grantown in March.

GREGOR ALLAN

The family continue in health, with my older daughter Claire celebrating her 18th birthday in February. Sister Grace swept the boards at the Channel Highland Games for her Highland dancing and I played the pipes for her Majesty when she toured here last year. My wife Wilma continues with her European Computer Driving Licence course so we're busy enough here!

JAMES R ALLAN

You ask me for schoolday memories. Sadly I am too modest to mention my scholastic triumphs. My highlights are of two heroes - still gratefully remembered. At Dulnain school aged 5, I had an argument with some barbed wire, resulting in a massive tear of the rear of my trousers. As a result my bottom was exposed - to the great delight of the other pupils - especially the girls! Close to tears I stood with my back to the wall (I still remember the exact spot) and Chad Ross - the oldest of five brothers - came to my rescue. He took me in to my teacher - Miss Cameron - and she did a splendid job with safety pins. Aged 8, I was required to cycle in to Grantown school - no buses in those days! On my very first morning I seemed to have no problem - passed Craiglynn, the Episcopal Church - until the problem of getting up what seemed a stiff slope up to the High Street. Near the bottom there was quite a gathering of children - Patersons, Laings and Ledinghams. Tired - I fell off my bicycle! Loud laughter - but the biggest boy, Willie Laing, helped me up, lifted my bicycle, took me to the top of the hill - and sent me on my way. I have never forgotten these two heroes. Finally, congratulations to all those who made the Reunion such a success - Jean Paterson, who is in her nineties, is to dance with me at the next event.

MIKE ANDERSON MA, CA, MCT

After 14 years travelling overseas with work, have now returned to the UK. Unfortunately work has brought us back to London, not Scotland, although we do try to get back up North on holiday whenever we can.

MRS SHEENA S R BEATON (McINTOSH)

Cannot believe that it will be fifty years come September that Shona Anderson (MacDougall) and I stepped over the threshold of Aberdeen Training College!

GILLIAN BEVERIDGE

Apologies for not submitting a blurb for the last edition but time got away from me. As per me it is all change in my life since last writing. I have moved out of Cardiff to a small village to the east to live with my fiance (got engaged in August 2002). My job took a downturn in November 2001 when the Children's Society announced they were withdrawing from Wales. The staff team managed to pull together and set up our own organisation. We are struggling to compete with the other larger Children's Charities and the future is still very unstable. I am ready to move on now so am actively seeking new employment. I am also at the beginning of an Open University course in Child Forensic Studies through Leeds University, so not getting too bored. My next mission is to learn

to play the bagpipes as I could make a fortune down here with the rugby and the passion for anything Celtic. Had a wonderful holiday with Mum and Dad in September 2001 to Canada. It was a bit sideswiped by September 11th but we managed to make the most of it. As previously mentioned I got engaged to Gareth in August 2002 (at the top of the Guinness Factory in Dublin) which was not a surprise but still very romantic. Just as we broke the news to the parents, Craig also announced he had got engaged one week after us. Craig's wedding is in August this year, no plans for me yet. Having great fun on Friends' Reunited and the reunion is still in the planning stage. Unfortunately I don't get north of the border very often so it is not too promising.

MRS M I BROCKLEHURST (McWILLIAM)

I now use a computer!

MRS MARGARET CARSTAIRS (McWILLIAM)

Have just read through my first (FP) magazine and really enjoyed all the news. I met Bill and Rita Templeton a few years ago when he was manager of the Royal Bank of Scotland in Leven, Fife. Do hope you are both enjoying your retirement in Nethy. My husband Bill and I have been married some 44 years and have a daughter Marlene and two sons, Scott and Jeffrey, six grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Everyone lives locally so as you can imagine we have a busy house. When in Grantown last summer I met Seonaid (Grant) who was in the same class when we were in school and I remember in particular us dancing the Irish Jig at the school concert and still remember the names of all the girls in the photo I have. We love coming up north to Grantown for holidays although I have not travelled so much lately, but we did manage to have a Mediterranean cruise for our Ruby Anniversary. My first job was a wages clerk in the National Coal Board, but sadly all the pits in Fife are now closed down. Then after having my family I worked for 14 years in a sawmill office part-time. Kennoway is a village on a hillside, north of Leven on the Kirkcaldy/St Andrews road and we have a lovely view right down the Firth of Forth as far as the Bass Rock and the May Isle. I will be 65 years old this year (goodness me how time flies) and enjoying my retirement. Bill is a very keen bowler and is on the green most weekends during the summer and is a past president of Fife Bowling Association. I had a visit from Rosamund McHattie when I was in Kirkcaldy Hospital a few years ago after I had heart surgery. Was delighted to see her and had a right good blether. The staff nurse on the ward was her daughter. Looking forward to the warm weather and to our visits up North.

MRS R JOHN CHAPMAN (ELIZABETH McDONALD)

Hard to imagine classmates all now in their sixties! Hope all is well with them all.

ROSEMARY M CHARLISH (MASSON)

Had a wonderful three weeks in New Zealand in February. A beautiful country - could easily settle there!!

ALLAN CHISHOLM

Having given up my full time job, I now enjoy a varied range of activities with consultancy work, non executive board membership and regular visits to golf in the sun.

ALISON CLARK (RONALDSON)

Nothing new to report this year. Son Graeme still enjoying his job as Security Product Manager Terminal 3 Heathrow Airport and his home in Bracknell.

WILMA COWAN (IRVING)

Hoping to pay a visit to Grantown again during June - just for a flying visit as we are to be staying in Aberdeenshire for a week. Activities somewhat restricted at present as I am waiting for a hip replacement - hopefully towards the end of the year. Enjoyed hearing about Irene Lornie in last year's magazine. Our mothers were friends when the Lornies lived by Craiglynne.

MRS GEORGE CRAIG (DOROTHY F CALDER)

Enjoying retirement with gardening and grandchildren occupying most of our time. Great magazine as always.

MARIAN DOCHERTY (HAMILTON)

Left the Police in '91 and married Patrick in '93. Louise arrived in '94. I have had my own driving school for 10 years now and work around the school hours, a nice easy life.

FIONA DONN

I took early retirement from teaching in July '97 to care for my elderly parents. Sadly Mum died about two years later. Now up in his nineties Dad is blind and pretty frail but still quite alert. Unfortunately last March I suffered a brain haemorrhage and subsequently spent much of last year in hospital, first in Aberdeen and then here in Inverness. I underwent brain surgery in Aberdeen and have been left very unsteady, dizzy and with sight problems. It is good to be home but I can do very little unfortunately. However we are very fortunate to have an excellent lady to help us in the house every other morning. My sister Deirdre is also very disabled with spinal problems. I have managed to resume stitching again so am able to take up my patchwork and quilting - although it is much more difficult for me now, but I do enjoy it! I am just hopeful that my sight and balance problems will improve.

DOUGIE EDWARDS

September 2002 started at Ian Tomlin School of Music at Napier University to study for a BA Hons in Popular Music.

SHIRLEY A FINDLAY (MASSON)

Finally moved in to our new house at Easter. Now the hard work to try and get the garden etc. in some order.

JANE A (NANCY) FORSYTH (GRAY)

Celebrated our Golden Wedding by holding a Thanksgiving Service in Church where five other Golden Weddings were blessed by the Minister while we renewed our vows. All hymns were sung to Scottish and Irish airs played on the accordeon while two pipers greeted the guests. During the evening Eric Allan, himself a composer and leader of "Birl" and winner of the prestigious Saltire Award presented us with a waltz "Willie & Nancy" - played in public for the first time. A poem also written for the occasion was read by the local poet. Peggy Upton. Willie was presented with a medal which bore the

words "a perfect husband is one who thinks he has a perfect wife". In lieu of gifts we asked that donations be given to the local Children's Resource Centre; £1,196 was raised. (see insert)

ELSPETH M FRASER (MITCHELL)

After having 6 grandsons, we are delighted to announce a granddaughter to our son who lives beside us here in Kilmorack. I still manage badminton two mornings a week and am secretary of Beaully Senior Citizens' Association for past 15 years! Thoroughly enjoyed Reunion in March. Thank you to all committee.

(Limericks by Elspeth)

There was a young lad from Strathspey
Who loved to play golf every day
When he did go to school
He just played the fool
Now he's old, unemployed and quite grey!

There is a great school in Grantown
Which no pupil would ever run down
All the lads and the lasses
Enjoyed all their classes
You bet! It's a school of renown

There was a young lad from Strathspey
Who went to Australia to stay
On his return
For one year's sojourn
Got a job as a teacher with pay

MARLENE A FRASER (McWILLIAM)

Allan and I are enjoying our retirement 7 years on. We managed up to Grantown-on-Spey eight times in 2002 which enables me to trace my roots. Enjoy visiting Grant House to see many kent faces. The care for the residents is excellent. At Easter 2002 we had a lovely evening at Iain and Joan (Fraser) Smith, Lentrane. They also invited Anne Knight, (Grant, Revack) and her husband Geoff. In the summer at the Grantown Farmers' Show I met Sheena Beaton (McIntosh), Shona Anderson (MacDougall) and Nora Gordon (Brooks). It was lovely seeing them, unfortunately the time was too short.

ALLAN J GRANT

I am writing this with two days to go at the end of a seven month stay back in Grantown. The experience has been fantastic, being able to spend quality time with my parents and extended family and connecting with my roots after 27 years living in Sydney, Australia. I was granted 12 months unpaid leave from my teaching position in Sydney and landed in Scotland thinking that I would be supply teaching well outside the Grantown area and maybe only getting there on weekends. However, when I arrived I couldn't believe my luck, as there was a temporary position available in my subject (PE) at Grantown Grammar School. I spent two wonderful terms at the school and thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it. Teaching back in the school that I attended as a boy was something I had never envisaged. I had a wonderful night at the Former Pupils' dinner, which

motivated me to help Marilyn MacDonald organise a reunion with our own school peers. We had a fantastic night with 48 attending and one of those nights you wished could go on for a week, as there were so many stories to catch up on and it rekindled many friendships. Living back within the community enabled me to involve myself in various sports and activities. During my seven months, I experienced canoeing, skiing, badminton, tennis, horse riding, golf and walking through the beautiful scenery of the Cairngorms and surrounding hills. I visited the Western Isles of North Uist and Harris, catching up with Janette Macdonald who was a wonderful tour guide in Harris. The Strathspey area is certainly something special and if you haven't been back to visit for some time then do yourself a favour - join the FP's and combine the Biennial Dinner with a trip back to the area. No one will ever tell me again that there is nothing to do in Grantown.

FIONA & SHELAGH GRANT

Greetings to all. Fiona has spent ten days in Boston visiting a colleague in the Ophthalmic Unit there. An enjoyable visit to a beautiful city - especially the autumn (Fall!) colours. Shelagh kept very busy at Edinburgh Airport dealing with ever increasing air travel.

MRS JOHN GRANT (M E TEMPLETON)

We had a lovely holiday in Porto Pollensa, Majorca in April. During the lovely hot summer have had lots of family home on holiday. Sister Margaret (Mrs Cropp) was home from Vancouver in July. The Grant Family had a trip up on the funicular to the Ptarmigan to celebrate the 81st birthday of Donnie (home from Australia). The view was spectacular. Sorry to have missed Marr's (Illingworth) visit - but got all the news from George and Elaine. Best wishes to all.

SALLY N GREENLEES (GRANT)

Absolutely delighted to be back in Grantown. Moved in August 2002. Emma and Fraser start at the Primary School after the summer holidays. Gordon is based in Inverness and when not at work is on the golf course! I am kept busy with the twins and just adore life in Grantown and being back with family and friends.

MRS VINCENT GREENWOOD (Mary I WINCHESTER)

Nothing to report.

MRS MARGARET GREIG (GRANT)

Can't believe I'm a senior, senior citizen! However we both keep well and agile. We still enjoy our foreign holidays - going to Malta last year instead of Cyprus. Haven't decided yet where to go this year.

MAIRI HANKINSON (MacDONALD)

In July 2002 we relocated from Harrogate, North Yorkshire to Seattle, USA and we are very much enjoying life here in the Pacific Northwest. Any visitors would be very welcome!

MRS KATHLEEN HARRIS (DUNN)

As I haven't won a fortune on the lottery, I'm still teaching in Brechin! Daughter Jill's in

second year at Aberdeen University studying accountancy and finance. We have a black miniature poodle to keep us occupied now that Jill's left home. I have a look now and again at Friends Reunited on the computer - it's good to see where ex-classmates are and what they are up to! I'd be delighted to hear from any of them by letter. It's so easy to lose contact with former friends, especially when you "mislay" your address book!!

GRACE HARRISON (GORDON)

My twin sister Elizabeth and I spent only two years in the Grammar School but these were happy years. Sadly Elizabeth died suddenly in 2001. After ten years teaching in Sierra Leone, the Sudan and Nigeria we have settled in Oxfordshire. Retired now, we are nevertheless kept busy with nine grandchildren, three of whom live in Fergus, Ontario. We visit them regularly.

ALBERT HASTINGS

Now retired.

MRS I M HEPBURN (RITA MACKAY)

I enjoyed seeing the carol singers from Grantown Grammar School in Inverness last Christmas.

GILLIAN HENDERSON

My husband, Richard Hobbs plus our two children Katie (14) and Hamish (11) just spent a wonderful five weeks with my parents Janet and Lindsay Henderson in Nethybridge over Christmas and New Year. Nine inches of snow, -19 C and burst pipes, what a change from Mediterranean Fremantle and we LOVED it. Please call by if any GGS former pupils are visiting Western Australia.

MRS P A M HIGGINS (Pam MacPHERSON)

Yes, it's true - retire and you'll wonder how you ever found time to go to work! We are enjoying a vagabond year caravanning with our Border Terriers, visiting numerous beautiful parts of the UK, off the beaten track. Can't beat it!

MRS JEAN HOGG (CRUICKSHANK)

Enjoyed meeting up with my cousin at the Biennial Dinner, catching up on his news and meeting lots of other FP's again.

JOHN S HOLMES

Thank you for the form. My time at Grantown school was approximately 11 months and my family left Craggan about 1951. I still think of those few very dedicated teachers who tried their very best to help me AFTER my last years of schooling in South America. I wish their souls all the very best wherever they may be now. They do live on, this much I know. I joined the RN at 15+ in January 1940 after many nationality difficulties and these persisted after leaving the Navy in 1951 (passport etc). In 1975 I took out Australian nationality.

FIONA HUNTER (HENDERSON)

I am still living and working in Edinburgh. This is a big year for all those in my school year - we were born in 1953! Determined to try and be fit by the end of the year, to face

the next 50 years!

EDWARD ILLINGWORTH

Happy to be still on the right side of the grass and still playing golf twice a week!!

CARINA JACK

Hi, everyone! At the moment I am in my second year at James Watt College in Greenock studying make-up artistry and loving it - especially the social life. I've met loads of "new" and "different" people from all over the world. I'm hoping to pursue a career within the make-up industry to meet all the rich and famous!! Take care.

SARAH JACK

I am currently studying for a degree in business studies at the Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen. I am in my third year which involves undertaking a year's work experience with an offshore oil and gas service company, Gyrodata Ltd. based at Bridge of Don, Aberdeen. I am thoroughly enjoying every aspect of my degree programme and I look forward to returning to University at the end of the summer. During the summer months I intend to travel around America. I am looking forward to experiencing the culture of another country and to meeting new people.

EMMA KENNEDY

At uni (still) enjoying my third year - only because there is no study involved! Yes at the moment I'm a 9 to 5 girl as part of my year-long placement in offices dealing with e-Business Projects. Hoping to go over to Canada in summer to visit a friend before starting Honours year.

GRACE M KIRK

I wonder when one is rated the oldest member? I must be eligible before too long! I still enjoy my short visits to Grantown when I catch up with Jeannette Munro and we reminisce happily. Thank you for the thought and work that keeps us in touch.

ARCHIE LIGGAT

Still a longhaul pilot on British Airways Boeing 747-400's. Commute 3 to 4 times a month to Heathrow for trips abroad. On returning to Edinburgh on the shuttle just before Christmas 2002, I found I was sitting next to David Wilson, a close colleague for many years in the same class at GGS and who I had not seen for 25 years! He moved from Edinburgh 15 years ago so the coincidence was even more acute! I also regularly see Sheila Grant, from my old class since P1, as she works at the British Midland desk at Edinburgh Airport. Daughters now 8 and 12. Wife Liz teaches at Madras College, St Andrews.

MRS JANE LILLEY (MacAULAY)

Still teaching communication at Aberdeen College. Husband John works for Weatherford. Son Andrew (19) in second year of studying Architecture at RGU, Aberdeen. Daughter Alison (17) in sixth year at Hazlehead Academy.

Am constantly amazed at how many former GGS pupils keep cropping up in Aberdeen!

DOUGLAS LOW

Off to Yakutsk to meet the in-laws this summer.

KAREN LOW

This year I have nothing new to report. I get the feeling you are waiting on some real exciting news as this is the third information slip I have received! It is the middle of January and I am home for a week visiting and enjoying the break (it is sometimes nice to get away from tourists and snow).

IAN D MASSON

Another hectic year running the new business. Samantha and I had a lovely holiday in Gran Canaria before becoming the proud parents of our daughter Elise Margaret born in September.

MARGARET J MASSON (STUART)

Life still very full and busy. Had another wonderful holiday in Sierra Leone with my son Alistair and daughter-in-law Caren. The day after we flew in to Freetown by helicopter they were grounded as unsafe!. Had to travel back to the airport by ferry - another interesting experience. My eighth grandchild Elise Margaret was born in September. Also had a lovely surprise visit from my grandson Kyle from Australia.

J WISHART MILNE

My wife, Gwen, died in April last year. Son Graham is still in Elgin Academy. Grandson Ross is with BT in St Albans after receiving a B.Eng at Aberdeen. Grandson Alan is starting his fourth year in accountancy also at Aberdeen.

DENISE MITCHELL (GRANT)

Nothing new. The girls are now 5, 3 and one so I spend a large amount of time taxi-ing them to all their various activities. They have a better social life than I do.

MICHAEL MOIR

Currently based in Hong Kong running a regional property business, but returning regularly to Edinburgh. Hoping to return to Scotland permanently soon.

ELIZABETH D MUTCH

Life goes on as usual. Had a surprise visit from William Ledingham, now in his 80's. I haven't seen him since he was a boy of 15. Still more or less in control of my own life. Keeping fairly well.

MRS JULIA MacADIE (FRASER)

Still in Learning Support in Kingussie High. Younger son, Duncan engaged, working in IT in Edinburgh. Older son, Iain - in IT in Aberdeen. I'm Lady Captain of Newtonmore Golf Club, Ladies' section. Rest of extended family - no change since I last completed this form. I'm looking forward to retirement!! The sooner the better - though it would be early!!

SIMON MacAULAY

Assistant General Secretary of the Educational Institute of Scotland (EIS). Exceptionally

busy time following the McCrone Agreement on Scottish Teachers' pay, conditions and professional development - life is never dull!!

ELIZABETH M McCLELLAND (LAWRENCE)

Having had cataracts removed from both eyes last year, it's amazing what I can now see. It's made such a difference, especially when reading to my grandchildren. My hobbies are knitting, gardening and walking my dog "Shona". She's now 11 years old and is getting slower (just like her owner).

DEREK McCULLOCH

2002 saw another two major milestones in my life. The first was an opening of a new 9 hole golf centre at Aboyne Loch. The culmination of three years work (evenings and weekends) Thank goodness for the winters when the grass stopped growing! The second was my children - Caroline and Craig both graduated within a month of each other. I'm still waiting patiently however for a reduction in their maintenance costs!

ALISON McCONACHIE (GRANT)

Now a full time playleader at Culsalmond and still keep my hand in at nursing with the odd bank shift at Inch. We are both full time taxi drivers for the children!

GORDON McCONACHIE

Only real changes from last year is that I am now on the Scottish Branch Executive Committee for Prospect (Union for Professionals and Managers). Still looking after the paperwork for farmers.

JAMES MacDONALD

Once again we thought we would escape the English winter by going first to visit friends in Australia and then cruising home. Lovely in Sydney, cold in Japan and it snowed in China - out of the frying pan and into the fire. When in Beijing we wondered why people were wearing masks. Hay fever was the reply and this in the middle of winter! SARS was unknown to us at this time but obviously the Chinese knew all about it. Vietnam and Thailand were pleasant, Bombay should be seen once and no more. Then came the Middle East just as the war started. Dubai was cancelled but but we still managed the Red Sea, the Valley of the Kings, St Catharines Monastery in Sinai and Cairo. Then we felt almost at home in the lands of the Euro. We arrived home on 8th April to be met with boxes of bedding out plants and life became normal once again.

SUSAN MacDONALD (LOW)

Children now in Primary 2, 3 and second year at High School. Boys (Stuart and Callum) learning chanter and piano respectively. Kirsty very much enjoying music, now playing oboe, piano and learning the flute (wouldn't it be lovely to be their age again..) can't wait until they start busking! I'm still working with Lothian and Borders Police and Alistair is working close to home. Both grannies still come to visit (and childmind) frequently. Get to see a lot of Douglas and his family now that they have moved to Edinburgh.

GORDON MacGREGOR BSc FEIS

Rector at Alyth High School until August '95 (now moving into my ninth year of retirement after completing 40 years service). Daughter Mrs Lynn Smith was the

recipient of a high school accolade when she was presented with the Teacher of Year award by the Faculty of Nutritional Research (Aberdeen University) as the result of her development of the Home Economics Department in Brazien High School where she is the prime teacher. My grandson Gordon won the Junior Masterchef for Scotland and over the winter has appeared on TV. I am still "fiddling on" in the Scottish Fiddle Orchestra and play for many charity functions throughout the winter.

DOUGLAS McINNES

I retired last April after 29 years at Millburn Academy, Inverness. When I was at Braidfield High School, Clydebank I thought that 8 1/2 years was too long in one school. Margaret retired too so we are having lots of holidays - Italy, Croatia, Greece, Italy again not to mention the Crinan Canal! I was deprived - I had never been there! We enjoy our ski-ing and have just returned from Italy, where we met some Manchester "lads" - they had a party for one of their number who was celebrating his 73rd birthday! The oldest was 78! We hope we are still ski-ing at that time of life.

REV. JOHN McINNES BD

(see attached)

RACHEL MACKAY (MacROBERT)

Still teaching in Bettyhill with no signs of escape yet.

KEITH McKERRON

Made a second visit to Australia to visit daughter in Melbourne travelling via Singapore and returning via New Zealand and Florida. Spent time in the vineyards of the Murray/Darling area and the Barossa valley. The local brew was most acceptable.

IRIS McINTOSH (FORBES)

Well done, another great magazine. It's just a pity though more of the former pupils don't take five minutes to jot something down!! Even if the news seems trivial to oneself, there are those out there who do enjoy reading the contents. We ourselves had a busy 2002 and spent quite a few weeks away from home, much to the dog's and Mum's dismay. At Eastertime we travelled to Namibia in SW Africa to holiday with friends. Namibia is a very sparsely populated country and I must confess I found the lack of civilisation rather daunting - what if we broke down here, miles from anywhere was a constant worry!! Our older grandson Alistair started school in September, a traumatic day for Grandma and he has just phoned (08-02-03) to say he has his first wobbly tooth. Oh dear where does time go, seems no time since his mother lost her first tooth!

DONALD McINTRYE

website: <http://homepage.ntlworld.com/donald.mcintyre>

Keep active in geology and computing "James Hutton: The founder of Modern Geology" published by National Museums of Scotland. Edited the first newsletter for Prostate Cancer Support Groups, Scotland. 2003. Print music for the College of Piping, Glasgow. Working on a new version of my website at the above address. Teaching computing skills to anyone interested!

RANALD McINTYRE

My collection of sayings and verses is at ward.electricscotland.com/friends/ranald/index.htm Still active in some local (Falkirk) developments, member of the Friends of the Earth Falkirk Branch - always trying to create interest in the Falkirk area. Still interested in computers and the amount of good information about Scotland on the internet. Regards to those who produce the magazine and all connected with the Grantown-on-Spey area.

IAN MacPHERSON

Lamenting the apathy but remembering the happier years of the Clubs. May the revival come soon!

P FERGUS NAPIER

Currently in fourth year of a 5 year MEng Naval Architecture & Offshore Engineering degree at the Department of Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering Universities of Glasgow & Strathclyde. Ten times harder than maths with Mrs Sutherland! Joke (1) have you heard about the corduroy pillow? - it made headlines!! (2) have you heard about the inflatable man? - he had a really annoying inflatable teacher and one day he decided to take an inflatable knife into the inflatable school to teach her a deflatable lesson. She began to tell him off so he stabbed her with his inflatable knife. He then realised what he had done and ran home stabbing the inflatable school with the inflatable knife. Once home the police were arriving so he committed suicide with his inflatable knife. On finding the body the policeman was heard to say "not only has he let his teacher down but his school and most importantly himself"!!

ERNIE & AMELIA (EDWARDS) OAKES

Thoroughly enjoyed the Reunion Dinner. Well done the organisers. Sorry I couldn't join in the golf the following day. Ernie and I are going to the Rhine Valley for ten days in May. We're looking forward to a visit from our daughter Yvonne who lives in New Zealand in August. We haven't seen her since the winter of 2001-2002 when we spent twelve great weeks there. It was reported as the coldest winter for 100 years but the climate suited us pale skins perfectly.

MARGARET OLLASON (MacDONALD)

Have enjoyed a fairly good year and keep quite well on the whole, even if the joints creak a bit! Hope to return to the south of France for a few weeks this year. My French is improving - I hope! Hope all goes well with everyone.

BEATRICE OLIPHANT

I enjoyed meeting up with "old faces" at the Grantown Show last year. A great venue for seeing so many and enjoying the local traditions. I continue to enjoy living and working in Sutherland.

ISOBEL ORFORD (CALDER)

After one of the coldest winters since we arrived here -24c to -34c it was great to see some colourful flowers and green grass when we visited UK in March. Unfortunately we

have to return to Canada before the Reunion, so would like to say Hi! to everyone. Fergus, the town we live in is about one hour north of Toronto, very much a Scottish town where once a year they hold Highland Games, the largest gathering in Canada. The Clan Chief Alan Cameron hosts the Games and Scots attend from all over the world. The town is also twinned with Blairgowrie - all this happens the second week of August. Till next year best wishes to all!

R PHILIP

Brother Raymond's second son, Cameron Philip, getting married in April in Belfast. Hope to be there for that. Then on to Stockholm, Sweden to visit with son, James, who moved there from Budapest, to work.

MRS MONA RAE (GRANT)

Not a lot to report. Life carries on as usual with us all. Fiona, our oldest daughter came home from her travels in Thailand and Australia in February and it's good to have her home after such a long time. The everyday life of teaching in the college is dwarfed by the paperwork, administration, personal development, HMS visits and many other sidelines that make me wonder what it is I'm really supposed to be doing.

SUSAN (GRANT) & DUNCAN RILEY

Duncan and I settled into married life in Grantown - 2 years already!! Glad to have sister Sally back in Grantown. Both the boys Mathew and Daniel growing up far too fast - love their football and golf. So far, so good!!

DAPHNE RITCHIE (DUNCAN)

Usual hectic life of teaching, golf, housework, gardening and childminding for my wee sister Shareon. Her and her husband bought Netherlea (formerly Eunstone) on Heathfield Road, so I was roped in to help with clearing the huge garden of trees and bushes. It has taken the whole summer (and what a wonderful summer it was) and isn't finished yet. We have also had lots of weekend trips to Glasgow to visit Dianne and her spouse in their new abode.

IAN RITCHIE

Just celebrated arrival of first grandson.

WILLIAMINA RITSON (KEITH)

Happy to report Myles and I are still able to get around in our own community. Most days we go to a restaurant and bakeshop run by friends. It is called "Busby's" and one hears mostly Scottish and English accents. Braeden, our great grandson is now 3 and he brightens our days and is proud to tell everyone he is going to be a big brother in June. That was to have been my news for this year but I had a surprise telephone call at the end of January from an old school friend William Ledingham. I had not heard from him since we left school and went our different ways. Needless to say we chatted for over an hour and we have since exchanged pictures of our swimming classes in the Elgin baths where we went every Saturday to earn our bronze medallions. Still keep in touch with my dear friends Margaret Ollason and Alice McCurdy (King). Thanks to all who keep "the mag" alive. Best wishes to all F.P.'s

MARGARET A ROSS (with apologies as this was omitted from 2002 magazine)

A dream come true! Over recent years I have watched with interest, the work going on to extend the Strathspey Railway to Broomhill Station. On Friday 31 May 2002, my sister, brother-in-law and I were guests at the official opening of the extension - travelling by train from Aviemore to Broomhill. On arrival there we watched the cutting of the golden ribbon across the door, opening the station building. The surrounding area was beautifully decorated with golden broom. My sister and I along with Mr R Campbell, who in his youth worked for a time at the station, were invited to cut the beautifully decorated cake. The next day we were joined by the younger generation who had travelled from Jersey, Glasgow and Dingwall. We now had a total of nine adults and four children! The train journey was repeated. A happy time was had by all and some lovely interesting photos were taken. I would hope that all FP's who periodically come home on holiday in summer, will take a run on the railway. Nothing can compare with the sound and smell of the smoke of an old engine. When I was a GGS pupil I travelled by bus into school and home by train. Quite a long hike from school through town to what I'd call the L.M.S. rail station! In those days, trains ran to time unless exceptionally heavy "snow on the line" in the area of the Dava Moor!! On opening day we returned to our Nethy Bridge Hotel in time to see my sister and me on "Reporting Scotland" on TV. A number of our friends recognised us!! Now, once again, I can say that we were the "Railway Children" of Broomhill, which was closed and now re-opened.

MAIRI ROSS

Working for Communities Scotland in Inverness. Enjoying the fact that the children are growing up a bit and I have time to start hobbies again. Did a major charity trek to South Africa in 2002 and raised over £6,500 for an Aids charity, which was a great achievement. I'd love to hear from some of my old classmates, especially now as my best friend from school, Rona Wallace has gone to New Zealand!

MRS CONSTANCE P SHAW (GORDON)

Bank Officer retired. Was terribly sorry to miss the Biennial Dinner again this time as I am still suffering from leg ulcers. Best wishes to all FP's.

Dr ELIZABETH SHOESMITH (STUART)

My sister Rita (Margaret Stuart) is now in Burma (Myanmar). She went from Macau to Kazakstan for two years. Jorge is now in UNICEF and she works for them too. The best way to contact her is by e-mail as the telephone is unreliable. We have had an eventful year. I had a kidney transplant courtesy of my sister Ann in August and we have both fully recovered. All the visitors and enquiries from Grantown folk were much appreciated especially by Mum. Everything has gone well and I have a new lease of life. Mairi and Ross and Ross's sister Marion were particularly supportive with accommodation and transport in Edinburgh. In October we had a family lunch for Mum's 90th birthday and Rita and Ann made a surprise visit home. She didn't twig even when I said I had to collect her surprise present off the train in Aviemore. Auntie Jean turned 96 in March. Now very engrossed in the Family Tree. The Stuarts turn out to have been Stewarts and are steeped in rural Aberdeenshire. The Paterson/Grants have been a bit more of a problem but I am now dragging my husband round the cemeteries of Moray, Inverness and Aberdeen. I've been off at a tangent with various relatives' spouses' families too. This seems to be an age thing as I was never particularly interested till I got past 40.

Genetics must have something to do with my interest in knitting and I seem to be the last in a long line of sock knitters (my great great granny was one in the 1881 census). I have also started a vegetable patch - that must be genetic too! Just had a contact through Friends Reunited with Lesley Calder. We were in Mrs Calder's choir together. I've renewed acquaintance with Ellen Grant and Helen Fraser and Jean MacGillivray who is in Aboyne.

MRS ISOBEL SPALDING (GUNN)

Sorry I did not manage to attend the Reunion Dinner in March this year. Neil, my son, who would have taken me up was away at the time. I am hoping to get a visit to Grantown soon. Neil and Hazel are just back last weekend from a 3 week holiday touring around Europe. I enjoy a good chat on the phone to Betty Grant (Glencairn) from time to time. She keeps me up to date with news and is a great help when my memory fails me. I can still get about, but suffer a lot of pain with my osteoporosis - take each day as it comes.

ANNE SPEIRS (URQUHART)

I have two sons, Jamie and Colin. When the boys started secondary school I went to college and gained HNC in Child Care and Education and have been working as a nursery nurse with pre-school children at the Royal School of Dunkeld since 1998.

THOMAS B STUART

Nothing of note to report this year. Thoroughly enjoyed my first Biennial Reunion in more than 50 years. Many thanks to Bill Templeton and all the others who had a hand in organising it.

ALISTAIR SURTEES

I find it hard to believe that it is 61 years since I left Grantown to look for work in London. It was either coming to London or taking a job in the Co-op. I think I made the right choice. I enjoy my visits to Grantown although the journey is getting a bit much for me now. I am off to Tunisia in July to stay with friends.

ELSPIT SUTHERLAND (McINTOSH)

Delighted to get some contact with the FP Club. I thought it had folded! Am still very busy and involved in the community. With 5 grandchildren the demands on the Garlyne are greater. We have to fit in but still manage our regular visits. It is lovely catching up with old friends and having the chat - plus of course introducing the grandchildren to my childhood haunts. Good luck with your endeavour to keep the flag flying - well done!

JIM THOMSON

Still enjoying retirement, still dancing, still bowling, still doggie sitting. A long lost cousin contacted me after umpteen years through Friends Reunited web site! Amazing!

BILL & RITA TEMPLETON (MARSHALL)

Not a lot new since last year. We have become real gadabouts though and have given up the idea of "going on holiday" - after all what does one have a holiday from when retired!! Having been retired for fifteen years now we have "breaks" and this past year

have had short holidays in Skye in March, then Oban in April followed by our usual two weeks touring Ireland in May when we again sampled a number of Irish Golf Courses. In July we had some ten days in the Borders and Northumberland followed by a quick four days in Fort William in September. Just to wind up the season we have planned a week in Aberdeen in October - but this will not be a "break" as such because we shall be minding two of our grandchildren during the school holidays. Golf still plays a big part in our lives - especially when away from home. Rita loves walking round the courses - I spoil the walk by trying to play!

MRS T S B THOMSON (MORTIMER)

How true it is that as you get older time seems to pass more quickly than ever. Certainly I feel that 2002 took no time at all to reach its end. I kept hoping that the next day would produce better weather than the previous day. A bit of a forlorn hope in this corner of Fife, which usually enjoys fairly good weather, and so that was maybe the reason - wishing the days away. As a matter of interest, I hear each year at Christmas from Ruth Knopping (nee Mathieson) who attended school with my sister Marion in the "early forties". She keeps asking me if I know the whereabouts of a Billy Campbell (ex banker, Grantown-on-Spey). Don't know if he was an ex pupil or not. I'm not able to help her but if any FP "out there" knows anything I'm sure that she would be delighted to have any news. She lives in Natal, RSA and her address is in the magazine. Best wishes for the wellbeing of the Clubs and grateful thanks to all who strive to keep it going.

HUGH TULLOCH

With Hildegard was happy to attend John and Shona Wright's golden wedding anniversary in March 2001 in Cambridge, Ontario. The following month I flew to the Biennial Dinner, with much assistance from Ada and David Wilson. Avoiding foot and mouth disease in Anagach wood, at the dinner had an attack of foot and mouth with MC, let's hope soon forgiven. Still crewing in summer for races on a Catalina 22, but cruising hull too slow.

DEREK WALKER

Recently moved house but not job. Still enjoying life in "sunny" Surrey. Living in the south is taking its toll - I now find anything colder than -5 too cold!

SHERIE WALKER (SUTTON)

I still enjoy my job finding hotels in Europe for a walking holiday company. This year my work has taken me to southern Spain, the Italian Dolomites and in France the Dordoyne and Provence. My thanks to Ian Smith, the source of my enthusiasm for languages! The four offspring are gradually becoming self-supporting, with the oldest Tricia now a qualified lawyer serving articles in Edinburgh. Lucy at 24, is jack of all trades and works in order to fund her world travels. James should graduate with honours in Politics from Strathclyde University this summer, while Alice will enter her second year at Glasgow School of Art studying interior architecture. Fell-walking in the Lake District, where I live is my favourite past-time. I visit Grantown often and it has been a real pleasure bumping into friends from the past recently.

JAY WARD

First grandson (Jonathan) now the light of my life! I can see retirement on the horizon

now. A time to lower my golf handicap which is now in double figures for the first time in 20 years. Currently I am President of local Bridge Club, but playing this game badly as well! Travel in GB is still a major part of my job, responsible for Field Sales of brands such as Typhoo, Hartley, Roses, Chivers, Cadbury Beverages and Loyd Grossman.

MRS ADA WILSON

Enjoyed teaching two Italian military English - demanding five hours a day for a month each. They appreciated all the meals as long as they were pasta! Still struggle to learn Polish - reminiscent of Latin with all its case - vocative, accusitive, Dative, Genitive etc. - genders, or adjective agreements - and the memory has worn thin over the years! A new London granddaughter (India) - grandchild eight - her uncles ring up and ask after the little popadum - can't be too traditional these days!

AUDREY WILSON (MURRAY)

I am kept busy as I am now back teaching full-time after having our second daughter last year. Annaliese was born on 29th January 2002. She keeps us all busy! It's a case of the "terrible T's" in our house - a teenager just finishing her standard grades and a toddler intent on climbing everything in sight! Sadly my father died last year too in April 2002 so our year was tinged with sadness. It is always nice to visit Grantown and the surrounding area. It has changed such a lot - sometimes I hardly recognise some places!! My age must be telling me something! Regards to all.

ALAN WRIGHT

Still living in London. Am an Associate Partner with Accenture - Management Consultants. Spend much of my time travelling between the US and the UK. Alasdair (my son) is now 6 and keeps me fit chasing after him and ferrying him between Beavers, tennis and swimming lessons.

HERBERT JOHN & SHONA (CALDER) WRIGHT

It was with great interest that I pored through the 2002 magazine, passed on to Shona through her sister Isobel. I took her to task for saying she had nothing to report, but I soon had a rapid answer, pointing out that at least she had written and bought the magazine, so I resolved to do better in 2003, hence the present message. Harking back to last year's magazine I was very sorry to learn from Iain Burgess that his aunt had passed away. Although we had not been in touch in recent years, I acted as best man when Jean married Ken Lugg back in late '47 or early '48. Reading the note from Margaret Cropp (Templeton) brought back a memory. I wonder if she recalls a production of Quality Street (I think), where most of the names she recorded had parts, I, being only a lowly third former was in complete awe of these senior pupils. I had a part in the play ... that of the dunce in the dame's school! I had a very good photograph of the cast, but it has disappeared in the course of many moves. Life here in southern Ontario is very pleasant, although the winters are a bit severe! We are fortunate enough to have both our sons and their families living within half an hour's drive, and Shona's sister and her husband plus one of her sons and his family about forty-five minutes away, so we don't lack for family life. In the winter season there is a good social life, including tickets to the "pop" series with the excellent symphony orchestra. I also spend quite a bit of time attempting to paint watercolours, and teaching a beginners' class at the local seniors' centre. At the beginning of May we head up to our summer place on the shores of Lake Huron where

we are members of a golf club and enjoy ourselves flailing away at a little white ball! Before the summer season opens, we might drive down to Myrtle Beach in South Carolina. Apart from miles of golden sand beach, it boasts about one hundred golf courses .. a very popular place with golfers. Lots of English accents to be heard nowadays, with tour groups from the UK. PS Jean Paterson was friendly with my parents for many years and knows all family history details.

NEW RECRUITS

Daniel Baxter, Ballintuim, Dorback, Nethy Bridge PH25 3EE - career intentions - Computing at Edinburgh University, Tall Ship Sailing

Sarah Ransome, The Annexe, 23 Pullers Lane, Petersfield, Hampshire - studying at University in Edinburgh (Psychology) then becoming an officer in the Navy.

Daniel G A Carington-Smith, 30 Lynstock Crescent, Nethy Bridge PH25 3DX - product designer after University.

Fiona Mary Smyth, Chapelton Steading, Boat of Garten PH24 3BU - studying sports therapy HND at Edinburgh Telford College

Douglas Scott, Ivy Cottage, Dell Road, Nethybridge PH25 3DG - gap year. Strathclyde University for Mechanical Engineering, Royal Marines Officer.

We also welcome Hugh C Grant, 21 The Square: Olinda, 19 Suttiside Road, Forfar DD8 3FL

OBITUARY (We apologise for any omissions.)

Mrs Isabel Squires (Moyes) (formerly of Lilac Cottage) latterly of 7531 3rd Avenue Laval West Provence, Quebec, Canada.

(Contributed by Edna Savage)

In memory of a dear friend who died on 29 April 2002 aged 100 years
Isa Squires, who was with me and my family, friend, mother, grandmother, confidant, good listener, generous, compassionate, brave and courageous and because she loved the Lord and had complete trust in the shed blood of Jesus Christ for her sins, she in turn could have great compassion towards man or beast in her daily walk in her road towards Heaven, where the physical pain she endured, tears she shed over loved ones gone on before, the struggle with dimming eyesight, walking with a walker, depending on pills and on others all passed away now and she is now in her Mansion that Jesus promised her. I have prayed that the view from her mansion is of the Cairngorm Mountains, the heather clad hills and the silver shimmering of the River Spey, all of which she longed to see once again. So in closing I thank you folk for letting me talk a little, not really enough to do her life justice, she truly was a remarkable woman. Though she left her dear

Scotland, it never left her heart or speech.

Mrs B Brookbank, (Mrs Margaret Mackintosh), formerly The Larches, Dulnain Bridge and latterly P O Box 36 Kilifi Coast Province, Kenya

Sympathetic mention to

Derek Walker and Fiona Dingwall on the death of their father.

Albert M Hastings on the death of his wife Betty.

T Jennie E Mathieson on the death of her mother Helen.

TWO DREADFUL TRADEGIES (contributed by JRA)

Margaret Ledingham lived with her family in the same area - close to the Episcopal Church - as the Patersons and the Laings. She had an older brother and a twin brother. Sadly, on 23 August 1928, when aged five, she wandered out on to the road, was knocked down by a car, and died instantly. With so few cars around, probably, Grantown's first motoring fatality.

In 1927 the Silver family lived at Broom Cottage - the house across the road from Craggan Mill. On a lovely Saturday morning in June, the parents went by train to spend the day at Nairn. The three sons were given one strict order - NOT to go bathing in the Spey. Sadly they disobeyed, and two of the boys were drowned. One of these two was in my class at school. I rarely pass the house without remembering this awful tragedy.