

1955

Jan 6 **A photograph on the front page** shows Mr A. McIntosh, rector's warden, All Saints Episcopal church about to pull the new bell to call the congregation to worship. Information was given on the bell in the last December edition.

Spike's cartoons – 'Personality of the Year – **The Portknockie Horse.**

According to Spike the feud between the horse and the town council had helped put the village on the front page of newspapers world-wide. In one sketch he had the horse saying " No – a'm nae gaun tae hale the dungcairt ". He had the Chinese and Red Indians both making comments about the horse.

Jan 13 **Photograph** of Skipper George Garden and Mr John Coull, crew member, of the herring drifter, **Cairntoull** painting drift net buoys in readiness for the winter herring fishing.

Photograph on page 7 shows the Arradoul WRI Drama Group.

Photograph on page 9 shows the office bearers of Lodge Gordon following an installation ceremony. The RWM is Mr J. B. Reid. All the rest in the photograph are named.

Millbank Garage, High Street. Their advert spoke of the A30 two door model; A40-A50 Cambridge and the A90 Six Westminster.

Spike's cartoons on page 11 were concerned with the possibility of stocking the Rochomie Reservoir with trout, and a number of humorous sketches and cracks were drawn from this.

Jan 20 **Snow and frost** - The worst snowstorm for many years struck the north of Scotland this week, followed by the biggest freeze-up seen for years. Although it was bad enough in the northeast, Caithness and Sutherland were the worst affected areas with many roads blocked and place cut off and running short of food.

Opening announcement - Mrs Margaret D. Munro is to open a General Merchant's shop at 24 Gordon Street, Portgordon.

More bad weather conditions - Houses and shops along the sea front in Portgordon, (Lennox Place and Stewart Street) were flooded for the second week running when the sea came over the wall.

'Trawler train' - The so called 'trawler train' which leaves Aberdeen at 2.15 p.m. is to run again on Friday and Saturday for a trial period. Whether it will continue to run depends very much of whether sufficient customers make use of it to make it viable to run.

Jan 27 **In the bleak midwinter** - A Shetland mare, nineteen years old gave birth to a foal on the snowy and windswept land near Braewyner, off the Enzie Braes. The pony had been fending for itself, living on anything at all it could find, like bushes and roots. Mr Pat McClachlan, shepherd at Braes of Enzie came across the mare and foal. The animals belong to Mr Alex Shand and his son Sandy, of Chapelford Farm, Clochan, who went to fetch the two home, the foal travelling in the boot of Mr Shand's car. The mare, which has produced nine foals, was given to Sandy nine years before when he was aged eight. It is very rare to find a mare giving birth in the month of January, with April and May being more common.

Veteran's House on Duguid Street opened - The house paid for by money raised by Caledonian Associated Cinemas is the 19th to be opened in Scotland. The sum of money raised in Buckie is £1,330 well above the target set, which

was £1,050. Mr Hood, manager of the cinema who did all the fund-raising voluntarily are also prepared, like other cinema staff elsewhere, to look after the gardens should the occupants be unfit.

The first occupant of the house in Buckie is ex RNR Skipper, Alex Mair and his son and daughter. Mr Mair is a native of Portknockie.

'When icicles hang by the wall' In this edition the photographer has captured a lovely picture showing a mass of icicles hanging from the banks of the Buckie Burn during the very hard frost recently.

Baxters branch out - Baxters of Fochabers were present at a Food Fair held in London. Produce from the Speyside factory is now to be found around the world.

Billy Graham - Preparations are taking place in Glasgow for the arrival of the American Evangelist, Billy Graham. He will be preaching in the Kelvin Hall where there are seats for 11,000 people. Close circuit T.V will be in operation with 1500 councillors in attendance each night.

Feb 3 Found little of interest to note in this edition.

Feb 10 **No more petrol** - Mrs Allan, Tullochmoss, Tynet, is giving notice that she has closed her petrol pump and extends thanks to all her customers.

Photograph of HMS Greetham. The ship, 106 feet long, built in Buckie by Messrs Herd and McKenzie in April last year was handed over to the Navy this week after all the trials had been completed. In a ceremony in the Buckie Harbour the white ensign was hoisted before she set sail for a base in the south.

A photograph on page 7 shows the **Buckie High School football team**. Those in the picture are - Jimmy Smith, PE instructor, J. Clark, G. Smith, J. Hendry (goal), M. Slater, A. Cowie, A. Murray (Capt.), J. Duthie, R. Legge, C. Morrison, K. Anderson and C. Flett.

Rathven Social Club (Parish Church) As part of a programme Helen Campbell and Linda Gordon rendered duets.

Football - Buckie Thistle reached the 6th round of the Scottish Cup when they beat Inverness Thistle at Victoria Park by two clear goals.

Feb 17 **Buckie Pipe Band** - Bailie Tuxworth, though an Englishman, is very keen to have a pipe band established in Buckie. He had expressed this view one day to be given a set of bag pipes the next day and hopes to receive more. A number of young men have been having tuition and have passed the chanter stage and

Arradoul Youth Club - A public meeting is to take place in the Arradoul W.R.I. hall on Wednesday 2nd March 1955 at 7.30 p.m.

Football - Heart of Midlothian to play Buckie Thistle in the Scottish Cup. The local paper described this as the biggest football occasion in the history of football in Buckie. The admission charge of 2/6 higher than corresponding games elsewhere was said to be causing heart burning.

Buckie North Church to have a new hall. This was decided at the annual meeting. It has been estimated that the hall will cost £9,000 to build. The Hall Fund at present stands at £2,000

The Spike serial 'Last Days of Buckpool'. The final chapter is given in this edition.

Feb 24 **Weather plays havoc with the Findochty 'pre-fabs'**. Roofs suffer damage from gale-force winds.

Opening announcement - Wright Electrical Contractors – Domestic and Agricultural Wiring. Boyne Mills, Portsoy.

Weather permitting the local shipyard of Messrs George Thomson and Son will see the launch of two boats this week. On Tuesday the 51 foot seine netter, Niels Risager took the water with another launch planned for today, Thursday.

Football - Buckie Thistle 0 Hearts 6 (Scottish Cup) "Buckie were outclassed in every department of the game" (That was a true report on the game as I was there and saw Buckie torn apart. Had the Hearts not taken the foot of the pedal the score could have reached double figures.) Willie Bauld, the Heart's centre had three.

It was a day of intermittent snow and sunshine. The crowd of 5,400 was a long way short of the 7,000 that watched Buckie Thistle play Third Lanark in 1939.

Poem -

I met a mannie in the street –
 Ye could have felled me wi' a chuckie!
 He spiered wi' ignorance complete,
 If there wis sic a place as Buckie.
 He'd never heard o' Thistle's grund,
 Far players are sae plucky,
 Fa'd think a fellie could be fund,
 That never heard o' Buckie.
 There never was a grander toun,
 Though, fyles, its weather's mucky;
 Yet here, believe me, was a loon
 That wandered far aboot was Buckie.
 Oh, sic an eediot o' a chap –
 To be alive, in fact he's lucky;
 He thinks Tynecastle's on the map
 And yet he disna ken far's Buckie.

By MacNib – Edinburgh Evening News (Copies were sent to the Advertiser office.)

Photograph on page 8 shows the lighthouse on Cliff Terrace getting a chip and paint. (The same took place in 2001. Was this the next time?)

Photograph shows a great squad of people **clearing the snow off Victoria Park** prior to the visit by Hearts. Among those involved was **Rev George Howarth**.

Photograph on page 5 – This shows the fishing boat Effulgence, which was launched from the shipyard of Messrs Herd and McKenzie.

Mar 3 **Loss of fishing boat** - The Fraserburgh fishing boat, Girl Ann was lost when she went on the rock on the west coast. She was only launched in 1954 from the local shipyard of Messrs Jones and Sons. Two Buckie men, A. Guthrie, cook, and Wm. Jappy, deckhand, Harbourhead, Buckpool, were both saved. One man died of hypothermia with another missing although he was able to scramble ashore.

Formation of Buckie and District Angling Association. D. Lamont, secretary.

Photograph on page 5 shows the Yvonne Resager taking the water on Thursday from the shipyard of Messrs Thomson and Son.

Mar 10 **Arradoul Youth Club** – Efforts are to be made to revive Arradoul Youth Club and restore it to its former flourishing condition.

More than 20 young people attended a public meeting held in the Arradoul WRI hall on Wednesday last with this move in view.

Mr George Innes who had been involved with the Youth Club from way back in 1943 presided and welcomed the company of young folk from the district who were all in agreement that efforts to reform the club should be made without delay. New members are to be enrolled. Arrangements were made for a Social evening to take place in the hall later this month.

A photograph on page 5 shows the MV Green Pastures built at the shipyard of Messrs Herd and McKenzie for Irish owners.

A photograph on page six shows Robert Clark and William Hay, employees of Messrs Wm. Douglas and Sons, at work on the extension to the Buckie Fishmarket, east end.

Annex to the Fishermen's Hall . This is now almost complete and when finished will make the hall one of the biggest and best halls in the north. The hall, opened in 1885, was used by the army during World War II. After the war, in 1947, Buckie Welfare Society bought the building from the Hall Trustees and following renovations was re-opened in 1948. During the last renovations and extensions the balcony was removed and the toilets etc below it removed. New toilets have been built at either side of the hall.

Mar 17 **Advert - Arradoul Youth Club** , Social Evening in the Arradoul WRI hall on Friday 25 March from 8p.m. until 1 a.m. Admission 1/6.

Tickets available at the AYC dance in the Town House on Saturday night. A free bus will run from Cluny Square to return at the end of the evening.

Wanted a Caretaker for Rathven Cemetery - Wage £6.17 with house free of rent and rates.

Far's Edinburgh? A poem written by 'Q' Coull

Far's Buckie? Wrote an Embro chiel,
An' Buckie bilt wi' indignation;
For ony bairnie at the skweel,
Quid telt 'im athoot hesitation .

Nae doot, of course, the chiel kent fine,
An' jist wis tryin' tae be cheeky;
He widna half put up a whine-
Gin he wis spiert at, "Far's Aul Reekie?"

They blaw about their Arthur's Seat;
There's better seats at Cluny Square,
An' I widna tak' their Princess Street,
For ony Buckie thoroughfare.

Their Festival, they're awfy prood o't,
Fowk come fae a'wye tilt, they say,
Bit ach, tae my mine, fits the good o't
Strathlene's a treat tilt, ony day.

Weel weel MacNib, the Herts wis lucky,

Tae beat the Jags thon afterneen,
So noo ye maybe ken far's Buckie
An' a'll sweir ye ken far's Aiberdeen

Mar 17 found little of interest to note in this edition.

Mar 24 **License for St Andrew's Hotel changes hands.** Mrs Currie was granted the license of the hotel formerly held by her husband who had found himself twice recently in some trouble with the police.

Poem on page 9. This was written by WDB on the same theme 'Far's Buckie?' WDB had been writing a series of articles under the title 'The Emigrants Return'. Number five is found in this edition.

Death of Buckie Thistle vice president - The death took place this week of Mr. Edward Fraser Chemist, and vice president of Buckie Thistle.

Launch from Jones' Shipyard - The 70-foot long dual purpose fishing boat, 'Steadfast' took the water this week from the shipyard of Messrs Jones and Sons. She has been built for James Murray, Elora. Of interest is the fact that the boat was launched complete and sailed round to the harbour under her own steam.

Steel fishing boat - There are plans to built a steel liner/trawler by the shipyard of Messrs Herd and McKenzie.

April 7 **Billy Graham a big attraction** - Train loads from Buckie and all over the north are to travel to Glasgow to hear the American Evangelist, Billy Graham. The service is to be relayed to the North Church in Buckie and also a church in Banff.

Buckie fishmarket - Improvements and extensions have been made to the Buckie fishmarket but catches are still being sent to Aberdeen.

Football - Buckie Welfare League restarts on Saturday. Teams entered are - Huntly United, Arradoul, Rovers, Portsoy, Cullen, Central Hibs (Keith).

April 14 **Cullen's Lady Bountiful** - Mrs Emily Wood, Romford, Essex, made it clear that she wants a chain of office to be provided for the provost. She gave £1080 to Cullen Town Council, with £300 to go towards providing a chain of office. The town council is to ask what she would like to see being done with the remainder.

Arradoul Youth Club - The first meeting of the newly reformed Youth Club is to take place on Friday 15 April in the WRI Hall. All welcome.

Billy Graham - advert - Come and hear Billy Graham service in the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, relayed to the North Church, Buckie on Wednesday 20 April, Wednesday 27 April and Friday 29 April.

No town bus service yet. - The bus company is of the opinion that a bus service linking the housing estates of Upper Protease and Freuchny and Upper Buckpool would not pay.

North Church Youth Fellowship - Office bearers - President - John Shirley, Secretary, Catherine Lyon, Treasurer - Jenny Simpson. Committee - George Packman, Neil Redford, Lewis Penwright and Janice Scorgie.

Buckie Town Council election - Adam Gowie topped the poll with 1200 votes; Wm. Bannerman, a new candidate came second with 1155 votes, T. W. Lang, 1094 votes; Peter Reid, 1091; John Christie, another new candidate, 1079 votes. Two former councillors were unsuccessful- Charles Shearer with 1054 and Mrs J.

Milne with 679. The first and only lady councillor, she had served for 6 ½ years.

Another candidate, Wm. Reid was also unsuccessful, with 534 votes.

Apr 28 **Opening announcement** - Charles Robertson, known to many as 'Charlie Poosie' is to take over the garage business on West Church Street lately owned by Millers Motors and is to trade under the title - Central Garage.

A photograph on page 5 shows - a group of 'Old Salts' at Buckpool Harbour. All 7 are named.

A photograph on page 6 - shows the MV Endeavour taking the water at the shipyard of George Thomson and Son.

A photograph on page 7 shows the launch of the MV Guillemot from the shipyard of Herd & McKenzie.

Football - In the semi-final of the Dewar Shield played at Victoria Park, Buckie thistle was beaten by four goals to one by Stirling Albion.

A photograph on page 5 - shows the 2nd Buckie Girl Guides.

A photograph in this edition shows work-taking place to form a pathway between Admiralty Street and Cluny Terrace.

A photograph on page 7 shows a group taken at the top of the Bin Hill where Rev W. D. Moffatt conducted a May Day service as the dawn was breaking. The outing was organised by the Youth Fellowship of the North Church. 100 people made the trip leaving Buckie by two buses, some cars and bikes, leaving Buckie at 4.a.m. It was a beautiful morning.

Football - Buckie Thistle won t Aberdeen County Cup after beating Deveronvale by six goals to three after extra time had been played. This was the final of last season's cup. Dr A.W. McHaffie handed over the trophy to Captain Jim Leask.

May 12 **Freedom of the burgh** - The Freedom of the Burgh is to be offered to two distinguished citizens. - Miss Lumsden and George McIntosh VC. Miss Lumsden is to retire after serving for 23 years as matron at Seafeld Hospital.

Gents hairdressing prices - The new prices for gent's haircuts is to be 2/- and for boys - 1/6. These are the new prices agreed on by the following hairdressers in the town -

George Batters, Main Street, C. Cole, Cluny Square, Wm. Stewart, Cluny Square and John Burgess, East Church Street.

Driving tuition - R. Archibald, 34 Harbourhead. Car can be supplied.

Central Soda Fountain - "Are you a Top Twenty fan? Come and hear your favourite record played on our new Music Master.

Billy Graham - Three buses and 8 private cars took members of Buckie Baptist Church to Inverness to hear Billy Graham to hear Billy Graham preach at Bught Park on Tuesday. About a dozen people went forward and made decisions.

Buckie Thistle loses third president within 18 months. Mr John Duncan died in an Aberdeen hospital this week at the age of 57. A report on the life of Mr Duncan is given on page 6.

A photograph on page 9 shows young singers from Buckie who took part at a Music Festival in Aberdeen. Helen Campbell was one of those who entered the under 18 competition.

- May 19 **Coming attraction in the Fishermen's Hall** - Robert Wilson and Jimmy Shand and his band together with a full supporting programme.
- Snow in summer** - A cricket match due to played at Keith on Saturday was put off when the wicket was covered to a depth of 3 inches.
- Fishermen's Hall** - The annex built at the Fishermen's Hall was opened at the dance on Monday evening of this week. The new addition provides much superior cloakroom accommodation for ladies and gents also a committee room. The next phase of improvements to the hall will see an extension made to the hall with the removal of the balcony and the toilets beneath. The work on this is to start very soon
- A photograph on page 9 shows Matron Lumsden** being presented with gifts on her retirement from Seafield Hospital. Miss Lumsden had been 40 years in Nursing.
- A second photograph shows the new matron, Miss Ann Smith.**
- May 26 **Variety Show** - St Peter's Church Youth Club are to put on a Variety Show in the school hall on Thursday and Friday, 26 and 27 May.
- A photograph on page 6** shows Mr J. L. McNaughton (Lodge Gordon's) after being installed as Provincial Grand Master.
- Enzie Amateur Dramatic Society** presented the play 'May Bonnie Jean' in Enzie School on Thursday and Friday of last week. Those taking part were - Michael Donnachie, Mrs Freda McLean, Mrs Margaret B. Johnston, Messrs Willie Palmer, George Grigor, Wm. Potts, W. F. Johnston, Alex Wyllie. Misses Dolly Guthrie, Elsie Barber and Janet and Margaret Innes. This was the first time the last two named had been on stage. Father Robertson, Mrs A. Shand, Miss Ann Palmer and orchestra supplied music. Mr J. Bonnyman was electrician and stage manager. The company is indebted to Mrs Walker,, Banff, Miss McKenzie, Portgordon and Miss Cruickshank, Kirkland, Clochan for providing the beautiful Victoria dresses used in the performance.
- A photograph on page 9 shows the members of Lodge Gordon's** on church parade for their annual service.
- A photograph on page 10 shows a crowded Fishermen's Hall** during the North Church Sunday School Sale of Work.
- The New Thistle President is to be Mr James Macrae, Fishsalesman.** George Tough and Jim Leask were appointed joint managers.
- June 2 **Photograph on page 6 shows the cast of St Peter's Youth Club** who performed at the recent Variety Show. The sum of £34 was raised
- Buckie and District Angling Club** . The members of the recently formed club have been enjoying good sport at the Rochomie Reservoir , 2 miles south of Buckie. Some fine catches of trout have been reported. The present membership is 30 but there are still tickets available.
- June 9 **Football** - Buckie Thistle is not to run a second team next season because of the expense.
- New plans for buildings passed** - Mr Charles Milne, High Street, is to build a new shop on Samson Avenue, Craigbo at a cost of £1,000. R. G. Paterson , West Cathcart Street is to build a new shop at Yuill Avenue at a cost of £450. Both projects were given the green light by the town council.

New tennis courts - New tennis courts are to be opened for the first time at South Pringle Street (Tarbuckie) on Saturday 11 June at 2.30 p.m. by Mrs Reid, wife of the Provost.

Football - Eric Geddes, Portgordon, who formerly played in the Juvenile ranks with the all conquering Portgordon Rangers, and now with Buckie Rovers, scored four times in a 1-6 victory over Huntly United. This brought his total in two games to ten.

June 16 **North Church hall** - The plans for the new hall were passed by the town council. The hall is to cost £9,00 of which £2,800 has already been raised. The lack of a hall has been one of the major problems facing the church. If the whole Kirk session turns up for a meeting there is no room in the vestry for them all to be seated, with more than half having to stand. The hall will seat 375.

Favouritism - A Buckie man was fined £2 at Banff for driving a vehicle and having only a provisional license without having a qualified person supervising him. He was also charged with not showing 'L' plates. This was given front-page prominence. At the same court a person very close to the writer of these notes was charged with the very same offence after he was caught by two policemen on the Barhill Road. He got off with a fine of £1 and with nothing in the local paper. It was just not fair!

Grand dance at Linkbraeheads, Fordyce - Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd July 1955. Sydney had just been demobbed and we went to the dance on the Friday. I have a number of rare memories of that night.

Wanted - Church Officer and Cleaner for the South Church. Combined salary £100. Apply to George Sandison, Lyndhurst, and West Cathcart Street.

A number of photographs of duxes of local schools are given on page 7. William Flett, Senior Dux of St Peters. William Chalmers, Primary Dux of St Peter's School. Elizabeth Simpson, Dux of Lady Cathcart School; James Lyle, Senior Dux of Findochty School; Maureen Clark, Primary Dux of Findochty School.

Tennis courts - A report is given on the opening of the 2, all weather tennis courts, at Tarbuckie. Councillor E. Douglas said there was every likelihood that a further two courts would be provided in the future if the present ones were patronised.

Fraserburgh's claim turned down - Last year the Highland League programme was unfinished for the first time in 60years. The season closed on May 14th with no extension being allowed. There were still 13 league fixtures to be played. Fraserburgh put it to the committee that they should be declared league champions on the grounds that they were leading the field at the end of the season. This received no backing from any of the other clubs. Clach were second to Fraserburgh at the end and their representative at the meeting made the point that there was no way of telling which way the remainder of the games would have gone.

June 23 **Duxes of local schools** - Alex Bruce - Buckie High School. John T. Stewart, Cullen Secondary. Mhairi Russell, Primary Dept. Cullen School. Davina Mair, Senior Dept. Portknockie School. Margaret Wood, Primary Dept. Portknockie School. Arnold Duncan, Senior Dept. Portessie School. John Clark and Joseph Legge, Joint Duxes of the Primary Department Portessie School. David McKay Senior Dux, Portgordon School. Irene Beavan, Dux of Portgordon Primary School.

A photograph on page five shows – Alex Newlands, Blacksmith at Broadley for 35 years receiving a presentation of a wallet of notes from Robert Shand, Farmer of Glasterim. Mrs Newlands was presented with a handbag by Ian Thomson, Burnside of Tynet. Mr Newlands is to work at a shipyard in Buckie. Mr Newlands is remembered as a very nice man who would always take time to put runners on all the loon's sledges, whenever he was asked.

Was it a fair swap ? A thirteen-year-old Findochty loon stole a bike, valued at £5, out of a shed, removed the wheels and mudguards and then swapped those for a pair of rabbits. In defence it was said that he had left his own old bike in exchange. He was put on probation for 12 months.

Photographs on page 7 show – Arnold Duncan, Senior Dux of Portessie School, also Joseph Legge and John Clark the two Primary Duxes of Portessie School.

Two Buckie lads graduate - George Innes, 12 Merson Street, well known Buckie cricketer, recently graduated from Glasgow School of Art with a Diploma of Art (Industrial). He has played for Buckie for a number of seasons and is a promising bowler.

Ian Taylor, West Church Street, has just graduated from Aberdeen School of Architecture after 6 years of study and is now a qualified architect with a degree of Dip Arch. ARIBA.. He formerly played as reserve goalkeeper for Buckie Thistle. While studying in Aberdeen he played for different teams. He is to take up employment with a Glasgow firm.

Death of Buckie butcher - The town was shocked to hear of the sudden death of James Mair at his home. 34 West Church Street. Mr Mair was 51.

June 30 **Boat launch** - The fishing boat, Rosebud II was launched from the shipyard of Messrs Jones' Slip and shipyard on Thursday of last week. She was built for Burghead owners.

Cullen Pageant - A pageant to mark the 500th birthday of Cullen is to take place on 13th July. The pageant will feature a number of the most important events in the history of the village. Information regarding these is given on the front page.

House and furnishings for sale at Farnachty – The house belonging to Mr A. Forbes, together with furniture, hens, sheds etc is to take place on Thursday 7 July 1955 at 6.30 p.m.

Photographs on page 6 shows the Duxes of Portgordon, Portknockie, Shielburn, Deskford and Cullen.

Two photographs on page 7 show some of the pupils of Buckie High School to took part in the performance of 'Iolanthe

A photograph on the same page 7 shows a group of soldiers at Aberdeen Railway Station enroute for Korea. Two Buckie soldiers are in the group, Sandy McPherson and G. McRae, of the Cameron Highlanders.

A photograph on page 9 shows a group of Buckie 'Terriers', mainly ex National Servicemen, prior to leaving for camp at Stobs near Hawick. A report said how a large consignment came from Buckie. A total number of 600 men left Aberdeen and the north east on Saturday to do 14 days training. Of the 600, 500 came from the 5/6th Battalion Gordon Highlanders.

July 7 **Plane crashes** – A Sea Hawk from the Fleet Air Station, Lossiemouth, crashed into the sea two miles off Cullen this week. It was on a training flight. It seems that the pilot was too late in ejecting from the plane and was dead when picked up by Wm. Campbell, 36 Church Street, Findochty, who was fishing alone in his

25 foot long yawl, 'Boy Jeans'. A few hours earlier another Sea Hawk had also crashed into the sea ½ a mile off the Lossiemouth harbour.

A photograph in this edition shows the boys of Buckie ACF about to leave for their annual camp. Shown in the picture are the two instructors, John Legge and Willie Laing.

Cullen Town Hall - The Town Hall that was burnt down during the war in 1942 and has now been rebuilt, will be re-opened on July 14 at 3 p.m. Doing the honours will be Miss Jean Gowan, formerly of the Wakes, Cullen who now lives in the south of England.

In the evening Cullen Amateur Dramatic Society will present the play, 'Johnnie Jouk, The Gibbet.'

July 14 **A photograph in this edition** shows Buckie Methodist Sunday Scholars give a demonstration service on The Building of the Church.

Site for Buckie' new fire station - This was said to be on Newland's Lane though some had complained that the street was too narrow for the engine. The opening must have later been changed to give access on to East Cathcart Street.

Butcher's shop to close - The shop previously occupied by the late James Mair, Butcher, 22 West Church Street, is to close on Saturday 16 May.

Boat launch - A Danish-type seine net fishing boat, the 'Westward' was launched from the shipyard of Messrs G. Thomson and son, on Thursday last. The 'Westward' was built for Lancashire owners.. Thomson's have three more Danish type seine netters on order.

Three photographs showing features associated with the Cullen Pageant are shown on page 7. One shows two men busy thatching a cottage, one shows a horse, with Murray Bruce on its back. He played the part of the Duke of Cumberland. The horse is well known in Cullen, its everyday job being to pull the milk cart. The last photograph shows two men painting canvas to show the landscape.

New Thistle President - Mr James Macrae has been appointed president of Buckie Thistle Football Club. At the Annual General Meeting of Buckie Welfare Society he was also elected chairman of the Society, which also carries the post of president of the football club.. He had been acting president since the death of president, Mr John Duncan.

The Thistle selection committee is as follows :- Messrs A. W. McDonald, A. Douglas, C. Skinner, Wm. Bannerman and the president.

July 21 **Rates** - There is to be no change in the Buckie rates 19/2 in the £. The Water Rate is to go up by 8d.

Reservists at Dallachy. A soldier in the Catering Corps, normally stationed at Catterick but meantime at Dallachy Camp, Spey Bay, was fined for riding a bicycle without lights.

The Cullen Pageant to mark 1000 years of history. A report of the affair is given on page 7.

A secondary report is concerned with the re-opening of the Town Hall, which cost £16,000 to rebuild.

A report is also given of the operatta, which was performed called - The Three Kings of Cullen.

Bank to close - The Commercial Bank in Buckie is to close with all business being transferred to the Banff branch. The closure came as a surprise to both the banking and business circles in the town.

Jly 28 **A photograph on the front page shows** Mr John Thain, 68 Mill Crescent holding an unusual fish, an Allis Shad, caught in the salmon nets at Buckpool. The fish measuring 25" long and weighing 4 ½ lbs. was thought at first to be a monster herring. The fish was sent to the Torry Marine Laboratory in Aberdeen for identification. They said how the Allis Shad is a relative of the herring family and very rare to be found around Scottish coasts.. it is now scarce in the areas where it was once quite common on the estuaries of the Thames and Severn where it spawns. There is only one recording of one being caught in a Scottish river and this was the Tweed. The Torry Marine Laboratory said that the Allis Shad could grow to a length of 30" but the one caught off Buckie was the largest seen for many years.

Peter Fair – As has been the practice now for some years the age-old fair got very little coverage and in the four short passages nothing new was said. There wasn't even one photograph. It was mentioned that big changes had taken place during the last 20 years. One major change was that horses were still changing hands back in 1935 and even as late as 1939, the last Peter Fair until 1946. It was a bonny day, with hundred being present, so that was aye something.

First advert showing T.V.'s - This edition carries the first ever advert seen for television sets. The make was Cossor with sketches of both radio and T.V. sets shown in the advert. The wording said 'See and hear them at the SRRRA Dealer's Exhibition in the Music Hall Aberdeen.

*** **You could buy a 17" Cossor T.V., console model, all enclosed in a cabinet for 102 gns, a 17" table model for 80 gns or a 14" table model for 69 gns. A Cossor radio, Melody Make, cost 24 ½ gns.**

Football - Central Hibs beat Portsoy by 5 goals to one in the Final of the Brown Cup.

Aug 4 **Portknockie Gala Queen** - Miss Sheila Mair was crowned Portknockie Gala Queen by the Town Clerk.

Electronic steering gear - The Martinet, an automatic steering gear for boats was being demonstrated in Buckie this week.

A photograph on page 9 shows the 3rd Buckie Pack Brownies at their annual picnic at Strathlene.

Football - John Scott, formerly a player with Arradoul Y.C. and who later signed for Keith F.C. is to go on trial with Accrington Stanley.

Aug 11 **Two photographs in this edition show the round about at Burns Square before and after.** The town council decided that it was in need of a face lift and planted the circle out in flowers and bushes.

Keith Show - A crowd of between 30 and 40,000 attended Keith Show despite heavy rain the whole day long. This was the second year running in which the show had been spoiled by rain. This was the first of the northern shows to get rain in a year when drought conditions have prevailed.

Football – Central Hibs (Keith) had a very successful season in the Buckie Welfare League. They won the league and lifted the Consolation Cup, Brown Cup and County Cup.

Football - Buckie Thistle signed Bobby Rose of Inverurie Locos. Rose was being chased by a number of other clubs. In addition to signing Norman Cook, as goalkeeper, from Peterhead, the Thistle also signed three local lads who had been with other Highland League clubs. John Smith (Wicket), Alex 'Shaun' Reid

and Danny Fearn. Smith had been playing for Rothes while Reid and Fearn were with Lossiemouth.

Football - The Thistle team to play Elgin City in the first game of the season is to be – Cook Smith and Reid; Thain, Dutch and Jeffrey; G. Cowie, Buchan, McIntyre, Rose and Stewart.

The game was played in Elgin where the Thistle won by three clear goals.

Aug 18 **Minister to leave** – Rev Howarth, Methodist Church minister is to leave Buckie for Birmingham.

Report on Pluscarden Priory is given on page 5. There are plans to rebuild the ruin of Pluscarden Priory

Two very good photographs of women fish workers are shown on page 9.

A photograph on page 12 shows a group of **young girls** taken while resting from swimming at Buckpool Harbour.

Aug 25 **In this edition a photograph** shows the following **ladies on the North Church** minding a stall at an out door Sale of work. They are – Mrs Gauld, Mrs Munro, Mrs Morrison and Mrs Cooper.

Effect of long time drought - The depth of water in the Rochomie Reservoir was down by 10 feet. Normally the depth of water is 46 feet but at present it is 36. The burgh surveyor has issued a warning to all householders not to waste water through watering gardens, washing windows or cars.

A photograph on page 7 shows Granny Bochel (Mrs A. Grant, Glenlivet) who is now 102 years young and who recently paid a visit to her niece, Mrs John Barron, Greenbank Farm, Drybridge.

***** **A photograph on page 6 shows the first sod being lifted by Mrs Duncan on the site of new hall to be built for the North Church.**

Sept 1 **Radios, Radiograms and Television** . So said the advert for Robertsons Furnishing Stores. They were the first shop in Buckie to advertise television sets for sale.

A photograph on page 8 shows three fishworkers - Margaret A. Cowie, Margaret Stewart and Isabella Murray.

Farmworkers seek a rise - Farmworkers are in for a rise to take them to a minimum weekly wage of £7

Monster tattie - Mr A. Doran, Headmaster, of St Peter's School, Buckpool, recently dug some potatoes in his garden and discovered one which weighed 1 ½ lbs. and measured 10" x 7 ½ inches. The rest of the tatties in the stem, the Arran Pilot variety, were of a normal size.

Sept 8 **New minister for the Methodist Church** - The minister who will succeed Rev Howarth, who went to Birmingham, is Rev Ernest Moulton.

Banff County Planners and Cluny Square An article in this edition carries a report on a meeting, which took place when the new hall to be built for the North Church was being discussed. The type of finish to the walls of the hall came in for a lot of attention. This, it was stressed had to fit in with the rest of the buildings on Cluny Square. The same planners must have all gone when they came to replace the original buildings in the south west quadrant. Some have described the replacement as a monstrosity and quite out of place with the surroundings.

Hairst pictures - On page 9 a photograph shows leading going on with a man forking sheaves from a stook up on to a bogey. Back in an August edition one photograph showed a 'little grey Fergie' pulling a binder cutting a park of corn, while another showed three men busy stooking. One of the men was Jimmy Hunter of Townhead, Drybridge.

Football crowd - On page 11 an excellent photograph shows part of the crowd taken at the Buckie Thistle versus Inverness Thistle game at Victoria Park on Saturday.

Sept 15 **Opening announcement** - Andy and Jockie Smith are giving notice that they are to start up in business as Painters and Glaziers at 23 Mid Street.

Arradoul Youth Club held a most successful opening social and dance in the Arradoul WRI hall on Friday last. (This was planned to take place much earlier and must have been postponed.)

Teacher to retire - Miss Elizabeth Lessel, P. T. English at Buckie High School for 35 years is to retire on September 16 1955. She had been a PT teacher the whole of her career. She is an Honours Graduate of English and German of Aberdeen University. Her first job as a teacher was at Rothesay where she was appointed PT of English from the start. She moved to Buckie two years later. She is a native of Dunecht where she is to retire. She is to be succeeded by W. B. Anderson.

Demonstration of fish finder - A number of fishermen took advantage of the opportunity of seeing the new Pye fish-finder, echo-sounder in operation. The new equipment provides accurate detection and location of fish down to 350 fathoms. The demonstration was given in the Commercial hall.

Oct 6 **A photograph shows Provost Reid cutting the first turf on the site of the new factory at Marchmount for British Thomson Houston .**

T.V. for Banffshire - Television day for Banffshire is to be next Wednesday when the Meldrum Transmitter at Core Hill near Fyvie comes into operation providing television pictures for 500,000 potential viewers.

Football - Buckie Thistle won the **Highland League Cup** at Banff after beating Peterhead by one goal to nil. The Thistle team was - Cook, Leask and Reid, Thain, Dutch and Cowie; Buchan, McIntyre, Rose, Allan and Stewart.

Oct 13 **Portknockie Horse back in the news** - The owner of the horse asked the town council for an increase in the money presently being given for pulling the £300 dust cart, up from £2,2.6 to £3. The council did not accept this with 7/6 being offered.

Death of Alec James Merson - former rector of Carrick Academy Maybole, Ayrshire. He was the brother of the former provost of Buckie and second son of George Merson, Fishcurer.. He was a graduate in English of Aberdeen University and began his teaching career in Findochty. He served during World War 1 with the RSF in which he was commissioned.

Advert - Television Sets, 17 and 14 "- G.S. Barclay, East Church Street. - Bush, Ecko, Murphy, Pye and Ultra.

Advert - Smith Radio Service 10 Cluny Square have the following television sets in stock - Decca, K.B. Philco, RGD.

Oct 20 **to retire** - James Forbes, Potato Merchant, 35 Land Street, is to give up business owing to failing health.

A photograph on the front page has this caption 'Its Woman's World'.

The photograph was taken at the birthday party of Alison Morrison, Blairdaff Street's birthday party. Twenty chums and one boy were there to help her celebrate. (Maybe it should have been 'Put Me among the Girls'.)

Concert in the Fishermen's Hall - on 4th November. White Heather Group and Stanley Baxter.

Television - The Kings Café invite you to enjoy our coffee and fish teas etc and see television. Prompt attention with a cosy atmosphere.

Television - Cossor, GEC, Alba, Philco, Strad, Sobell, Masterradio. 14 and 17-inch table model television sets.

Aerials erected, guaranteed results. Demonstrations given daily.

Radios, radiograms and record players always in stock.

R. M. Jamieson - 22 Seaview Road. Buckpool.

New Serial by Spike - Reynard Reach Avenger, Chapter 1.

Playhouse manager retires - Mr James Hood, a native of Garmouth, who has been manager of the cinema in Buckie for 38 years is to retire. He was previously manager of the Palace Cinema owned by James Archibald who also owned cinemas at Keith, Huntly, Nairn and Wick before they were all sold to Caledonian Associated Cinemas in 1937.

He is to be succeeded by Mr Henry Sluyter, who came to Buckie, from Aberdeen, in 1929 as projectionist but who has been assistant manager for the past two years. Mr Hood received gifts from the cinema staff.

Naval vessel takes the water - HMS Pagham was launched from Messrs Jones Shipyard, Buckie this week

Football - Buckie Rovers were beaten by Arradoul by three goals to two at Linzee Gordon Park in a the first game of a new League Cup competition. The Association has sponsored this and introduced to keep players interested before closing down for the winter months.

Television - Opening Announcement - I have in stock the receiver models I found to be most reliable after working for four years servicing television sets in England. I. D. Sutherland, 15 A High Street. Demonstrations arranged at your convenience in showroom or home.

Oct 27 **Death of former Master Mason and Builder.** Alexander Milne, Senior, Master Builder and prominent figure in the building industry for over 60 years died suddenly at his home, on Banff Street on Tuesday. He had been in poor health for some time. He was 77.

The business with which he was associated was founded by his father on Low Street 80 years before but moved to Banff Street before World War 1. He took a keen interest in football and played Buckie Thistle in its early days. One of his sons John, a banker in Aberdeen, also played for the Thistle. Alex Milne, Junior, carries on the business.

Photograph on page 7 shows a very clear picture of McLaren's Brae with the huts formerly occupied by both the RAF and Navy personnel in the foreground.

Also on page 7 a photograph shows a hist of quines and one wee loon at Miss Ann Smith's 8th birthday party. Ann lives at 4 Carnie Place.

A photograph on page 9 shows a number of Aberdeen trawlers sheltering in Buckie Harbour from the severe gales last week.

Television – Walker and Smith, Electricians Ltd 23 East Church Street. We have pleasure in announcing that we have secured the full time services of a first class T.V. and wireless engineer, Eric Johnston.

It is essential for good reception on your television set in this area to have

- 1) The proper type of TV set
- 2) The proper aerial correctly installed

We can supply you with both.

On page 11 a good photograph shows the members of Arradoul (Youth Club) Football club who play in the Buckie and District Welfare League.

Reading from left to right (back) – Adam Cowie (Capt.) J. Greig, Sandy Milne, J. Paterson, J. Smith, Bill Jappy, and linesman Johnnie Murray.

Front – Wm. Sutherland, J. Sutherland, Jimmy Thomson, G. Taylor and Eddy Shepherd.

Nov 3 **Is Dallachy Camp (former wartime aerodrome) to be the site of an Atomic Power Station?** The area was looked at along with others.

Football - George Tough who had partnered Jim Leask at full back for Buckie Thistle since the end of the war, with both retiring from actively playing at the end of last season to become joint managers, asked to be relieved of the post as he aimed to play again with Rothes.

Nov 10 Found little of interest to note

Nov 17 **Football** - Danny Fearn who was signed by Buckie Thistle from Lossiemouth at the start of the season has asked for his release as he had been offered terms by another Highland League side. John Smith (Wicket) who was signed from Rothes at the same time as Fearn only played a couple of games at the start of the season before suffering an ankle injury, which more or less ended his career.

Nov 24 **Broadley Smiddy** – There was danger that the smiddy at Broadley would have to close with Frank McWilliam, Blacksmith, who took on the responsibility for the business after Mr Alex Newlands moved to the shipyard at Buckie, is due to be called up. It was said that more horses were shod at Broadley than any other smiddy in Scotland. Mrs Duncan widow of Mr John Duncan owns the smiddy.

Two photographs on page 6 were taken at the Methodist

Chrysanthemum Tea, One shows some of the servers with the other Mrs Moulton, who opened the event receiving a present from two year old Miss Arlene Flett.

A photograph on page 7 shows Miss Elsie Murray , 8 Baron Street with a group of her chums as they help her celebrate her 5th birthday.

There are two photographs on page 9. One of them shows Baron Street as it was in the days before the railway and the other shows pupils of Lady Cathcart School before the turn of the century.

Football – With both George Cowie and Alex Stewart missing through injury Buckie was given little hope of beating the Caley at Telford Street. They had, however, signed Bobby Auld from Fraserburgh , who scored three goals in a five goals to one victory.

Dec 1 **Smiddy Closed** - A notice in the local paper said that with Frank McWilliam, Blacksmith, being called up for the army the smiddy was now closed until further notice. Efforts had been made to get another blacksmith but had been unable to do so. Mrs Helen K. Duncan, 4 Mill Crescent.

Dance – Arradoul Y. C. were still holding Old time dances in the Town House on a Saturday night. They were first started in 1950 when admission was 2/- and this was still the same price, with a free bus home via Arradoul and Enzie Cross roads and Portgordon after the dance.

The Right Rev G.D. Henderson, Moderator of the Church of Scotland, laid the Foundation Stone of the new hall for the North Church on Wednesday 23 November 1955. The weather was bitter. The names of the elders and Congregational Board and also the names of the various contractors were placed behind the stone.

Football - George 'Ruf' Stewart, the Thistle, Dundee and St Mirren centre forward, now with Accrington Stanley, is the leading goal scorer in the Third Division. He has scored 17 goals already this season, including two hat-tricks. It is known that other more senior clubs have been watching him. .

Football – George Smith, the son of Baillie Smith, who has just been demobbed from the Royal Air Force is to have a trial with Stirling Albion.

Naval vessel launched – HMS Monkton, 152 feet long and sister ship to another of the same size was launched from the shipyard of Herd & McKenzie this week. The two are the largest vessels ever to be built and launched in Buckie.

Dec 8 **Closure of coal business** - Alex Reid (Senior) and son and partners Coal Merchants, Buckie and Fochabers are to close down after 35 years.

Opening announcement - Robert MacFarlane, 29 Barhill,?, Buckie is to take over the potato business formerly belonging to Charles Smith, Land Street.

North Church Sale of Work - A report is given in this edition of the Sale of Work, which was staged, in the Fishermen's Hall to raise funds to pay for the building of the new hall. £982 was raised.

A photograph of the Broadley Smiddy is shown on page 5. It was now up for sale. This meant that the nearest smiddies were now either in Fochabers or Cullen, seven or nine miles away.

A photograph on page 7 shows the launching of HMS Monkton.

Another two photographs on the same page show boys of the Navigation Class at Findochty Junior Secondary School who are to have a trip on the Prince Louis.

Miss Britain - 18 years old Miss Sheila Joan Taylor, who has been voted **Miss Britain** in a beauty competition has connections with Buckie. Her mother was formerly Nellie Imlach, 14 Campbell Street, and Portessie while her aunt, Mrs J. Murray lives at 8 Linn Crescent.

Dec 15 **Opening announcement** - Charles McKay is to take over the butcher's shop at 25 Great Eastern Road, Portessie, formerly owned by A. G. Reid.

The end of the line for the Portknockie horse - The Portknockie horse, Dobbin, which earned international fame when it refused to pull the new dust cart is to be made redundant on 24 December with a new tractor, costing £600 having been bought by the council to do the job. The owner of the horse, Mr A. Legge has been refused collector for 23 years.

Sales of Work - No less than three different but similar events are shown on page 7. One of the Sales of Work was photographed in the Portessie Hall, a second in the All Saints Church Hall with the third being ran by the Findochty Salvation Army in the village hall.

Football Different clubs have been trying to entice Jim Leask back into playing but he aims to stay retired.

Gamrie horse tries to claim some of the Portknockie horse's fame. The horse that normally pulls the dust cart in the Banffshire village is now unable to do so. Its owner said the horse has 'gone done'.

Dec 22 **On the front page there is a good picture of Buckie South Church Lifeboys.**

Coal business - Alex Reid (Junior) and Son is to continue the coal business formerly ran by his father in Buckie and Fochabers. He is also to take over the customers formerly served by Dickie Grant through driver, Jock Inglis, in Bogmoor, Spey Bay etc.

A photograph on page 6 shows the Buckie Salvation Army Sale of Work.

Spike has fun with some sketches of the famous Portknockie horse, which has now been made redundant.

Dance – Arradoul Y. C. held their usual Old Time dance in the Town House on Saturday night with music by the Starline band. The club had a regular advert each week in the local paper . Was this the last dance after five years since the advert was missing in the December 29 edition.?

Boat launch – The MV Strathnairn was launched from the Shipyard of Messrs Jones Shipyard, Buckie, for Nairn owners

Freedom ceremony – A report is given on page 6 of the Freedom Ceremony in which the Freedom of the Burgh of Buckie was bestowed on George Imlach McIntosh VC and Miss Margaret C. Lumsden, former matron at Seafield Hospital.

Freemasons – Bro. James S. Duncan was installed as RWM of Lodge Gordons 589.

Presentation to cinema manager - Mr James Hood, manager of the cinema in Buckie for 38 years, 18 of those having been spent with Caledonia Associated Cinemas was presented with a TV set from the directors in recognition of his services.

