

1945

Jan 4 **Buckie Home Guard – 15 and 16 Platoons.** The Social Evening will be held in the Drill Hall on Monday 8. **Uniform to be worn.** Tickets to be had from members of the committee.

Home Guard Meeting - - D' Coy. HG 2nd Banffs Bn. Banffshire, HG Association. Members of 'D' Coy. are invited to attend a Meeting in the Drill Hall, Buckie at 8 PM on Tuesday 9 January, 1945. The Meeting will consider the formation, within the company area, of a Branch or Branches of the above Association, which was instituted on 1st January.

S.S. Fowlie, Major O.C. 'D' Coy.

The British Legion, Buckie and District Branch. The AGM of the Branch will be held in the Central Office, 23 East Church Street on Friday 19 January. Alex Geddes, Chairman.

Lodge Gordons 589 - The installation of new office bearers took place on Friday. O. W. Rodger, Inchgower, was appointed RWM. Mr Rodger, the Brewer at Inchgower Distillery died only three months later.

Skipper's column – ORANGES - He said that the first consignment of oranges to arrive in Buckie for a long time led to long queues.

The question of women elders in the church was being debated. The Skipper was all for them believing that the ban had more to do with prejudice than anything else did.

Jan 11 **Welcome Home** - Functions of different kinds were being held all over the local area in an effort to raise money for the Welcome Fund for returning servicemen and women. In Portgordon this was to take the form of a Whist Drive and Social. While in Buckie the body called then Remembrance and Welcome Home Fund was to hold a dance in the Town House Admission 2/- with Forces 1/6. Music by the Melodymakers Band, from Keith. The same band was to play at a Dance in Enzie Public School on Friday 19 January.

Geddes's Band - It had been noticed that Bill Geddes and his band had not been appearing at dances for some time but now in the first month of January 1945 they were back in full swing. They were to play at three events within the next two weeks.

'A Nicht Wi' Burns' - This event was to take place to raise funds for P.O.W's. (Registered Under Charities Act.)

This to take place in the Town House Hall on January 25, appropriately.

There are to be Recitations, Stories, Dancing and Community Singing. The last was being quite popular at the time.

Soloists – Mrs James Mair, Mrs Grieve, Miss Paterson, Mr Charlie Skinner.

Recitations – Mrs E. Geddes. Piper – Charlie Glennie.

"Haggis an' a' that goes wi' it except the wee drappie".

Please bring plate and fork

Admission 3/6 Forces 2/-

Dancing 10.30 – 1 pm. Admission 2/6 with Forces 1/6. Geddes's Band.

Vital statistics – Buckie 1944; 1943 in brackets .

Births – 202 (206)

Deaths - 92 (114)

Marriages - 72 (61)

Findochty

Births - 23 (36)

Deaths - 14 (14)

Marriages - 5 (7)

Landward

Births - 35 (31)

Deaths - 38 (23)

Marriages - 10 (9)

Meeting At the meeting that took place it was agreed to form a Home Guard Association Branch with a committee being formed.

Killed in action - The parents of Flying Officer Ralph who lived at Whitegates, Longmorn, near Elgin received confirmation that their son previously reported missing on operations **had been killed in May 1944.** A former pupil of Buckie High School he was a pilot with a Typhoon Squadron. He was 25 and married with his wife living in Maidstone, Kent.

Enzie Welcome Home Fund - A Whist Drive and dance was held in the school.

Winners - Ladies - 1st Wm. Adam (acting), 2nd A. Green (acting), 3rd Mr M. Johnston. Consolation - Mrs Stewart.

Winners - Men - 1st George Chatfield, 2nd Pat Murdoch, 3rd George 'Doddie' Allan, Consolation - Willie McGill.

There were 18 tables.

There was a large attendance at the dance where music was played by the Melodymakers, Keith, The MC's were 'Doddie' Allan and Peter Grigor. Mrs McKay and Mr Dod Masson won the Spot waltz.. The function was run under the convenership of Alec 'Paddy' Wyllie, 'Doddie' Allan and Peter Grigor. The sum of £22 was raised towards the Welcome Home Fund.

New Buckie Town Councillor - John Johnston, Printer, was co-opted on to the Town Council. He was appointed with a vote of 6 to 5 over John H. Duncan, Master Engineer, who although a businessman and ratepayer in Buckie lived at Broadley, Clochan.

Life saved by cigarette case - The pilot of a Halifax bomber, F/O R.O.J. Buckland. Kirkhill, Keith survived being struck by part of a shell when this struck a cigarette in his pocket. Although badly wounded he was able to direct the bomb aimer over the target and with the help of members of the crew managed to land the plane safely. The bomb aimer with no real flying experience flew the plane across the Channel and towards a safe airfield..

Parents pay for sins of their son - The parents of a boy charged with throwing stones was fined 5/-

Jan 18

Tractor Ploughing Match and Demonstration - This was to take place at Greenbank Farm, Drybridge, on Saturday 20 January in a field kindly granted by James Barron Esq. Admission 2/- Car park 2/6. Refreshments supplied on the field. The prizes were later handed over by Miss Ishbel Shaw, Arradoul House.

Field Marshall Montgomery Appreciates - Sapper Wm. J. Henderson, RE, 24 Land Street, Buckpool, received a Certification of Appreciation from Field Marshall Montgomery. His conduct over the previous months was said to have been exemplary.

Jan 25

Notice - An Appeal was launched for Bombed-Out victims in the London Borough of Stepney. Gifts of household articles were urgently required. The public were being asked by the WVS to hand in the above to Pozzi's Corner shop on west Church Street every day from 3-5 pm except Saturday and Sunday.

Enzie Welcome Home - A further two functions were to take place. A Whist Drive and Dance followed later by a Fancy Dress Dance on 2nd February. Music by the **Astoria Band** - a new one on the scene.

Football - Findochty beat Portgordon by four goals to two to become League Leaders. They were now the only undefeated team in the league.

Cullen Rifle Club - A rifle club was formed in Cullen this week in conjunction with the Home Guard Association, which itself had only been recently formed.

Feb 1

Killed in action - Word had been received that Sergeant George Howie Regimental Police, KOSB, husband of Kath Beaton, Harbour Street, Buckie had been killed in action in N.W. Europe. He was a native of Duns in the Borders.

Playhouse - Notice was being given that commencing on 12 February the Playhouse Cinema would be showing for a full six days what has been described as the greatest film ever made - "**Gone With The Wind**". A long running film there was to be only one house nightly commencing at 6.45 pm. A matinee would be showing on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Doors open at 1 pm to commence at 1.45 pm.

Arrangements had been made with Alexander and Sons to run special buses from Cullen to Portgordon.

Admission to cinema, including tax - 1/9, 2/3 and 2/9 Balcony 3/6.

Removal - The Social Welfare Department Buckie District was to move to 51 East Church Street.

Can we have more waste paper and swill please? This was from Buckie Town Council who said that there had been a noticeable reduction in the amount of waste paper and swill that was being put out to be uplifted. An increase was asked for since both were still urgently required.

Photograph - A photograph was shown on page three of the **late Sergeant Howie** who had recently been **killed in action**. He was a Territorial and called up at the onset of war. He came through Dunkirk. He was stationed at several places in Britain before coming to Buckie where he met his wife. He was well known in the town. He was 24 years of age and had worked as a plasterer in Duns before being called up.

POW - PC with Christmas Greeting to all - A post card had been received by Mrs Young 14 A High Street, from Pte Craig Gordon, a POW in Germany. This had been posted on November 13. Pte Gordon, as he had done several times before, sent Greetings for Christmas and New Year to all in the Buckie and area. He said that this would be the fifth Christmas that they had spent in captivity but they were in good health and still happy but looking forward to coming home.

Missing - Mrs Ross 2 Seafield Street, Portknockie, received word that her brother, Flt/Sergeant John 'Johnny' McKay, RAF navigator was reported **missing on air operations**. He lost his mother during the air raid on Portknockie in 1941. He was a former pupil of Buckie High School and a graduate of Aberdeen University, volunteering for the RAF shortly after graduating. He was 22.

Promotion - Alex Flett DFC and Bar of Station Road, Findochty was promoted to Squadron Leader.

Portgordon Welcome Home Fund - It was announced that the Fund had now reached the figure of £375.

Skipper's column - The skipper retold the story of how the bust of the poet Robert Burns which had formerly been on display in the Town House had disappeared. It was later found in the garret a little worse for wear. The writer, Mullert, told the story **partly in rhyme. This is found on page four.**

Feb 8 **Enzie Welcome Home Fund Whist Drive and Dance** - 16 February. Whist and tea 2/6, Dance only 2/-

St Peter's Fair at Rathven - This article is found on page 2 column 5.

*** **Houses demolished** - Some of the older houses on Marine Place were being demolished this week.

Feb 15 **Playhouse - The** film being shown this week was "Gone with The Wind" starring Clark Gable as Rhett Butler, Leslie Howard Olivia De Havelland and Vivvian Leigh as Scarlet O'Hara.

Enzie Welcome Home Fund - A Fancy dress Dance is to take place in the Clochan School on 23 February to raise funds. **A new innovation was seen for the first time. An invitation was given to all to come and Pick Your Pin up Girl! Prizes - 1st £1, 2nd 15/-**

Prizes in the Fancy Dress competition for Best Dressed Lady and Gent. Most Comic, Most Original and Best Dressed Couple. Special prizes also given.

Arradoul Youth Club - held their 4th Birthday Party in the WRI Hall. There was a large attendance of members and a few invited guests. Miss Mary Fraser, president, welcomed the company. Mrs Brander said a few words before the president cut the cake. Each person there received a piece of cake and a glass of lemonade. Following this dancing and games took place. Jean Hutchison and Cecil Benzie won the Musical Arms while Mary Fraser and Sandy Burnett won the Spot Dance. Messrs McQueen, McBride, Hepburn and Milton provided music for the dancing with Mrs Brander and Mrs Geddes on the piano.

The singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

Skipper's column - In his column this week he had included a **poem**, titled '**Thoughts of Homeland**' that had been received from a sailor serving on HMS Wilton. He said that he used to send poems to the B.A. under the pseudonym, Z. Reaich.

New Columnist - writing under the name Alan Brown. He didn't last very long.

- Feb 22 **H. G. Social Evening** - Buckie Home Guard 'D' Company were to hold a Social Evening in the Drill Hall. J. W. Cowie, CSM.
- Photograph** - On page three was found a photograph of **Sergeant George Howie**, Regimental Police, KOSB, who had been **killed in action**.
- Mar 1 **Spike's column** - This consisted of a letter from A/C Stott, stationed somewhere on the Burma/Indian border.
- Lost at sea by enemy action in February 1945** - P.O. Alex Donn, 38, husband of Jessie Pirie, 41 Seafield Street, Cullen.
- Lost at sea during February '45** - George Murray RNPS, husband of Andrewina McPherson and son of Anthony Murray, 22 New Street, Buckie.
- Killed in action on Western Front in February** - Lance Corporal James Alex Jappy, 24, Seaforth **Highlanders**, only son of Mr and Mrs James Jappy, 20 Low Street, Buckie.
- Mar 8 **Award of MC** - Lt. Angus Macdonald, Royal Scots was awarded the MC. He was wounded in January. Before joining the army he was a reporter on the *Banffshire Advertiser*.
- The sum raised** at the Fancy Dress dance held at Clochan in aid of the Welcome Home Fund. Was £16.5. The event was organised by Messrs Alex 'Paddy' Wyllie, George 'Doddie' Allan and Peter Grigor.
- DFC for Keith airman** - F/O Buckland, from Kirkhill, near Keith was awarded the DFC for a magnificent example of courage and fortitude. The story was told previously of how his life had been saved by a cigarette case. The bomb-aimer that flew the Halifax plane a long distance home to safety also gained the DFC as did the flight engineer.
- Mar 15 **Coal merchant sells up** - John Thomson, Coal Merchant, Fochabers is to give up his business. It was taken over by Alexander Reid and Son Coal Merchant, 43 Commercial Road, Buckie who were to have a branch office in Fochabers at 60 High Street but aimed to move to 4 the Square later.
- Ex-Servicemen's Club - Special Meeting** - A special meeting of members of Buckie and District Ex Servicemen's Club Ltd was to take place on Wednesday 21 March at 12 East Church Street. W. Smith, secretary. Business: to consider the offer of £500 received for the Club's premises on Blairdaff Street and the offer of top part of Virginnia Buildings on High Street and small shop on lane.
- Glamour Boy** - At a dance held in the Town House Hall by the Child Welfare Voluntary Association, the high spot of the evening was the election of the **Glamour Boy**, who proved to be LAC Hunt - 455 Squadron.
- Photograph** - A photograph of Lt Angus Macdonald MC was shown on page three.
- Poem** - A poem is to be found on **page four** called - "Burma Blues", written by B.O.R.
- Mar 22 **Arradoul Youth Club** are to present Dramatic Entertainment of three plays in the WRI Hall, on Tuesday and Wednesday 3 and 4th

April. Admission 1/6 and 2/-. Dance to follow 1/6 by **Watson's Band**. This was the first time that this band had been mentioned.

Glamour Boys and Pin Up Girls - Findochty went one better than Clochan and Buckie. At a dance in the Enzie we heard for the first time of a **Pin Up competition** then the previous week it had been a **Glamour Boy** competition in Buckie, now Findochty was to have them both. Good prizes to be given for the winners and runners-up.

Mentioned in dispatches - Flight Sergeant George Smith, Knowhead, Harbour Street was **mentioned in dispatches** for distinguished service. He had been serving in the Far East for 3 years. In the 1990's and into the new century George Smith wrote a number of books with the titles starting 'A Buckie Loon Remembers - - -'

Photograph - A photograph on page two shows Pte Jack Taylor, Gordons, son of Mr and Mrs Wm. Taylor, 3 Jubilee Terrace, Portknockie who was awarded the MM. Jack was janitor of Portknockie School for a long time after the war and much involved with the Scouts.

Whist Drive and Dance at Clochan - John Grigor, Oxhill Farm was the organiser of this event to raise funds for the Enzie Welcome Home Fund.

Photograph - A photograph of **P.O. Donn, Cullen**, who was **lost at sea** through enemy action, is shown on page four.

Mar 29 **Playhouse** - Showing in the Playhouse Cinema this week was the film - 'Wing and a Prayer - Carrier X, starring Don Ameche, Dana Andrews and Wm. Eythe, 'Going My Way' starring Bing Crosby and Barry Fitzgerald. 'Lady Lets Dance Belila with James Elleson.

Buckie War Comforts. Would knitters kindly hand in finished garments now as we are meantime arranging for a further distribution of comforts to HM Forces? The school will be open between hours of 4-5 on Thursday as normal.

Buckie War Work Fund Comforts 45 - Particulars of local men and women serving in HM Forces are required urgently as follows - number, rank, name, full postal address and home address. It is essential that these particulars be given to the Town Chamberlain's office in the Town House not later than Saturday 7 April.

**** **Application for transfer** - The Town Council received an application from Messrs J. H. Flett and Co. Buckie for the transfer to them of an existing fish retail licence held by the late Mr W. J. Macdonald but in respect of a new premises at 28 East Church Street. It was explained that the intention was to provide for the first time in Buckie a modern fish retail shop in the main thoroughfare of the town. The transfer was granted.

***** **Stepney (London) Appeal** -The response to the appeal for all kinds of household things for the bombed out citizens of Stepney had been extremely generous with 3604 articles now on their way to London. A special removal van was despatched for the purpose by the Ministry of Transport. Included in the load was bedding, furniture, decorating materials, cutlery, pots and pans, glass, chinaware rugs etc. The WVS committee who had organised the collection thanked all those who had contributed especially the

schools who were responsible for half. St Peter's RC school handed in 104 articles, Lady Cathcart School, 159, the High School, 1450.

Killed in action – Pte Albert Weightman, KOSB, son in law of Mr and Mrs Alex Ritchie, 52 St Peter's Road. He was 27 and a native of Newcastle. He and his wife, Mamie, had only been married for a year.

Death of Postmaster - The death took place of the head postmaster at Buckie, Mr Gilbert Johnston, while on holiday in Dunoon. A native of Dunoon he came from there to Buckie 2 years before. He was 55.

E.I.S President - Mr George Coutts, Art Master at Buckie High School, was elected president of the Banffshire Branch of the E.I.S.

Airman missing believed killed on operations - Flt/Lt Austin Shearer, Cullen, who was awarded the DFC in 1944, was reported **missing on air operations believed killed.**

Poem - A poem written by James Cowie MN, is found **on page four.** This is titled 'Thoughts of Youth'.

Spike - In his column this week he had a shorter than usual letter from A/C Stott but he had also included an article about Dryburn and **a poem by 'Q' Coull; the first for a long time, called 'A Year Afore The War'.**

Apr 5 **New column** - "Snaps Fae Ilka Airt"

Jap POW - After something like nearly three years Mr and Mrs John Cowie, 1 Bryson Crescent, Craigbo received a post card from their son, Pte. George Cowie, Gordon Highlanders to say that he had been taken prisoner at Singapore and was now in Thailand. They now had just received a letter from their son's pal, Corporal Robert Neil to say that while being shifted from Thailand to Japan their boat was sunk and after swimming for 8 hours both were picked up. While Cowie went to Japan, he, Neil was sent to the Philippines. On the 4th February he was freed from captivity by the advancing American Army and was now in San Francisco. He said that Cowie, who enlisted in 1937 had been in good health and spirits when he last saw him.

Apr 12 **Advert** - Ladies get your slacks smartly tailored at 16/9 per pair 24- 30 waist. Five coupons only. The Ladies Shop, 41 West Church Street.

Red Cross Agricultural Fund are to hold a whist drive and dance in Clochan School on Friday 13 April. Many prizes.

Photograph - A photograph of **Pte Albert Weightman, KOSB**, who was killed in action, appears on page three of this edition.

Columnists – Spike – The Day's Work
Fireside Talk Wi' Auld Freens
At The Pier by the Skipper.
Snaps Fae A' the Airts

Apr 19 **Adoption** - Wanted party to legally adopt a healthy male child of 8 months . County of Banff Social Welfare Department.

Seafield Estates - The collection of gull's eggs on Aultmore and Lurghill is strictly prohibited. Any person found doing so will be prosecuted. Seafield Estates office.

Welcome Home meeting - The landward areas of Arradoul, Rathven and Shielburn. A meeting is to take place in Arradoul WRI Hall to discuss the matter. R.G. Young, Chairman.

Arradoul Youth Club - presented three one act plays on Tuesday and Wednesday of the previous week. On both nights the hall was full with a large and appreciative audience. On Wednesday evening Rev Ewart, Enzie, presided.

The plays were arranged and prepared by the Club Leaders. Those taking part were - Misses Janet. Geddes, Isobel Hendry, Ena Wilson, Isobel Adams, Ethel Symon, Isobel McDonald, Irene Hector, Janet McIntosh, Irene Grant, Agnes Grant, Nan Grant, Elizabeth Young, Ishbel Shaw, Ibbly Hutchison, Jean Hutchison and Mary Fraser. Messrs Danny McBride, Joe Turner, Jimmy Garvock, R. Murray and R. Cruickshank.

Country dancing was performed between each play by Agnes Grant, Elizabeth Young, Irene Grant, Isabel Hutchison, Rita Cryle, E. Cruickshank, Meg Mackay and Violet Fraser.

Many other members had important parts to play in the entertainment although not seen by the audience. Rev G. Ewart called for comprehensive vote of thanks, while Miss Mary Fraser on behalf of the Club, thanked the audience and any others who had helped in any way to make the entertainment such a success.

A largely attended dance followed Wednesday night's performance. Music was supplied by Watson's Band with Mr D. McBride as MC. Drawing amounting to £70 to go towards Club funds.

Portgordon Welcome Home Fund - Up to the end of March, Mr George Munro, treasurer, reported that the sum collected for the Welcome Home in Portgordon had reached £625. The 'Young Ladies' responsible for 'finding' £200 of this deserve hearty congratulations.

Red Cross Agricultural Fund - During the season the sum raised by farmers in Lower Banffshire came to the magnificent sum of £13,522 in aid of the Red Cross Agricultural Fund which was closed on Friday with a whist and dance at Clochan where over £177 was raised.

Photograph - A photograph on page three shows **Pte George Cowie**, Gordons, a **prisoner of war in Japan**. According to a pal, now released, he and Pte Cowie had swam for 8 hours when the ship carrying them from Thailand to Japan was sunk.

Football - England beat Scotland by 6 goals to one in a Football International.

Apr 26 **Playhouse Cinema** - Showing this week in the local cinema was the film - "Two Girls and a Sailor" Starring in the film were - June Allyson, Gloria De Haven and Van Johnson

Killed in action in Italy in April 1945 - Word has been received that Pte. Charles Geddes KOSB had been killed in action in Italy. His home address was 7 Reid Terrace, Portgordon. He was 23 years of age and before being called up in 1941 had worked as a labourer.

Died of wounds in Burma in April 1945 - Word has been received that 2/Lt L. G. Paterson, Gordon Highlanders, 20, eldest son of Mr and Mrs L. G. Paterson, 6 Mill Crescent, Buckie, had **died of wounds in Burma**. It had only been a week or so before that he was **mentioned in dispatches** in connection with an attack on a number of Japanese. He had been in the army for 18 months and prior to this had been a student at Aberdeen University.

Drowned on active service abroad - Engineman Thomas John Wood, 38 of Portknockie. He was the husband of Daisy Sturman, 11 Samson Street and a son of James Wood 'Wilken'. He was a fisherman before being called up and left widow and six of a family whose ages ranged from 16 to 5.

German POW freed - Word had been received that Pte Alex Bennett, 19 Seaview Road, a former POW, had been liberated and was now in a hospital in England.

Presentation for Portgordon Hero - Alex 'Ackie' Cormack, Duke Street was presented with the Royal Humane Society's medal and testimonial for rescuing three people from drowning in the sea near the village in August 3 1944. Mr David Reid made the presentation and said a few appropriate words.

Poem - A poem is found on page four-titled F D R Crowborough by Thomas Chilton.

May 3 **Playhouse Cinema** - Showing this week was 'Little Nelly Kelly' starring Judy Garland, George Murphy and Charles Winniger.

Buckie Welcome Home Fund - The latest function to be held to raise funds was to be a Free Gift Sale and Fun Fair, which was to extend from May 14 to May 19 inclusive.

Welcome Home Fund (Arradoul District) - To raise funds a whist drive and dance is to take place in the WRI Hall on Wednesday 23 May. Admission charges - Whist 2/-, dance 2/-, Forces ½ price.

Steel 'Topees' A notice on the front page of the B.A. stated that any Fireguard who had not yet handed in their steel helmets were requested to deliver them at 4 Cluny Square not later than Saturday 5 May. Any helmets not handed in to be charged for.

For POW's - Miss M. A. Reid had a note in the paper thanking the following for their donations to the POW Appeal Fund. - Dr Hendry, £6.10; Anonymous, £1.

Ice Cream - what a delight! - When a dance was being held in the Town House Hall in aid of the Buckie Welcome Home Fund and run under the Buckie Chapter O.E.S a most popular feature was the supply of ice cream for which there was a big demand.

Photograph 1- A photograph of **2nd Lieutenant L. G. Paterson**, Gordon Highlanders, who had recently **died of wounds in Burma**, was shown on page three of this edition of the B.A.

Photograph 2 - On the same page is found a photograph of **Pte Charles Geddes KORR**, 23 of Portgordon, who was **killed in action**. In a previous report he was given as being in the KOSB.

New Postmaster - The new postmaster at Buckie was to be J.D.M. Baxter who had acted as overseer at the Buckie office for many years. David Guild moved up to the position of overseer.

Skipper's column - The skipper gave space to describe those who had taken part in the Cliff Terrace Sports. David Fowler was convener. All those who took part are also named.

May 10 **Football - Sheila West Shield . The teams taking part were-**
Findochty v Portknockie - May 11
Portgordon v Portsoy - May 12
ATC v Portknockie - May 14 All kick-offs to be
7.30pm
Home Guard v H &M - May 15
ACF v Portgordon - May 16
Findochty v H &M - May 17

Victory Dance - The first to hold such a titled dance was Findochty where a whist drive and dance was to take place on 10 May. (Perhaps a little premature with a war still taking place in Burma and other parts of the Far East, where men were still being killed and maimed.)

Dance in aid of POW's in the Town House - Mrs Fowler and her committee of ladies invited all liberated POW's with their wives and sweethearts to the dance . Music was supplied by Bill Geddes's band.

Rathven WRI - An Adult Social and Dance plus presentation to liberated POW's was to take place in the Church Hall, Portessie on Friday 11 May. Music to be supplied by the Regal Band. **Bring own cup and sugar.**

END OF WAR IN EUROPE

Victory in Europe - Germany surrendered unconditionally to the allies on Monday although this was not announced till the following day. Tuesday was VE day and a holiday for all as was the next day. (We didn't have a wireless and didn't know this all round joyful news and I got up as usual and cycled up to the farm of the Holmie where I (an apprentice plasterer since March) had been set to picking the walls of a byre making it ready to be made smooth with cement for a dairy. It was quite late in the morning before the farmer, Forbes Howie, put me right and it didn't take me long to pack up the tools and get on my bike for home. I remember too how, along with my two sister, Mary and Violet, and many others from the Enzie we went to a free dance in the Fishermen's Hall where had great fun which included the long walk home in the early morning.)

In Buckie flags and bunting was everywhere with the streets ablaze. Churchill was on the wireless at 3pm to declare the war all over in Europe when the bells on the churches began to ring. Services took place in the churches while dances took place everywhere in the evening.

Street parties - People quickly organised street parties which took place all over the place. (I had an invite from my boss Geordie Packman to the one on Cathcart Street and can remember that I saw the kind of food on the tables that I could scarcely remember. There was singing and dancing. One of those I remember who did a turn on Cathcart Street was Willie Mackie.

There could have been others but Willie sang 'corn kisters' which was to my liking.

Poem - A poem is found **on page three** titled 'The Convoy Has Come Through'. This is in the form of a tribute from the Royal Navy to the lasting memory of our gallant Merchant Navy.

May 17 **Thank You notes** - The B.A. carried a number of thank you notes from the parents of returning POW's, sometimes the soldiers themselves, to the friends and neighbours who had given money and gifts to their sons. Among those mentioned were - Pte James Campbell, Land Street, Pte John Hutcheson, John Street, Pte James Packman, 3 Baron Street and Pte James Packman, 14 Wallace Avenue.

Photograph - On page three a photograph shows that of **Pte J. G. Paterson**, 5th Seaforth, only son of Dr and Mrs Paterson, who was **wounded in action** in the closing stages of the war in Europe.

Strathlene House - A party had made enquiries regarding the purchase of Strathlene House. The Town Council, however, said that it wasn't for sale. The Town Council entertained the returned POW's there.

Priest retires - Monsignor Macdonald retired on health grounds. He had been 17 years at St Peter's in Buckie. At a function in his honour he was presented with a cheque from the congregation.

Keith Show - It was decided that there would be no Show in 1945. The committee agreed that it would be impossible to make all the arrangements given such a short time. There would certainly be one in 1946.

New Headteacher at Clochan - Mr W.F. Johnston, Schoolhouse, Fern by Forfar, a native of Buckie and of the Banffshire Advertiser family, was appointed headteacher of Enzie Public School to succeed Mr Patrick Urquhart who was to retire at the summer vacation

Wee lad got lost - A wee lad of 3, Adam William Pirie, Tarrymount Farm, went with his aunt last Thursday to visit a neighbour at the farm of Raefin, a mile away across the Enzie Braes. Adam chose to play outside with his aunt checking time again that he was alright. Once when she looked, however, he wasn't there and nowhere could he be found, he had wandered away. Although a major search took place for him it was not until Sunday morning that he was found by George 'Doddie' Shand of Chapelford, 3 miles away from Raefin, on the moor. He was in a depression and but for Mr Shand hearing him crying would have missed him. It was fortunate that the weather had been fair and Adam seemed little the worse for his experience but it could all have turned out so differently.

May 31 **Playhouse** - Showing this week in the local cinema was the film - "Irish Eyes are Smiling", starring Monty Woolley, June Haver and Dick Haymes

Thank you notes - The B.A. had some more thank you notes from grateful parents on behalf of their sons who had returned from POW camps. Thanks were extended to those who had presented them with money and gifts, not only now but also while they were prisoners.

Enzie Collectors for Scottish SPCA - The following girls went round the district collecting for the SSPCA and came back with the sum of £4.12.5. - Lily Yeats and Beattie Thain, Meta Hutcheson and Flora Martin, Mary and Agnes Clark, Margaret Sutherland and Marjory Hutcheson.

Good lads - Danny Fearn and Arthur Simpson handed over a gift to Pte Coull, 17 Bridgend, a returned POW. This was money they had collected from a fun fair held at 8 St Peter's Road organised and ran by a party of schoolboys. Pte Coull was clearly taken aback and thanked all sincerely for their thoughtfulness and generosity.

June 1 **Playhouse cinema** - Showing this week was 'Western Approaches'. There were no professional actors in this film all parts being played by men of the Navy or MN. Also being shown this week was - 'White Cliffs of Dover' starring Pat O'Brien and Carle Landes.

Montgomery Certificate - W/Sergeant A.P. Ross 51 H/D Signals, son of Alex Ross Cluny Terrace received a certificate from Field Marshall Montgomery. A married man whose home is at 12 Maxwell Street, Fochabers had been five years in the army. The certificate read - "A token of my appreciation - have given instruction that this shall be noted in your Record of Service.

Pinders' Circus - Not for some time had a circus paid a visit to the town but within a short space two made an appearance. The first was Pinders' who were in the Commercial Park that day.

Death of well-known local personality - The death took place this week of James Bowie, 29 Merson Street, a well-known personality. In earlier life he was a member of the Local Volunteers and the Buckie Amateur Dramatic Society for whom it not only took part but also painted the scenery.

A cooper to trade he went to sea as a cook on a fishing vessel and also worked as a painter. For some time he was bellman and did a bit of billposting. James had a reputation for versatility. He was 77 and was survived by a family of 2 sons and three daughters.

Norwegians leave for home - For the past five years 200 Norwegians had been living in Buckie where many men arrived in their fishing vessels and continued to the fish supply of the port. Now that Norway had been liberated the people are beginning to leave for home. Buckie citizens gave the Norwegians a hearty welcome on their arrival and on Saturday when the first contingent on Norwegian vessels left for Bergen they were given a hearty send off, crowds cheering them and waving handkerchiefs as they passed the pierheads.

In a goodbye message to the public of Buckie, Mr G. Punterhold, Norwegian Consul said the boats were leaving laden with soap that the men were in a happy mood in anticipation of meeting their families and friends but none could help feeling regret at leaving the hospitable town of Buckie where they had had their homes for so long.

They also thanked them for their great tolerance, worthy of such a cultured nation as the Scots.

Now they were going home to clean up Norway with the soap and they extended a hearty welcome to the people of Buckie as soon as they got their country cleaned.

A mother's letter – The B.A. this week contained a letter from a soldier's mother in which she referred to a letter she had received from him the previous week. He had included the following lines from a longer poem -

**I knew that death is but a door
I knew what we were fighting for ;
Peace for the kids, our brothers freed
A kinder world, a cleaner breed.**

We have defeated the enemy in Europe now we must fight hard to win the peace.

In her letter she decried the conchies and the unco guid who had taken no part in redding the world of monsters.

June 14 **Wedding** - Annie (Nan) Geddes, L/Cpl ATS, daughter of the late Andrew Geddes and Mrs Geddes, Roadside Enzie at North Church, Enzie on 6th June 1945 to Arthur Newman, Newcastle.

Thank You - The front page of the B.A. carried a thank you note from the children of James Street to Mr Young, James Street, who assisted, gave gifts and donations towards their James Street, 'VE' picnic.

Electioneering - W.S. Duthie, Unionist candidate, a native of Portessie, was holding a series of meetings in connection with the forthcoming General Election. He was duly elected MP for Banffshire, beating both his Labour and Liberal opponents by the number of votes cast. The Labour candidate was Bailie Donald MacPherson while the Liberal candidate was Major A. Duncan Millar

Circus - Robert Circus was to put on a performance in the Commercial Park on 20 June.

Football Score – ATC 0 ACF 1. According to a report of the game the ATC, an all conquering side during the years 1942-44 were well beaten here.

June 21 **Arradoul and Enzie Welcome Home Fund Committee** are to hold a Highland Gathering in a field kindly granted by Mr Grant Bogs, Cairnfield, on Wednesday August 8 1945, beginning at 1.30 pm. Full particulars later.

Thank you – Mrs Reid and Mrs Slater, Merson Street, were thanking all that contributed towards their Fun Fair and Picnic to residents of Robert Street and district. After paying all expenses £4 was given towards the Welcome Home Fund with £1.5 to the Red Cross.

***** **Notice – Thistle Squadron ATC** - *On account of the above squadron of the ATC having been disbanded any cadet who still has in his possession any uniform or anything belonging to the ATC must return same to Buckie High School on Thursday 21st June between 7.30 – 8 pm otherwise they will be charged for same. John H. Duncan Flt/Lt. Equipment Officer.*

Business announcement - Allan McKenzie was giving notice that he was to commence in business as a joiner and undertaker in Findochty and hoped by strict attention to business to merit a share of public patronage.

Death by drowning at Strathlene - LAC Joslin, London, lost his life when swimming at Strathlene. Two local men - Slater brothers - were drowned at the same place some years later.

Poem - Found on **page three** a poem by 'Fonilvo' called "One That Supports Churchill".

June 28 **Cluny Hall – Gospel Service** - On Sunday 1st July D.V. Mr W. Kirkpatrick will address the following meetings - 3 pm – Ministry; 6 pm Gospel. All are invited – Come.

Buckie Services Canteen - The canteen will close on 30th June 1945. All parties having claims against the canteen should lodge same with Mrs G. Bruce, Hon. secretary and treasurer, 17 Cluny Square, within 10 days.

Clay Pigeon Shoot - Sportsmen are advised that a Clay Pigeon Shoot will be held at Birkenbush Farm, Clochan, on Thursday 5 July. Bring own ammunition. A sweep will be run. All welcome. G. Legge.

Cullen House Gardens – Owing to continued shortage of labour, garden produce will be sold at the gardens on Tuesday and Fridays between the hours of 2-4 only. There are no facilities for delivering locally. Seafield Estates, Cullen, 22 June 1945

Buckie Home Guard Rifle Club - A shooting Competition was to take place on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday, 10, 11, 12 and 15 July. Competitors have to shoot on at least 3 nights. The total for best nights to decide the winners. Application, Rapid and Snap., also Pool Ball Competition. Shooting to commence at 7 pm each week night and 2 pm on Sunday. The committee extend a warm welcome to any serviceman on leave. No entrance fee, John W. Cowie, secretary.

Welcome Home Fund (Arradoul area) A Dramatic Performance of plays performed by the Deskford Dramatic Society was to take place on Wednesday 4th July. Admittance 2/6 and 1/6. Dance to follow admittance 2/-

Business for sale - The Sailmaking, Shipchandlers and net Barking business known as Freuchny Ship Stores and, belonging to Wm. Imlach, Buckie.

Arradoul and Enzie Welcome Home Fund Committee - are to hold a grand Highland Gathering in a field kindly granted by Mr George Grant, Bogs, Cairnfield on Wednesday 8 August 1945, commencing at 1.30 pm. (Known then and remembered as the **Cairnfield Games.**)

Events taking place-

Open heavy - Throwing 16 LB hammer; Throwing 56 LB weight over bar; Putting 16 LB ball; Pulling Swingletree; Tossing the caber.

Open Light - 100, 200 and 440 yards flat races; Vaulting; High Jump; Hop Step and Leap; Long jump.

Slow Cycle race, Pillow Fight Sack race.

All in wrestling . The greatest competition of all events where all British Stars are taking part., e.g. Cocky Knight and George Clark etc.

Highland Dancing - open – Highland Fling, Highland Reel, Shean Trews (sic?) Irish Jig,

Open to 10-13 years – Highland Fling, Sword Dance, Sailors' Hornpipe.

Confined to under 10 years - Highland Fling and Sword Dance.

Local events – Heavy – Throwing 16 LB hammer; Throwing 28Lb weight over the bar; Putting 16 LB ball.

Light – 100, 440 flat race; Hop Step and Leap; Long Jump; High Jump.

Shetland Pony race

Tug of war - open to all comers team to consist of 8 a-side. Land Girls v Other Ladies

Married and Single ladies race; Fancy Dress parade

Horse judging competition ; Football Five –aside.

All the usual side shows and attractions including - Grand Variety Concert and dancing in marquee.

Any information will be gladly given by Mr Gray, Star Inn, Buckie, organiser, or John H. Duncan, Broadley, Hon secretary.

(I remember working a lot of nights before the event putting up the posts and grandstand along with many other men and youths.

On the day of the Games I took a pony from Chapelford to Cairnfield via Clochan and Pathhead. I didn't however, have a ride on this pony but was on the back of a little black one belonging to Mr Taylor, Auchenthalrig. His great grandson, David was a friend of Karl's. This pony was ill-tricket and threw me off at least three times, once into the sand used for the long jump. A soldier pulled its lugs in an effort to make it behave itself but I believe it just got it in the sulks. It had been raining the day before and some bits of the ground were wet. Between getting weat and the sand my navy blue suit, de rigeur when dressed at this time, I might say, was not the ideal rig-out for a jockey and was in a fair mess by the end of the race. Needless to say I didn't win the race, Kenny Ewen, Mill of Buckie, up on a smart-looking brown pony belonging to Mr Milton, Auchenreath, a few hands higher than most, walked it or should that be galloped away with it? For the record Sydney McIntosh, Hawthorn Cottage, came second on a pony from Pathhead.)

Jly 5

Death of Master Plumber - The death took place this week of Mr Thomas Campbell, a partner in the firm of J & T. Campbell, Plumbers, Commercial Road, Buckie. He was a past master of Lodge Gordons and was associated with a number of other bodies connected with the craft. He lived at Helixville, Cathcart Street.

Cairnfield Games – Five A-Side competition - The entry fee was 10/- per team with the prize for the winning team being £10 and a silver cup. The second team to receive £5. All entries to be lodged with the Hon. secretary, J. H. Duncan, along with the entry fee by Wednesday 19 July. Preliminary ties to be completed not later than July 26. The semi-final and final to be played at the Highland Gathering on August 8th.

Notice - Burghs of Buckie, Cullen, Findochty, Portknockie and County of Banff Landward areas – 'Ministry of Fuel and Power – Acute Shortage of Coal. Owing to the recent deterioration in the quantity of coal available for domestic premises no further applications for winter stocking or additional supplies for current use except in very extreme cases can be entertained until 1st November. J. L. McNaughton, Local Fuel Overseer for Buckie. Wm. Findlay for Cullen; Wm. Smith, 12 East Church Street, for Findochty; R.M. Fulton, 2 Bank Street for Portknockie and W. J. Merson, 16 Marine Place for the Landward areas.

Playhouse - The local cinema was showing the film " In The Meantime Darling" starring Jeanne Crain and Frank Latimore. Also showing this week was "The Seventh Cross" starring Spencer Tracy and Signe Hasso

Gas stokers wanted - Gas stokers wanted for the gas works on Baron Street. These were permanent positions with the wages offered being **£5.8 per week**. Application to be made to the manager.

Cook and Waitress wanted for Royal Hotel, Nairn - Cook's wages - £3 per week - the waitress - 30/- per week.

Interesting Baptism - An interesting and very rare ceremony took place in the North Church, on Sunday morning when in front of a large congregation Rev J. Greenlaw BD baptised 4 great grandchildren of Mr and Mrs John Murray 'Dottie', 42 Yardie. The babies were twin son and daughter of Sergeant and Mrs Gunn, 4 Linn Crescent and the daughter of Pte and Mrs Rumbles, 42 Yardie and the daughter of Pte and Mrs Stalker, 1 Merson Street. In the absence of Pte Stalker and Pte Rumbles, Mr John Murray 'Dottie', great grandfather acted as sponsor. Around the font were gathered, Mr John Murray, great grandfather, Mr John Coull grandfather of the twins, Mrs Isabella Stewart grandaunt of the four children, Sergeant Gunn and the four young mothers. It is interesting to note that Rev Greenlaw had officiated at the Golden Wedding of the great grandparents; the wedding of the three young parents as well as the baptism of the three young mothers.

Buckie Welcome Home Fund - The sum of £700 was added the Fund from the proceeds of a Fun Fair and Gift Sale. Donations were also received from - Buckie Ladies Guild (British Sailors Society) £25; Methodist Church Guild, £10; Mrs Slater and Mrs Reid, Robert Street £4 left over from VE picnic. The committee extended their thanks for these and other donations.

Buckie Welfare Society - paid out the sum of £4,400.9.6 to various organisations (shown on page three) from 15 May 1941 to 15 May 1945. Among those who received money were - Forces stationed in Buckie - £996.11.3; Buckie Services Canteen - £770; POW Fund - £509.12.0; **Buckie Welcome Home Fund - £500**; Buckie District Ambulance Association; - £200; Buckie Nursing Association - £200; Buckie ATC - £150; Old Age Pensioners - £174.5.9; ACF - £100. A total of 28 organisations all told received financial assistance, including, the Scouts, Guides, GTC and Aberdeen University Charities.

Poem - A poem is found **on page three** titled - Buckpool - "the Harbour Head". This was written by Wm. Thain (Sodjer) Buckpool, Buckie.

Death of Alex Johnston . The death took place this week of Alex Johnston, a partner in the firm of W.F. Johnston and Sons and editor of the Banffshire Advertiser. He died at Peterhead aged 68.

Resettlement Advice Centre opened - A new centre opened at 18 West Church Street in a vacant corner shop. (Formerly occupied by the late F.F Angler, Watchmaker etc.) The opening ceremony was performed by Provost Merson in front of a party of fifty invited guests. The purpose of the office was to help returning servicemen and women in different ways to re-settle. It was not only concerned with finding employment though it did help the labour exchange in this way.

Election Day - 5th July - The people went to the polls today to elect the first post war government.

Skipper's column – In his column the skipper let it be known that Buckie Thistle Football Club had been taken over by Buckie Welfare Society who with an elected committee were to run the club and pay off the outstanding debt.

In his column he further said that it would take a great deal of money to put the field and pavilion back into first class order. He suggested that the committee should not confine Victoria Park to football alone but should take a wider view and go in for an all sports ground with facilities for cricket, tennis, a racing track and a playing field for children. This he added was sure to prove to be a great asset to Buckie. (It is interesting to note how a children's play area – the Ian Johnston Park and the all weather tennis courts have been built near by Victoria Park since that time, not to mention a swimming pool.)

July 12 **Weddings** - Five weddings took place in Buckie during the past week with no less than three of them involving RAF personnel and Buckie women.

Business announcement - Edward Milne, Motor Hirer, 24 Great Western Road, Buckpool, phone number 304, was giving notice that he had started in business as a Motor Hirer. Messages could be left at the Star Inn, Buckpool.

Thomson's amusements - This was the first announcement of the like for many a long day. The amusements were to be in Cowie Park (off Newlands Lane and between there and Mill Crescent) from July 12 until further notice.

Football Match - A challenge match was to take place at Merson Park between Buckie Thistle Veterans and a Junior Select on Monday 16 July at 7.15. Silver collection.

It was thought that the following veterans would play - N.Wood, E. Geddes, B. Nicol, A. Middleton, F. Smith, J. C. Green, A. Gowie, G. Kay, J. Christie, W. Hay, J. McIntosh. Reserve – J. Hay They didn't all play in the end.

R.C. School prizewinners - 1st Sec. II – Robert Gordon. 2nd equal Maree Milne and Sandy Jappy. Prize for needlework in P5 – Isobel Gordon. Conduct Prize Infant 3 – Linda Gordon and James Packman

Dux of Buckie High School and Miller Medal - James A. Barrie. Dux of the Primary School was Elsie Power.

Arradoul School - At the closure of the school for the summer recess the bairns each received six threepenny pieces from Mr and Mrs R.G. Young Arradoul Mains, and Mr and Mrs Rattray Hilton. Mr James Grant, Easter Bogs, sent a generous supply of delicious ice cream.

(By this time Easter Bogs farm was a favourite calling place with all the young folk of the district on a Sunday afternoon where we could buy a cone or slider. After long years when ice cream hadn't been seen it was a great luxury to all of us.)

Skipper' column - In his column this week the skipper had included a letter and a poem from a Findochty seaman who was then serving aboard – HMML 1306 c/o GPO London. The name given was Jas. Lyon.

Cairnfield Games - Taking part in the 'All-in Wrestling' at the Gathering were to be George Clark, Grange, Cocky Knight, Indian Army

Champion and Bulldog Garmon, Heavy Weight Champion of Wales.

Jly 19 **Change of Milk Round** - Charles Rattray, Mains of Buckie disposed of his Milk round to Andrew Chalmers , Westerside , Rathven.

Buckie Home Guard Rifle Club - A Shooting Competition is to take place on Sunday 22 July at the rifle range at Bogend. Entry free. Any serviceman on leave is invited to attend.

RAF Choir - A choir from the RAF gave a performance in the Baptist Church, Buckie on Sunday evening. RAF personnel also read Scripture readings while the padre gave a short address. The choir sang several pieces while two solos were sung. The choir members were drawn from Dallachy and Banff and although they had never sang before together they did exceedingly well and was much appreciated.

Brown Cup (formerly the Sunlight Cup) The final of this competition, which had been in existence for a long time though not always continual, took place during the week when Jones beat Portknockie by the only goal of the game. The game was played at Merson Park. Portknockie were reduced to 10 men after only 15 minutes of play when they had a player hurt and carried off. Nevertheless they competed well, with the result never clear cut. The cup was handed over to the winning captain by Mr McLeod . Mr McNiven was referee.

Vets match versus Junior Select - The teams were - Vets - S. Turner (Cadets), Geddes and Nicol; Dod Lemon (Keith), Smith and Green; McIntosh, Clark, Christie Dod Kelman (Elgin), and Duncan.

Junior Select - Ian Taylor (ATC), Wood (Jones), Mair (Portknockie); Hector (H.G.), Pirie (PK) and Reid (Cadets); Geddes (H.G), Geddes (ATC), Watson (Portgordon), Clark (ATC), Innes (Pg.). The Vets won by a penalty. George Craig was referee. The sum of £ 7 was collected for Charity.

Poem - A poem is found **on page 2**. This is written by Lance /Corporal E.Butler G.H. and titled "The ATS"

Jly 26 **Special RAF Service** - A special RAF Service was to take place in the Methodist Church, Buckie on Sunday 29 July at 7.15 p.m. The address was to be given by the RAF Padre Hearte BD with anthems and solos by the RAF choir from Dallachy and Banff.

Business announcement - R. Drummond and Sons, Cluny Terrace were giving notice that they were to commence in business as slaters and plasterers beginning on 20 August. By strict attention to all orders they hoped to merit a share of public patronage.

Recommendation -Driver P. Cormack, 3rd son of Mr and Mrs P. Cormack, 17 Land Street, Buckpool was recommended by the OC 147 Field Park Squadron RE. The citation read " This man was the driver of the CO's jeep from landing in Normandy in June 1944 until reaching Holland in December. He has performed a hazardous task throughout the campaign and his constant courage and cheerfulness has been a fine example to all the other drivers in the Squadron I strongly recommend that his name be submitted for a Commander in Chief's Certificate."

Cullen airman killed – Flight/Sergeant Alex Findlay Stevenson, Flight Engineer, RAF, was killed in a **flying accident in Australia**. He was 21 and had been in the RAF for three years, He had taken part in a number of raids over Germany.

Cullen Welcome Home Fund - Following a week of different events Cullen collected the sum of £1,000 towards their Welcome Home Fund.

Spike - His column this week was almost all concerned with a long newsy letter from A/CII Stott who was now stationed with ---- --Squadron SEAAF near Mandalay. A poem by Q Coull was however, included. This was titled –

My Auld Gird

The ither day fin I wis oot in the shed
Fit div ye think I saw hingin up there on the rack?
It wis something I hidna seen since the year 1912, July 3rd
It wis my auld gird.

Fit memories it brocht back o' rinnin cheek tae cheek
Me an' my auld gird, an ca'int wi my cleek,
Rinnin in ma barefit feet free as a bird,
Wi my auld gird.

There wisna mony places roon aboot that his twa didna ging
Drybrig, The Sloch, Port Gordon, we fairly hid wir fling.
I wid speak tilt a the time an' hit wid niver say a wurd
My auld gird.

Mony a time it broke an I gaed and gotit sorted at the
smiddy,
An then awa we wid ging again tae the Hill o' Maud or the
Craw's Widdy,
I near lost it ance at Finachty fin I wis oot wi Doddie Herd
My auld gird.

Weel that wis mony a year an noo its bent an roosty,
Hingin' up in the cupples o' a shed wi things orra an foosty,
It seems jist like the streen that I wis ca'int doon the brae,
It seems like that but I ken its nae.
It was Nineteen Twal, July the 3rd,
That I last wis oot wi'it –
My auld gird.

As a Portgordon reader says, "I can only raise my hat in tribute , Q Coull is beyond all criticism.

Victoria Park - The new committee consisting of Welfare Society members had outlined their plans for Victoria Park.

Aug 2 **Playhouse** - showing this week was 'The Song of Bernadette' starring Jennifer Jones and Wm. Eythe. Also during the week - 'Kismet' with Ronald Colman and Marlene Dietrich

Cairnfield Highland Games - The Seaforth and Cameron ITC Pipe Band are to be present at the Games. Alexander's are to run special buses to and from Cairnfield. Bob McKenzie and his Hillybilly Band from Aberdeen are to be there as will be James Reid and his Victory Concert Party. James Reid himself was a tenor singer of American and European fame. Others in the party to be -

Nessie Guyan, soubrette, Sheelea Hardie, soprano. Eileen Stabbs, violinist, Leslie Moran accordionist, John Carrol, conjurer and magician, Willie Geddes, comedian and character. There are also to be two performances during the day, in the afternoon and again in the evening. Seats can be booked through any committee member or Dr Smith.

Every one of the artistes mentioned above had played in all the principal Garrison Theatre shows in Scotland with real success and entertained troops at forces concerts all over the north east.

General Election – Labour swept to power with a handsome majority. A Conservative Debacle. The Unionists hold Banffshire. W.S. Duthie was elected MP for the county polling 10,689 votes, Millar, Liberal, came second with 6,401 votes with the Labour candidate, MacPherson, coming a poor third with only 4,524 votes. Duthie had a majority of 4,288.

It had been widely expected that the Conservatives would be returned albeit with a small majority with the sweeping Socialist victory wholly unlooked for.

Aug 9 **Playhouse** – Showing this week was the film 'Winged Victory' starring Pte Con. McCallister, Jeanne Craine and Sgt. Edmund O'Brien. "The man's picture that every woman will love". (It was rumoured that Jeanne Craine had a caravan round the back of the picture house since she was in Buckie so often. But who was caring she was lovely.)

Buckie and District Welfare Football Association are to hold a meeting in the clubhouse at Merson Park on Friday 10 August at 7.30pm. All those interested were asked to attend. Business – The appointment of office bearers; Team entries and cup draws; Any other competent business. G.A. Craig. Hon secretary.

Death - The death took place this week of Mr A. L.B. Melvin, Insurance Agent and former manager of Buckie Thistle Football Club. He served his time as a draper with John Green, Draper, High Street and turned to insurance after Mr Green retired. He was 66.

Britain still at war - The B.A. carried a salutary reminder that amidst all the jollification and merriment, not to mention Victory dances, taking place that Britain was still involved in a war in Asia with men still being killed and maimed daily.

Skipper's column - In his column in this edition the Skipper had included a poem written by a Scots Guardsman, James Henry, 2nd Bat. Of East Church Street, Buckie. The poem was titled – "The Guards Brigade".

Retiral of Clochan Headteacher - The headmaster of Enzie Public School and his wife, Mr and Mrs Patrick Urquhart, left the district. He had retired from the school at the summer recess. At a presentation in his honour Mr J. H. Duncan handed over a wallet of notes while Mr John Bonnyman presented Mr Urquhart with gold sleeve-links on behalf of the members of the Dramatic Society with which Mr Urquhart was deeply involved. Mr Urquhart returned thanks for both presents while Mr and Mrs Urquhart entertained the party in the schoolhouse.

16 Aug **THE WORLD WAR IS OVER. THE JAPANESE ACCEPT OUR TERMS**

The War is over - After many rumours it was announced over the wireless at midnight on Tuesday that the world war was over and that Japan had accepted terms imposed on them.

A great and glorious triumph has been achieved. For the first time for many bitter, weary years the world knows peace.

When the news was heard in Buckie the church bells were rung and street lighting was in full blaze. Many people were to be found out of doors and thankfulness expressed that the end had come at last.

Yesterday the town presented a bright appearance with flags flying in the breeze while celebrations were the order of the day.

Cairnfield Highland Gathering - The weather was ideal on Wednesday for the big day, fine and summery after two wet days on Monday and Tuesday. The ground was a bit soft but the warm sunshine encouraged crowds to attend and it were reckoned that over 10,000 were present. There were flags flying everywhere while the background of trees made for a very picturesque setting.

The Gathering was opened by the laird of Cairnfield who said that a great many people had worked hard to bring the Gathering about making special reference to Mr R.G. Young convener and honorary president, Mrs Thomson, Burnside of Tynet, honorary vice president, Mr J. H. Duncan, Secretary and Mr Wm. Gray, organiser. He also mentioned that Mr Grant had kindly given the field for the Games. He said that Games had been a regular event in the Enzie in the earlier part of the century and hoped that this might be the rebirth of events of the kind. The purpose of this particular Gathering was to raise funds for a Welcome Home Fund for returning service men and women. And if such events were to take place in the future, he suggested, funds should also go to the care and maintenance, where needed, of those who have been and are still fighting for us and their families. He said how the 9th Gordons were still in action at the time, with many of its members coming from this area.

Continuing with his opening address Mr Gordon gave the meaning of the word Cairnfield, the word, he said coming from the Gaelic and meaning the cairn by the bog. A cairn had once been located near to the house. The field in which they were now standing had been just that.

Cairnfield, said Mr Gordon, was originally part of the Hays of the Enzie estate, whose heiress married Alexander Seton, 1st Earl of Huntly. It seems that it was from this earl that Jock of Scardargue obtained the lands of Buckie, which included Cairnfield in exchange for Essie and an additional sum for selling Boddam near Insch, whose heiress John Gordon had married.

The first family to live in Cairnfield came from Wm. Gordon, 2nd son of the 3rd laird of Buckie who settled in these lands sometime before 1615.

The second family was a branch of that of Letterfourie coming from Robert Gordon of Mayne, fourth son of the 2nd laird of Letterfourie.

The first house of Cairnfield is said to have been burnt down during the Civil Wars by a mob from Elgin.

There were two grandstands holding in each several hundred while thousands more congregated around the enclosure. Mr Edward Allan, Elgin (a brother of Mr Peter Allan, Bush, Keith) kept the crowd in good humour with his sallies at the microphone.

First in the events were -

George Clark won all the open heavy events apart from throwing the 16-LB hammer, which was thrown further by J. McLennan, Alness. In addition Clark won the all in wrestling beating both Garmon and Knight who he threw out of the ring.

Gamrie won the Tug of War while the Cullen Land Army won the Ladies Tug of War.

in the light events (open) S. Sutherland won the 220 and 100 yards. F. Woodbine won the 440 yards. G. Lawtie, Portgordon won the Hop Step and Leap with a jump of 40', 4". A. Henderson jumped 18', 8" in the Long Leap.

In the heavy events open to local competitors only G. Lawtie threw the 16-LB hammer 98'3". J. Duncan threw the 56-LB weight 24'3" while J Duncan and G. Milne tied with the 28 B weight over the bar. The putting of the 16 LB ball was won by G. Milne, reaching 34' 7 1/2". J. Stewart won the Caber tossing event.

In the local light events – S. Sutherland again won the 100 and 220 yards with D. Howie winning the 440 yards race. A. Henderson won both the High Jump and Long Leap; Cornhill while G. Smith won the Hop Step and Leap.

The Pony race was won by Kenny Ewen on a pony owned by J. Milton, Auchenreath, Sydney McIntosh came second on a pony belonging to Mr Forbes of Pathhead.

A pie eating competition was won by G. Runcie

Aug 23

Playhouse – Showing this week in the local cinema was the film – 'Madonna of the Seven Moons'. Starring in this were – Phyllis Calvert, Stewart Granger and Patricia Roc.

Wanted for Buckie West Church - A Church Officer was wanted. Salary £30 p.a.. Apply to Wm. Reid, Session Clerk, 18 Linn Crescent.

Buckie Orchestral Society - Practices are to resume in the High School on Thursday 13 September.

Highland and Step Dancing - Miss Diana Campbell gave notice that her classes would resume in the Townhouse Hall on Saturday 8 September. New pupils to be enrolled at 2 p.m. with Advanced at 3 p.m. More information could be had from contacting her at 2 Mill Crescent.

Portknockie War Damage Repairs - Tenders were being invited for the reconstruction of the property at 6 Seafield Street, Portknockie which was destroyed in an air raid by German war planes over the town. Mason, Carpenter and Joiner, Slater, Plasterer, Plumber, Painter, Glazier and Electrician firms were asked to make contact with Tawse and Allan, Aberdeen. Tenders by General Contractors for all trades considered. (George Packman, Buckie got the contract for the plaster work as I remember working there.)

RAF Choir Return Visit – The joint choirs from RAF Banff and Dallachy are to make a return visit to the Baptist Church on Sunday 2 September at 7.15 p.m. People were advised to be early to secure a seat.

Welfare Football - Games are to take place at Merson Park in the J.H. Duncan Cup Competition. Semi-Final between Findochty and Portgordon on Wednesday at 7 p.m. with the 1st round replay between the Home Guard and Portknockie on Saturday at 3 p.m.

British Red Cross Society – Scottish Branch - The closure of the Duke of Gloucester Red Cross and St John Appeal set up mainly for war purposes is to take place on 30 June. Thanks are extended to all for their support during the last 5 1/2 years. Scottish Branch Red Cross - are to launch an appeal for funds to undertake their post war work of the care of the sick and wounded .

Smart message boy wanted – T. Paterson, Grocer, 27 High Street.

A new address -Readers (of the B. A) who sent mail to BLA should now address their letters to BAOR (British Army Of the Rhine). The lads' mail will probably be delayed if the new instructions are not compiled with.

Good harvest weather – With the good weather continuing harvest in the district is in full swing. It was hoped that this would continue for another week at least to see the back broken and all safely brought home and stacked.

Local photograph in the Seac - The admirable little newspaper, Seac , published for servicemen of South East Asia command carried in its issue of July 24 **a photograph of drifters in Buckie Harbour under the heading, "Home"**. No doubt the picture gave pleasure to many local lads and raised a lump in many throats for Buckie has a great number of men serving in the theatre, which Seac covers. We wish them a speedy and safe return.

Victory Treat - The children of Cliff Terrace and the Muir had a victory treat on the old plantation ground near the Terrace last Wednesday.

A dancing board was provided by the committee and was decorated with flags and coloured electric lights. Tea was served during the afternoon and icecream and lemonade were served during the evening.

A sing-song was led by Messrs Park Buchan and Wm. Smith. Baillie Cowie proposed the vote of thanks.

Dancing then commenced and continued until the early morning. Householders and others in the district got together to give the treat which was a great success.

Welfare League teams – Portknockie, Portgordon, Home Guard, Findochty, Jones and Cadets (Army)

Poem - Another contribution by **Tpr. R. Brown , SEAC is to be found on page 2** column 4. This is titled 'Spit and Polish' and clearly describes what the army authorities in Burma had the soldiers doing to fill in time now that the war was over.

The New Buckie Thistle - (page 3 column 1) Buckie Welfare Society are backing the revival of Buckie Thistle Football Club and have obtained a licence from the Ministry of Works to spend £2,000 on reconstruction work at Victoria Park.

The work is intended to reach completion within a month and provides hot and cold shower baths, new fencing around the actual pitch and a seven foot high cement wall around the park. (Some people were of the opinion that the wall around Victoria Park was paid for from the Welcome Home Fund. This is quite wrong the Welcome Home Committee and Buckie Welfare Society were two distinct and separate organisations .)

The pavilion will be extensively improved as regard accommodation and protected against the weather by three coats of paint.

With a view to an early resumption of the game the committee have contacted Keith, Huntly, Deveronvale, Peterhead and Fraserburgh. The two latter teams have agreed to participate in the new league and there seems little doubt that the others will also express their willingness. Aberdeen 'A' and the Varsity have also been approached with the intention of securing their participation in an Aberdeen and District League.

The committee are determined to have a team that will attract fans from a wide district and a team that will play on the finest ground in the north.

New column – 'Conversation Pieces' by Weekender.

Female Football match - A crowd of 1300 spectators turned out at Princes Royal Park, Banff to see a football match between local girls and WAAF from Banff airfield last week. The match, which ended in a goal-less draw, was in aid of the town War Commemorative Fund and followed by a Victory Dance resulted in £80 for the cause.

Sept 6 **Killed in action** - - **Sergeant James Cowie RAF** who was reported missing from air operations over Hungary on November 22 1944 was now officially presumed to have **lost his life on that date**. This news was conveyed to his parents, Mr and Mrs Peter Cowie, 7 Titness Street, Buckie during the week. Sergeant Cowie who was 22 was their second son and prior to joining the RAF in 1942 worked in the Public Assistance Office in Buckie. He was a sergeant in the ATC.

Welfare Football Association - Mr R. A. Dustan of the Scottish Welfare Association met officials of different clubs in the district and discussed rules and regulations appertaining to Welfare football.

Norwegians arrive home - Mrs Smith, Gloneen, Chancellor Road, Portessie, received a telegram on Saturday to say that a Norwegian family who had lived with her for the past 2 ½ years had arrived home in Norway. They sailed from an English port three weeks before.

RAF choir - With some of their number, especially among the lady voices already demobilised, the choir which sang in the Baptist Church on Sunday was smaller than it had been previously, nevertheless they acquitted themselves well. Solos were rendered by three males persons as were the Scripture readings. The Padre's address was based on the subject "It is , be not afraid", from the incident of the storm on the sea.

Victory treat - Children from following streets – Queen Street, High Street, West Cathcart Street, Duguid Street, Blairdaff Street and South Pringle Street enjoyed a Victory Treat on Friday. Councillor Yuill declared the treat open when free ices were distributed to all the children present before all moved on to the Commercial Park. All sort of games were played with races and other competitions, including a tug of war and entries specifically for ladies.

The major event of the day was a Fancy Dress Parade. This was very well supported with a wide array of costumes. Winners were chosen but so that those had taken the trouble to get dressed up should not be disappointed each child entrant received a sixpence. In the evening there was a concert in which both children and adults alike performed solos, concerted items while adults put on sketches. There was a huge and appreciative audience with people from all over the town. Still later a dance board , under the control of John Wilson was well patronised late into the evening and early morning rounding off a very successful day that will live in the memory of children of the district for a long time. Organisers of the scheme were Mrs Coull, Fairfield, and Mrs Bruce, Roselea, who worked hard collecting the money to provide the treat.

Football match at Dallachy - - A selected team, drawn from players in the district are to play at Dallachy airfield tonight. The match has been organised with a view to choosing certain players from both sides for Buckie Thistle to participate in the Qualifying Cup matches soon. Deveronvale have intimated their willingness to play in the new league suggested by Buckie Thistle.

Death of Henry McBain - The death took place this week in Peterhead at the age of 85 of Henry McBain who was for a long time in business on West Church Street as a cabinetmaker. He was later a partner in the firm of Gray and McBain, Cabinetmakers and Upholsterers. When this partnership was dissolved he again was in business on his own before moving to Peterhead where he was foreman cabinetmaker with the firm of W & J Jack. In Buckie he was for a long time the Precentor of the UP Church. He was a member of Buckie Bowling Club and the town council from 1896 until he retired in 1902.

Buckie Miniature Rifle Club - The club which had been in abeyance since 1940 came back into being following a meeting in the Drill Hall on Monday of this week. The following office-bearers were appointed - Hon. president - W. F. Samuel; president S.S. Fowlie; vice president - A. Anderson; secretary/treasurer - A.R. Wilson, assistant - V. McWilliam. Committee - D. L. Fowler, Wm. Livingstone, G. Legge, J. Burgess, C. Marshall, J. Garden. Range Warden - A. R. Wilson.

Shooting to commence on 1st October with the hope that members would get in as much practice as possible before the winter competitions so that they can gain and hold their old position.

Donation from Maggie Fair - Buckie Sailors' Home received £15 from Maggie Fair Funds.

Sept 13 **Playhouse** - One of the films being shown this week was one that is still remembered well - "Tall In The Saddle" starring John Wayne and Ella Raines.

No lights on his bike - A man was fined 5/- for cycling during the hours of darkness without lights. The size of the fine was noticeable and similar to that of fifty years before.

Japanese POW's were on their way home - Most had sent word from Bombay but others came from Ceylon and in one case Australia. Among the men now released and homeward bound were - Peter Wilson, 9 Mill Crescent, Wm. Smith, 27 Mill Crescent, two brothers, Douglas and Walter French.

Farm worker under arrest - James Alexander Ewen, a farmworker at Bogend, and who had been charged for riding a bicycle on the outskirts of Buckie during the hours of darkness failed to appear before the court to face the charge as he had been warned. A warrant for his arrest was to be issued. The accused when charged had said that there was no need for lights when the full moon made it as bright as day. The police had said if we wished to go without lights he would be advised to come home via the 'Heilan 'Line.

Sept 20 **Cluny Restaurant** - Notice was given that the Cluny Restaurant (Stephen's) was to be closed from 25th September until 5th October.

***** **Football - The first game in the Scottish Victory Qualifying Cup and also the first competitive game for Buckie Thistle since the first year of the war is to take place at Victoria Park on Saturday 22 September 1945 between Buckie Thistle and Deveronvale. Admission (including tax) 1/- Stand and enclosure 1/- extra. Boys and Forces in uniform 1/2 price.**

Playhouse - Showing this week in the local cinema is the film "None But The Lonely Heart" starring Cary Grant and Ethel Barrymore - also Alan Ladd and Loretta Young in "And now Tomorrow"

Harvest Home Dance - in aid of Enzie Welcome Home Fund is to take place in the Clochan School on Friday 28 September 1945 starting at 8 p.m. Spot dances. Tea served. Music by the Melodymakers Band. Admission 2/6.

Buckie Miniature Rifle Club - Shooting will commence on 1st October at 7 p.m. and every Monday and Thursday evening throughout the winter. A cordial invitation is extended to all interested parties

Buckie Home Guard Rifle Club - (Miniature Range) Opening night Tuesday 2nd October at 7.30 p.m. A Shooting Competition will be held on 23 September at 2 p.m. Home Guard, Ex-Servicemen and serving servicemen on leave are invited to take part. Refreshments.

More Jap POW's on way home - Wm. Thomson, Oran House, John Geddes, RAF, Titness Street, Stanley Smith, Linn Crescent, Andrew Henderson, Findochty, David Albert Flett, Findochty, Joseph Russell, RAF. Drybridge. From Cullen, Lewis Falconer and Charles Cruickshank who was a planter.

RAF Dallachy - An article on page three reads - 'What RAF Dallachy Did to Counter the Undersea Menace'.

Football - In a trial match at Victoria Park on Monday a team from RAF Lossiemouth beat a Buckie eleven by five goals to one. Buckie was represented by - Gray (Fochabers), Newman (Aberdeen), A. Clark, Middleton, Watson (Portgordon), Bomber Thomson, Sykie Wallace, Keith Imlah, Newman (Aberdeen), Hay and Hughie Mackay. RAF Lossiemouth - King, Mellis and Alcock; Moses (Wolves), Tunney (Watford), James, Hutcheson (Bolton), Cassidy (Manchester City), Ryder, Stirton, Kelly (Northampton).

Team to play the 'Vale - Gray, D. Pirie, S. Clark, Middleton, F. Smith, Bomber Thomson, forwards from - Hutchison (RAF Los.), Wallace, Imlah, Watson, Hay, Anderson (RAF Dall.), and Mackay. Referee Mr MacNiven, Inverness.

Sept 27 **Buckie Public Library** - Opening times commencing on Monday 1st October - Monday, Wednesday and Friday, evenings - 6.30 - 8.30 p.m. . Tuesday Thursday and Saturday afternoons from 3-5 p.m. Alexander Christie. County Librarian.

For sale - Bridge Cottage, Gollachy, belonging to Mr Wm. Munro who is leaving the district. Dwelling house, outhouses and one big shed that would accommodate three lorries and a car.

New dance band - The band named to play at a dance in the Fishermen's Hall was that of Stanley Stewart. This was the first time that this name had been noted. Other bands mentioned in this week's edition were Bill Geddes in the Townhouse, The Astoria at Shielburn, Beattie's Band from Aberchirder in Portessie and the Regal in Findochty.

Buckie Welcome Home Fund - The sum now in this fund included £1,452.9.8, which had been gathered off dances organised by the Ladies Welcome Home Fund.

More returning Jap POW's - Two came from Rathven - James Stables and Alex Taylor. From Buckie - Robert Lawson and from Portgordon - James Watson.

Football - Buckie Thistle beat Deveronvale in the 1st Round of the Victory Qualifying Cup by two goals to nil. The team was - King, Pirie and Clark; Moses, F. Smith and Thomson; Wallace, Imlah, Watson, Hay and Kelly. Moses had been signed as player coach.

Farm servant fined - A farm servant from Portknockie, a horseman, was fined £3 at Banff for leaving his place of employment, Cruats Farm, without permission. He said that he couldn't get on with the grieve. (At this time neither the farm worker or farmer could terminate employment without the permission of the Ministry of Labour. What was called a "Stand-Still " order was in force. My own father wanted to leave Burnside of Enzie for Sauchenbush in 1942 but was refused permission.)

Cook went missing - A 19 year old Buckie man who had signed on as a cook on board SS Charlus went absent when the ship was in Newcastle and didn't turn up for three days. He was fined £3.

Lower Buckpool 'V' celebrations - the adults and children of Lower Buckie held their victory celebrations last Wednesday beginning at 4.00 p.m. Mr Duncan introduced Dr Hendry who said a few words before giving the word 'go'. He was thanked by David Geddes, Bowies Lane.

The children were served with tea and sandwiches before games took place at Harbour Head before a Fancy Dress Parade took place led by Piper David Smith, Drybridge. There was a huge turn out. After this all had an ample helping of ice-cream. Dancing then commenced which went on until one in the morning, with music being supplied by Stanley Stewart's Band. Tea and lemonade was served at this time.

Wm. Gray, Star Inn was organiser, with convenors being - Mrs Lyon and Mrs Grieve helped by a committee of ladies and gents. George Paterson was both secretary and treasurer. The committee thanked everybody who had helped to make the event such a success.

Column - " Snaps Fae Ilka Airt" was back.

Oct 4

British Legion - (notice) - Buckie and District Branch Office, 23 East Church Street, will be open on Monday and Friday from 7 until 8 p.m. for the collection of fees and giving advice. Note After this date all membership fees will be payable at this office as collectors will not now call on members. W. Scorgie. Secretary.

Knitting for Liberated Europe to end - The appeal made to the women of Britain, through the WVS at the request of the

government,, to alleviate the suffering in Europe by knitting a quota of into specified articles of clothing is now being brought to an end. Those with wool on hand are asked to return finished garments and unknitted wool to the WVS depot , Pozzi's Corner Shop, West Church Street, before Monday 15 October. Open Monday – Friday between 3-4 p.m..

Arradoul Youth Club are to be holding a whist drive and dance in the WRI Hall, Arradoul on October 16. Music to be supplied by another new band on the music scene – Watson's.

The St Andrews's Hotel - John Watson Watson , Fireclay Manufacturer, Glasgow was applying for a licence for the St Andrews Hotel. This was later granted.

Jap POW's safe - Another two former prisoners of the Japanese had returned home. They were John Morrison and William McIntosh, both soldiers from Portessie.

Oct 11 **Children for adoption** - Up for adoption in this edition were twin girls of three months and a boy of two years.

Army Cadet Force – Training will commence on Wednesday 17 October at 7.30 p.m.. New members aged between 14 and 18 should enrol then at the Drill Hall.

Football – Buckie Thistle 5 Peterhead 2 2nd round of Victory Qualifying Cup.
Team – Archibald, McGeakie and Clark; Moses, Thomson and Hay; Wallace, G. Tough, Connel, Jarrard and Kelly. Scorers – Connel 2, Jarrard 2 and Tough

Victoria Park - the work was almost completed with cement poles and tubing instead of timber around the pitch and conveniences in two corners, south east and north west. Hot and cold water was being laid on while the final coat of paint was taking place.

Two councillors resign - Councillors John Milton and P. J. Cowie resigned as did J. Johnston, later following a decision of the Provost (Merson).

Servicemen and new housing - -The town council agreed that servicemen should get 75% of all new houses that were built .

Bridge over the Spey at Fochabers - Engineers gave the bridge at Fochabers a bad report saying that weight should be restricted to 12 tons and a speed crossing of 5mph.

Thanksgiving Savings The Banffshire target had been set at £250,000 but was exceeded by £43,526.

Town Council co-opts - John H. Duncan, Engineer, and Hugh Macleod, Headmaster of St Peter's RC School became town councillors in place of John Johnston and John Milton.

Oct 18 **Playhouse** - Showing this week was the film "Meet Me In St Louis" starring Judy Garland and Margaret O'Brien.
Also the "Rose of Tralee" with Lesley Brook, Angela Glynn and John Longda.

Death of former POW -Sadly one former Japanese POW who would not be coming home was Alexander Scorgie, 30, 3rd son of Mr

and Mrs R. Scorgie, Flour Mill, Tynet. They had been informed by the War Office that he had died while a POW in Malaie Camp, Malaya on October 10 1943.

Still another new dance band - The Billy Jones and his famous Swingtette was to provide the music at a dance in the Town House At the same dance Margaret Smith and Bob Stewart, Scotland's foremost ballroom dancers were to demonstrate the Quick Step, Modern Waltz and Slow Fox Trot. Admission 3/- with Forces in uniform 2/6. (Forces gaining admission at a reduced rate was gradually being phased out.)

Use for siren - Buckie NFS will use the air raid siren to call out its members in the event of a fire. The scheme which became operative on Monday provides for the sounding of a continuous note of one minute's duration and will be used between 7.30 am and 8 p.m..

Presumed killed - Mrs and Mrs William Stewart, 85 Seatown received word that their son F/Sergeant Alexander Stewart RAFVR who was previously reported missing over Germany on 23/24 October 1944 was now **presumed to have lost his life** on that date.

Sandy' Stewart was a well-known member of the ATC before joining the RAF and was employed by Messrs John Barclay Plumbers and Slaters.

Football - In the Aberdeen and District League, Buckie Thistle beat Keith F.C. by 7 goals to 2 at Keith.

HMS Deveron - The ship adopted by Banffshire was transferred to the Royal Indian Navy.

Oct 25

Playhouse - Showing this week in the cinema was the film 'Blithe Spirit' with Rex Harrison, Constance Cumming, Kay Hammond and Margaret Rutherford.

Also - 'A Tree Grows in Brooklyn' with Dorothy McGuire, Joan Blunder, James Dann and Lloyd Nolan.

Farm Servant Meeting - The Scottish Farm Servants Union, Buckie Branch were to be holding a meeting in the Carnoch Sawmill Canteen on Friday 2 November 1945 at 7.30 p.m.. voting to take place for a new General Secretary. All members required to be present. Bring contribution cards. James Anderson, Branch secretary.

Opening announcement - James Mayne begs to intimate that he has commenced in business as a motor hirer at Cluny Garage and hopes by strict personal attention to business he will merit a share of public patronage. 6 West Cathcart Street.

Opening announcement - George Batters begs to intimate that he will commence business as a gents' hairdresser at 21 Main Street on Tuesday 30 October.

Arradoul Victory Party - Arradoul, Cairnfield, Inchgower and Drybridge children and adults were present at a Victory Party in the Arradoul WRI Hall on Wednesday 10 October. Tea was served on well-laden tables. Following this a Fancy Dress Parade took place, which was judged by Mr and Mrs George Coutts, Buckie and Mr and Mrs Shaw, Arradoul House.

The children then enjoyed jelly and ice cream before leaving for home. In the evening there was a social for the grown-ups when Mrs E.Geddes welcomed a large party. The mainly old fashioned dances were heartily enjoyed while Miss Inkster sang some songs and Mrs Geddes and Miss Sarah Forbes gave recitations.

Gruesome find- Two farm servants, George Burgess, Portessie, and James Ewen, Buckie, while making a count of cattle on the Hill of Maud on Saturday afternoon came across the body of James Cowie, 'Carrot' who had been missing since Monday 8th October. It seems as if Mr Cowie had gone for a walk up to the Rochomie Dam meaning to come back via Bogend but had suffered a seizure from his exertions, sat down, or collapsed, and passed away.

Some of the last – Late on Friday evening with the blast on their sirens two Norwegian fishing boats left their moorings and gave a last farewell to the town that had given them refuge and a living for so many years.

Returned Jap POW - Gnr. Bill Gration RA 26, of Great Western Road, Buckpool recently returned home after spending three and a half years in captivity. Before the war Bill worked with George Sandison, Butcher, before going to Glasgow from where he was called up in November 1939. Although he had written a post card every three months as he was allowed his mother only received four.

Football - Buckie Thistle gave up all interest in the destination of the Victory Qualifying Cup when they were beaten three goals to two in Inverness by the Caley. It was said that the Caley had a number of guest players, as, of course, had Buckie. Team – King, Hay and Clark; Moses, McGill and Thomson; Wallace, Cassidy, Connell, Gerrard and Kelly

Nov 1

Official notification of death - Word was received by his mother Mrs Shearer, 12 Seafield Street, Cullen that her youngest son, **Fit/Lt Austin Whyte Shearer, RAF, is presumed to have lost his life** while on operations over Bocholt on 21st March 1945. He had previously been reported missing.

Thank you notes – the front page of the B.A, carried thank you notes, some from the returned prisoners themselves and some from their mothers. Many of the men had received money and gifts from friends and neighbours. Among those mentioned was John Gillies, 12 Station Road, Portessie, and John Morrison, 24 Merson Street., Robert Lawson J.J. Geddes, 13 Titness Street.

Photographs – In this edition there was a photograph of **Miss May Innes**, Cross Roads Cottages, Glasterim who served with the NAFFI at Dover. She was awarded a Certificate for Bravery. Another photograph shows a picture of **F/Sgt Sandy Stewart RAFVR.**

Nov 8

Advert- Buckie Thistle are to play Deveronvale in the Commercial Cup at Victoria Park on Saturday 10 November.

Notice - Buckie War Work Fund Comforts 1945 - Particulars of local men and women serving were required urgently. Number, rank, name, full postal address and home address. These should be forwarded to the Town Chamberlain's office.

Football – 'Vale 0 Buckie Thistle 6 - Commercial Cup.

Team – King, Fraser and Clark; Moses, McGill and Thomson;
Wallace, Duff, Simpson, Gerrard and Kelly
Referee – C. Harrower, Keith.

School football - Buckie High School played Elgin Academy in a friendly at Victoria Park and beat them by four goals to two.
Team – Taylor, Sutherland and Thain; McLure, Valentine and Jas. Garden;
Souter, Hendry, Walker, McKenzie and Garden.
Referee – George McIntosh VC.

Nov 15 **Opening of new Cluny Hall** - With the Cluny Hall (Morven Hall?) on Cluny Terrace having been sold the Christian group that met there moved to new premises they had acquired off High Street in part of the Cluny Net Works, which the congregation had done up very tastefully.

Special services were to take place on the Lord's Day beginning on 18 November. Sunday School at 2 p.m.. Address on Church at 3 p.m. with a Gospel Service at 6 p.m. . All made welcome.

For sale - Cycle, Radio and Electrical Shop at 31 East Church Street, belonging to Wm. McHardy was up for sale.

Football - The Duncan Cup Final between Jones and Findochty is to take place at Victoria Park on Saturday 17 November, beginning at 2.30 p.m.. Admission 6d with stand an extra 6d. Forces and Boys 3d.

Couthy court comment - At a Police Court Bailie Hendry remarked to an accused, "I see that you haven't been up at this court since before the war". Accused replied, "Aye, but I've been awa during the war."

Football - Buckie Thistle 3 Deveronvale 0 Commercial Cup 2nd leg.
Team – Gray, Fraser and Clark; Haygarth, Pirie and Thomson;
Wallace, Duff, Connell, Moses and Gerrard.

Huntly 1 Thistle 'A' 1
Team – Turner, Wood and Eric Slater, Clark, Hector and Penny;
Geddes, Thain, Watson, Murray and Mackay.

Nov 22 **Thanks** - Andrew Geddes, Roadside, Enzie, had a note in the B.A. thanking the committee who had arranged a social evening in the Arradoul Hall and handed over gifts of money to returning Japanese POW'S. Mr Geddes was included among the recipients because of the wounds he had received at the battle of El Alamein where he lost one hand and the use of the other. Andy some time later opened a Post Office at his home address which many may remember as being a green -painted shed. He operated this quite successfully for at least 20 years afterwards.

Further thanks - Craig Gordon who had sent Christmas greetings to all in the Buckie area during his spell as a POW in Germany had a thank you note in the B.A. on behalf of his brother Jim and himself. They received the sum of £9.12.6 from a collection made on High Street by Mrs John Stuart, Mrs Dingwall, Miss Cumming and Miss Milne. Another returning soldier, Donald McLean, 13 Cathcart Street had received the same and also added his thanks to the people of Cathcart Street. The gifts were handed over by Charles Stewart, Butcher and James Pozzi, Newsagent.

New dance band – The Blue Bell Accordion Band were to play at a dance following a whist drive in Enzie Public School on 7 December. This was being run by Rathven and Enzie Ploughing Association.

Welcome Home Fund and new dance band - - A whist drive and dance will take place in the same school on the 30 November in aid of the Enzie Welcome Home Fund. The music for the dance was to be provided by the Fochabers Sextet Band. This was the first mention of this band.

Photograph - A picture on page two shows a happy couple, Mr and Mrs Pardoe after their wedding in Antwerp. The bride The bride was formerly Helen Thom of 20 Anton Street, Buckpool who was then serving with the ATS and her husband in the army.

Town Council - Councillor Anderson was co-opted on to the Town Council in place of former Councillor John Johnston who had recently resigned.

Photograph of the 'Jags' – This is shown on page 3 and taken prior to their match in Inverness against the Caley in which they were beaten in the 3rd round of the Victory Qualifying Cup. The players and coach are all named.

Football - Fraserburgh 2 Buckie Thistle 4 Aberdeenshire League

In the Duncan Cup Jones beat Findochty in the final by 8 goals to five. Not much of a game was the verdict!

Social for ex POW's - Former soldiers and airmen belonging to the Arradoul and Drybridge area who had been held captive by the Japanese for three and a half years and the Germans for five were entertained at a social held in their honour in the WRI Hall at Arradoul.

The men included - Jack Shand,, Slackhead, Wm. Burnett, Caravan, Walter and Douglas French late of the Enzie, James Henderson, Drybridge, Bert McIntyre, Drybridge, Sandy McQueen, Inchgower, Joseph Russell, Drybridge, J. G. Sinclair, Arradoul Schoolhouse, J. Hay, Oran, Wm. Thomson, Oran. Each of the men received a gift of £5. The same money was given by post to four others who were unable to attend, including Andy Geddes who was already mentioned.

The event had been organised by a committee, which included – Mrs E. Geddes, Miss Young, Arradoul, secretary/treasurer, Mrs Anderson, Blaemuir, Mrs Cryle, Cairnfield, Mrs Cooper, Muirton, Mrs Geddes, Den Cottage, Mrs A. Geddes, Briarbank, Mrs Hector, Mill of Buckie, Mrs Jas. Grant, Easter Bogs, Mrs Low, Beechview, Mrs W. Shand, Slackhead, Enzie, Miss Wood, Arradoul Smiddy, Mr A. Forbes, Farnachty.

The Regal Band played music for the dancing which was mainly old fashioned. Recitations were given by Mrs E. Geddes and Miss Sarah Forbes. Community singing took place also a raffle. Jack Shand, on behalf of his fellow recipients thanked the committee for the handsome gift and also providing the entertainment and social evening. Douglas French added his few words.

29 Nov. **Football** - In a match in the Aberdeen District League the Thistle beat Huntly by four clear goals.

In the match at Keith the previous week, Wm. Murray, 30 Linn Crescent had his leg broken playing for the Thistle 'A' team. He was

taken from Keith to Banff Infirmary . it was reported that he had taken a turn for the worse with his parents being sent for. He had scored two goals in the match with Daly at C/F scoring four.

Poem - A poem is found on **page 4 column 4** titled 'As Ithers See Us' written by 'A Slochie Loon'

(This refers to the complaints that were being banded about concerning the younger element in the town who were apparently getting in some people's hair. The more things change the more they remain the same.)

Dec 6

More thank you notes - From or on behalf of Wm. Bowie and W. J. and S. J. Smith and Peter Wilson, all former POW's with the Japanese.

Drowned in India - While serving with the army in Indian Command on 13 November 1945, Gunner Alexander Runcie, RA, 22, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Alexander Runcie, 131` Seatown, Cullen lost his life while swimming.

For sale - the coal business of Murray and Cowie, Low Street, Buckie, was for sale.

Election of Town Council - Provost Merson intimated that he was to retire. A total of 12 candidates put their names forward and were to meet the ratepayers in a heckling meeting in the Fishermen's Hall. this would be the first local election for seven years.

The 12 were - John H. Duncan, (Master Engineer), Hugh McLeod, (RC Headteacher), Thomas Mowatt, (Confectioner), Alexander G. Cowie,(Fishsalesman), son of ex Bailie Cowie, Herbert J. Flett,(Fishsalesman), Mrs Jessie Milne,(Housewife), John Milton,(Carter), Sydney . Tuxworth,(Fishsalesman), J. Park Buchan,(Insurance Manager), John Christie (Teacher, John Johnston, (Printer), James Macrae (Fishsalesman), John Yuill Retired Schoolmaster). Yuill, Mowatt, Macrae, and Duncan were presently councillors and were to be reappointed.

Dec 13

Died in a Jap prison Camp - Formerly reported to have been a prisoner in Japanese hands word has now been received that **Sapper Alexander Smith RE, died while a prisoner on June 20 1943 in a camp in Thailand.** He was the husband of Nan Stewart, 3 Hay Street, Buckpool and son of Mrs and Mrs J. Smith, 1 Aboyne Street, Ianstown.

The following lines were written in his death announcement in the local paper -

Not till the loom is silent
And the shutters cease to fly
Shall God unroll the canvas
And tell the reason why.

Inchgower Distillery to re-start- The distillery that had been shut down since the war, was to resume working on 17 December. All former draff customers were being asked to book for supplies by Saturday 15 December.

Arradoul Youth Club - are to hold a Sale of Work on Wednesday 19 December at 3 p.m. There were to be stalls for work, cake and candy toys and produce. A dance was to follow, commencing at 8.30p.m. with music by the Regal Band. Admittance 2/-

Playhouse - Showing in the local cinema this week was the film - "Thunderhead Son of Flicka". Starring Roddy McDowell, Preston Foster and Rita Johnston.

Whist at Clochan - among the winners at the Ploughing Association whist drive held at Clochan during last week were two airmen from RAF Dallachy. An airman was also among the winners at a Bowling Club whist in Buckie. This was the last time that any airmen were ever mentioned and seems to tell us of the run down of the numbers of airmen now stationed in the local area, at Dallachy and elsewhere.

The decrease in servicemen generally in the local area was perhaps borne out by the fact that of all the dances, parties and whist drives advertised for the end of the year only Rathven WRI mentioned that members of the Forces would gain cheaper admittance.

Cullen Links cleared - A letter was read at the recent meeting of Cullen Town council from the War Office, which said that that part of the links, which had been retained as a minefield, had now been de-requisitioned.

Whist Drives still popular - In the B. A. this week there were adverts for whist drives at Rathven, Clochan, All Saints Church, Catholic Institute and the Bowling Club.

Buckie Town Council - John Milton (Socialist) a former councillor, topped the poll with 1323 votes. He was closely followed by Alex G. Cowie, then Sydney Tuxworth, James Macrae, Thomas Mowatt, John Yuill, John Johnston, John H. Duncan. The unsuccessful in order of votes cast were - Hugh McLeod, John Christie (Socialist), Herbert Flett, John P. Buchan and Mrs E. Milne. (Male chauvinism was still very much alive despite the war - fit quid a wifie dae on the council, ye may well ask,)

The Skipper (Park Buchan) said - It would seem that his (John Milton) popularity in the local area rather than his political leanings earned him his high place. (Was Buchan's slip showing? John Milton made no secret of the fact that he was a Socialist.)

New column - 'Johnnie Butler's chat'

Spike's column - He was introducing a new serial - the greatest since "the Monster of the Mucks" Described, he said, by six publishers as the thriller of the century - "The Curse of the Bog of Rannas" He wrote what he called a Foreword this week.

Dec 20

Thank you notes from councillors - The people who had stood for the council in Buckie, Findochty or Portknockie, whether they were successful or not had thank you notes in the local paper thanking all those who had supported them.

New Buckie Provost - John Yuill was elected Provost by six votes to five over Bailie Hendry. This was seen as something of a surprise and not too well received in the town with Bailie Hendry having been a council member for a much longer period of time.

Ploughing Match at Clochan - A tractor match took place at Clochan last week in two fields beside the village, one belonging to Mrs Reid of Burnside, where my dad worked, and the other Mr McLean of Cuttlebrae. (I remember the day well as I was given the day off by my boss, Mr George Packman, so that I could attend.

My Uncle Charlie, who had been a POW with the Japanese had returned home and was staying with us. He accompanied me to see the match. He invited me into the beer tent but , unlike many of a similar age today (15) in the year 2000 I thought that it would be committing a major crime and didn't venture in though Charlie did say that I could have a lemonade)

Ladies Guild- The Ladies Guild raised the sum of £650 for the Sailors' Home. In his opening speech Mr J. R. C. Logie spoke of the splendid work done by the British Sailors Society and the useful part the Sailors' Home in Buckie had played in looking after the many ratings and seamen in Buckie during the war. He predicted a very useful future for the Home in looking after our own seamen and fishermen. (It wasn't all that many years before the Home closed for good and was sold first to Buckie Town Council who in turn sold it to Banff County Council.)

Dec 27

Death announcement - The B. A. carried the death announcement of Peter Goodall, a 17 year old apprentice joiner of 12 Anton Street who died while playing football on the Provost's Park (Merson Park) on Saturday afternoon. (I was actually working along with Peter in the morning in a house on Great Western Road belonging to a family by the name of Bruce.) His father, Francie was still in the Army at the time but was on his way home.

Arradoul School bairns were each given 8 threepenny bits, donated by Mr and Mrs R.G. Young, Arradoul Mains, Mr and Mrs James Anderson, Blaemuir, Drybridge, Mrs Grant, Drybridge and Mrs Milne, Blaemuir. Their contributions were greatly appreciated.

V. J. Picnic - The children and parents living on East and West Church Street, West Street, Titness Street, Pringle Street and Cluny Terrace had a Christmas Party in the Town House on Monday lasting from 4 p.m. till midnight.

This was paid for from money left over after the district V.J. picnic and everyone had a good time with dancing, games, eating and drinking. Music was provided by Bill Geddes and his band. Councillor Mowatt was a very credible Santa Claus, handing over a gift to each child.

An unusual wind up was the singing of the Christmas Carol, "Hark The Herald Angels sing" followed by Auld Lang Syne.

There was a large and willing host of helpers. The joint convenors of both the picnic and the party were Alex Hay and John Christie.

Football - In the Commercial Cup Final, first leg, the Thistle were beaten by five goals to three by the Broch. The Thistle team was - King, Bowie and Clark; Moses, Hector and Thomson; Milne, Ross, Brierley and Kelly.

Thistle 'A' 5 Junior Select 2

Thistle - Jappy, Wood, and Slater; Clark, Pirie and Penny; Cowie, Geddes, Stewart, Hay and Mackay.

Juniors - Turner, Cowie and Cowie; G. Cowie, Thain and Reid; Flett, Newman, Erickson, W. Cowie and Farquhar.

Standstill Order - The order which applied to both farmers and farm servants was still in place. A farm servant could not leave his place of employment without permission nor could a farmer terminate the worker's employment. A farmer could not employ someone over 18 without going through the proper channels.

Jan 3 1946 **Football Final of the Commercial Cup** Buckie
Thistle 1 Fraserburgh 0 (aggregate 5-4 to the Broch) The B. A.
report said the better team lost. Still that's been said before and
many times since then
Buckie - King, Imlah, Bowie; Laing, Hector, Thomson; Milne,
Moses, Daly, Brierley and Kelly