

1956

Jan 5 **Buckie Fish market** - After a chequered career in the past few years the Buckie Fish market is to reopen before the end of the month. The news has been widely welcomed through out the town.

Fifty-eight skippers gave an undertaking to sell their fish at Buckie for a period of three months.

Hairdresser to retire - Mrs Wood, Ladies Hairdresser, is to retire from business at Seaview Place on 31st December. She thanks her many customers for their support during the many years she has been in business.

Television in another cafe - The Central Soda Fountain had a big advert in the local paper, including the message that people could watch television and listen to the latest tunes on the Music master.

Buckie postman gets presentation - Ian Gauld, a postman in Buckie for some years received a presentation from the Head Postmaster, Mr McGregor. Mr Gauld, who was only recently married, is moving to Dunfermline as a Postal and Telegraph Officer. He received congratulations from Mr McGregor, on passing the exam, going on to describe him as being a conscientious and enthusiastic worker, who he had known from day one would go further in the Postal Service. (He did indeed, after Dunfermline, he moved to the London area, then Preston before becoming Postmaster of Manchester.)

Waves lash Portgordon - High seas broke ashore along Stewart Street and Lennox Place, Portgordon last week causing problems for the householders living there. A number of salmon were tossed up out of the sea on to the roadway. The holes that had been made in the low sea wall bordering the road, by Banff County Council in 1954, with the intention of returning the water to the sea, failed to be effective.

Boat launch - The fishing boat 'Remembrance' built by Messrs G. Thomson and Son for Port soy owners was ceremoniously launched although it didn't take to the water because of bad weather conditions prevailing this week.

Jan 12 **Pavilion to be built at Tarbuckie.** Dean of Guild Lawson criticised the amount to be spent on building a pavilion at Tarbuckie in connection with the new tennis courts. The estimated cost was in the region of £3,000. He said that too much of the budget was being spent on parks.

Arradoul Y. C. dance - After an absence of two weeks the organisation that had been running a dance in the Townhouse for the past five years again had an advert in the local paper. A significant difference was, perhaps, that instead of the heading saying 'Old Time Dance' it was now reading simply 'Grand Dance'.

Statistics for Rathven for 1955. The figures for 1954 are given inside the brackets.

Births -----	269 (260)
Deaths -----	124 (130)
Marriages-----	099 (087)

Of all the births 242 babies were born in the Seafield Hospital; 136 were males and 106 females. Altogether there were 151 boys and 118 girls.

There were 6 fewer deaths in 1955 . Of these 76 were of persons over 70, 38 were over 80 and 2 were over 90.

Five children died under 10 years; two boys and three girls.

Of the 96 marriages, 6 were civil.

A photograph on page 7 shows a well-known wedding group, taken at Spey

Bay.

Final chapter of Spike's serial - 'Reynard Riach - Avenger' is given in this edition.

Town Council buys property - Buckie Town Council bought the former Commercial Bank building at 24 East Church Street (junction of Shanks Lane with East Church Street) at a cost of £4.500, to include floor coverings. (The building was later to be called the Town House, East, with one of the offices taking space there being the rent office.) (With the demise of the town council in 1975 the building was still being used by their successors, Moray District Council but became unused when a one-stop-shop was set up in the former 'Sailors' Home' on Cluny Square. It lay empty for a long time until opened as a meeting place for teenagers, ran by the churches, in April 2001.)

More on the tennis pavilion - This subject was further discussed by the town council. Bailie Smith said that it was his impression that Buckie Welfare Society was being ran exclusively for Buckie Thistle F.C.. (He probably wasn't the only one to be of this opinion.) He wondered why some money might not be given to help build the pavilion at Tarbuckie.

Jan 19 **Re-opening of the fish market-** the local paper described the reopening of the fish market, which was to take place the following week, as a local event of outstanding importance. The first fish sales for some considerable time will take place on Tuesday. Meantime all fish landed at Buckie are consigned to Aberdeen to be sold there.

Opening announcement - D. and O. Swindlehurst are to open in business at 5 New Street, Buckie, as Grocers and General Merchants.

Jan 26 **"Buckie's Black Friday"**, read the headline on the front page, being concerned with no less than four boats, which suffered mishaps. The 'Bezaleel' sunk in Buckie Harbour after being in collision with the 'Flower'. The 'Katreen' ran on the rocks near Jones' Shipyard, the 'Amethyst' was driven ashore and the 'Briarbank' sustained damage after the steering gear failed as she was about to enter the harbour.

The fishmarket re-opens. The fish market re-opened on Tuesday as planned with the new packing station alongside, built by the town council. This is staffed by a team of skilled fish workers.

A photograph on page 7 shows the wrecked fishing boat, 'Katreen', aground near Jones' Shipyard.

Death in New Zealand of former Buckie woman. The death took place at Gisborne, N.Z., of Mrs Margaret Jane Robertson, formerly of Struan, Cluny Square,. She was the widow of Wm. Robertson, Chemist, and had been living with daughters in N.Z. for a number of years. A well known figure when the family lived in Buckie, where she took a keen interest in the affairs of the community. She was a very active worker for the Red Cross and a devout member of All Saints Episcopal Church. She was 75 and is survived by three daughters, two of whom are in N.Z. and one in Cleveleys, Lancashire.

Feb 2 **Appointments at Buckie High School** - R. K. Denholm is to be the P.T. Geography in place of Mrs Dick. He is to move from Berwick. Robert Strang is to be the new P.T. History in place of Miss C. Scott. He is to move from Stirling.

Feb 9 **A stranger** - A rare fish was caught in the trawl net of a local fishing boat. A Spring Lobster, a species very rare off Scottish coasts. In the early years of the present century (20th) they were occasionally found off the west coast, but at that time, 1910, there existed only two recordings from the north of Scotland.

The true home of the Spring or Thorny Lobster centres about the Mediterranean. One was caught off Angus in 1935 and another off Kinnaird Head in 1937.

T.V for patients - Seafield Hospital were given a T.V. set by Mrs Elizabeth Kemp in memory of her husband who died in April 1953 in Brooklyn, New York. He was a native of the Bauds, Findochty.

New minister for Enzie and Portgordon - The new minister appointed to the two charges is Rev James M. Mann, who is moving to the area from Clatt, Aberdeenshire.

Feb 16 **Death in odd circumstances** - A woman died at Upper Dallachy when she slipped and fell into a barrel of water as she attempted to break the ice. Being partly paralysed she was unable to free herself. Mrs Georgina McKay was 59. A neighbour who called got a terrible shock when she saw the two legs sticking up in the air.

Bound for Rhodesia - A photograph on page 10, taken at Buckie railway station, shows two Buckpool men about to start their journey abroad. Donald McKenzie, Loudon, St Peter's Road is to take up an appointment in a bank while George Hepburn of Elsley Place is take up a position in the Post Office.

Feb 23 **Change to the Town House Saturday dance**, after being ran for five years by Arradoul Youth Club. The advert read - New Band - Modern Dancing . Can't be missed - Especially for you. Admission 2/6 - Usual buses.

Launch - The 'Carinthia' was launched from the shipyard of Messrs Jones and Sons this week.

Winter - Heavy snow blankets Buckie!

Mar 1 **Dance in the Town House on Saturday night** . Bluebell Band. Admission 2/6. Usual buses

A photograph on page 5 shows burgh workmen shieling snow off Cluny Square into a lorry to be dumped on the beach . A second photograph shows a bulldozer clearing the deep snow off West Church Street.

Have a bit ! - A nine stone halibut was landed by the 'Girl Elma' this week. It sold for £18.

Another rare fish - An unusual fish was found on the beach at Whitehills and identified by the Torry Research Laboratory as a Rays Bream. They are found from time in shoals off the west coast. They are native of Portugese and Spanish waters. The Torry Laboratory is interested to know the reason for their migration north where they find the colder waters uncongenial. They appear to get disorientated and are found in rock pools and in harbours.

Death of crack rifle shot - The death has been announced of Danny Coubrough , Electric Welder, 56 St Peter's Road. he was an excellent rifle shot and in 1933 equalled the record score of 135 out of a possible 140 for the Kings Cup at Bisley. Danny was a native of Glasgow.

Mar 8 **Sold** - The Broadley smiddy has been sold by Mrs Duncan to Mr James Muggach. He is to do general repair work and welding but NO horse shoeing. The smiddy had been in the Duncan hands since 1899.

Opening announcement - Alex Flett, Findochty, Fish Merchant at 15 Low Street.

Dance - The A.Y.C. are to hold a dance in the Arradoul WRI hall on Saturday 10 March. A bus will leave Cluny Square going via St Andrews Square and

Portgordon, returning after the dance. Admission 2/-

Boat launch - The Helga Risager was launched from the shipyard of Messrs G. Thomson and Son. she was built for Whitehaven owners. This is the 4th fishing vessel of the Danish type to be built by Thomson's for Mr Thomsen in the past 18 months

The shipyard is presently engaged in the building of **five fishing boats at the same time**, four of those are of the Danish design in which the firm specialises. The fifth is of the traditional design for Findochty owners.

A photograph on page 12 shows part of the large crowd who attended the **North Church Choir** Social in the Town House

Mar 15 **Licensed hotel for Portessie** - As reported Cecil Smith, 27 Rannas Place Portessie was given permission to open the address as licensed premises.

Still another shop advertising TV's - Charles Robertson, 14 East Church Street. In stock - Phillips, GEC, Cossor and Pilot.

Mar 22 **Opening announcement** - Peter Bruce, 8 Bryson Crescent is to commence in business as a Decorator and Signwriter at No 1 Commercial Road, on Monday 20 March, 1956.

For sale - Oxhill Croft, Clochan. Six acres of good arable land may be let to the purchaser.

E.A. D. S. Enzie Amateur Dramatic Society are to present the play " Guests of Glentaggart" in the Methodist Hall, Portgordon on Friday 23 March.

The first - The first steel vessel built on the Moray Firth was launched from the shipyard of Messrs Hers & McKenzie for two Aberdeen line fishermen, Messrs W, Stewart and James Imlach She was named the 'Loch Kildonan' and is 100 feet in length.

She is the first steel ship to be built for private owners under the White Fish Authority grant and loan scheme.

Another boat was launched this week. This was 'The Northlands', a 56 foot Danish type vessel built by Thomson's Shipyard for Fleetwood owners

Mar 29 **The shipyard firm of Messrs Herd & McKenzie celebrated 50 years in business. The whole of page 7 is dedicated to the firm. *******

Victoria Bowling Club - There is a real danger that Buckie Victoria Bowling Club may fall into abeyance this year due to lack of interest on the part of its members and poor condition of the green. At the AGM only four members turned up.

Apr 5 **Enzie Manse** (Enzie Cross Roads) It has been agreed to let the building since the new minister, Rev Mann intends to stay in Portgordon.

Advert - Peter Bruce , Painter and Decorator , 1 Commercial Road. Diploma in Signwriting.

Wedding photographs - There were no less than 7 wedding photographs on page 2 with some, it was said, held over until next week due to pressure on space. (The tax concession given at the end of the tax year was a big inducement to couples to get married at this time.)

Welfare League - Teams entered - Buckie Rovers, Findochty, Arradoul, Central Hibs, Portsoy and Huntly United.

Apr 12 **Music for sale** - Heather Mixture - W. J. Cowie, The Deskford Bard, 3/6

Advertisers -

Alex Esson, Draper, Cluny Square. The Little Wonder, Fashion Warehouse , 37 East Ch. St.

Wm Douglas & Sons Builders, Fireplaces, Bank Street. Miss J. Reid, Chiropodist, LHPC

P. Deas, Taxi and Hire Cars, Portessie. A & C Cole Ladies Hairdressers, Cluny Square.

Campbell & Isherwood, Commercial Road For all Electrical Work.

Arthur Coutts, Govan Road, Glasgow - Working Men's Clothes.

Learn to drive - G. R. Cowie, 32 Gt. Western Road. Geo. Clark, Butcher, 33 High Street.

Electric Chimney Sweep - A. Mackie, Findochty.

Geo. Robertson, Draper, Cullen. W. F. Johnston, Lending Library, 13 - 15 West Church Street.

The Ladies Shop, 39 West Church Street. G. S. Barclay For Reliable Television, 31/33 E. Ch. St. Sutherland's Furnishing Store, High Street, For Electrolux suction cleaners.

For tiled fireplaces - G. Packman and Sons, Plasterers and Cement Workers, Glentor, W. Cathcart St.

Ian Smith, Plumber and Electrician, 3 John Street, Lossiemouth and Sterlochry Street, Findochty.

John T. Lawrence, Automobile Engineer, Seafield Street, Cullen.

Smith's Record Shop, Cluny Square , In stock - Deck of Cards by Phil Harris; The Angus Reel by Jimmy Shand; Poor John by Les Baxter; Only You by the Hill Toppers; Goofus by Bill Kreuz and the Ragtimers; The Spinning Wheel by Mary O'Hara.

For the best in photography - Ali Mohamed, The Studio, 13 Great Eastern Road, Portessie and 39 East Church Street.

Hydro Board, 28 East Church Street. TV and Radio, C. Robertson, 14 East Church Street.

Start Rite Shoes, Geo. Sutherland, 21 West Church Street. Thos, Lang, Optician, 18 W. Ch. St. W. G. Davidson and Co. Cullen and Portsoy. The Cluny Cleaners, 5 High Street.

Merson and Gerry Ltd, 28 East Church Street. Have our smoked fish for a tasty meal.

Robertson's Shops - Keith, Banff and Moray Firth, Buckie.

Walker and Smith (Electricians) Ltd, 25 East Church Street. TV and Electrical work.

Central Garage (C. Robertson), Morris Isis, 2.6 litre six cylinder saloon.

For fitted carpets - Henderson's, 253 High Street, Elgin.

James Robertson & Son, Granite Works, Aberdeen. Dan Flynn, Bookmakers, Ltd, 22 Bridge St. Abdn.

Valet Service, J. Munro, Tailor, late of Elgin Laundry, 211 High Street, Elgin.

Britannic Assurance Company Ltd. Slater and Flett, Ladies Hairdressers, 17 Park St. Portknockie.

James Mackay , Draper, etc, 5 E. Ch. St. Floral Art, Wreaths etc, Christies, Fochabers.

Funeral Undertakers - A. Campbell and Sons, Seaview Road, and A. Hendry and Sons, Land Street.

Southside Waste Co. Ltd, Glasgow. All kinds of waste, rags, woollens, brass, copper, lead and batteries. Good prices paid.

Ian Sutherland, 15A, High Street, invites you to watch **Grace Kelly's** wedding on TV in his shop also **Scotland play England** at football or alternatively have a TV set installed in your own home before each event.

Rev James M. Mann- The new Enzie minister was inducted into the charge on Wednesday to bring to an end the lengthy vacancy which has existed since Rev Frances P. Chisholm emigrated last summer.

Football - Jimmy McIntyre, centre forward with Buckie Thistle , was badly injured during a match at Forres when he collided with the Mechanics goalkeeper Henry

Wiesniowski as both players went for the ball. McIntyre suffered a compound double fracture of his left leg while the keeper sustained an injury to his head. Both players were carried off. It was thought that McIntyre would be out for at least three months but in fact the injury more or less ended his football career.

Death of retired merchant. The death took place this week at his home, 1 James Street, of Roderick Munro, who previously was in business in Buckie. He took a great interest in cabinet making, french polishing and clocks of which he was something of an expert.

Buckie Town Council election - Dr John F. Cameron came top of the poll with 1508 votes; second was newcomer, Rev W. D. Moffat with 1467, then another newcomer, Albert Doran, Headmaster, who polled 1398 votes. Charles Shearer, making a return to local politics came fourth with 1366 votes. Three retiring councillors lost their seats - Jimmy Lawson, Labourer, Wm. Thomson, Shipbuilder and George Smith, Master Electrician.

Playhouse - Showing this week is the film - 'Geordie' starring Alistair Sim and Bill Travers.

Sex talk leads to mass resignation - Twenty out of the 39 elders of St Rufus Church, Keith, resigned in protest against Rev. F. W. McCaskill's sex talks given to couples about to be married.

Spike and the Portknockie hose, again. They had been having great difficulty in getting sufficient members for the town council in Portknockie and two councillors went and interviewed the horse, which had formerly pulled the dust cart until superseded by a tractor. It had been suggested that if they wished the horse to become a member certain inducements would have to be given. These were a sack of oats at every meeting and convenership of the cleansing department giving power over the operations of the tractor. This was not enough to sway the horse who wanted to be provost, no less.

Apr 26 **Boat launch** - The fishing boat, 'Atlantis' was launched from the yard of Messrs G. Thomson and Son on Tuesday of this week. The 'Atlantis, 64 feet long, has been built for five Lossie fishermen.

May 3 **Headline - A fishing boat now costs ten times more to build today than it did in 1937.**

Fishmarket - The Fishmarket scheme, which began in January is to continue though prices are lower in Buckie than in Aberdeen.

Opening announcement - Wm. J. Taylor, is to open a butcher's shop at 26 Land Street.

Grand dance - The announcement was similar to that which previously appeared under the heading of Arradoul Youth Club and in the Town House, with the price of admission being the same.

Football - Norman Taylor was appointed secretary of Buckie Welfare League. A new club had joined called Buckie Corinthians.

For sale - The building - 2-4 Bridge Place (Davidson's Stores)

Change in car registration - Banffshire car registration letters are now ASE. The vehicles with the letters SE have reached 9999 after 30 years. The vehicle with registration number SE99999 belongs to Mr R. J. Cumming, County Clerk and while the number ASE1 is on a three and a half litre Jaguar owned by Lady Abercromby of Forglen House. Viscount Reidhaven has the letters ASE2 on

his new car.

No trace can be found of who had SE1. The earliest is SE4 which was issued to Phillip Kynoch Shand, The Linn, Keith, in 1921 for a French Grey Sunbeam 2 seater with a 'dickie' seat.

Trek to the summit of the Bin Hill - A 80 strong party, comprising mostly young people although a 71 year old lady was present, climbed the 1050 foot high Bin Hill before dawn on Sunday to greet the sun rise.

It was a fine spring morning as the party left Buckie Square at 3.30 a.m. It was also remained dry on the hill top where a few hymns were sung and the Rev, W. D. Moffat gave a short service.

Some decided to dispense with the transport provided and walked the four miles back to Buckie. The trip was organised by the Youth Fellowship of the North Church but anyone could take part.

Slochie loon - a dresser to the stars - Twenty four year's old Robert Leslie, a former railway clerk at Buckie is dresser to Howard Keel (singer) now topping the bill at the London Palladium.

Advert - A. Gauld, Chemist, 7 East Church Street - Agents for Helena Rubenstein beauty preparations.

Rovers Scouts - The proposal that Rovers Scouts should retire at 24 was not well received in Portknockie.

May 17 **Visit of HMS Bulwark (aircraft carrier)** Word has been received from the Admiralty that HMS Bulwark will pay a visit to the Moray Firth, off Buckie, in June.

Football - Buckie Thistle signed Jocky Christie, winger, from Deveronvale and John Low, goalkeeper, from Keith.

RN Target Boat Squadron - The four high speed vessels are back in Buckie Harbour. they have been coming here for a number of years now during exercises by the Home Fleet in the Moray Firth.

Boat launch - The fishing boat 'Charles Bojer' was launched from the shipyard of Messrs G. Thomson and Son this week. A 51 foot seine-net vessel, built for Blackpool owners, it is the 7th Danish type to be built in 2 years by 'Tappies'.

Wedding telegram - "Congratulations and best wishes - Let's hope you have no fuses but plenty of bright sparks".

A photograph on page 7 shows five local ladies busy mending nets. Their names - Mrs Cormack, Mrs Henderson, Mrs Murray, Mrs May and Mrs Cowie.

Football - Buckie failed to take the Highland League Championship. They needed but one point in their game with Elgin City at Borough Briggs but lost by four clear goals. This left the two teams level on points with a play-off to take place at Victoria Park. Unfortunately they were beaten again by three goals to two, Elgin coming back from two goals down.

A crowd of 4,700 saw this unforgettable match, remembered most for the blunder made by the Thistle keeper, Lenny Marshall, but as the reporter of the day said, the Thistle's championship hopes had begun to fade some time earlier.

May 24 **Former chemist shop now Cafe** - One learns that the shop on Cluny Square for a long time used as a chemist's is now a cafe. This came out when a sailor, meantime residing in Residing in Redburn House was charged with causing a noise in the recently opened cafe. He said that he only wanted to hear his record played on the juke box. He was fined £2.

Rise in price of postage stamp. The cost of posting a letter will be 2d from June 7th. Postage of papers going abroad , penny ha'penny.

Playhouse this week - The film 'The Cruel Sea' is being shown this week, starring Jack Hawkins and Donald Sinden.

Cheap Rail Travel - A three day excursion ticket on Fridays and Saturdays

Buckie to Aberdeen - 12/9

Buckie to Edinburgh - 38/6

Buckie to Glasgow - 41/6

Buckie to Inverness - 11/9

First class tickets cost 50% more

Daily excursions to Aberdeen every week day, leaving Buckie at 6.46 and 9.57 a,m, Ticket - 11/3

Wedding telegram - "Arm and arm through life's rough sea - May your voyage pleasant be."

A photograph shows the Manager and Manageress of Strathlene Hotel - Mr and Harper, who have declared summer bookings above normal.

Award for local architectural student - Charles T. Donaldson, Buckie, 4th year architectural student at Robert Gordon College, Aberdeen, came first equal for the Incorporated prize for student members of the Royal Institute of Architects in Scotland.

Death of former coal merchant - The death took place of Alex Reid, Senior, former coal merchant. Formerly a fisherman he retired from the sea in 1920. He went to sea first on sailboats then became part owner and skipper of the drifter, 'Fruitful'. He was 85 and retired from business in 1946. The business was then carried on by his son , but he died two years ago with his grandson now in charge.

First steel boat - The first steel boat to be built in Buckie, the 100 foot motor fishing vessel, Loch Kildonan, left after trials for Aberdeen, he home port, on Thursday.

June 7 **Opening announcement** - James Bowie, is to open as a General Merchant in a shop at St Paul's Street, Buckpool.

Tennis Club formed - Following the opening of the new tennis courts at Tarbuckie a club has now been formed. this is called Tarbuckie Tennis Club. The officials are - president - Geo. Packman, vice president - Miss C. McIntosh, secretary and treasurer - J. A. Forbes, match secretary- James Murray, Captain - James W. Mackay. Committee - Miss I. Ewen, Miss E. Ewen, R. Donaldson and P. Shearer.

School Duxes - James Pirie - Portknockie Primary. Deskford J. S. School - Billy Smith, Primary and Anna Rumbles, Secondary.

Wm. Grant is Primary dux of St Peter's School

Patricia J McWhirr is dux of Cullen School

Helen Phimister is Senior dux of Findochty J. S. School with Hazel Smith dux of the Primary department.

Wm. Smith is Secondary dux of Portessie J, S. School

Sheena Cowie is dux of Lady Cathcart School

Dux of Buckie High School is Sheila Campbell.

There are joint Primary duxes at Portessie - Hazel Lobban and Margaret Thain.

Local graduate - James A. Bain, 23 Linn Crescent , Buckie has graduated BSc with 1st class honours.

Shop owners move - J and T Campbell who formerly had an ironmonger's

shop near the railway station on Commercial Road have moved to 23 East Church Street.

Old established business to close - The shop known as Alexander Imlah, Grocer and Seedsman at 10 High Street is to close owing to the retirement of Mrs Imlah. The property has been bought by George Christie, Florist and Nurseryman, Fochabers. (Christie's sold the property in 1998 when it became a vet's practice together with a shop selling all kinds of things for pets etc.)

Postman receives a presentation - Ian Gault, was presented with a gift from his colleagues in the Buckie Post Office prior to leaving to take up a post as a P and T.O. at Dunfermline.

Wedding telegram - "Courage brother do not stumble - Marriage makes the greatest humble".

Shakespearean Debut - The first ambitious open air performance of a Shakespearean play will take place this year during the Portsoy Gala Week. Those playing parts in the play 'A Midsummer's Night's Dream' come from a wide area. Some idea of the crowd expected is the decision to make space available for 50 buses and cars.

June 21 **Headline** - "**Buckie Factory ('bulb factory') Has Come To Stay And Extend**"

Advert on page 8 - For A.E. I. Lamp and Lighting Co. Ltd. This shows a photograph of five local girls who were among the first operatives at the new BTH lamp factory at Buckie. Mina Esson and Cathie Lyon are two recognised.

Transfer of business - Mrs Hill, Ladies Hairdresser and Beauty Culturist is to transfer her business from 13 Baron Street to Seaview Place in the near future.

HMS Bulwark - The aircraft carrier anchored three miles off Buckie. Last Sunday a number of small boats and some naval ones ferried out part of the large crowd who wished to see through the vessel. I took Stewart (my young brother of six) down to Buckie in an old bomb of a standard car and we were fortunate enough to make the trip, many didn't. The sea was quite choppy and the boat, owned by someone called 'Monkey', quite small but Stewart, I remember, enjoyed the journey out and back immensely.

June 28 **Boat launch** - The fishing 72' long fishing boat, 'Planet' was launched from the shipyard of G. Thomson and Son on Tuesday. She was built under the government grant and loan scheme for Messrs David Flett and J. H. Anderson. she will be used for white fishing.

The Banffshire Advertiser now costs 3d, up by 1/2d from the previous price.

Boat launch - The fishing boat 'Onward' was launched this week from the shipyard of Messrs Jones and Sons Slip and Shipyard. She has been built for four Hopeman fishermen.

A photograph on page 7 shows Henry Scott, Janitor at Buckie High School Primary Department for the past 16 years getting a present from little Joyce Smith. (1B infant class). Lorna Sinclair, a senior pupil in the school spoke on behalf of her fellow pupils.

Football - A Welfare League Select side played a team from HMS Bulwark. The match ended in a win for the Select by three goals to two. Ronnie Mair scored the three goals. He comes from Cullen and has signed for Lossiemouth, the Highland League side.

July 5 Owner dies - Mr Reaper of Gibson, proprietor of the Reaper's Hotel on West Church Street died this week.

A photograph in this edition shows the pupils of Enzie J.S. Scholl who put on a performance of Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Those who took part and named were - Mitchell Doorknob, Queenie Calder, Anne Ramsay, Patsy Johnston, Doris Masson, Wilma Lawtie and Margo Sprott.

Mrs Calder, a well known local poet from Farnachty, near Drybridge was one of the audience who watched the pupils, including her daughter, perform and after doing so wrote the following poem.

CLOCHAN CEILIDH

Last week tae Clochan there I gaed
An' saw a maist uncommon sicht;
Dwarfs and bears an' fairies tee
Wi' wings sae gauzy bricht.

I saw the Faery Queen hersel',
Wi' Oberon her King,
An' mong a' the bonnie lassies tee
Did sweet and tunefu' sing.

Noo Clochan's nae the kind o' place
Faur sic things ye think tae see,
Bit, shair as fate, they a' waur there
An' seen by mair than me.

M.E.C.

Report on the Enzie School concert - This consisted of speech, acting, mime, singing piano and mouth organ playing, all of a very high standard. Even the new infants shone. Michel Cowley in Davy Crocket and John Grigor in Westering Home and the Northern Lights of Old Aberdeen. Snowwhite and Goldilocks concerted items were both a joy to watch. All in all it was a grand concert and all those involved in the production have to be congratulated.

July 12 Tourist boom at Buckie - (This was the heading on the front page) Visitors arrive in their hundreds. One hotel keeper described the situation as phenomenal.

Portessie Gala - Miss Sybil Reaich was voted the first ever Portessie Gala Queen.

Opening announcement - John Morrison opened Morrison's Stores on St Paul's Street on 7 July.

Buying a new car? Archibald Motors, Land Street can help you.

New publication - "This Land of Moray" by Winnifred Simpson.

A photograph on page 7 shows a group of children from the North Church about to leave Cluny Square for their annual picnic.

Enterprise makes a loss - The packing and filleting station at the local fish market has seen a loss of £700 since it opened in January. The council are still to continue to back the venture.

Portgordon School prize winners - Nellie McHardy, Primary dux, Joan Middleton, Secondary dux and Victor Pikora, Technical dux.

Buckie Thistle's first captain dies - The death took place this week of R. G. Duncan, Master Painter, 36 Bridgend. He was captain of Buckie Thistle in the years before World War I and was a keen supporter of the club up until the end of his life.

For 60 years he was actively and prominently associated with the North Church as Superintendent of the Sunday School for many years.

Page 9 of this edition shows a photograph of children of the West Church about to leave for their picnic. What is noticeable is how bonny all the children were dressed. The girls in light summer dresses and the boys in short trousers.

Sunday golf - The majority of the councillors were opposed to the golf courses being open on Sundays. It was decided that the flags be removed on Saturday night.

A photograph of Buckie Cricket team is shown on page 11. Those in the picture are - I. Ferguson, G. Smith, A. Thomson, J. Hendry, J. Slater, Wm. Burnett, J. Birnie, R. T. Johnston, Wm Anderson, J. Leask, A. Walls, M. Stevens.

July 19 **70 Glasgow school bairns are meantime in residence at the High School and St Peter's**

Portessie Gala Queen - Miss Sybil Reaich, the first ever Gala Queen was crowned by the local headmaster, Mr John Milton MA. A report of the event is given on the front page.

Two prominent buildings for sale - Redburn House (14 rooms) on St Peter's Terrace and The Reaper's Hotel on West Church Street.

Advert - For Painting and Decorating try Peter F. Cormack, 35 South Street.

Wedding telegram - " May the moose ne'er leave yer meal poke wi' a teardrap in its ee.

Big fire at Fochabers - A large part of Gordon Castle Home Farm was gutted by fire including the old clock tower which dates from 1750. The farmland was at one time within Banffshire but changed to Morayshire in 1890, after the Tynet Burn became the boundary line.

A photograph on page 9 shows two of the actors, who took part in the play 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at Portsoy. Ronald Donaldson, Buckie played 'Lysander' and Lena Henderson, Portsoy, 'Hermia'. A report is given on the same page, described as an exciting prelude to the Portsoy Gala Week. This was the first major experience in the area of open air theatre.

July 26 **Buckpool Golf Course to be closed** - (Front page news) This was the decision taken by the town council at their meeting on Monday evening. The closure is planned to take effect from December 31st. More is written on the subject on page 10.

Playhouse - Another first class film is being shown in the Playhouse Cinema this week. The **Cockleshell Heroes**, starring Joe Ferrer and Trevor Howard.

Advert - Mrs Hill, Ladies Hairdresser, and Beauty Culturist, Seaview Place, Spacious Salon with accommodation for 8 clients.

Page 7 carried a number of photographs taken at the Portessie Gala.

A headline - A further 36 houses to be built in Buckpool.

Aug 2 **A photograph shows Buckie Old Folk's Home on** Elsley Place (sic), which is to be opened in the Autumn.

New council offices opened - New council offices opened on East Church Street, among the departments which moved from the Town House on Cluny Place are that of the Burgh Chamberlain and also the Burgh Surveyor. The Town House is being rehabilitated and an extra hall being built downstairs to give increased amenity for social functions. (Was this ever done?)
Although it had been said that the floor coverings had all been left when the bank vacated their premises on East Church new carpets were bought and laid, something which led to a big noise between members of the council, which raged on for a long time.

Wedding telegram - May the stork bring more than margarine.

Buckie from the air - This edition carried the first of a series of aerial photographs which were taken by aircraft from HMS Bulwark. The local paper intends to publish more when space is available.

Peter Fair - (Heading) Is it losing its attraction? There appeared to be only half the usual crowd seen at the stance on Thursday evening and again on Friday. Money may be tighter or is it a case that that with the Portessie Gala week just past some people may have had enough of festivities. Perhaps it is a case that the same stall holders are seen in Glasgow during the winter months and the visitors may feel they have seen it all before.
There was one photograph taken at a 'housey-housey' stall, called Tombola or Bingo today in 2001.

Launch of minesweeper - The shipyard of Messrs Jones and Sons launched their 6th inshore minesweeper when HMS Fordham took to the water this week. Of all wood construction the new vessel measures 106'6" long with a 20'6" beam and has been designed to operate in shallow waters.

Aug 9 **Opening announcement** - Christies, Florists, Nurserymen, Seedsmen, 10 High Street.

A photograph on page 6 shows the pupils of St Peter's School taken 60 years before.

Wedding telegram - Very dull here, hope you have a little son.

A photograph on page 7 shows four Portgordon cyclists - A. Reid, G. Geddes, I. Reid and C. Farquhar (all aged about 20) were about to set off on a cycling holiday in Ireland.

Buckie from the air - Another aerial photograph is shown on page 7.

A photograph is shown on page 9. This is of the Buckie Boy Scouts taken at their camp at Maryculter.

Old Stagers at Victoria Bowling Green - These are shown in a photograph on page 10. Their names are - Wm. Jappy, Alex Cowie, Jock Scott and Wm. Cowie. Their total age comes to 328.

Aug 16 **Keith Show** - The worst weather in living memory marred Keith Show on Tuesday. High winds and driving rain but 15,000 hardy souls were still present.

Wedding telegram - May the hinges of love never rust, nor the wings of affection ever lose a feather.

Big catches of fish - Using echometres many Norwegian fishing vessels are locating dense shoals of herring off Shetland, catching 50 crans daily in trawl nets. Some of the boats carry small gutting machines and the herring are cured on board.

Football - A new look Buckie Thistle beat Elgin City by four goals to one in the first game of the season at Victoria Bridge.

Team - Low, Stewart and Reid; Thain, Dutch and Jeffrey; Buchan, Craigie, Brown, Allan and Christie.

Aug 23 **Labour Party picnic** - A photograph on the front page shows members of the Labour Party and children on picnic at Drybridge.

McIntosh VC takes salute - George McIntosh VC was a guest at the Combined Services Tattoo held in Inverness on Saturday. He stood on the dias with Vice Admiral Mackintosh of Mackintosh with the VC taking the salute. He was also enrolled as a member of the Clan Mackintosh by his host.

Needing joiners - R. 'Robbie' Slorach who recently took over the old established firm of Alex Geddes and Sons, Joiners, Carpenters and Cabinet Makers, Portessie, was advertising for joiners.

Lorry driver killed - While three of David Taylor's lorries were in convoy enroute to Aberdeen and near Kintore, driver James Rumbles, Buckie lost his life when his lorry was in collision with the lorry in front being driven by Sandy Burnett.

Headmaster retires - Mr Spencer S. Fowlie, headmaster of Lady Cathcart School for 34 years retired this week. He is a native of Cullen where his father was architect with Seafield Estates. He served in the army during WWI when he received a commission. During WWII he held the rank of Major and was O/C of Buckie Home Guard.

His successor is Mr David S. Porter, who is 34.

Death of former shipbuilder - The death took place this week of retired shipbuilder, Wm. R. McIntosh, 8 Gordonsburgh. He expanded the shipbuilding firm started at Portessie by his great grandfather and with his father later opened a shipyard at Ianstown, now Jones's.

They launched their first drifter, 'Stately' for Skipper Alex Smith, and before being taken over by Jones's in 1918 built a further 30. After being taken over he carried on working for the new firm as foreman shipwright and retired during WWII.

The North Church open air fruit and vegetable sale - A photograph is shown on page 7.

Boat launch - The shipyard of Messrs Jones and Sons launched the 'June Rose' for Hopeman owners.

Buckie Welfare League teams - Portsoy, Buckie Rovers, Arradoul, Findochty, Huntly United, Central Hibs and Buckie Corinthians.

Grannie Bochel - Banffshire's Grand Old Lady, known to many as Grannie Bochel, Millbank Cottage, Chapelton, Glenlivet celebrated her 103 birthday this week.

Aug 30 **Buckie from the air** - Another photograph in this series is shown on page 7.

First day at Buckie Primary School. A photograph of some of the bairns is shown on page 7.

Sept 6 **Rathven School** - The old Rathven School is advertised for sale. (Some years ago there were hopes that it would become a textile factory but this never materialised. It was later used as a store before being converted into a number of flats in the early 1990's)

Wedding telegram - Congratulations and every good wish. May your days be

filled with sunshine.

Wedding telegram - A happy way with blessings spread and love's own sunshine overhead.

Spike new serial - The Buckpool Terrorists

Sept 13 Playhouse - Film "A Town Like Alice", an adaptation of the book by Neville Shute, starring Virginia McKenna.

Football - Buckie Thistle provisionally signed Bruce Gray, keeper with Fochabers Junior Club. He is getting married on Saturday and will continue to play with Fochabers in the meantime.

Dec 20 **Bull kills cattleman** - Adam Simpson, 64 years old cattleman at Woodside Farm, Portknockie was gored to death by an Ayrshire bull early on Monday morning. The bull, which had been chained up, around 4.30 he was attacked by the bull. He was found by another worker who went to see why he had not returned and but for a dog holding the bull off he could too have suffered injuries. Mr Simpson died from the injuries sustained only a short time after being seen by the doctor. The bull was removed and shot.

No rise for farm workers - The employers turned down a claim for male farm workers of 9/- per week and 7/- for women.

Buckie from the air - Another photograph in this series is shown on page 6.

Football - Buckie Thistle won the **Highland League Cup** after beating Inv. Caley by two goals to one at Nairn.

Football - George Tough the former Thistle player and manager now back playing again with Rothes scored four goals in a five goals to three victory over Deveronvale.

Sept 27 **Two boats launched** - The 'Green Hill' a 68 foot long seine-netter was launched from the shipyard of Herd and McKenzie for Northern Ireland owners and from the shipyard of Messrs G. Thomson and Son the 56 foot long, Danish-type vessel the 'Eastwards' for a Fleetwood firm.

Buckie Toastmasters - The office bearers appointed for the new session at the first meeting of the season held in the St Andrew's Hotel on Thursday were :- president - Morton Stevens; vice president ? educational - James Green; Administration - Thomas McBeath; secretary/treasurer- Ian G. C. Forbes; Sergeant at arms - R. R. Scott.

Oct 4 **Wedding telegram** - Congratulations on your wedding day - May happiness flow all the way.

Oct 18 **No license for the Rathburn Hotel** - Mr Donald G. Miller, Civil servant applied for a license for the Rathburn Inn and Hotel but this was turned down.

Shark landed - The Buckie boat, 'Achieve' BF20 landed an 8 foot long porbeagle shark weighing 14 stone. It sold for £8.14. It was described as being a rare catch. but before the end of the year another two of the same type had been caught by local boats.

For sale - The Central Fruit Store at 3 High Street.

Playhouse - Showing this week in the local cinema is the film the 'Blackboard Jungle'

War Memorial - A note said that the erection of handsome new railings

around the war memorial on Cluny Square had almost been completed.

The Portgordon Toll house - The toll house which had stood for a many years on the Enzie road on the outskirts of Portgordon has been demolished. The last occupants was the family of Hay. Its removal encouraged a local poet to write the following lines -

PORTGORDON TOLL

Toll for the brave, the brave little Toll
That stood on the brae at the top.
Lost or stolen or strayed, they say,
Vandals have taken the Toll away,
Dear little Noah's ark.

Has anyone met a Toll on the march,
Stealing away in the dark
From the scene where it once held sway,
Halting all traffic by night or by day
In the long-forgotten past?

Perhaps it has found a watery grave,
On a wild and stormy night.
Gone where both man and tolls must go,
Up above or down below,
As the tide of Time rolls fast.

Mansions to right of it, mansions to left of it,
So must the Toll give way.
Garlands of roses will mark the spot
(Potatoes too are a nice little lot!)
And Tolls have had their day.

Getting ready for Yarmouth - A photograph on page 7 shows members of the crews (plus a young helper) of the 'Meta Bruce' and the 'Avoca' making ready for Yarmouth.

- Oct 11 **Records at Smiths this week** - Nellie The Elephant - Mandy Miller
Orcadian Waltz - Jimmy Shand's latest
A Woman In Love - Frankie Laine
Whatever Will Be Will Be -Doris Day
The Cat Came Back - Sonny James

The Broadhythe rebuilt and launched - This edition carries the story of the Broadhythe, used by Captain Alex S. Flett, PT Teacher of Nautical Subjects at Buckie High School to teach pupils Navigation and Seamanship. The Broadhythe was previously known as the 'Jessie Ann' a clinker built scaffie type fishing boat belonging to Mr Alex Sutherland, Findochty. The boat was rebuilt at the Boatbuilding class for apprentice shipwrights and ship joiners at evening classes in the High School under the guidance of former foreman shipwright now janitor at Portessie School. The Broadhythe, official number BCK115 was carried by a low loader belonging to the Royal Navy to Findochty Harbour where it was ceremoniously put in the water in front of a large crowd of local dignitaries. Some photographs of the boat are also shown.

Football - Buckie Thistle beat Newton Stewart by nine goals to two at Victoria Park in the third round of the Scottish Cup. Low, Stewart and Reid; Thain, Dutch and Jeffrey; Buchan, McInnes (on loan from Aberdeen) Cowie, Allan and Christie.

- Oct 25 **Wedding telegram** - May your joys be as deep as Loch Ness, and your troubles as scarce as the monster.

Wedding telegram - May your love never rust

Wedding telegram - May the sunshine of today be with you all the way.

Football - Buckie Thistle 2 Hamilton Academicals 3 4th Round Scottish Cup.
There was a crowd of **5,303** with gate receipts amounting to £539
The team was the same as played in the previous round.

Nov 1 **Wedding telegram** - Keep today's sunshine in your heart, And pack your troubles in the dustman's cart.

Nov 8 **'Blin' Jimmy'** The death took place this week in Dr Gray's Hospital, Elgin of James Thomson, Envoy in Salvation Army known to a great many people simply as 'Blin' Jimmy. He was 77 years of age and lost his sight early in life as a result of an illness. He was well known throughout Buckie and further afield as he went around collecting for the 'Army' selling his 'War Cry' playing a tune on the concertina. or quietly whistling a hymn tune to himself.

Buckie Firefighters - A photograph on page 7 shows the men who formed the Buckie Fire Brigade in 1956. Louis Barclay, Angus Beaton, George Green, Wilkie Lyon, D. Murray, Norman Morgan, J. Mitchell, Howard Robertson, J. Garden, John Peebles, Robbie Clark and Gavin Dunn.

Adam Robertson's crew - A further photograph on page 7 shows the employees of Adam Robertson, Painter, Baron Street. Mr Robertson himself, Johnnie walker, Howard Robertson, Jonnie Smith, Tommy Duguid and D. Stephen.

Football - Martin Buchan scored all five goals in a 5-2 victory over Ross County at Buckie.

Nov 15 **Opening of Nethelha' Home** - The new home for Old Folks built on Elsley Place (sic) was opened this week by Lady Abercromby of Forglen. "It is not a hospital and there will be no petty restrictions".

Buckpool Golf Course, which Buckie Town Council had decided to close some time before as an economy measure has been given a reprieve for a year.

Still another Toll house hits the dust! The Toll house which stood on the Keith road at the foot of the Dramlachs and on the bend just where the road enters the village has disappeared. It belonged to the Crown Commissioners who had it demolished and the removed.

Many people will remember when it was occupied by the late Mrs George, popularly known as Grannie who sold lemonade and biscuits. She was the tenant for many years. Her son, the last tenant died a short time ago.

Long serving former teacher dies - The death took place at her home, Westhaven, West Church Street of Miss Georgina Winchester who taught at St Peter's School for over forty years.

Nov 22 **Wedding telegram** - They say that two can live as cheaply as one. It isn't true but its lots of fun.

Nov 29 **Appointment** - A. M. Wilson 'Sandy' has been appointed County Architect of Banffshire.

Opening announcement - J. Victor Pokera is to commence in business as an Upholsterer at 42 West Church Street (cottage)

Well known singer dies - The death took place at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness of George Innes, whose home was at 1 Inward Road, Buckpool. He

was a well known singer at amateur concerts and church services in the area.

Wedding telegram - May He who gives the roses perfume, Bless and Guide the Bride and Groom.

Buckie Methodist Church Guild - A photograph on page 7 shows a party of ladies snapped during their 'beef supper'.

Death of well known burgh workman The death took place this week of George McIntosh, cousin of George McIntosh VC who served as a burgh workman for 30 years and as such became very well known. During World War 1 he served first in the RNR before being transferred to the army where he was one of the gas casualties. He was a very keen supporter of Buckie Thistle and rarely missed a game home or away. He was aged 60 and leaves a wife, 3 sons and 3 daughters.

Boat launch - The fishing boat 'Sheryl', a 63 foot long boat designed for seine netting was launched this week from the shipyard of Messrs Jones and Sons.

Dec 6 **New North Church Hall** - The hall costing £10,000 was opened this week by Rev Professor E. P. Dickie, Professor of Divinity at St Andrews University. The work which had begun a year before was the fulfillment of nearly a century dream. A hall was envisaged in 1862 with a door left to connect the church with a hall when it was built. The same door was opened during the ceremony.

Surely one of the last- A horseman or tractor orrman wanted by McLean, Mill of Rathven.

Wedding telegram - May your love be as deep as the ocean and your troubles as light as its foam

Boat launch - The fishing boat, Opportune II was launched from the shipyard of Herd and McKenzie for 2 brothers, George Murray Jun. and James Murray.

Plumber - Alex S. Cowie, Plumber, Baron Street, had a large illustrated advert in this week's edition.

A good clear photograph shows Fochabers F.C. who lost to Aberdeen Woodside by four goals to one at Victoria Park, Buckie in the 3rd round of the Scottish Junior Cup.

D. Harrold, G. Reid, L. Cant, B. Gray, G. Kerr, B. Bingham, G. Geddes (Portgordon), J. Thomson (not from Tynet), S. McPherson (Buckie) Wm. Cowie (Portgordon) and G. Craig (Portgordon)

Dec 13 **The new North Church hall** - An article is written on page 7 along with photographs on pages 6 and 7.

Wedding telegram - May the sun always shine on you today and always.

On the rocks - A photograph on page 10 shows the wreck of the once proud 3 masted schooner, 'Prince Louis', the former training ship of the Outward Bound Moray Sea School. It had been lying in Buckie Harbour for some time.

The hulk had been dismantled and stripped at Herd and McKenzie's shipyard before being sold to John Cowie 'Dyles' who intended to have her towed to Buckpool harbour where she would be broken up. On the way to Buckpool she parted from the tow rope and landed up on the rocks at the Yardie.

The burgh surveyor and council agreed that it could not be allowed to lie there in an area which they were trying to tidy up. It was decided that it would be best to set it on fire, however, this was a bigger problem than had been thought.

Football - Andy Morrison, reserve full-back but a real handy man who had played in goal on one occasion played at centre forward on Saturday and

scored four goals in a 5-0 victory over Peterhead.

***** **Rock and Roll** - The latest dance craze to hit the north had councils all over the place sweating in case during the antics it caused much damage to their property. Cullen Town Council laid down strict conditions before they would allow the staging of a Rock and Roll dance which Buckie Labour Party proposed to include in a dance scheduled to take place in Cullen Town Hall on Boxing Day.

The rules were -

- 1) Only one demonstration of Rock and Roll to take place and to be announced as a demonstration so that other people do not take part.
- 2) **Twelve** attendants to be present at the dance
- 3) The attendants names to be submitted to the Town Clerk .

The dance was to take place in the hall upstairs and the councillors were worried what might happen to the ceiling of the rooms below when those present came to throw themselves about.

Dec 20 **Buckie Welfare Society** were inviting interested contractors to tender for the work of improving the grandstand at Victoria Park . The work involved - a) Carpenter and Joiner work and b) Roughcast.

Boat launch - The Buckie shipbuilding firm of Messrs Thomson and Son launched their latest built vessel, the 'Arcadia' for Lossiemouth and Buckie owners.

This was the ninth vessel built by the Thomson Shipyard to join the Lossiemouth fleet.

HMS Fordham completed her sea trials and left to take up her station.

Wedding telegram - To wish you all the best there is and all your heart's desire.

Dec 27 **Busy year for 'Tappies'** Nine fishing boats were launched by Messrs George Thomson and Son, during the past 12 months. The last was the 65 foot long seine netter Arcadia .

Buckie yards built 19 boats all together

Smith's Record shop - Records in stock -St Theresa of the Roses
Singing The Blues - Guy Mitchell
Cindy O Cindy - Eddy Fisher
The Leith Country Dance - Jimmy Shand
Sing with Jimmy Shand
with the Balmoral Trio

Sandend has now a village hall with seating for 150. It took ten years to raise the funds to build it.

Wedding telegram - Here's a little bit of advice, Along with our best wishes,

Mary just you cook the food And make Alex wash the dishes.

