

1953 The Banffshire Advertiser cost 2 ½ d

Jan 1 **Christmas versus Hogmanay** - A report on page one said how Christmas was fast taking over from the New Year. 90% of children in Buckie now hung their stockings up at Christmas compared to 30 years before when the reverse was the norm. Shopkeepers, too, said that trade was far busier during the week leading up to Christmas than the following week before Hogmanay.

Those with advertisements in the paper were – F. Ritchie, 72 East Church Street, Ladies and Gents Outfitters also Household goods.
 Central Fruit Store – 3 High Street, Fruit and Vegetables of all kinds
 Cluny Cleaners , 5 High Street. Webster’s Garage, 55 West Church Street.
 The Studio, Portessie, Modern Photography.
 Cluny House Hotel, Stephen’s Restaurant , Breakfast, Lunch and Teas
 George Robertson, Draper. Cullen. E. Smith Burnside Stores, Findochty.
 Thos. W. Lang, ,Optician. 29 West Church.
 Cole, Hairdresser, Cluny Square.
 The Little Wonder, Mrs A. M. Brookman, sole proprietor, 37 East Church Street.
 Charles Robertson, Cycle and Radio Engineers, 14 East Church Street.
 Alexander Reid and Son, Coal Merchant, Commercial Road.
 Funeral Undertakers – A. Hendry and Sons, Land Street. A. Campbell and Sons, Baron Street.
 Moray Firth Furnishing Company, 37 West Church Street and 17 High Street.
 The Ladies Shop, 39-41, West Church Street.
 A. Paterson and Son, Grocers etc, 22 Main Street. Alex Esson, Draper and Outfitter, Cluny Square.
 James Mackay, Draper, Outfitter , Carpets etc, 5 East Church Street.
 James M. Russell, Motor and Tractor Engineer, Star Garage, Bridgend.
 Wm. Douglas, Fireplaces, Bank Street and Highland Railway Yard.
 John Taylor, Butcher, Main Street.
 Chimney Sweep, P. McIvor, Drybridge.
 Lockhart Timber Merchant, C/o Commercial Hotel, Hardwood blocks delivered in Buckie at £2.5 - ton
 Fruit trees and rose bushes, A. Imlah, 10 High Street.
 Hepworths 13a and 17 East Church Street.
 Davidsons Stores, Bridge Place – Groceries, China Ware, Fancy Goods, Hardware,
 Outside advertisers included – B. and M. Outfitters, Elgin. Henderson, House Furnishers, Elgin. Lovies, Wool, Macduff.

Thank you note- Miss Margaret Innes, 5 William Street, Buckpool had a note in the local paper thanking those responsible for the cheque she had received from Buckie Welcome Home Fund. This was the only thank you note that was seen although a letter, written in a sarcastic tone by ‘The Lone Piper’ did make mention of it.

Dances were still popular, many being ran to raise funds to celebrate the forthcoming Coronation of Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh.

Among the places holding dances were - Deskford, Portessie, Portknockie, Shielburn, and Arradoul. Dances were also to take place in the Town House by Arradoul Youth Club and also in the Fishermen's Hall.

In the Playhouse - One of the films showing this week was "The Importance of Being Earnest"

Spike In this edition one can read the fifth instalment of his serial 'Horror Of The Hill'.

Jan 8 **Buckie man killed** - Mr William Lobban, whose home address was 18 Anton Street, was killed in an accident at London Docks.

The Thistle lose - Inverness Caley beat Buckie Thistle at home. The score was 3-1.

Team - Rennie, Tough and Dutch; Thain, Valentine and Jeffrey; Donaldson, Buchan, Stewart, Hendry and Morrice. It was said that McIntyre, who was absent through injury, had been missed.

Jan 15 Nothing worth noting

Jan 22 " " "

Jan 29 **New organ** - The Methodist Church was full on Sunday to hear the dedication and opening of the new organ. The honour of unlocking the organ was given to 93 years old 'Granny' Smith, whose late husband had been a dedicated supporter of the Methodist Church. She was brought to the church by car driven by one of her sons, Mr William Smith JP, Solicitor, Craigendarroch, Cliff Terrace. The minister, Rev. George Howarth, dedicated the organ.

Official Guide - A new Official Guide to Buckie had been printed and was now on sale.

Buckpool Celtic Dance - The local Welfare League team who had long been prominent in the dance field, attracting to Buckie such bands as Jimmy Shand, The Hawthorn and others, had an advert in the paper stating how Charlie Pressley, Fraserburgh, was to play at a dance in the St Andrew's Hall on Monday, 2 February.

Buckie plays for Queens Park - John Valentine played for Queens Park on Saturday. There is some reason for believing that he might be joining the Glasgow amateur side.

Feb 5 The Big Storm - The local paper had on its front-page photographs of some of the damage done during the storm, which hit the local area during the night and morning of 30/31st January 1953. A full report is also given. ****

Cullen man was royal gardener - Thomas Hay, a native of Cullen, whose home was at South Castle Street, and who served his time as a gardener at Duff House, later came to be in charge of two parks in London also Buckingham Palace gardens.

Feb 12 **Defeat for Buckie Thistle** - Buckie were beaten by five goals to one at Victoria Park by Ayr United. The paper report said how Buckie had let north football down.

The team was - Rennie, Tough and Leask; Thain, Dutch and Jeffrey; Donaldson, Buchan, McIntyre, Hendry and Stewart. The critics were saying that McIntyre should not have been chosen as he appeared not to be fit.

Feb 19 **Enzie Amateur Dramatic Society** - The play put on last Thursday and Friday by the Enzie players was 'Bachelors are Bold'. Those taking part were - Willie Potts, Miss Mary Duncan, Mrs Frieda McLean, George Grigor, Miss Meg McKay, Willie Palmer, Alex Wyllie, Mrs M. B. Johnston, Miss Elsie Barber, W. F. Johnston, Miss Nancy Anderson, Miss Jessie Anderson, Mrs M. Grant and Mrs J. Farquhar played the spinster sisters.

It seemed odd that two other companies chose to do the same play - Cornhill Players and the Dramatic Section of Rathven WRI.

Teams in the Welfare League - Seafield Albion, Buckpool Celtic, Buckie Rovers, Central Hibs (Keith), Buckie Athletic and Arradoul.

Mar 12 **Buckie Coronation Fund** - This had now reached close on 3500 with a donation of £100 being given by Buckie Welfare Society. A door to door collection had raised a considerable amount though a number of people gave large sums, the names being given in the paper.

'Smoking Concert - Buckie and District Branch British Legion were to hold a Smoking Concert in the Commercial Hall on Friday 27 March. W. R. Campbell, secretary.

'The Provost's Chain' was the play to be performed by the Spey Bay Dramatic Club in the Spey Bay Hall.

Mar 19 **Poem by Mairi Calder** - A poem titled the 'Voice of Spring' written by Mrs Calder, Farnachty, was found on the front page.

Death of Queen Mary - Word of this together with a note of condolence from the town is also found in this copy.

Apr 2 **New organ for the North Church** - A new organ was to be dedicated on Sunday 5th April 1953.

'Horror on the Hill' - The last edition of Spike's serial is found in this edition.

Buckie Tailor and Outfitter to retire - Alex Hay, who had been in business in the town for close on fifty years was advertising that he was to close the Men's Department on West Church Street. A big sale was to take place.

Apr 9 **Chance for Findochty youth** - Sandy McKenzie was given his chance to play at centre forward for Buckie Thistle against Rothes.

Apr 16 **Fishmeal factory** - There was some possibility that a fish meal factory might be set up in Buckie. When the matter was being discussed at a Town Council meeting the smell that emanates from such a factory was mentioned. Provost Reid said that if it helped the unemployment in the town we would bear the smell.

Tarring ropes - The local paper carried a photograph of fishermen tarring their ropes in preparation for the summer fishing.

Football - Buckie Rovers won the Duncan Shield after beating Buckpool Celtic by three goals to two at Victoria Park. The reporter described the match as being lacking in thrills with the number of spectators was few. Changed days, he said, from twenty years before in terms of the standard of football and people drawn to watch.

Apr 23 **New Council** - Retiring councillor Jimmy Lawson topped the poll in the election ahead of two new members, George Smith and Thomas Lang with Charles Shearer being returned in fourth place. Two former councillors, John Scott and John P. Buchan were unsuccessful.

Columnists – Spike and 'Wanderer' who had written an article titled – 'Buckie's Night Life'.

New Minister – Rev A.L. Mackenzie MA (33) was inducted at Rathven Parish Church this week. He is a native of Sutherlandshire and was previously at Lochgilphead.

Apr 30 **Buckie Singer** - Miss Frances Hutchison, the 16 year old daughter of Mr and Mrs George Hutchison, 14 Baron Street, one of Buckie's most talented young singers gained first class certificates in the open and oratorio and second class in the 16-18 class at the music festival in Aberdeen. The adjudicator described her voice as being really beautiful with a lovely tone and considered that she had a great future. Last year at Aberdeen and Edinburgh she gained 1st class and 2nd class certificates.

May 7 **Hawthorn Band** - Buckpool Celtic are to have the Hawthorn Broadcasting Band to play at a dance in the St Andrews Hall on Friday 15 and Saturday 16th May.

Buckie Coronation Celebrations - As part of the Coronation celebrations a Carnival Dance is to take place in the Fishermen's Hall on Wednesday 3rd June. Admittance 2/6 with an open buffet.

Carnival Coronation Ball - is to take place in the St Andrews Hall on Wednesday 3rd June. Music by Geddes' Band. Tickets priced **12/6** can be had from the Town Chamberlain's Office, Elgin.. Open buffet.

Golden Anniversary - Rev. John Greenlaw, of the North Church, Buckie had been a minister for fifty years.

Photographs of Beautiful Banffshire - In the second set of photographs, found in this edition, one picture shows the Bellie Kirk in Fochabers. The caption said how Fochabers had once been in Banffshire before a misguided Duke of Gordon had arranged for it to be transferred to Morayshire to link up with the rest of his estates. (The last part is a nonsense, of course, since the Gordon Castle estates continued well into Banffshire, in the Enzie, and elsewhere.)

Football – Buckie Thistle beat Deveronvale to take the Aberdeenshire Cup. The aggregate score over the two games, on a home and home basis, was 9-4 in Buckie's favour. The team was – Rennie, Tough and Leask (Cpt.), Thain Dutch and Jeffrey; Stewart, Buchan, McIntyre, Hendry and Donaldson.

May 14 **Buckie Youth Centre** - All outstanding accounts against Buckie Youth Centre should be lodged with Wm. Smith, Solicitor, Agent for the Centre.

Photograph – Miss Ada Coull, 82 Well Road, Buckie, is shown about to cut her 21st birthday cake.

Buckie Guides and Brownies are to ask Buckie Town Council if they will accept a 'garden seat' to mark the Coronation. They thought that a site for the seat might be on Cluny Square overlooking the sea.

Poem - A poem written by Mairi Calder, Farnachty, titled 'Ridiculous Rhyme' is found on page 5.

Honour for minister - The congregation of the North Church presented their minister Rev John Greenlaw with gifts to mark his fifty years as a minister. A special service took place in the church. A report is given on page 6 of this edition.

Football - Buckie Thistle were pipped at the post to win the Highland League after losing at Huntly by the solitary goal of the game. Only weeks previously the

Thistle had beaten Huntly by ten clear goals. **Elgin City were league champions.**

May 21 **Photograph** - A photograph of the Buckie Thistle team is found on the front page of this edition. Though they failed to win the Highland League, Buckie won the Qualifying Cup and also the Aberdeenshire Cup.

Timetable of Coronation Day Festivities on Monday 1st June This is found on page three and includes fancy dress parades, floats and open air dancing in Cluny Square

Advert - James Mackay, Draper and Outfitter, famous during six reigns for service to the public - Queen Victoria, King Edward VII, King George V, King Edward VIII, King George VI, Queen Elizabeth.

May 28 **Business for sale** - George Lyle, Findochty had his fruit and grocery round up for sale.

Portessie Flute Band - The local paper carried a photograph of the Portessie Flute Band taken in 1937. It was said that it was to be revived to lead off next week's Coronation Parade.

June 4 **Guides and Brownies 'garden seat'** - It had been decided that the seat would be placed at the entrance to the Putting Green on Queen Street. The honour of asking Provost Dr Reid to accept the seat on behalf of the community was conferred on Patrol Leader, Janice Scorgie.

The Banffshire Advertiser Headline on page one read - Buckie Celebrates C-Day in Gay Style. Rain dealt crippling blow but **They did very well** -. The reporter made a special journey all round the area to see how the various communities were celebrating Coronation Day, with these being printed also on the front page.

At Drybridge a large marquee had been set up in a tree sheltered field and around this all manner of sports and activities were taking place. Piper A. Wilson led off the fancy dress parade in which everyone participating won a prize.

Article - Orienteering - A New Sport and School Subject by Yves Du Querney.

New chain of office - On Friday 29 May 1953 at a ceremony held in the Town House Provost Dr Reid was presented with a new chain and badge of office by Mrs Hendry, wife of late Dr Hendry. Provost Reid described the chain and badge as being an exquisite work of art and a delight to the eye. (The chain and badge are on show in a special showcase in the local library.) A full report of the ceremony is given in this edition.

Buckpool Coronation Queen - This honour was bestowed on Miss Vida McIntosh.

June 11 **Salvation Army** - The new Salvation Army Hall on New Street was opened on Monday by Baillie Sydney Tuxworth. The first service in the new hall will take place on Sunday first.

The hall was built during the summer of 1950, from two former army huts, due to the efforts of Rev W.R.F. McGhie, minister of the West Church, to accommodate the various activities of the Youth Club. (This may not be altogether correct. There was a Youth Fellowship which met in the West Church and a Youth Club, which were separate organisations, although they came together to use the premises when built. This may be read in the Banffshire Advertiser of the time when the hall was first opened.)

The hall had lain empty for some time before being acquired by the Salvation Army who had enjoyed the use of the small South Church Hall on New Street since having to vacate their old premises on Baron Street.

Arradoul Youth Club - A notice in the paper said how the annual bus run this year was to Fort

William with all those who intended to go to get their tickets at the dance in the Town House on Saturday evening.

Coronation Day in the Enzie - Like everywhere else the rain meant that plans had to be adjusted the sports which were to take place were postponed until Saturday with a party for schoolchildren taking place in the school. Each child got a New Testament or Missal, a shilling, a bronze medallion of Queen Elizabeth and a bag of sweets.

In the evening the old folks and disabled were entertained to supper in the school and at 8 o'clock a concert was given by school children and local artistes.

A feature of the concert was a fairyland scene done by the infant classes, complete with flowers, fairies, elves and rabbits. The colourful costumes were much admired by all. Two dances were presented by the primary classes and they also sang songs of the British Isles which were brought to a fitting finale when a lovely picture of Britannia was spotlighted in the centre of the choir.

Tea was served at 10 o'clock and then a film show - Danny Kaye in the 'Inspector General' was enjoyed before a fireworks display at 12.30 a.m. From 1 a.m. - 3 a.m. the merrymakers rounded off the day by dancing.

June 18 **Modern Dance** - was how the dance to be held in the Fishermen's Hall on Monday 22 June was described. Music by Moray Melodymakers with admission 3/- . Refreshments available. Free bus from Elgin to return after the dance. Bus to Portsoy after the dance.

Football - Seafield Albion, Buckie Rovers and Strathlene all finished with the same number of points in the Buckie Welfare League this season. Play-offs to take place.

June 25 **Herring sales** - A major contract worth £973,000 to sell herring to Russia was signed by the British Government.

Buckie man killed - John Bruce, 38, of 25 Great Western Road, Buckpool, lost his life this week when he fell from a beam into a deep trench at the Glenlatterach Reservoir, outside Elgin.

** **Poem - 'Drybridge Barn Dance'** This is found on page 8 and written by Jon Dee. The dance took place on Coronation Day.

Jly 9 **Coronation Day baby** - Buckie's only Coronation Day baby, born on June 2, was Mary Elizabeth Bowie, the first child born to Mr and Mrs John Bowie, 3 East Carlton Terrace, Buckie. On behalf of the baby the parents received an inscribed silver christening mug and christening robe from Provost Dr Reid. The baby also received a dress from Mrs Brookman of the 'Little Wonder'.

Mrs Milne presided at the ceremony, which took place in the Seafield Hospital Maternity Annex

A committee, under the convenorship of Mrs Milne, provided the gifts.

School teacher retires - Mr John T. Stephen, Principal Teacher of Mathematics at Buckie High School retired this week after 34 year's service. His last duty was to call out the names of the winners at the prize-giving ceremony.

Mr Stephen began his teaching career at Keith Grammar School in 1913 before serving during World War I in the Gordon Highlanders during which time he was a prisoner for nine months. He returned to Keith after the war for a few months before moving to Buckie.

His son Ian and daughter Margaret are both Maths teachers, Ian at Aberdeen Grammar School and Margaret at Nairn Academy.

Poem - A poem by Mairi Calder of Tomleah, Farnachty, Clochan is found on page 6. The poem is titled - 'Doon The Burn'.

Jly 16 **Buckpool Street names** - The streets in the new housing area south of St Peter's Road was named by the town clerk, Mr John L. McNaughton. An article is written about how he arrived at all the different names is given on page 5

Jly 23 **Marquee dances** - An advert in this edition tells of the marquee dances, which are to take place at the Peter Fair stance on Thursday and Friday. The dance floor, one of the largest ever set up in the north can cater for 3000 dancers. The dance is due to start at 8.30 with admittance being 2/6. Music by Thomson's Band.

Advert - Remember to call into the Arradoul WRI marquee at Peter Fair.

Note - The local paper spoke of July being very quiet. There was no gala while the number of visitors was definitely down on some previous years. The reporter out and about asked different people for their views. An organiser of the 1952 gave the reason why one had not taken place in 1953 was because the one in 1952 had been a flop.

Owners of the café's spoke of the downturn in trade due to the absence of visitors and thought that Buckie could do more to encourage them to come to Buckie.

A Glasgow lassie said that the only thing that was well run in Buckie was the dances. She had attended every dance since she had arrived in the town a fortnight before and gone home with a different boy each time.

Football - Buckie Thistle had made three new signings. George Cowie ex Deveronvale, Willie Cowie, ex Huntly and Wm. Shearer, ex Aberdeen University. The first two being forwards and the third a goalkeeper.

At the same time four players had moved on. Alex Donaldson had returned south, as his wife preferred the bigger city. Milne, Morrice and 'keeper Rennie had gone to Fraserburgh.

Jly 30 **Peter Fair** - An old picture of Peter Fair taken before World War I was shown the previous week and in this copy one taken this week is found in this edition. Big changes can be seen.

Photograph - The boys of Buckie Boys' Brigade are seen at Buckie Railway Station enroute to their camp at Stonehaven. They were piped aboard the train by the pipe band of 1st Uddingston Boys Brigade who were under canvas at Portessie.

Aug 6 **Photograph** - This shows a family group from the many visitors who travelled from Buckie To Stonehaven to see their sons in the Boys Brigade. Three buses left Buckie on Sunday morning bound for Stonehaven.

Buckpool Gold Club - For the first time ever the membership of Buckpool Gold Club had reached 100. Willie Burnett, Captain of Buckie Cricket Club.

Aug 13 **Photograph** - A photograph appears on the front page of this edition. It shows Portknockie harbour with a few sailing boats.

Keith Show - With a glorious day of sunshine a crowd of 39,000 attended the Show on Tuesday of this week. It well stands by its title as the greatest one-day Show in Scotland.

Arradoul Farms Ltd figured prominently in the horse sections though the number of entries were down on previous years. The farm also won prizes in the Friesian cattle section.

Population figures - Banffshire's population is now the lowest for 100 years. At the 1951 census the population was 50,148 while in 1931 it had been 54,907.

Figures for Buckie, Keith and Banff at 1901, 1931 and 1951 were as follows –

	<u>1901</u>		<u>1931</u>		<u>1951</u>
Buckie	6549		8689		7703
Keith	4753		4424		4365
Banff	3732		3489		3357

Aug 20 **Photograph** - The previous photograph of Portknockie Harbour aroused considerable interest with another one included in this edition, showing, as it was said, Portknockie Harbour when it really was a fishing port. The harbour was jam packed when this particular picture was taken.

Poem - 'The Last Sun' written by James Gordon, Bucksburn is found on page five.

Photograph - This shows Buckie Thistle Football team of 1920.

The players and trainers are named as follows – G. Reid, A. Murray, K. Brookman, B. Birnie, J. Gray, W. Knowles, J. Laing, E. Hillocks, Wm. Hector, A. Taylor, B. Duncan, J. Mitchell, J. Thomson, J. Duncan, S. Barclay, J. Coull and I. Geddes.

Juvenile Football - Portgordon Rangers won the King Challenge Cup by beating Findochty Wanderers by two goals to one.

Buckie Welfare League - Cullen made application to join the Buckie Welfare League after an absence of some years. Huntly United also were members of the league in 1953/54.

The other teams were Arradoul, Strathlene, Buckie Rovers, Seafield Albion and Central Hibs (Keith).

Buckpool Celtic, who had been a very successful team since the war, with a go ahead committee decided not to enter as their pitch was said to be unplayable.

Aug 27 **Dod Osborne** - The front page carried a story and also a photograph of Dod Osborne who earned 'fame' by stealing the fishing boat and sailing her to South America using only a school atlas for navigation. He and his wife were in Buckie when he paid a visit to his birthplace in the Yardie.

Speedy cyclist - William Geddes, a Portgordon lad who came north from Glasgow in 1952 and broke a cycling record which had stood for 54 years, on Sunday chipped 1.43 minutes off his own record-breaking time.

His time from Buckie to Lhanbryde and back, a distance of 263/4 miles was done in a time of 1 hour 7.50 minutes, compared with 1 hour 9.33 minutes last year. Members of Buckie Cycling Club timed him.

Mr David Reid, Portgordon, held the record for 54 years. A gentleman who was staying in the Commercial Hotel, Buckie, in 1898 presented a silver cup to David Reid. The cup was handed over by Mr Reid to the new holder last summer.

Juvenile Football photograph - This shows Strathlene Swifts – The players all named are – Peter Cowie, J. Smith, D. Hay, C. Flett, D. Cowie, David Cowie, A. Thomson, R. Cowie, Geo. Smith, J. Smith, G. Wood, J. Cowie, David Cowie.

Juvenile Football - Portgordon Rangers won the Central Cup after beating Buckie Spurs by four goals to one in the Final played at Victoria Park.

Sept 3 **Opening announcement** - Tochineal Engineering Co. Ltd. Tile Works, Lintmill, Cullen

Aerial photograph – This shows a picture of Findochty taken approaching from the east. It is said to resemble the toe of Italy.

T.W.G. – Buckie Townswomen’s Guild presented a clock to Buckie Town Council to be hung in the upstairs hall in the Town House, to mark their 21st birthday. A photograph of the clock also a story is given on page five of this edition.

Football - With Bill Shearer the Buckie Thistle goalkeeper in hospital in Dingwall suffering from a back injury, the club signed Dick Hamilton, the former Motherwell `keeper to take his place.

Sept 10 **Photograph** - This shows members of Buckie Townswomen’s Guild cutting their 21st birthday cake. The women are named.

Crooning competition - An innovation at a dance to be held in the Public Institute in Fochabers was to be a crooning competition.

Football - Buckie Thistle won the Morganti Cup (Highland League Cup) when they beat Inverness Caley by three goals to two.

The team was - Hamilton, tough and Leask; Thain, Dutch and Jeffrey; Buchan, W. Cowie, McIntryre, G. Cowie and Hendry.

Hamilton handed over his medal to Bill Shearer.

Sept 17 **Buckie War Memorial** – The War Memorial was being cleaned and renovated by an Aberdeen firm this week prior to new panels of the fallen in the two wars being fixed.

Juvenile football – Buckie Spurs won the President’s Trophy when they beat Portgordon Rangers by two goals to nil. This was a good result since the Rangers, like Findochty Wanderers the year before were the top team of the year. The Rangers won their next game when they took the Venice Trophy by beating Findochty Wanderers by two goals to one.

Miller’s Motors - The family of Miller were back in Buckie and had once again the garage at 55-59 West Church Street. They were advertising themselves as Motor and Agricultural Engineers, Agents and Hirers. (A. Miller Junior, was the first to run a bus service from Buckie to Keith. He also ran a service to Peterhead before being bought over by Wm. Alexander’s and Sons.)

Sept 24 **Boat launch** - The inshore minesweeper, HMS Halsham was launched this week from the Messrs Jones, Buckie, Slip and Shipyard. This was the third vessel of this type to be launched by the firm since July of last year. The Halsham is 106 feet 5” long, with a beam of 20 feet 6 inches. She was launched by Mrs Crombie, wife of Rear Admiral Crombie, Flag Officer, Scotland

Poem - A poem is found on page four titled `The Fisher Lad’. This was sung at the Edinburgh Festival in 1952 by Blanche Wood, Portknockie. The words and music were written by W.G. Mair, 32 Baker Street Aberdeen.

Buckie boat builder - A story is found on page five that tells of George Slater, a native of Buckie who had trained the natives of Zanzibar to build fishing boats.

Oct 1 **Notice** - The first meeting of Buckie Youth Fellowship for session 1953/54 will take place on Sunday 4 October in the West Church Hall. All young people between the ages of 15 and 25 are cordially invited. Mary Johnston secretary.

Oct 8 **Wanted** - A call is being made for the re-opening of the road between Dryburn farm and Nether Dallachy through the site of the former Dallachy aerodrome. People have complained how inconvenient it is to have to make a detour round by Bogmoor.

Yarmouth bound - Only 31 boats from the Buckie area set off for Yarmouth this year., a major decrease when only five years before, in 1948, 53 boats left from Buckie. The report spoke of how thirty years before the activity involved in

making things ready and then the leaving for the East Anglian fishing as events of some importance.

Oct 15 **Coins found** - Mr Peter Jappy, 83 Seatown found a 1751 George II coin while working at the new housing estate in Buckpool. The coin, in very good condition, was found only a short distance below ground surface. A similar copper coin from the same time period was found a short time ago by Mr J. Gordon in his garden only about a hundred yards from where Mr Jappy made his find.

Oct 22 **Tiled fireplaces** - This appeared to have been the thing in vogue with people taking out old grates and putting in new tiled ones. Wm. Douglas and Sons, Bank Street had been the first to advertise earlier in the year but now George Packman, Plasterer, had now entered the scene advertising that he had 40 different grates in stock.

Buckie Youth Centre - The centre on New Street was recently sold to the Salvation Army and with the Youth Club having folded there was a surplus of £192 to disburse. This was divided up among 11 different organisations in the town.

Oct 29 **Death of ex provost** - The death took place this week of late provost W. J. Merson at his home at 16 Marine Place. He was president of Buckie Thistle Football Club and had watched the team play during the afternoon. He was the eldest of 9 sons of Mr Merson, Fishcurer and like his father before him also became a fishcurer. During his term as provost he saw the final payment for the harbour which had been a rope around the neck of people of Buckie for so many years. He was honoured by King Haakon of Norway during the war, for the way that the refugees from Norway had been treated in the town.

For sale - The hall on Baron Street, which had passed through many hands, Good Templars, Methodist Church, Cabinetmaker's show room and finally Salvation Army was for sale either as garage or store. Apply to Lt Hook, Trevear, and South Pringle Street.

Football - Buckie Spurs, the former Juvenile team made application to join the Buckie Welfare League. This brought the number of teams now up to eight, with a team from Huntly and one from Keith.

Nov 5 **Poem** - The name of a poem found on page 5 is called 'Armistice Day Requiem'. This was written by W. J. Cowie, Deskford.

Beautiful Banffshire - Another set of pictures are to be found on page 7.

Article - 'The Couthie Toon O' Cullen' is found on page 8. This was written by Roben Gray.

Nov 12 **New Matron** - The new matron of Clydeville Children's Home is Miss Anne S. Mark

Town Band Instruments - Where have all the instruments, which formed the Town Brass Band some thirty years before? This was asked at a town council meeting after the Salvation Army had asked if they could have a loan of them. It turned out that a number of them were in the safe keeping of Mr Gordon who was the instructor. He said that the instruments belonged to the ratepayers not the council.

Playhouse - One of the most popular films ever, *The Cruel Sea* was being shown in the local cinema this week.

Unveiling at the War Memorial - A photograph on page five of this edition shows a massive crowd, 10 deep, on Cluny Square on Armistice Sunday to

witness the unveiling of the plaques on the War Memorial, which give the names of those who fell in two world wars

The plaques were unveiled by Provost Dr Reid who lost his two sons during World War II, Major G.A. Simpson Reid, Gordon Highlanders and Trooper Peter S. Reid, RECCE Corps.

During the war from 1914 – 1918 a total of 229 persons failed to return and in the second war from 1939 until 1945 the number was 133.

Football - Buckie Thistle won the Qualifying Cup after beating Inverness Thistle by four goals to two at Victoria Park in front of a crowd of 3,600.

Nov 26 **Wilson's Home - Improvements** at a cost of £3,600 were to take place at Wilson's Home on Wilson's Land, Buckpool.

BRS to leave Buckie - The British Road Services depot was to close with the sale of four lorries. This was the result of road transport being de-nationalised.

Football - Buckie Thistle were taken down to earth with a bump after their victory in the 'Q' Cup they were beaten at home by lowly Rothes. Eric Cormack, a former Thistle player made two of the goals in a 6 to 3 goal victory.

Spike - new serial starts in this edition called 'The Herring Pirates'.

Dec 3 **Photograph** - This shows the Buckie fishing boat 'Clachan' just home from the East Anglian fishing and making ready again for the west coast.

Photograph - This shows the Welfare League team - Strathlene. Named in the photograph are -

J. Pirie, G. Taylor, G. Milne, H. McKay (Capt.), I. McRae, E. Shepherd, W. Findlay, J. A. Smith, A. Scott, A. Slater, A. M. Slater and W. Cowie.

Football - Portgordon Rangers were champions of the Juvenile League.

Dec 10 **Former Power Station** - Buckie Town Council was to buy the former power station although Councillor Jimmy Lawson said that they had enough buildings as it was and wondered what use would be made of this additional one. He was told that the site was valuable and the building would be put up for rent.

Photograph of Buckie Rovers - J. Reid, J. Coull, A. Cowie, R. Allan, A. Reid, J. Thain, W. Hay, H. Farquhar, J. Ritchie, J. M. Coull, A. Flett, J. D. Flett.

Dec 17 **Photograph of ladies of the North Church at Sale of Work** - The Sale of Work raised £750. This is told in a report, which accompanies the photograph on page 7.

Dec 24 **Extension to the Methodist Church** - A report is given on the front page. The extension was opened by Mrs C.D. Eales, (Glasgow), wife of the chairman of the Methodist Churches in Scotland. A photograph accompanies the report. **More is written about the building of the extension in the edition of December 17.**

Dec 31 **Playhouse** - Showing this week in the local cinema was the film called 'The Greatest Show on Earth' I have very fond memories of seeing this film in Elgin earlier in the year.

Lodge Gordon's - *A unique Masonic event took place when Bro Wm. Anderson, PM was presented with Distinguished Service Membership of the lodge by RWM John L. McNaughton. A report of the event is given on page four.*

Football - Buckie Thistle surprised all when they travelled to Brechin to play in the first leg of the Dewar shield and recorded a win of three goals to win. The

team was – Hamilton, Tough and Leask; Thain, Dutch and Jeffrey; G. Cowie, Wm. Cowie, McIntyre, Buchan and Stewart.