

Jan 5 **Waste water at your peril** - Buckie was suffering from the perennial problem that of a shortage of water, with people known to be wasting such being liable to prosecution.

Advertisers on the front page were – the Little Wonder; E.Smith, Findochty; John Mathieson, Draper, West Church Street; Bill Forbes, Barber; Masson, Tobacconist 25 West Church Street, Tom Paterson, Grocer; J & A Wiseman, Hairdressers; Cleanhill Dairy, John Mair, Draper, Portknockie, Robertson, Draper, Cullen; A.Imlach, Grocer, High Street; Sutherland, Boots and Shoes, 21 West Church Street.

Enzie Amateur Dramatic Society . put on another performance on Wednesday and Thursday of the previous week. The performance on Wednesday was four one act plays, while on Thursday the play was Tullycain, a three-act play.

Those taking part were – L.Duthie, Miss A.Corr, Frank Reid, Mrs B.Thain, John Hendry ,R.Mustard, Miss J.McCurrach, Mary Duncan, T.Reid, Mary Adams, W.Goldie, Miss Catherine Paterson Mrs L.Forbes,A.Newlands,Isabel Adam, Alex Paterson, James Ronald, John Bonnyman, George Grigor, Mrs E.Geddes,.Miss Dolly Guthrie, Miss Dolly.McCurrach, Miss Sarah Forbes, James Thain, Willie Potts, Charles Taylor.

The producers were – Miss A.Corr, Mr P.Urquhart and Mr John H.Duncan.

Some of the actors took part in more than one play.

The stage managers were – John Gordon and James Adams. John Bonnyman was in charge of the stage lighting while the costumes and scenery was made by the dramatic society. Dr Gibson, Buckie saw to the make up.

Music was provided by Alex Bruce on the piano and brothers Willie and Jimmy Duncan, Broadley .

Maybe he was hoping someone would buy him a bottle - The columnist, 'Wilderness' mentioned that one could buy a bottle of Macallan (proof whisky) for 18/6 or a bottle of Bells 'Afore Ye Go' for 12/6 at the Globe, Grocers, on East Church Street.

An Elgin joiner was fined for using a wireless without a license. This was the **first time** that this had been seen.

Jan 12 **The inaugural meeting of Buckie Labour Party took place this week** and held in the Morven Hall on Cluny Terrace.

The Mayfair Dance Orchestra, with selected musicians from throughout the north east, were advertising their services.

Aberdeen Savings Bank opened a branch on Cluny Square in premises formerly occupied by another bank that had closed down some time before.

A fire engine, the first, to be bought - After differences of opinion when debating the matter the T.C. decided to purchase a Dennis fire engine at a cost of £982.10 together with four lengths of hose costing £18.

A tractor ploughing match took place at Spey Bay. Was this the first one, one might ask?

The statistics for the parish of Rathven for 1938, including Enzie and Portgordon with a comparison of year 1937 were -

1938	Births	M. 120	F. 123	Total	243
1937	"	M. 137	F. 126	Total	263
1938	Deaths	M. 68	F. 62	Total	130
1937	"	M. 51	F. 81*	Total	132

Note the number of deaths among females in 1937. Why was this?

The oldest male to die in 1938 was 93, female 93

The oldest male in 1937 was 92 and female 96

The overall figures from Portgordon to Portsoy showed a decreasing population in all places along the coast. This, it was said, could be attributed to people moving away as a result of the poor fishing situation.

Jan 19 **The name of the new school in Portessie was changed from Rathven to Portessie** following an appeal by the Ratepayers Association.

What does the word mean? - The B. A. spoke of the Buckie Labour Party being reformed yet in an earlier edition it said that the meeting in the Morven Hall was the inaugural one.

Baillie Milton presided at the Labour Party meeting and was elected president, George Taylor as vice president, secretary and treasurer, John W. Simpson, Findochty.

Committee - Mrs Geo. Taylor, Mrs A.Thomson, Mrs Newlands, Mrs Calder.

A branch shop - John Sandison, Draper, 22 East Church Street, took over the draper's business of Mrs Nicol, widow of Alex Nicol at 14 High Street. (This business at one time was owned by Leith Esson.)

Richard A.Grant, Baron Street Garage, signed the Trust Deed.

Death of draper - The death took place of Thomas M.Jack, Draper 37 East Church Street.

Football 'Scottish' Cup - Nithsdale Wanderers 1 Buckie Thistle 1 in the Scottish Cup. At Sanquhar, Dumfries

The opening of the reconstructed Lady Cathcart Episcopal School took place this week by Mrs Claeson Gordon, Cluny Castle, superior of Buckie. The cost of the work plus the furnishings amounted to £4,000

They still had it right - Lhanbryd was still being spelt without an e at the end. When did this practice end one might ask?

He had two branch shops - George Sutherland Shoe Shop at 21 West Church Street had branch shops at both Portgordon and Findochty.

Feb 2 **The Thistle came good at home** - Buckie Thistle 4 Nithsdale Wanderers 1 in the replay of the 'Scottish' Cup tie
The Thistle team was - Wood, Jas and John Bowie; Logie, F.Smith and Middleton; Bain, Ross, Burnett, Cormack and Duncan.

A three masted sailing schooner, the Penola of London, unloaded a cargo of timber at Buckie this week.

The place hid gaun feel wi Burns Suppers - The whole of page 6 was given over to reports on Burns Suppers that took place at several venues.

Feb 9 **Adam Anderson Fishmerchant signed the Trust Deed.**

Still going well in the 'Scottish' - Buckie Thistle beat Blairgowrie by four goals to one in the second round of the Scottish Cup at Victoria Park after drawing the first game. There was a gate of 3,000

If anyone should ask, the Morven Hall stood at the top of Calders's Steps and under Morven View

Feb 16 **The Ex-Servicemen's Hall was re-opened after quite extensive renovations.** (Did the British Legion not take over the hall ?)

Feb 23 **Mrs A.M.Brookman took over the business of her late father T.M.Jack,** The Little Wonder, at 37 East Church Street.

The end of the line - Buckie Thistle 0 Third Lanark 6 in the 3rd round of the Scottish Cup.

I remembers that I was most disappointed to have been left behind when all the men folk at the Bush farm, Keith, in Mr Allan's new car left to see the match. I was nine at the time. There was a gate of 7,000.

The Buckie team was - Murray, Jas and John Bowie; Logie, F.Smith and Middleton; Bain, Ross, Burnett, Cormack and Duncan.

Mar 2 **Opening announcement** - James Reid, 1 Cluny Terrace, Second Hand Furniture Dealer.

Tenders invited for the reconstruction of St Peter's School

Road accident claims the life of local man - *Councillor John Moar died of injuries sustained following a car smash at the junction of the Portknockie road with the A98 on Saturday, while a passenger in the car driven by his son, enroute to Banff to watch Buckie Thistle play Deveronvale.*

New column - 'Looking things Over' by Rambler.

Webster's Garage was selling an Austin Eight 4-door saloon at the price of £139.

Mar 9 **Two Buckie men in Inverness team** - Jimmy Smith 'Jimmicks' played for Inverness Thistle the previous Saturday. John Milne, another ex Thistle player was in the same team.

Clap on the back for business acumen - The auditor praised Buckie Town Council for their business acumen in acquiring Strathlene House and estate.

Gray's Millbank Garage was advertising the New Vauxhall 12 De luxe model for sale at a cost of £198.

'The Day's Work by Spike' The start of a new column that was to continue on until 1999 and likely further.

A big night out for the grocers - The staff of Lipton's Grocers was to hold their annual dance on Wednesday 22 March. (Their shop was at 19 High Street.)

A bird in the hand - A big change from ironmongery and household furnishings - E.Tindall Scott and Co. were advertising a large bird display of singing canaries, budgies, etc with all kinds of bird food and requirements.

***** **In the Banffshire Schoolboy's team the following Buckie High School pupils were chosen** - P.Reid, A.Imlach, J.Slater, W.Hendry, J.Garden and J.Farquhar.

Mar 30 **Application for pub licenses** - James Clelland (late of the St Andrews Hotel) made application for the public bar license of the Harbour Bar, Main Street. George Milne, Elgin, did likewise for the Star Bar at Bridgend.

Cup Final win for Buckie - Buckie beat Peterhead to take the Aberdeenshire County Cup. The team was - Murray, Bowie and Bowie; W.Ross, F.Smith and Logie; Allan, Bain, Calder, Cormack and Duncan.

Columnists - Spike, Observer, Critic and Rambler. **Wilderness was the pen name of John Moar whose death, by accident, was reported some weeks previously**

A poem is found on page 8 column 3 "Soliloquay" by Philosopher

April 6 **Former stables to be fire station** - Plans were submitted for the reconstruction of the building on Railway Terrace, first built as stables for the horses of the T.C., to house two fire engines.

Apr 13 **Cabinet making is going out of fashion locally** - The House Furnishing business of Robert B. McKenzie, at 28 East Church Street was up for sale. Like Nicol Bros. on High Street, McKenzie and a partner originally started up in business as cabinet makers, producing their own furniture for sale. Another business originally in this line was A. Geddes and Son, Portessie who later became more involved in carpentry and joinery work.

Some adverts at this time in the B.A. were - Charles Nicol, Painter, Cluny Square; J. & A. Wiseman, Hairdressers 16a Cluny Square; Tom Paterson Grocer, High Street; The Little Wonder, 37 East Church Street; The Photographic Studio, Portessie owned by Mr Ali. Mohammed; Gibson, Chemist, 12 West Church Street; Rome Innes, Chemist, Cluny Square; Edward Fraser, Chemist, 5 High Street; Donald McGregor, F.C.O. Optician, Jeweller and Watchmaker, 9 High Street. Donald McGregor still occupied the same shop in 1999 and up until 2004, **being one of only two shops in Buckie that had been in the same family for over 100 years. The other was the Banffshire Advertiser owned by the Johnston family.**

A National Service Rally took place where different organisations were represented, including the ARP Fire Service, Woman's Voluntary Services, and Territorials. The purpose of the rally was to bring home to people what each one did and what support they were calling for.

Apr 20 **A boating pond, putting green tennis courts etc** - There was strong support among the town councillors for a boating pond in the valley of the Buckie Burn also for a putting green, tennis courts and flower beds on the Queen Street Park.

Apr 27 **More on the proposed boating pond.** The debate regarding the proposed boating pond continued at this week's Council meeting. It was being said that such a feature would do much to enhance the reputation of Buckie as a leading tourist resort. The proposed site for the pond was in the valley of the Buckie Burn along side Queen Street Park.

***** **Not everyone in the town was in favour of spending money on the construction of a boating pond** as could be read from letters to the B.A. One letter said how the **Coronation Den project had never been completed, one requiring to be a mountaineer to get down on to the path at either end**, so why spend money on a boating pond.

There seems to be no end to the Co-op expansion - Recently the Co-op had advertised that they had opened a hardware and clothing department they were now advertising that they had engaged a qualified optician.

***** **Gordon Castle, Fochabers**, which was now lying empty following the taking over of the estate by the Crown, the family moving away and the huge dispenish sale, was to be let unfurnished. The castle contained then 120 rooms and ten bathrooms. In addition there was a nine hole golf course adjoining, a kitchen garden and orchard which were all included.

Accident to apprentice - Sammy Turner, 16, an apprentice engineer with John H. Duncan, suffered a broken arm and leg after going up a ladder and becoming caught in the shafting. He was conveyed by ambulance to Chalmers Hospital in Banff but not until almost two hours had elapsed. There were no ambulances in Buckie and the Portsoy one was unavailable so that they had to await one coming from Banff. During the wait Sammy was treated by Dr Boyd. (Although Sammy's arm was never completely right afterwards it did not stop him from playing a lot of football, most often in goal, and working for many years at Inchgower Distillery. He built his own house at Arradoul and called it Cando.)

May 4 **E.Tindall Scott and Co. was advertising a Goblin carpet cleaner.** This was the first time that any type of cleaner had been advertised in the B.A. He was also advertising the sale of combination grates.

Closing down - R .B.McKenzie, House Furnisher, 28 East Church Street, was advertising he was closing down and was holding a sale.

A Fitness School -Mention was made of Gordon Castle becoming a Fitness School for both men and women during the summer months.

Dod Osborne to make sea voyage - Skipper George Osborne, the Buckie-born seaman of Girl Pat fame or notoriety, said at Grimsby that his plans for another sea voyage with a party of 24 were nearly complete. The proposed trip was to begin at the end of May and last for nine months during which time they would sail across the Atlantic and partially up the River Amazon. The cost of the trip per person was £150.
See page 3 column 6.

**** **New use for railway station** - The 50 year old railway station at the Highland Railway Station was bought by Buckie Town Council dismantled, transported and re-erected at Strathlene Golf Club to be used as a club house. It was used for this purpose for many years afterwards.

May 11 **We've shifted, but nae far** - W.A.Milne, Newsagent and Tobacconist, moved across the street into 15 East church Street, next door to Hepworths.

No evacuees - Duff gen caused Portessie folk to go to the railway station to wait the arrival of evacuees. There were none.

Two 'Terriers' football teams were given the named players being - French, Green and Geddes; J.Smith, Lawson and A.Campbell; Fraser, J.Campbell, J.Mair, John Legge and Shearer.

J.A.Clark, Green and J.Mair; Findlay, W.Lyon and A.Geddes; Smith, Campbell, J.Legge, Calder and McIntosh.

May 18 **What a price noo for oor smokes** - The budget saw 2/- per lb put on tobacco. Cigarettes, Gold Flake cost 5d haepenny for 10 or 11d for 20.

On page 2 column 1 one finds an article titled "A Wail From Buckpool" all about evacuees.

***** **The following story was recounted in the House of Commons - Marriage After Four Dances at Buckie - Echo of Buckie 'Gretna' marriage.**

May 25 **Another shopkeeper chose to move** - George Bruce, Stationer and Tobacconist, 28 East Church Street moved to 18 East Church Street into the shop vacated by W.A.Milne.

Pilgrimage to Orton - - Large crowds of Roman Catholics from Buckie joined with fellow adherents on a pilgrimage to the holy well of St Mary's at Orton.

A Guaranteed Wage- Proposals were being made to bring in a guaranteed wage scheme for fishermen.

I've got some spare 'daffie' bulbs - The laird of Cairnfield offered 400-500 bulbs for the Linzee Gordon of Queen Street Park to help in the flower bed scheme.

They were still on about the boating pond - The great debate on the proposed boating pond took up some time yet again at the latest meeting of the Town

Ernie Boyd moved from Farnachty to the farm of the Hillocks where his brother had been formerly. He left to be farm manager for Mrs Taylor at Connage.

Wm. Milton went from Tynet Croft to Auchenreath

Lhanbryd was till being spelt without the letter e at the end. When was this first added?

Buckie Rovers took the Brown Cup (at one time called the Sunlight Cup) when they beat Findochty by 3 goals to one.

Arradoul smiddy changes hands - Robert G.Young, farmer, Arradoul, disposed of the smiddy at Arradoul to Edward Cranna, Horse Shoer and General Blacksmith.

Announcement - Dan Calder, Radio Repairs, any make, Baron Street.

The farm of Upper Auchenreath, Tynet, was taken over by Anderson who moved there from Mosstowie. They must have been very well respected there for on leaving Mr Anderson was presented with a gold watch while Mrs Anderson received a chromium tea trolley and a silver-backed brush and comb set.

Buy a Vauxhall 10 from the Millbank Garage (Gray) for £163.

Only a small number apply -The number of applicants for a place on the **Fitness School at Gordon Castle** was disappointing with only 100 names being received when 200 had been the number hoped for. The training periods were planned for periods of 14 days at a maximum cost of £7 per course, but this could be as low as £2.10. One was being asked to pay what they could afford. Above this travelling expenses had to be met. For men the course involved physical training, running, boxing, climbing and highland dancing and for women, health exercises games and country dancing. During the evenings there would be ceilidhs and dancing. The courses were planned to run from July 15 until Aug 12.

The new postmaster at Buckie was to be James Kerr taking the place of A.M.Campbell who planned to retire.

A poem is found on page 7 column 6 titles - "Lochan Dubh" by Seamus Macgaraidh,

June 8 **New janitor appointed at B.H.S.** The appointment of the new head janitor to replace Harry Brookman, who has retired, did not go down well with many people in Buckie especially when it meant the assistant janitor, with nine years service, being passed over. The appointee was George McIntosh VC with J.A.Penwright being overlooked. A number of letters has been received on the subject.

June 15 **Lord John Sanger's Circus is to pay a visit to Buckie.** (This was the first circus that I ever saw when it visited Keith the week before, when my mother gave me the sixpence entry money. My two older sisters were on holiday somewhere. I can remember some of the acts even yet.)

Welfare League cup winners – County Cup – Mosstodloch
Brown Cup - Rovers
Commercial Shield – Findochty
Duncan Shield - Findochty

The league champions had not yet been decided as Findochty and Portgordon, both equal on points, drew 3-3 in the first play off. There was no time to play for the Thomson Cup as most of the players were now at sea.

The players who took the eye in the Welfare League during the season were – G.Tough, Mosstodloch; W.Cowie, Buckie Rovers; Clark, Garden and Slater all Findochty and Cantlay, Portgordon.

***** **The Highland League** - The number of teams in the Highland League for the start of season 1939/40 was up to 15 with the inclusion of a team from RAF Kinloss.

June 22 **High School Magazine** - The new Buckie High School magazine was now on sale at a cost of 6d.

***** **Buckie Naval reservists went off for service** with 10 men answering "calling up day" and reporting to Chatham. This was the first batch of men required to report at various army and navy depots throughout the country for service
"The length of service will in no case exceed 3 months" Oh yeah! It was something like six years before some of the men were to return.

The Enzie Farm Servant Union held their AGM in the school with Charles Taylor elected chairman, John Robertson delegate to district meetings; Wm. Ewen, Wellheads as secretary.

Ninety boats left for the summer fishing. A complaint was registered in the B.A. regarding the noise made by their whistles as they left the harbour in the middle of the night. The writer mentioning the effect this had on ill people who had their sleep constantly interrupted. As was to be expected an answer letter was printed.

Well worth seeing - The rock garden at the Reaper's Hotel, belonging to Dr Gibson, (now the Highlander Hotel) was reported as being one of the best in Banffshire and well worth seeing. It was opened to the public with entrance fee going to charity.

My sister got one - Among the Banffshire school pupils who were awarded school bursaries was Mary Jane Fraser, Muldearie Cottages, Keith

***** **The honour was shared** - Two pupils, Isobel Sandison and Ian Stephen shared the honour of being dux of Buckie High School. The dux of the Primary School was Anita Fraser.

June 29 **'Let us solve your hot water problems** Fit a "Maxol Heater" Call and get a demonstration at the Gas Showrooms at 30 West Church Street.

The Enzie Tennis Club team beat a team from Portgordon by 10 games to 6.
 For Enzie were - Ben Sim and Miss Monica Mclean; Alex McDonnell and Miss Angus; Ian McLean and Miss J.McKay
 For Portgordon- Mr Gray and Miss Green; Mr Mair and Miss Cowie; Mr Coull and Miss J.Hay.

No picnic this year, perhaps the change was better -- Instead of a picnic the pupils of Enzie Public School travelled by bus to Buckie to see a special matinee show in the Playhouse followed by tea in Wright's hall.

As the paper said - "A party of tourists from the North of England arrived and inspected the town before having tea in Fowler's " (In more modern times one reads of Americans 'doing' Scotland in two days.)

Are they thinking that this will encourage bigger crowds? Buckie Thistle are considering the installation of loudspeakers at Victoria Park on which might be broadcast music before the games and at half -time. The P. A. system would also be available for picnics, sports and other functions.

The usual letter was received by the B.A. saying how they ought not to be used.

June 20 **An Enzie Ratepayers Association was formed at Clochan** to serve the quoad sacra parish of the Enzie. It was agreed that something needed to be done to arrest the steady depopulation with improvements to housing being seen as an important factor.

The chairman elected was Mr Alex McLean, Cuttlebrae, secretary, Patrick Urquhart, Schoolhouse, Clochan, Committee – John Bonnyman, Clochan, John H.Duncan, Broadley John Symon, Broadley, John Yeats, Clochan, James Thain, Clochan, Ben Sim, Clochan, J. McCurrach, Jas Geddes, Charlie. Alexander, Slackhead, Charles Taylor, Tynet and J.Fettes.

- Jul 6 **A further tennis court was opened at Strathlene.**
- Jul 13 Another Charities Week planned - As had been the practice now for several years the joint town councils of Buckie, Findochty and Portknockie are to hold a Charities Week centred on Strathlene from the 19 until 26 July. Some members of the Buckie Town Council had suggested that the money raised was hardly worth the effort.
- Very much worthwhile** - Ian Stephen a joint dux of Buckie High School won then Greenshares and Moir bursary in Arts, worth £70, at Aberdeen University.
- Building struck by lightning** - The premises occupied by Mrs McDougal, Grocer, at 2 St Peter's Place, was badly affected by lightning. The ceiling of the shop burst wide open and water gushed in to badly damage quite a lot of goods including sweeties.
- Skipper George 'Dod' Osborne was involved in another escapade** concerning the sale of the trawler 'Shade'. **See page 6 column 3**
- Jul 20 **Fines this week were** – 5/- for cycling on the pavement and 5/- for playing cards on a Sunday on the sandy banks near the Buckpool Golf Course. This was seen to be a Breach of the Peace – disturbing the lieges. (A cynic might have asked whether the golfers were not also disturbing the lieges, whatever that meant.)
- Woman killed on the line** - Mrs Donald, 22 West Street lost her life after being knocked down by a train on the line a little further to the west. She was seen walking on the line by some housewives on Seaview Road shortly before the train came by.
- Jul 27 **Nae abody wis on for Sunday golf** - Though both the Buckpool and Strathlene Golf Courses were open for play on Sunday there was a weighty opinion against this.
- Formation of a Union branch** - A delegate from the National Union of General and Municipal Workers (Scottish District) called a meeting in the Ex Servicemen's Hall on Blairdaff Street when those present agreed on the formation of a branch. George Sinclair, Buckie, was appointed chairman with George Easton, Findochty, secretary.
- Aug 3 **What harm did Peter Fair do?** For the first time probably ever since the first issue of the Banffshire Advertiser it gave no report of Peter Fair in the column given over to Local News nor anywhere in the paper. A fair did take place, however, since there were a couple of thank you notes included in the paper, while a report on the usual fracas at the Rathven Market stance got some coverage.
- Two planes exercising off Lossiemouth collided with three men losing their lives. One of the pilots was a corporal.** Later all pilots were at least sergeants. Wreckage from the two planes along with one body was found strewn along the coast with pieces coming ashore near the Yardie and Findochty.
- Aug 10 **The members of the Buckie Scouts had a camp at Lhanbryd.**
- Play equipment for Strathlene** - The Town Council provided play equipment in the form of medicine balls, tenniquoits, rounders, football, stoolball and tennis at both Strathlene and the Linzee Gordon Park.
- The first ever Swimming Gala took place in the Findochty Harbour on Saturday 3 August 1939.**
- Gas Masks** - A number of gas masks arrived in Buckie with a number being put together by schoolchildren.

Aug 17 **Notice on the front page of the B.A.** – Buckie and District Welfare Association Annual Supper and Presentation of Trophies will take place in the Commercial Hall on Friday 15 September. Tickets 3/- **(This didn't take place since the declaration of war on Sunday 3rd September intervened.)**

The last class at the Keep Fit School at Gordon Castle ended on Friday with a ceilidh after a successful season. (This wasn't what was said at first when there were so few applicants for the courses.)

Aug 17 **Buckie win their first game** - The first match of the new season in the Highland League began with Buckie Thistle beating Peterhead by 3 goals to one at Victoria Park. The Thistle team was – Wood, W.Ross and T.Bruce; Middleton, F.Smith and Dr Smith; P.Bain, Jas.Smith, Calder, G.K.Cormack and D.Duncan.

The newly started Buckie Brass Band played selections both before the match and at the interval.

Close game against the Dons - On the Monday evening the same team were narrowly beaten by Aberdeen A by 7 goals to 5 in the Dewar Shield. Buckie showed tremendous fighting spirit to come back from being 6-1 down at half time. Jimmy Smith ex Inverness Thistle had an excellent game. Willie Laing was in the Aberdeen side.

Buckie loons playing elsewhere - A note was written which told of the Buckie loons who were meantime with other sides in the Highland League – Peter Murray and J.Hillocks with Deveronvale; Geo 'Dodo'. Hendry and Ian McLean with Keith and Peter Logie with Elgin City.

Aug 24 **Pinder's Circus are to pay a visit to Buckie on Tuesday 29 August** when they set up their 'big top' in the Commercial Park.

Vandalism a vexing problem for the Council - The Town Council were discussing the amount of vandalism that had had taken place at various places throughout the town, at Strathlene, Coronation Den and at the two newly constructed shelters on main Street and Seaview Road.

Accident with gun kills boy - A boy of 10 years old, Thomas Duncan, was killed when playing with a double-barreled shot gun on his father's farm at Pathside, Forgie.

Buckie's new fire engine attended its first 'real' fire when it was called out to deal with an outbreak at the farm of Rannas where a fire started among ricks in the corn-yard. The speed at which it arrived on the scene was noted with the lorry travelling at speeds of 60 mph to get there.

Aug 31

Bill Forbes, Gents Hairdresser, had the following charges -
Scalp massage combined with shampoo - 2/-
Vibre shaving - 1/6
Shaving and hot towel - 6d
Each customer supplied with a fresh towel
Eclpsoil saloon sanitation used on each client.

Two fire trailers arrived in Buckie, supplied under the ARP. The Auxiliary Fire Brigade was under the direction of Thomas Beattie, Burgh Surveyor, who was acting as firemaster. At a number of practice fire drill the men performed with great success.

Put on the white for safety sake - The edges of the pavements and the station platform were to be painted white as a safety precaution in preparation when the 'blackout' was enforced.

It must have been poor stuff - Later letters spoke of the quality of paint being poor and likely to be washed off very quickly, as it was.

RNR called up - 60 men of the R.N.R. from Buckie and locality were summoned to report to their depots and left Buckie on Saturday afternoon to the cheers and shouts of farewell of their relatives. A further 25 left on Monday, 14 on Tuesday with a further 3 on Wednesday. On Saturday they formed up on Cluny Square before marching down the Stroup Brae along Low Street to the station.

So many visitors hotels etc it difficult to cope - During the peak holiday season the hotels and boarding houses in Buckie had been packed with some hotels etc, experiencing overcrowding. Ben Reay had on average 10 visitors each week with other hotels saying business had been very good and the St Andrews reporting their best season yet. **Buckie, it was said, was working its way to becoming the Blackpool of the north.**

1500 more gas masks were distributed in Buckie this week.

Their first ever meeting - Buckie 4 Deveronvale 1 H/L "Buckie Got The Breaks" Wood, Bruce and James Bowie; A.Imlah, F.Smith and Middleton; Bain, W. Ross, Calder, Cormack and Duncan.

Sept 7

The Editor's column spoke of the fateful hour of 11 am on Sunday when the Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain, declared that war had been declared with Germany. The war was to last until August 15 1945 with the defeat of both Germany and her ally Japan.

The morning service in the South Church which began at 3 minutes to 11 only lasted for two minutes when after a brief word or two from the minister, Rev. S.H.R Warnes, the congregation filed out. An ordinary service took place at 3 in the afternoon.

Under war-time regulations the Playhouse Cinema was closed until further notice

A Sale of Work due to be held by the All Saint's Church was Postponed. This applied to all dances and other similar functions with two in Portgordon suffering this fate during the week.

A total black-out had been brought into effect as from the previous Friday, even the essential lights at the harbour entrance.

There was a big run on black out material with shops being cleared out by Saturday. The police were kept busy ensuring that no lights were showing.

The Donaldson Liner, Athenia was sunk through enemy action 200 miles west of Ireland on Sunday night. Among the 1400 passengers on board was a Portessie woman, Mrs Blanche Sutherland who was on her way back to Vancouver after spending a holiday in the town. She was rescued along with Mr and Mrs Duncan Wood and their 12-year-old son who had also been on holiday in Buckie and Lossiemouth.

Pathetic scenes were witnessed at Buckie Railway Station as the 'Terriers' embarked on the train which was to take them to Keith with women and children weeping as their husbands and fathers left. On Monday afternoon 120 men of B.Company, 6th Gordons left the town led by Captain Roddy Johnston.

On Saturday evening and Sunday morning 520 evacuees arrived in Buckie and were billeted locally. A large number of people gathered at the station at 6.15 on Saturday to see the unique group of passengers arrive. It was heart

breaking to see the children, some of a tender age, looking quite bewildered with all that was going on. Mr Mohammed took photographs.

See article in the B.A. on page 4 column 5

Buckie lose at Peterhead - Buckie Thistle travelled to Peterhead where in a H/L match they were beaten by three goals to nil. With 'Kitchie' Cormack already 'called up' James Bowie deputised.

The team was - Wood, Bruce and John Bowie; Middleton, F.Smith and John Coull; Bain, Ross, Calder, Jas.Bowie and Duncan.

Sept 14 Cinema reopened - Chief Constable, Strath gave permission for the Playhouse Cinema to be re-opened.

An appeal went out for old soldiers to join the Banff National Defence Company.

Women were also required for the Women's Auxiliary Air Force aged from 18 to 43.

During the hours of darkness car were allowed to show a 2" gleam on their lamps.

All local schools which had had an extended summer holiday period of a fortnight were to open on Monday 18 September.

Sept 21 **A notice read** - North Church Sunday services to take place at 11am and 3 pm until further notice.

No you will not marry her - Tony Fallone of 5 Seaview Road, Buckpool and Miss Elsie Smith, Elgin, who both worked in a fish restaurant in Elgin, left there on Saturday night to walk to Buckie where they hoped to be married. They reached Fochabers from where they got a lift. The girl's parents hearing of the elopement rushed to Buckie to stop the wedding.

Trawler makes a surprise visit - The four-year-old German-built trawler, Neil Mackay, on its way to the fishing off the west coast paid a surprise visit to Buckie where it docked in the commercial basin. It raised considerable interest with some people taking advantage to go aboard to see through her and inspect the engines.

British Summer Time with the clock forward an hour was extended for six weeks.

Oct 5 **A fire took place in the three storey building on North High Street** belonging to A.Grant, Carter that consists of a store with a shop at street level occupied by Samuel Murray, Shoemaker. It is believed that the fire started in the store where hay was kept.

A detachment of the RedCross was raised in Buckie.

No raising of school leaving age meantime - There had been considerable debate, at different levels, concerning the raising of the school-leaving age from 14 to 15; this had now been postponed indefinitely.

Oct 12 **Only a limited number of bus stops** - The problem arising from people trying to stop the bus in the black out was raised, it being agreed that this could be greatly resolved if passengers were only be picked up and set down at agreed stops. One of the stops was in Buckpool, at Duncan's Lane, at the foot of St Helena Brae.

A restricted fleet of 40 drifters was selected by ballot from an area from Portgordon to Portknockie Full naval protection was to be given to the fishing fleet.

Oct 19 **Buckie Thistle agreed to join the Central Highland League** along with teams from Keith, Elgin, Rothes Victoria , Forres and the two RAF stations which were to be called Service A and Service B.

Buckie played a game against a RAF side to win by 6 goals to 3 with the following team - Wood, T.Bruce and John Bowie; J.C.Green, F.Smith and Middleton; Masson, Bain, Calder, James Bowie and Duncan. Referee John 'Dyles' Cowie.

To play Keith - The team chosen to play Keith in the first game of the new competition was - Wood, Bruce and John Bowie; J.C. Green, F.Smith and Middleton; Bain, G.Tough, Calder, A.Imlah and Duncan.

The Thistle won the game by four goals to one with Tough having two goals. George Tough was with Mosstodloch while John Green was with Portgordon in the Welfare League the previous season. Masson who played against the RAF was from Portsoy.

A Portknockie man was lost with the sinking of the Royal Oak at Scapa Flow. He was William John Wood, son of a shoemaker, living at 13 Victoria Place.

No Highland League for a season at least - A meeting of the officials of the Highland League agreed that it be wound up for a season, at least.

***** **They had to travel far** -The present copy of the Banffshire Advertiser carried a note from the B.A. of 1889 that spoke of Banffshire Volunteers being ordered to gather near to Dorking in time of an emergency to join with London volunteers in defence of the Metropolis.

The First of many - 30 men between the ages of 20-22 registered at Buckie this week under the new National Service Act (compulsory conscription). Many men of this age were already in uniform being either Territorials in the RNR or other branches of the services.

Malicious mischief, vandalism, by youths was costing the ratepayers 1 1/2 pence in the £.

Up in arms - The number of letter in the B.A. told of the noise which had erupted when it was learnt of how younger people, both men and women, were being recruited into the Observer Corps for their site on High Street and paid the high sum, as it was then, **1/3 per hour**. The job could have been given to those less able, unemployed or ex service, it was argued.

Those responsible for recruitment said that very few had come forward when volunteers were first asked but it was only now when the rate for the job was known that the noise had arisen.

Nov 2 **There was a continuing number of drifters being requisitioned for war service.**

E.Tindall Scott & Co. were to open a new showroom at 17 High Street. (In 1999 the shop on this site concentrated largely on selling cards of all kinds, birthday etc.

Buckie High School was to have no less than 6 football teams. Three teams being entered for the competition open to boys of 14 and under. Each team to be independent and in competition to one another with a separate teacher as manager. The Herd Cup League was to be played as usual but there was to be no inter county football during the coming season.

Only coast teams, however, to take part in the EIS Cup. Buckie High to have two teams competing.

During the year Louis T Stanky had written a great number of articles which made for interesting reading.

A somewhat rare event - Buckie Thistle at home to Rothes Victoria were beaten by four goals to three.

Nov 9

Buckie team to play Elgin City in the Central H/L was as follows -

Wood, T. Bruce and John Bowie; J.Clark, F.Smith and W.Ross; Masson, Bain, Calder, Tough and Duncan.

The Thistle had their ears to the ground - It had been reported that Buckie were likely to be signing a player with 1st division experience and here he was papered here - J.Clark. Clark, a teacher was stationed at Portgordon with the evacuees. It was said how he had played for Third Lanark, St Mirren, Hibs and Cowdenbeath.

Service A (Kinloss) 1 Thistle 6 Calder had three

No Armistice Service at the Memorial The annual armistice service due to be held at the war memorial on the 11 November was to be discontinued due to circumstances, though a service was to be held in the South Church. (Saturday) On Sunday a united service was to take place in the North Church.

Who has the trowel ? -The Town Council of Portknockie had been discussing the whereabouts of the silver trowel used to lay the foundation stone of the harbour on April 25 1890. It was not known initially who had possession of it. (The final outcome of the matter is not clear since some councillors at the time were keen that it should be returned into the hands of the council)

Nov 23

Lucky escape - Thomas Cook, a boy of nine, was saved from drowning in the Cluny Harbour by David Anderson an apprentice at Herd & McKenzie Shipyard who jumped 12 foot off the harbour wall into 8 feet of water to grab the boy as he was about to go down for the third time.

A book of poems " Sons of the North" published by Miss M.W.Simpson, Friar's House, Elgin is for sale at a cost of 1/- or autographed 1/6.

A review of the book said " What a landscape of sentiment is covered by the author's genius- the ecstasy of marching feet - deep wild joy of the bagpipes and more - a labour of love."

Clark, man of many clubs was a failure - A report on the game between Service B and Buckie Thistle that ended in a win for the service side spoke of J.Clark being a failure. He never played again for Buckie. (Maybe a case of how one should not judge a book by the cover)

On page 4 column 2 one can read an article titled - "Buckie Fisherman's Ordeal in the North Sea".

Keith Grammar 1 Buckie High School 6 - Herd League Cup

The Buckie team was - J.Clark, P.Reid and J.Cowie; G.Sandison, A Imlah and R.Milne; W.Duncan, K.Imlah, P.McKenzie, S.Dawson and A.Watt.

A number of people were charged with showing lights and were fined 10/- for the offence

The gardens at Cairnfield House were open to the public on the Sunday between the hours of 1-4. Entry 6d with proceeds going to the Queens Institute of District Nursing.

Shop open - E.Tindall Scott & Co. opened their new shop at 17 High Street.

A poem is found on page 5 column 3 titled "Portknockies Bow Fiddle " by A.R.

A second poem is found on page 5 column 2 "Youth 1939" by Bulwark - Luton.

Buckie Thistle 3 Keith 1 Central League

Wood, W.Ross and T.Bruce; Bain, F. Smith and A.Imlah; W.Masson, Tough, Duncan, K.Imlah and F.Masson.

During the time of the competition Buckie had lost the services of I, Murray, both Bowies, James Coull Green, John Coull, G.K.Cormack, James Smith and George Calder. They finished up third with 8 points. Rothes Victoria took the title with 14 points.

Dec 7 **Lucky Sweepstake winner dies** - The death took place in Lossiemouth at the age of 38 of James Watt, son of George Watt, Tynet. During his lifetime James Watt had the amazing good fortune to twice win considerable sums in the Irish Hospital Sweepstake.

A memorial tablet to William Donaldson is to be unveiled in the North Church. Mr Donaldson, a former master baker in Buckie, gave the money to have the clock installed in the tower of the kirk.

Dec 14 **Elgin Town Hall was burned down on Monday with damage of £40,000.** It was one of the finest buildings of its kind in the north.

Men were wanted for RN Patrol Services - fishermen and those with similar experiences were required for minesweeping and other patrol duties. The advert told of all the perquisites that went along with the job- uniform, good pay, good food and paid leave.

The local drifter Attain, skipper James Murray was runner up for the Prunier Trophy.

Advert - "LEND TO DEFEND - THE RIGHT TO BE FREE" Open an account with the Aberdeen Savings Bank.

Dec 21 **The B.A carried a photograph showing two local men** - Roy Nicholson, RAF and Lachie Gauld DCM (REPS)

Two local men were commissioned - Bruce P. Thomson, R.S.F. and Robert A. Bruce, K.O.S.B.

The shrinking evacuee population - The number of evacuees in Buckie had greatly decreased from the high number of 306 (Over 500 was quoted originally at one time) there was now only 100 after three months.

The Portknockie Town Council had reached a point of deadlock with respect to the silver trowel that was held by ex Provost Wood who said that it had been given to him.

Dec 28 **Dances everywhere** - After the short period on the outbreak of war when a number of dances were cancelled or postponed there now appears to be dances taking place almost everywhere now with Bill Geddes's band being extremely busy. Curly Mackay from Huntly was also mentioned. Admission to dances range from 2/- to 3/-, with ladies now, in most cases paying the same as men.

The editor's report on the year 1939 had this to say -

A branch of the Aberdeen Savings Bank opened in Buckie and has been very busy and would have been even busier but for the war.

The Anglian fishing with a restricted fishing fleet was highly satisfactory, something which the summer fishing had not been.

Herd & McKenzie launched one boat for a client in Lossiemouth. Cargo trade at the harbour had been very poor since the start of the war.

Work in the building industry had been fairly brisk and Lady Cathcart School has re-opened after extensive re-development while the work at the new primary school on Cathcart Street had progressed steadily. Additions have been made also to St Peter's School. Fourteen council houses have been built at Robert Street in Buckpool. At

Strathlene an additional tennis court was opened while the former Highland Railway Station building had been opened there as a club house for the Golf Club.

The former stables on Railway Terrace had been completely reconstructed to form a fire station while a cleansing station and mobilisation store had been constructed at the new burgh yard.

The house at 4 Hope Street, Portessie was completely rebuilt. A new shop was built for Peta, Hairdresser with extensive alterations to the local branch of the SCWS.

The bairns at Enzie Public School enjoyed a Christmas dinner in the school with sweets prepared by the senior girls. The Edinburgh children, most of who were still in the Enzie were provided with a little pocket money from a donation made by the Lord Provost of the city.

Rathven Church Guild ran a Sale of Work in aid of Church funds and raised the sum of £123 - **the largest amount raised from a similar event for many years.**