

## 1993

- Jan. 5      **No budging on windows** - Sash and case windows are still the subject of divergence of opinion following a meeting between three local councillors, Jappy, Howe and Wilson and representatives of Historic Scotland.  
So Portknockie residents can expect to be invited to yet another public meeting on the proposal to have part of the village included in a Town Scheme.
- Buckie Best Centre** - Moray District Council will be making a further contribution of £3,000 towards the running of Buckie Best Centre based in the former 'Bulb Factory' on Marchmont Crescent.  
Co. Jappy said how he welcomed the decision and hoped that the centre would continue to flourish and that Moray District Council will take advantage of the many course on offer.
- Turned down** - A request for a grant from Buckie Common Good Fund by Buckie-based Home Brew Club was turned down by. It was considered not to be an appropriate use of money held in Buckie Common Good Fund suggested the Convener Eddie Aldridge and this was supported by the Policy and Resources Committee
- Jan 12      **Houses proposed for site on March Road** - Permission to build four blocks of semi-detached houses on March Road just beyond the site of the former war-time huts at the bottom of McLaren's Brae has been deferred for further consideration despite approval being given by the Director of Planning of M.D.C. One thing against building there was that traffic would be converging on to a road immediately after a sharp corner.
- Baby and children's shop has moved** - 'Natalies' previously at 31 West Church Street is now at 33 High Street directly opposite the Commercial Hotel in what was at one time George Clark's butchers shop.
- Advert** - J. H. Smith, (Jim Henry) Builders, and Portessie. All types of building work undertaken.
- Jan 19      **Buckie's Christmas Lights** - Will Christmas 1992 be remembered as the last one at which we could enjoy the festive lights in the streets of Buckie? This was the question being asked after about two thirds of the display had been damaged, the great majority by missiles such as stone and bottles. Each light costs in the region of £300 and the damage it is estimated will run into something like £3,000 to £4,000 according to John Duncan (John Duncan Construction) the new chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, who have taken responsibility for the lights and will have to consider the matter seriously.
- A café there disna pey** - This would seem to be the argument put up as no takers have come forward to lease the café which is incorporated in the new Buckie fishmarket development.
- Probus speaker** - The guest speaker at the January meeting of Buckie and District Probus Club was Miss Margaret Reid, Portgordon, who related to members the story behind her recent trip to Nepal. The connection with Nepal had been started following the work of Gurkha soldiers on the Portgordon harbour some years before.  
Margaret said how after reaching Kathmandu they were then faced with a six day trek into the mountains to reach Pokhara where she and other members of the party were to hand over the first school being built from money raised in the Portgordon and Chatham areas for the purpose.
- First auction in new market** - The first auction in the new fishmarket at Buckie found Graeme Tallis of Cox Seafoods buying a consignment of from Grampian Region Labour Councillor June Lamond, Aberdeen. The presence of Councillor Lamond angered SNP Councillor Gordon McDonald as he hadn't been invited especially now that the SNP and Labour share.
- Jan 26      **Don't let the vandals spoil our Christmas** - This was the general response from members of the public for following last week's disclosure of the amount of damage that had been done to the Christmas Lights and whether they would ever be put up again a lot of financial help has been offered to the Chamber of Commerce.

**A BA for Moray Councillor** - Margo Howe, Nether Dallachy, and Spey Bay has been awarded a BA degree in Social Studies after five years of study with the Open University.

**Fish selling company close their Buckie office** - The firm of Macrae, Duggie and MacPherson (MDM) whose presence in Buckie became part of the harbour scene has seen the present uncertain state of the Scottish fishing industry take its toll with the closure of their office and the ship chandlerly adjacent. The firm is now part of the Arthur Duthie group whose head office is in Lossiemouth.

**Burn gets a clean out** - During the past week or so Council workmen have been cleaning out the Rath Burn that separates the two settlements of Ianstown and Gordonsburgh.

**Wakefield House, Cullen, the new Residential Nursing Home** owned by Peter and June Laing, Keith was open to the public this week to see around.

**Probus Club** - The speaker at the recent lunch meeting of Buckie and District Probus Club held in the Commercial Hotel was fellow member Ted Kellock who told of his recent trip across Canada by train. Ted said that he had bought a 30 day travel pass for £200 before he left this side and travelled from Halifax to Vancouver with a number of detours to view the Niagara Falls from both sides and also to Churchill on Hudson Bay. On reaching Vancouver he also went north to see some lava flows. Ted has a great interest in geology and vulcanology.

**Many of the Buckie archives are in the Tolbooth in Forres** - This people were told by Dr David Iredale, Moray District Council's archivist when giving a talk in the Buckie Library last Thursday 21 January. He told a lot of interesting things that are to be found among the archives, including comments from some letters that the Council had received especially during the last war.

Feb 16 **Restaurant to open** - Alford Restaurant, Regent Square, Fife Keith is to open on 18 February 1993. (We, my wife Isobel and I, remember it well as a first class restaurant, serving superb meals at reasonable prices with everything spotless including the white table cloths. A.F. 2006)

**Old School** - The old School at Portessie which looked doomed to be demolished but which Councillor Longmore long championed its retention has been retrieved and will be offered for sale.

**Advert** - 'Everyday Fresh' a butcher and baker in one shop at 29 West Church Street. On the baker side is Ann Geddes and Susan Souter and on the butcher side, Billy Booth and Andy Grant.

**'Look back to the Past'** - The column in the 'Advertiser' was compiled this week by Ian Beaton of the Fishing Heritage Society.

Feb 23 **Is it only a rumour?** A story went round Buckie that the long established marine engineering establishment, blacksmiths and steel erectors, Hamilton Brothers was to be taken over by William Reid of Forres. Although the board bearing the firm's name has been taken down from the front of the building a sell-out has not been confirmed.

**The Viaducts** - The future of the former railway viaducts at Cullen should be a matter for the residents of Cullen to decide the members of the Royal Burgh of Cullen and Deskford Community Council would argue.

**Deskford Garden Centre** - Dutchman Arnaud Kwent opened his garden centre to the public on Saturday and will continue to open on every day of the week apart from Thursday. Visitors to the centre will be able to order a wide variety of Dutch bulbs for delivery in autumn.

An interesting side line is the breeding of capercaillies, the bird of the forest whose numbers have decreased to nearing extinction stage in recent years. He has already a pair of such birds hatched from eggs brought from Norway.

**Advert** - McLean's Coaches, incorporating Johnny's Taxis, Bridal cars, coaches, minibuses, and taxis, 6 New Street, Portknockie.

**'The Shoppie'** is the name of a poem found on page 11 and columns one and two. The poem was composed by David Smith 'Cornal' who lived in Chapel Street, Portessie shortly after the start of the second world war. Harper's shop was situated on Great Eastern Road and was apparently a great gathering places for the youth of the area 'A Shelter Fae the Storm'.

Mar 2 **Its days are a' by** - The beach café at Cullen has seen its last days as a place for visitors to eat. At its February meeting the Royal Burgh of Cullen and Deskford Community Council discussed a letter received from Moray District Council advising that because of the state of the building and the need to upgrade the facilities to meet E.C. hygiene standards it will no longer be offered for lease as a café.

**To swim for Scotland** - Sisters Faye and Zoe Phimister are to swim for Scotland in the 16-19 and 12-14 year's sections respectively.

**The hospital in the Sloch** - A photograph on page 16 shows Rathven Parish Church Hall from the outside when it was being used as a V.A.D. hospital from 1915 to 1919.

**Buckie Rotary Club** - In a talk given to the Club fellow Rotarian Charles Mackay told of the beginning of Rotary. In 1905, 88 years ago now, he said, Paul Harris was sitting in his office in Chicago feeling quite fed up when he decided to lift the phone and call up three of his business associates and invited each one round for a chat. The result of that meeting was that they agreed to meet in each others offices each week in rotation and so Rotary was born.

Mar 9 **A Champion runner** - Cullen schoolboy, Jonathan Cowie is the new Scottish Junior Boys Cross Country Champion after finishing first out of a field of 263 at a meeting in Falkirk. Jonathan of 8 Findlater Drive in Cullen took up cross country running when he started at Buckie High School and has been a consistent member of the school team under the coaching of Ray Aitken, a teacher at the school.

**Downgraded in title though services remain the same** - Buckie Post Office is now a sub-post office coming into line with those at Banff, Lossiemouth, Fraserburgh, Huntly and Turriff Paul Munch, the current branch manager of Post Office Counters is to be sub post master.

**Buckie Maritime Centre** - Scathing criticism both of the exterior design and the layout of the interior has been made of the Buckie Maritime Centre - 'The Buckie Drifter' which is due to open in the middle of next year. It comes from a designer and boat lover from Rothesay who says how he has fond memories of Buckie in the 1970's and received copies of the design and layout when he enquired about the position of manager. The original plans for the centre, which were discussed at a public meeting some months ago have been altered slightly and will be outlined at another public meeting in the town. Tony Whelan who wrote a comprehensive account on what he saw wrong with the building which he said was badly designed and thought out, which he ended by describing it as the 'world's worst.'

**A major coup for small Enzie computer firm** - A local company run by a family partnership has been successful in obtaining a three year contract to supply computers to educational establishments throughout the Grampian Region fighting off a number of other and larger firms. Denis Scott of Moray Micro Computers based at Slackhead, Enzie said that he believed that the contract to supply Acorn computers to all educational establishments in the Grampian Region was likely to be worth in the region of £3 million over the next three years. The other partners in the firm are his wife Elaine and son Rodney.

**'Look Back to the Past'** - Matt Short was once again the compiler this week.

**Local author just misses out.** Charlie Ashton, a local author based at Drummuir and meantime working for the 'Advertiser' came close to winning a major prize in a competition with his children's book 'Jet Smoke and Dragon Fire'. His book was placed just behind the eventual winner.

Mar 16 **Seems now it's all go** - The Secretary of State for Scotland has upheld an appeal by Moray District Council against the 'calling in' of a planning application of a planning application by Grampian Regional Council re the proposed private nursing home which doctors from the Benreay Surgery together with a local businessman wish to set up to the south of the Linzee Gordon Park on the outskirts of Buckie.

**The 'Buckie Drifter' We Got it Right** - Moray District Council's Director of Leisure and Libraries came back this week in the 'Advertiser' with a vigorous defence of the exterior design and the interior layout of the Maritime Heritage Centre – The 'Buckie Drifter' which had been so castigated the previous week by a Mr Tony Whelan of Rothesay. He spoke of the quality of the people whose advice and expertise had been sought in the design of the layout while the architects were of international standing. He continued by saying that he was confident that the Centre would prove to be a major crowd puller in the years to come. (It was to open in a blaze of glory in 1994 but it wasn't too long before it could be seen that it wasn't proving to be as popular as had been anticipated with crowds dwindling quite dramatically after the first year or two after opening. This together with the sums of money required to bale it out on an annual basis led to it being closed for part of the year in 2004 then closed down completely in 2005 only 12 years later.)

**The death of a Buckie Boatbuilder** - The owner of Thomson's Boatyard in Buckie, W. A. 'Willie' Thomson died in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary last Tuesday aged 81. Willie Thomson learned the trade from his father and grandfather and became one of the finest and most respected builders of wooden boats in Britain. During the 'Depression' he went south to Kent and taught boatbuilders there how to build both clinker and carvel craft.

**Speaker at the Rotary Club** - The story of the Buckie and District Trust Fund and its bus formed the subject of the talk given by Bill Smith, a retired banker, to Buckie Rotary Club.

**Décor Scene, Wallpaper and Paint.** We have moved and are now at 31 West Church Street. Proprietors David Wielewski and his wife Lisa.

**A tribute to 'Tappie' Thomson** - Found on page 8 and written by Charles Eckersley OBE on Moray Seafoods who had two boats built by Thomson's firm of which he was proud. He also described 'Tappie' as being his mentor while fishing with rod and line of the River Spey.

'**The Horror of the Hill**' a serial written by Spike came to an end with chapter 49

Mar 23

**Buckie could have two Private Nursing Homes** - Consent has been given for outline planning permission for one south of the Linzee Gordon Park adjacent to High Street and at the same meeting consent was given to an application by Ian Currie for a private nursing home at the other end of the park boundary at Mains of Buckie. Mr Currie had already planning permission for residential purposes now wished to change this to a nursing home.

'**Death at Linzee Gordon**' is the name of the new serial by Spike which begins in this edition of the 'Advertiser'

**Death of James 'Jim' Campbell, Master Joiner, Seaview Road.** Dennis Murray, 'Thistle Removals' 1 Seaview Road, wrote an appreciation of Mr Campbell in this edition. Dennis grew up on William Street close to where the Campbell's had their workshop and knew Jim well.

**Advert** – R. J. Erskine, Ironmonger 26 East Church Street. Annual stocktaking sale.

**Grampian Region is to think again** - New costings are to take place by G. R. C. on the two options regarding the provision of a new Primary School in Fochabers. One option is to demolish the building previously known as Milnes's Institution of which there was much opposition and refurbish the building to create a new Primary School within the existing façade

**Honour for Buckie swimmer** - Faye Phimister, Buckie Amateur Swimming Club captained the successful Scottish girl's senior team in the Speedo Schools International and received the Alex Spence Trophy from Alex himself. She is seen on page 11 on this edition with Alex and Dominic Shiels of Edinburgh, senior boy's captain. The event took place in Wales.

**Probus Club** - The speaker at the February meeting of Buckie and District Probus Club was Ian Flett, a native of Findochty, who took members back to the days of Robert the Bruce when Latin was the language used in most communication.

Ian who is an archivist with Dundee District Council described his job as a cross between a filing clerk and a scaffie in that his work requires him to check through masses of items before deciding which to keep and which to throw away.

Mar 30 **Sorry bit you canna hae yer archives** - A request by the Royal Burgh of Cullen and Deskford Community Council returned from Forres where they were taken on the re-organisation of local government was turned down by Moray District Council. What they did offer was that they would make available in the library in Cullen a micro film and reader screen and a storage cabinet.

**Was a great friend of the youth** - The death took place last week of Sammy Tuner, 'Cando' Arradoul, whose activities on behalf of sporting organisations in Buckie were legion. He was 70 and died within hours of locking up the boxing clubhouse in Buckpool (formerly Seafield Farmhouse, later the 19<sup>th</sup> hole of Buckpool Golf Club to be named the Turner Pavilion in his honour.)

**A fuller report is given on page 3 with a Tribute by Edward Douglas on page 4.**

Sammy is buried in Bellie Cemetery as is his son Raymond who died suddenly two years before.

**Friends of Seafield Hospital** - A new member was added to the strength of the committee with the co-option of Mamie Brand of Auchentae Farm, Arradoul.

**Where is Moray View Court?** You could have been excused for asking in 1993 since this was the name given to a housing complex still to be built in the playground of the former school at Portessie.

Apr 6 **New fishmarket is opened** - Many people connected directly or indirectly with the fishing industry came together on Friday morning when Grampian Regional Council convener Councillor Robert Middleton declared open Buckie's new £1.2 million fishmarket. A picture on the front page shows Co. Middleton (Labour) and Co. Gordon McDonald (SNP) who have joined forces in the administration of Grampian Region, Mrs Margaret Ewing MP, Eddie Aldridge, Convener, Moray District Council and Sandy Stewart, Chairman Buckie Community Council.

**New Coastguard Station** - A photograph on page three shows the new coastguard station at the Neuk (Baron Street/ Yardie) in the process of being built.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Traffic problems on Main Street** - This issue was raised at the March meeting of Buckie Community Council. It was said that when two lorries meet they have to mount the pavements endangering pedestrians. Damage was also being done to property when they are physically hit by a passing lorry or through vibration. (The problem was still being discussed in 2006 with plans being made by Moray Council to install lights and make the narrowest part one way only with other parking restrictions. Both of which found no favour with residents in the area.)

**Auchentae Farm Shop** will reopen on Good Friday selling fresh vegetables and perennial plants.

Apr 13 **Hoping to stop the erosion** - Cullen Golf Club members were most concerned about the amount of erosion that has been taking place along the beach and are more than pleased that Grampian Regional Council are taking measure to stop it. A photograph shows a machine placing in position large blocks of rock at the most vulnerable parts - Rock Armoury it is called.

**Advert** - Slorach and Simpson, Joiners, 9 Gordon Street, Portgordon.

**We have been together now for 30 years** and it don't seem a day too much - Buckie and District Round Table Number 694 celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a celebration 'do' in the Cullen Bay Hotel. A photograph shows founder member Bill Cecil, George Ramsay original extension officer and present chairman Kenny Munro holding the charter.

**The 'Buckie Drifter'** - A manager has been appointed to run the £800,000 'Buckie Drifter' Maritime Heritage Centre on Freuchny Road, Buckie. She is Elizabeth Ritchie, a native of Uddingstone in Mid Lothian. She holds an Honours degree in Archaeology from Edinburgh University is a Graduate of the Open University and has gained the Museums Association Diploma. She is currently Museums Officer for Northumberland.

**A Football Tragedy** - Ali Ewen a former Thistle player, ( my sister Violet is his aunt) who had been playing with the Rovers sustained a bad injury to his ankle which saw him incapacitated from his work off shore for a long time and ended his football career. Ali was above Junior standard, a most stylish and skilful player, but his work offshore meant that he wasn't readily available for Buckie Thistle and was given his release. The game in which the accident happened was a home game in the first round of the Nicholson Cup against Forres Thistle which ended with the Jags winning by four goals to two.

**Probus Club** - The guest speaker at the March meeting of Buckie and District Probus Club was Mr Donald McBean, Senior Horticultural Officer with Moray District Council. Besides giving a most interesting talk Donnie showed a number of colourful slides.

**Criticism of the new fish market** - The 'Advertiser' received a letter from Mr George T. Addison of Cullen who spoke of the new fish market being doomed going on to give his reasons for saying so. He said that he had been an experienced lorry driver. He spoke of not being on to load cwt boxes of fish off the ground on to lorries His letter is to be found on page 13. (Looking back from 2006 it can't be claimed that the fishmarket has been an outstanding success and perhaps some of the reasons for this are as he predicted.)

**Look Back to the Past** - compiled this week by Ian Beaton but still by the Heritage Society.

Apr 20 **Lifeboat** - Buckie has been promised a new lifeboat station before the end of the year.

**Findochty oil man receives fatal injuries** - A young married man from Findochty, Karl Harkins (26) received fatal injuries when a basket he was working in crashed on to the deck of a diving support vessel on Saturday morning.

Karl of Cliff Street, Findochty was working for Dietsmann UK in the Beryl Alpha field when the tragedy occurred. He is survived by his wife Carol four year old son Mark and two year old daughter Nicky.

**A new bridge** - Those who use the coastal path between Strathlene and Findochty are certain to welcome the new bridge that has been constructed across an inlet of the sea to the west of Findochty. The Findochty Community Council had been pushing Moray District Council for a bridge for a long time as they have for improvements to the path leading across Strathlene Golf Course.

**He did a long shift** - Nearly fifty years in the boat-building industry have come to an end for George Slater, Admiralty Street, and Portknockie. He began at Jones Shipyard in 1944 and later at Herd and Mackenzie where he remained up until his recent retiral. He received a barometer from his workmates before he clocked off for the last time. He also received a cheque from the management in recognition of his long and loyal service.

**Local bar loses licence** - The Harbour Bar on Main Street, Buckpool lost its licence because the owner, Derek Cohen, failed to appear at the Licensing Court to support his application. The bar was closed at short notice some months ago and has not opened since.

**Poem** - A poem titled 'Ill Tricket Loons' is to be found on page 6 and columns 1 and 2. It was written by Tronachs and refers to loons of Portknockie.

**Travel Club** - Doreen Watt entertained members of the Travel Club at their April meeting. She showed a number of slides taken at a happy family reunion in Ontario, Canada besides others taken as she toured around.

Apr 27 **Boat launch** - The launch took place last week from Jones Shipyard of the 'Herston Lass' a 102 seater passenger ferry built with a steel hull and aluminium superstructure. The vessel is to be used to transport shift workers between the oil terminal on the island of Flotta and Houton on the north west shore of Scapa Flow.

**Heavy lorries are causing problems** - The problem caused by the passing of heavy lorries along the narrow Main Street was one of the issues discussed by the community council at the April meeting. It was claimed that children had been blown off their bicycles when a big lorry went by while property

shake badly from vibration. (Time and again over the years the council listened to complaints from residents in the area with a number of letters being written on their behalf. The problem only came to an end when the 'Pork Factory' closed in October 2005 and the big lorries which ran to and from it stopped.)

**Cliff House Hotel, 52 High Street, and Buckie** - The Hotel is now under the new management of Phil and Chris Powel. The couple looked at something like 800 properties before deciding on buying the Cliff House which they have refurbished throughout. Chris who had spent 19 years in the Army used his gratuity to purchase the property.

May 4 **International Workers Memorial Day** - April 28 was designated International Workers Memorial Day to commemorate the thousands of workers who die or are injured each year throughout Europe. Moray District Council planted a Scots Pine in each of the council wards. Those in Buckie were planted in the garden next to the Victoria Bowling Green and at McWilliam Crescent.

**Cullen man loses his life in the Spey** - Andrew Reid (40) of 24 New View Court, Cullen, was drowned in the river Spey near the 'Birks' when he lost his footing whilst cutting Hogweed on the river bank and was swept away by the current. Andrew was working on a M.D. C. employment scheme.

He leaves his wife Jessie daughters Hannah, Linda and Donna also son Christopher.

**Scottish People's March for Jobs** that started on April 24 arrived in Buckie on Sunday amid glorious sunshine. They were met by Margaret Ewing MP also Councillors, Longmore and Jappy. Bill Spiers Deputy General Secretary of the Scottish Trades Union Congress presented a cheque for £200 to Albert Phimister manager of the Moray Unemployed Welfare Rights Centre, which is located in Elgin.

**Death of Buckie businessman** – Fred Langnes (74) who was born at Hammerfest, Norway in 1918 escaped with his mother and two sisters to Glasgow when the Germans invaded his country has died. As soon as it was safe to do so his mother and sisters returned home but Fred came up to Buckie to work where he met and married Helen Duncan. he worked in the Norwegian slip later in Jones. In early 1960 he started his own business FAL Propellers making and repairing propellers and other fishing gear.

**Highland League Football** - The final table placings show Elgin City as winners with 77 points from 34 games, 4 more than Cove Rangers, However, a note said – **The League has been declared void by the management committee owing to an alleged infringement of the rules by Elgin City which is the subject of an appeal by the club.** (This was dismissed but there were and still are many people in Elgin and outwith who feel that Elgin City was unfairly dealt with.)

May 11 **No Smoking** - Moray District Council have drawn a line on the no smoking ban. The public will be allowed to continue to smoke in Moray District owned public halls. Councillor Jappy felt that it was unreasonable to ask guests at a wedding dance in the Fishermen's Hall to refrain from smoking or other similar events. This information was passed on the community council at their April meeting. (When the new national no smoking rule comes in on March 2006 this must end this anomaly.)

**Heritage Lifeboat** - The Buckie Drifter Trust which will be managing the proposed Buckie Maritime Heritage Centre has acquired a lifeboat for display outside the centre. This is the former Anstruther lifeboat, 'The Doctors' which is meantime stored free of charge in Jones Shipyard.

**Player of the Year** – The Thistle player voted by the fans as their 'Player of the Year' is Ian Mathieson.

May 18 **Buckie firm goes into Receivership** - With the collapse of the tri-partite talks between **Hamilton Brothers**, Wm. Reid, Engineers, Forres and Grampian Regional Council the Forres firm has not made an offer for the old established Buckie company and thus the Receiver moved in on Monday of last week.

**Plans for the former named 'Milne's Institute'** Milne's Pressure Group appear to have won the battle with Grampian Regional Council to use the existing building, former High School. Into a Primary School. Some councillors still question whether this decision converting an old building

to modern use and are of the opinion that costs would be greater than building a new purpose-built school. They blame a small band of highly articulate and motivated people for Grampian Region having a change of heart.

**A skilful skipper** - An onlooker with seafaring experience was full of admiration for the skill of Jimmy Grieve, skipper of the fishing boat, 'Fortuna' that had towed the 'Crimond', Andrew Garden's boat for 120 miles after her steering had stuck hard over to starboard. "It was a bit sticky coming in, especially rounding the Mucks with the strong gale-force winds and high seas but we managed it, said Jimmy."

**A start has begun** - The initial work of making the site ready at Linn Avenue for the erection of a sheltered housing development began last week.

**Thistle end of season do** - President Murray Thain congratulated Ian Mathieson on receiving both the Supporters and Players of the Year awards. James Mathieson won the award for the Youth team Player of the Year.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Probus Club** - The guest speaker at the April meeting of Buckie and District Probus Club was Mr Alistair Campbell, Assistant Director of Libraries and Museums with Moray District Council. His subject was the 'Buckie Drifter' project which was expected to cost £800,000, but that M.D. C., he emphasised were totally committed to the project. It was essential, he said, that the 'Buckie Drifter' should be comprehensive and of high class so that visitors to the area would come back again and again and recommend the place to friends.

Probus Club office-bearers 1993-1994 – President – Ian Stephen, vice president – Eddie Anderson, secretary- Bill Hunter, treasurer – Douglas Brown. Immediate past president – Sandy Silberg, committee members – David Blair and Arnold Pirie.

**Hamilton Brothers** - The number of employees now employed by Hamilton Brothers, Engineers, and Buckie is now down to 16 with the dismissal last week of 35 workers by the Receiver Alan Amoore of Peat Marwick.

**Proposed March Road housing development** - Outright planning application has been made for the erection of four blocks of semi-detached houses at March Road (The site lies below the cliff top on which Marchmont Crescent stands.)

**He has put away his official shovel** - A well-known Rathven character has retired from Moray District Council after serving for 14 years. Jimmy Garvock, 4 Kirk Road, Rathven was in the staff canteen at the Council's Buckie depot on Friday stopping time to say cheerio to his workmates.

Jimmy who worked on a number of local farms, and in the building trade before starting work with the Council in the gardening squad was presented with a lawn mower on behalf of management and fellow workers who had clubbed together to buy the machine for him.

**Tutti-Frutti - Café Bar** – 17 High Street is now under new ownership. Meals served all day with new opening hours.

\*\*\*\*\*

**An exciting climax to the season** - The 1992/93 Dry Cleaningwell League (North Juniors) comes to an exciting climax at Merson Park on Thursday evening when Buckie Rovers take on Islavale in a match which will decide the league championship.

If the Rovers win the championship is theirs; if Islavale win the championship goes to them and if the game ends in a draw the league will be won by yet another Banffshire team- Deveronside.

**Heroism in vain** - Charles Geddes, a local man, tells the story of the loss of the trawler Ben Doran on the Shetland Skerries on March 28 1930 and the heroism of Portgordon man, Joseph Cormack, a member of the crew. **The story is told on page 17.**

June 1

**Death of former Thistle football star-** Willie Cowie, a native of Keith and a former player with Buckie Thistle during their halcyon days of the 1950's. He will be remembered as a really skilful player but more especially for scoring the winning goal at Hampden Park, Glasgow against Queens Park in a 1-2 victory for Buckie in the Scottish Cup on 1955.

He died at his home in Portsoy and is survived by his wife Helen and daughters Gwen and Diane.

\*\*\*\*\*

**THE ROVERS ARE CHAMPS** - Buckie Rovers won the Drycleaningwell League for the first time since 1982 at Merson Park on Thursday night when they beat local rivals Islavale by three goals to nil

'They Did It' was the simple heading chosen by 'Advertiser' scribe A. L. Nath when he came to write the report on the game. The Rovers' team was - Brindle, Murdoch, R. Smith, Innes, Mackay, B. Slater, McGettrick (Paterson), Duthie (Nicol), M. Smith and M. Slater. Jimmy Brindle (a Keith loon married in Buckie) was voted Man-of-the Match.

**The Poets Quair Poetry Competition** organised by Moray District Council attracted 300 entries. The winner was sixty-nine year old Jane Smith, better known as Sister Magdalene, a nun who has been living in the town for a number of years, with her poem 'Within the Forest' The award was presented to her by the celebrated author Jessie Kesson.

June 8

**Passing of another former Thistle star** - Another of the successful thistle team of the 1950's and a member of the team that beat Queen's Park died this week in Aberdeen Royal Infirmary - Jimmy McIntyre. He was 69.

Ayrshire born Jimmy came north when he signed for the Dons from Kilbirnie Ladeside. He later played for Deveronvale before moving to the Thistle in 1953. He broke his leg in 1957 at Mossett Park Forres when he collided with 'Can-Can's' keeper Henry Wiesniwski, an injury which ended his career. He scored over 150 goals at centre-forward for Buckie. He stayed in Aberdeen and is survived by his wife Margaret and sons Kenny and Gordon. A former playing colleague and local man Jimmy Thain described him as: "a gentleman on and off the field."

\*\*\*\*\*

**'Simply Superb'** was the heading chosen by A. L. Nath (Allan Fraser) for his report on the game in which Buckie Rovers beat Inverurie Locos at Inverurie by three goals to two to be the first winners of the re-named Wick Allan North Regional Championship Shield played for by the winners of both leagues, the North and the East. (See page 8)

He chose the Latin phrase Veni, Vidi, Vici to begin his report and ended with another Per Ardua Ad Astra. The Rovers with ten Buckie loons in their team were given no chance against a Locos team that had really set the heather on fire in their section, but surely never before have the 'Lilywhites' fought so bravely to triumph in the end.

The Rovers' team was - Brindle, Murdoch (Campbell), R. Smith, Innes, Mackay, Slater, McGettrick, M. Smith, Mackie, Redford (Nicol) and Gault.

June 15

**Grant for the Christmas Lights** - Buckie Christmas Lights was given a grant of £2,500 from Buckie Common Good Fund. Some of this money will be used to repair that part of the lights which were badly damaged by vandals last year.

**Closing down** - L. L. Ingram (Shoemakers) 37 East Church Street, Buckie are closing down. Over £100,000 stock must be cleared as the shop will be emptied.

**An anti-climax** - A. L. Nath used as the following heading - 'Dreich End To Season' for his report on the Rovers' last game of the season when they lost at home by one goal to nil to Deveronside in the final of the Stewart Memorial Cup. The Rovers were forced to field a somewhat scratch team when a number of players, oilmen, were unavailable.

**A poem is found on page 16 columns 1 and 2.** Written by Tronachs and is titled 'The Station That Was' This refers to Portknockie.

**Little 'Barra-Land'** - What was formerly the function suite belonging to the Cluny Hotel on Cluny Square is now open on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10am till 5pm. Here one will find 30 little shops all under the one roof.

June 22 **Old lifeboat takes up its stance** - The positioning of the former lifeboat 'The Doctors' heralds the start of the Buckie Heritage Project at Freuchny Road. 'The Doctors' was handed into the custody of the Buckie Drifter Trust this week.

**Superb Floral display** - A photograph in the 'Advertiser' shows a splendid floral display depicting a hen and chicks which Moray District Council have provided near the Victoria Bowling Green. A woman had been so entranced with the display she asked if the local paper would take a picture so that she could send it on to a friend and they willingly obliged.

**The 'Coorse Gordonies' have set their sights higher** - Portgordon United who have been playing in the local Welfare League for some time are to move up to the Junior ranks.

At the annual general meeting of the Scottish Junior Football Association held in Ayr on Saturday an application from Portgordon United and Strathspey Thistle to join the North Regional League set up was accepted.

**Summer sale** - Cherula's 33 West Church Street. Ladies and children's clothes

June 29 **Buckie Lifeboat Gala** held on Saturday at the harbour was fortunate in that the sun shone all day and helped to draw the crowds.

**We have seen dolphins in the Firth** - Regular sighting of dolphins in the Moray Firth are being reported to the Friends of the Moray Firth Dolphins.

**Opening on Monday 28 June** - 'Second Chance', 3 East High Street, Portgordon. Good quality second hand house furniture, gas and electrical goods. To order new pine beds, bedroom furniture and three piece suites.

**Former Buckie doctor dies** - The death took place of Dr John Gairn Sutherland. He was born in Hopeman and following service in WWII graduated in medicine at Aberdeen University. He later set up in practice in Buckie before joining the group practice at Benreay

**Tugnet information board** - An illustrative board has been erected at Tugnet (mouth of the river Spey) by Moray District Council to give information on the sculpture project which was created by pupils from Milne's High School in Fochabers. In a photograph taken by the 'Advertiser' beside the board is Eric Goodman who worked as a salmon fisherman on the Spey for 17 years and is now custodian of the Ice House museum.

**Buckie and District Round Table** - Kenny Gunn, Portgordon, was appointed chairman for session 1993/94 with Dr Bill Jaffrey as vice.

**Jimmy retires** - Jimmy Ewen who has been on the staff of Buckie High School for over 20 years, most of the time as groundsman, later groundsman/janitor, retired last week. As the rector Chris Sugden said Mr Ewen was extremely conscientious and took a tremendous pride in his work.

**Look Back to the Past** - The contributor for some time now has been Ian Beaton of the Fishing Heritage Society.

July 6 **Heading** - Portgordon harbour stinks - the smell is obnoxious - a breeding place for flies.

**Launch of the Marantha** - Skipper Neil Rumbles, ('Auntie' Gwen's loon,) 9 Westburn Court and partner Niven Ogg, Banff have taken delivery of a new hulled 90 feet long trawler - the Marantha. She was launched at Macduff last week.

The hull was built by Yorkshire Dry Dock in Hull and towed north to Macduff in February this year to be fitted out and is due to be completed by the end of the month. The new vessel was launched by Neil's wife Sheila with a photograph showing Neil, Sheila, son Duncan and daughter Louise.

The dimensions of the Marantha are - length 90ft; breadth 28 ft. She will be powered by a 980hp Alpha engine with two auxiliary Volvo engines.

**Those unemployed** - Buckie in July 1993 had the second highest unemployment figure in Grampian at 9.2% of the total workforce.

**A bit of rhyme from Isabel Harrison is found on page 6.** She 'speaks' to Moray District Councillors about the play area that had been constructed for children near the beach on Main Street. A safety surface had been laid underneath the equipment but the Council workmen left this surrounded by shingle which has been kicked on to the safety surface defeating the object. She asks that this is cleaned away.

**Harbour tours start today** - The guide is to be Albert Cowie, curator of the 'Cottage' Heritage Society Museum off Cluny Place. He has taken over from the late Jimmy Murray. Mr Cowie is a retired former fisherman.

**Arradoul WRI celebrated their 75<sup>th</sup> birthday last week** when the president Mrs Isobel Eckersley welcomed all present including Mrs Charlotte Forbes, Maryhill Farm, Drybridge, president of Banffshire Federation of WRI's. Also present was Mrs Jesseline Clark, the longest serving member of Arradoul WRI with 55 years membership. The buffet meal which all enjoyed was prepared by Ms Colleen McKenzie who also baked the birthday cake.

**Buckie Rovers annual general meeting took place in the Town House** when team manager Dennis Clark gave a summary of the past year's performance which as he said had been superb, winning both the League Championship and the Wick Allan Memorial Shield.

Officials appointed - The post of president was unfilled, vice president – Michael Johnston, Secretary Allan Fraser; treasurer, Mrs Chrissie Sinclair. Committee - Sonny Johnston, Mike Matthews, Charlie Huldall, Gary Innes and David Mackay.

Team manager – Dennis Clark, assistant manager – Keith Sinclair; coach Spencer Lyon.

**High School Dux** - The Dux of Buckie Community High School and winner of the Miller Medal is Christopher Smith 5R. He also won prizes in French, Chemistry and Maths.

July 13

**Don't fence us out!** This was likely to have been the cry of people from Drybridge and the local community council when they found that the new owner of Letterfourie House, Mr Birch, an English businessman, had put wire barricades on the road leading from Drybridge to Craigmillar Bridge and also on the bridge itself obviously to deter people from using the road which had been a through way for a great many years. Councillors Tom and Margo Howe of Moray District Council came and saw for themselves and intend taking the matter further. Local people claim that he had no right to do what he has done, saying that it is Right of Way. (The issue made front page news.)

**Death at Gordon Castle** - Lady Gordon Lennox who resided at Gordon Castle, Fochabers and who was the widow of Lt. General Sir George Gordon Lennox, a well known personality in and around Fochabers died at the age of 85.

**Mrs Winnie Taylor dies** - The death took place in Aberdeen of Mrs Winnie Taylor, Slackhead, and Enzie. She was 72 and the wife of Willie Taylor, Chemist, and Buckie. A graduate of both Maths and Medicine she will be remembered for her work in connection with the North Church, Buckie of which she was an elder.

**Changes in local government in Scotland** - Under the new single tier local authorities in Scotland due to come into effect in April 1996 Grampian Region will disappear being split into the City of Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire. Moray, however, will remain.

**Harbour tours** - These got off to a good start under guide Albert Cowie who had a party of nine on his first tour, all of which enjoyed the trip very much.

**Buckie Chemist rota** - The pharmacist open in Buckie tomorrow, Wednesday, between five and six for the supply of medicine and surgical appliances is Taylor's, High Street.

**Advert** - Neil Hepburn, Plumber, Heating Engineer and Slater. Registered gas installer.

**Entertainment is provided in most hotels and bars etc at the weekends.** This coming week the following named groups etc will be in action:-

British Legion - Saturday – Spex; Sunday – Harmonettes.

Harbour Bar – Thursday – Denbar Studio; Friday – Nostalgic Disco; Saturday- Gordon and Jake  
 Cliff House – Friday – Spex; Saturday - Dougie Andrews (Karaoke)  
 P.I.T.S. Friday – Jelly Roll; Saturday –Gumdrop; Sunday The Bizz.  
 Craigenroan Bar – Friday – Tommy Mac; Saturday – Ian Lyon and John Stewart; Sunday – Sunset.  
 Grants Arms, Cullen – Friday Mike Devine; Saturday – Shames  
 Thistle Social Club - Saturday – Disco Rough and Ready.  
 Strathlene Golf Club - Saturday – Ringo.  
 Mill, Tynet – Saturday night – Come and dance to the music of Hot Foot  
 Seafield Hotel, Portknockie – Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Vocal Pt; 24<sup>th</sup> Tommy Mac.  
 Thistle Bar – Friday – Ringo.  
 Marine Hotel – Monday night dancing to music by Current Affair  
 Buckpool Golf Club - Saturday night dancing to music by June.

July 20

**Buckie harbour has a colourful appearance just now** with the participants in the Round Britain Yachts Rally displaying a multitude of flags and emblems.

**Advert** – Denbar Beauty Salon is now open for a full range of beauty treatment.

**The Friends of Seafield Hospital** received a donation of **£1000 from the pupils of Buckie Community High School – Peter Morrison, Eve Thain, Krista Lawson and Lorraine Cowie** who won the **Inter-School Quiz organised by Moray Firth Radio and the Hydro Electric**. The proviso being that the money is spent in the local Hydro Electric shop. Friend’s chairman Joey Bowie was to consult with the hospital staff to find out what items of equipment would be most useful.

**The former West Church building has been sold** to a developer who proposes to convert it into flats. Not everyone was in agreement with this and Derek Horrobin, a member of Buckie Community Council had a letter published in the local saying how he felt that the bottom part should have been utilised for commercial purposes being on a prime site near the centre of the town. Councillor Bill Jappy said, however, that no one had come forward with an offer to turn the ground floor into flats – there had never been shops there so nothing had been lost.

**They won the Heritage shields** - The winners of the 1992/93 Buckie District Fishing Heritage Society shields for the best History Investigations at Buckie Community High School were Jacqueline Hay and Neil Anderson. They were handed over to the pupils by Heritage members John Rennie and Albert Cowie respectively.

**The Martin Memorial Cup** - The first winner of the Martin Memorial Cup is Chris Cummings a pupil at Buckie Community High School Special Education Unit who received the trophy from James Miller. The trophy was awarded for his endeavours as a disabled swimmer.

**Advert - ‘Flowers’** – 8 Seaview Place (next to the doctor’s surgery.)

**Learn to Drive** - George Wright School of Motoring, Cullen.

July 27

**Champion Blood Donors** - William Campbell, 20 Blairdaff Street and Adam Cowie, 19 Anton Street received Gold Badges at the recent Blood Donor session held in Buckie. Each had given 50 pints over the years.

**Planning application** - Outline application has been made to erect three light industrial units and operate plant hire yard ;retrospective application to erect a security fence, landscape the rear of the site for storage purposes ; reinstate office to house at Harbour View, McLaren’s Brae.

**Cluny Primary School ‘Journalists’** raised the sum of £40 from the sale of their newspaper the ‘Cluny Gazette’ which they produced under the guidance of teacher Margaret Dearman. The money was donated to the Friends of Seafield Hospital by the treasurer Adrian Reid and accepted by Joey Bowie.

**Peter Fair** - The local paper carried the usual write up and pictures on Peter Fair which now continues for three days from Wednesday evening through until Friday. The weather kept good.

**North Church Flower Festival** - Buckie North Church held a Flower Festival last week the previous one taking place six years before. The theme this time was 'Pure Gold from the Bible'. The display in addition to flowers, contained craftwork of every conceivable kind, paintings, knitted garments, embroidery, tapestries and woodcraft. There was also a children's corner.

**Strathlene** - Eric Simpson had a letter in the 'Advertiser' in which he invited people to send him any information they had about Strathlene and the pool.

**Football Curtain Raiser - Buckie** Thistle were beaten by three goals to nil by an Aberdeen F.C. side at Victoria Park in a curtain raiser to the new season.

The Thistle was represented by Innes, Keith, Bruce, I. Mathieson, Taylor, J. Mathieson (Corster), Inverarity (Tosh), Still, Allan, Findlay, Ritchie (McPherson).  
Aberdeen XI - Watt, Reeley, Glass, Winnie, Mcleish, Cooper (McCulloch), Nisbet (Christie), Ferguson, Milne, Gilbert, Robertson (Adams). Stillie (not used.)

**A Railway Book – a review by Brian Wilkinson** - 'Great North Memories – The LNER Era' (Great North of Scotland Railway Association £6.95.)

Aug 3

**The Moray Leisure Centre at Borough Briggs was officially opened on Friday.**

**Fish processing in Buckie** - A review of the fish processing industry in Buckie received a good report from Councillor George Barnes Grampian Regional Fishery Advisory Committee after a fact-finding tour of the town. He described it as being in a good shape while there appeared to be a positive outlook among the merchants.

**The Craigmint Bridge and its closure - a different view** - The bridge is in a dangerous state declared a firm of consulting engineers who had made an inspection of the structure. Mr Birch, the owner of Letterfourie took exception to a statement made in the previous week's edition of the 'Advertiser' where he was described as an absentee landlord. He said how he had been living in Letterfourie House for the past 18 months.

A spokesperson for Elliot and Company Structural Engineers, Edinburgh gave a very clear account of where the danger lay. This was related to water seepage from the bridge surface not helped by people helping themselves to stones that formed part of the arch of the bridge. The editor of the 'Advertiser' asked why no notice had been put up giving reasons for the bridge being closed or even a phone call to the paper, the absence of any information of the kind had led to the misunderstanding. (More can be read regarding the engineer's report in this edition.)

**Buckie Rotary Club** - The new President is Dennis Scott, who took over from John Craig

**Keswick in Buckie** - This will take place from 7<sup>th</sup> till the 13 August. with meetings being held in the Methodist Church, Pringle Street, Buckie.

**Fry Inn – 6 and 8 East Church Street has now opened a bar.** (The premises were at one time occupied by C. I. Shearer, Draper and Outfitter.)

**Now Open – 'Rock Bottom'**, 12 Baron Street – Men Women and Children's Clothes.

**Friendly Match** - Buckie Thistle 0 Meadowbank Thistle 2 - Donald Park, manager.

**Find a poem on page 17, columns 1 and 2.** This is entitled 'Mother' written by Tronach.

**End of a long teaching career** - Maureen Watt retired from teaching after 40 year's service, the last ten as a P.E. teacher in local schools.

**Buckie Rovers J.F. C. has a new president** - Sonny Johnston, a committee member for the past few years was last week appointed President of the club to fill the vacancy. Sonny, a native of Newmill who is a linesman with the Hydro Board played for Islavale the Keith junior club.

At the latest meeting of the committee it was said how they were fortunate in receiving help from a number of sponsors, the main sponsor this season again being the Thistle Bar. They had received a new strip from Slater Sports, Cluny Square, while A. C. Plumbers had donated drill tops.

The Rovers may be the first junior club in the north to have the new box style of nets fitted these being provided by Sinclair Nets.

Aug 10

**Recycling yard** - Planning application has been lodged by Moray District Council for a recycling yard at the Highland Yard. This will involve the erection of a security fence, road, concrete bases and workman's shed.

**Opening announcement - The Curiosity Shoppe - 28-30 Low Street**, Antiques, Second hand goods, New ladies fashions and knitwear.

**Bellie Kirk** built between 1795 and 1798 for the 4<sup>th</sup> Duke of Gordon is to be upgraded at a cost of £16,690.

**A good beginning** - Buckie won their first game of the new with a 2-1 over their auld enemies Elgin City.

The Thistle team was – Innes, Keith, Bruce, I. Mathieson, Taylor, Still, J. Mathieson (Smart), Gibson, Clark, Robertson, Findlay. Sub Inverarity (not used)

**We are to open** - Louis carry out fish and chip shop at 19 West Church Street. Will open on Thursday 12 August 1993 at 4.30pm.

Aug 17

**Buckie District Fishing Heritage Society** - A comprehensive report is given of the organisation on the front page of this edition of the 'Advertiser'. There are also pictures showing chairman, Peter Bruce, secretary, Jim Merson and members Jean Taylor and John Rennie.

Jim Merson told the 'Advertiser' how the Society welcomed the opening of the 'Buckie Drifter' and said also that they would co-operate fully with it

The Society recently bought a camcorder which had already been used by John Rennie.

**Change in the telephone numbers** - Telephone numbers in Buckie and district are to change on August 31.

**Local Rurals do well at Keith** - Rathven and Arradoul WRI both won prizes at the recent Keith Show. Zena McKenzie, Arradoul, is seen with the Janet Corrigan Trophy which she won for most points in the baking section. June Milne, President of Rathven WRI was seen holding the Findlay Cup the prize for the 'Best Farmhouse Tea'.

**Other local prize-winners** - Jim Bennett, Buckie, took first in the Clydesdale class with his filly Barmuir April Rose, she was also placed Reserve Champion. The filly also took the first prize at the Black Isle Show, the Grantown Show, Strathbogie and the Spring Show at Thainstone. Cammy Hendry and his daughter Colleen between them took four first places plus Champion and Reserve Champion with their Arab and Mountain and Moorland ponies.

**Newcomers to the Buckie and District Welfare League** - Cornhill have joined to take the place of Portgordon United who have moved up to the Juniors.

**Junior Football – the start of season 1993/94** - Buckie Rovers 3 RAF Lossiemouth 1.

The Rovers' team was - Brindle, Nicol (McGettrick), Geddes, Innes, Murdoch, Gault, R. Smith (B. Slater), Tallis. M. Slater, M. Smith and Winton.

Graeme Tallis was signed from Forres Mechanics, Paul Geddes from Islavale as was Kevin Winton.

**First game for Portgordon United in the Juniors** - New Elgin 3 Portgordon 0 (No team line-up was given.)

**West End Garage, Arradoul** - Petrol now on sale.

Aug 24

**Grampian Country Pork** - The factory continues to expand and now has a total workforce of 172, an increase of 30 over the past year. The latest staff appointment was Edward Calder as Retail Development Manager the counterpart on the production side is Jill Watt while the Marketing Manager is Raymond Boyd. (An article on the company takes up the whole of the front page of the 'Advertiser'.

**Opening announcement** - 'Creations of Buckie' at 41 West Church Street. Bridal and attendants gowns – ladies dress and separate.

**The Abbeyfield Home (Buckie)** - Fear is being expressed that the local Abbeyfield Home in 'Struan' Cluny Square may have to close if it cannot attract more residents.

**Couple celebrate their Diamond Wedding** - Andrew Green and Janet Reid were married in her mother's house on Great Western Road in August 1933 and have now celebrated their Diamond Wedding. Mr and Mrs Green live at 20 Wallace Avenue.

**Representing Portgordon United** - The first Portgordon team line-up was given after their defeat at home by Kinloss by five goals to two.

It was – Erskine, Cormack, J. Shewan, Clark, Farquhar, Hay, McKay, Gardiner, I. Shewan, Reid and Gordon. Subs – Bowie and Brewin.

Aug 31

**Buckie Drifter Heritage Centre Plans on Display** - With the groundwork preceding at the site of the Buckie Drifter Heritage Centre the public will have a chance to see the final design of the building in Buckie library on Friday of this week. The display will be open to the public in the museum section of the library from 3pm.

**Buckie Flower Show** - Ian Wilson who was a newcomer to exhibiting at Flower Shows only a year or two back took the Taylor Trophy for gaining most points at Buckie and District Flower Show apart from Fuchsias. Bob Johnston, Inch, came top in this section.

**Fishing Heritage member is married** - Captain Walter Flett, Findochty was married to Miss Rhona Ann Brown, Portgordon in Aberdeen last week.

**Buckie Rovers Development Draw** - The local junior football team set up a new money-raising monthly Draw entitled the 'Rovers' Return'. The monthly prizes to be first - £1000, 2<sup>nd</sup> - £500; 3<sup>rd</sup> - £250; 4<sup>th</sup> £100. In addition there will be 3x 50 holiday vouchers for only £5 per calendar month.

Sept 7

**Royal visit** - Prince Charles was in Moray on Wednesday to visit two of the district's most popular tourist attractions. – The Moray Leisure Centre and Baxter are of Speyside.

**Local man has African wanderlust again** - Bill Forbes, formerly known as the 'Lightning Barber' when in business as a hairdresser in Cluny Square is all set to return to the continent of Africa to start a mammoth trek. He was previously in Africa in 193 and 1986. He is remarkably fit for a man of his age, 83, walking constantly and working out daily on the punch bag. **The report on the front page of the Advertiser gives a detailed account of where he aims to walk from and to.**

**The 'Buckie Drifter'** – The new 'Buckie Drifter' Heritage Centre logo was officially unveiled at Buckie library on Friday of last week alongside a display of architect drawings of the Heritage Centre and a cabinet depicting some of the items which have been donated to the project.

A picture shows the Heritage manager Liz Ritchie and two Trust members, Councillor Joe Wilson, Portknockie, and Jim Merson, secretary of Buckie District Fishing Heritage Society.

**Buckie Travel Club** - The president of Buckie Travel Club Mrs Ena Garden will preside over the first of the season's meetings of the club on Tuesday 14 September in the Cluny Hotel. The speaker of the evening will be Moira Smith who will tell members about the first visit she made to Romania and of her experiences with children in the orphanages there. Being the first meeting of the new session there will be the usual bring and buy sale while members will take along the souvenirs of their holidays.

**Fish landings at Buckie** - Last week 32 boats called into Buckie harbour to offload their catches. This comprised 342 boxes of white fish, 711 boxes of prawns and 447 bags of clams.

The boats were – Internos, Lynn Marie, Amethyst, Dalma, Mistletoe, Regal Star, Hope, Moray Explorer, Fair Morn, Choice, Providing Star, Margo, Quest, Crossby, Anna Bhan, Aztec, Azula, Novante, Sea Spray, Angela, Loralena, Crimond, Fortuna, Kedana, Cardanell, Dexterity, Rival, Intrepid, Elegant, Suilven, Pisces and Janeen.

**Junior Football** - Burghead Thistle 0 Buckie Rovers 4 (L) (Keith Sinclair did the report.)

**Buckie Cat Show** - This will take place in the Fishermen's Hall on Saturday September 11. There are 89 entries with cats from as far afield as Ross-shire and Aberdeen. In addition there will be 20 pedigree exhibits from Inverness in the north to Glasgow.

Sept 14

**Jones launch new boat** - The launching ceremony was performed by a member of the office staff Miss Deborah Murray helped by Jim Farquhar. The boat was named MV 'Blue Toon' an appropriate title since it is to be used in Peterhead harbour as a pilot and harbour launch. The 'Blue Toon' a 17 metre DOT class 1x pilot vessel displacing 15 tons. She has been built with a steel hull and an aluminium superstructure and is powered by 2 Volvo TAMD 432 hp engines and a designed speed of 12 knots.

**Buckie library is to receive a £25,000 face lift.** This to some degree due to the big increase in the number of books being borrowed up 34.2% since 1988.

**New boat order for Jones Shipyard** - An order for a new fishing boat for Mr Bruce Robertson and his father has been received by Jones Shipyard. The new vessel will be built to a new design by Stuart McAllister of Campbelltown the well-known naval architect.

**Death of Buckie born doctor** - Dr J. Hamilton, who was born and schooled in Buckie has died at the age of 76. He was a graduate of Aberdeen University. He was a brother of William and Stewart Hamilton (Hamilton Brothers, Engineers.)

**'Walkaboutabit'** Around 100 walkers from all over Moray took part in Moray District Sports Council 'Walkaboutabit' from Findlater Castle to Findochty, following the coastal paths.

**Fae Tomintoul to Tugnet** - Jim Donaldson and Kevin Bain raised the sum of £1570 from a sponsored walk from Tomintoul to Tugnet at the mouth of the Spey a distance of 45 miles in two days along the Speyside Way. The money was raised on behalf of the Special Unit at Buckie High School where Jim has a son as a pupil. Jim of Briarbank, Provost Reid Crescent and Kevin 2 Rannas Place, Portessie is both storemen on oil rigs.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Rovers open new pavilion** - The new pavilion at Merson Park built for local junior team Buckie Rovers was opened last week by Councillor Bill Jappy.

**First point for Portgordon** - Portgordon United drew 3-3 with Burghead Thistle on Saturday to record their first point gained at junior level. The report said that they should have taken all three points losing their keeper Gordon Bowie before half time when he was carried off after suffering an injury.

Sept 21

**No Community Council at Buckie** - Last week when the deadline for nominations for elections to community councils had passed it transpired that there had only been four nominations for Buckie Community Council, insufficient for a council to be constituted.

From the *Banffshire Advertiser* 'Out of a population of over 8000 there are apparently only four people willing to give up an evening a month of their time to help, in an often unrewarded way, to make Buckie the sort of place they want it to be. The community council are a part, albeit a small part, of the way we are governed and a community council CAN and does sometimes do exert some influence on the way things are done ....'

**Planning application** - Erection of 3 houses at Richmond Place, Portgordon.

**Honour for Buckie cricketer** - Bill Flett a member of Buckie Cricket club for 37 years was honoured for his long service with a benefit match and buffet supper in the Marine Hotel.

**Advert** - Versatile Windows Co.Ltd. Deskford, require experienced fitters and joiners for increasing work load.

**Buckie sees the arrival of an unusual boat** - An unusual boat is at present undergoing repairs in Jones Buckie Shipyard. She is the former Danish seine the 'Flyholm' built in 1930 by N. P. Jensen of Esberg.

She was originally built for fishing with a sailing hull and fitted with a Bolinder engine, a single cylinder diesel engine used in Scandinavian fishing boats and characterised by their distinctive 'tonk-tonk' noise and habit of blowing back rings.

The boat is now used as a yacht and was in repairs following an accident on the west coast. Lady Did Earl, the wife of the owner Sir George Earl's, father once had a yacht 'Skomer' a yacht built on fishing lines by Herd and Mackenzie in 1964 and remembered the quality of the work the firm had produced.

The 'Flyholm' has a crew of six with a top speed of six knots and has crossed the Atlantic a number of times.

**Probus Club** - The guest speaker at the September meeting of Buckie and District Probus club was Graham Ironside who was for many years a producer with Yorkshire T.V. An Aberdeenshire loon he moved from Grampian T.V. To Yorkshire T.V. at its inception 25 years ago. He enjoys holidaying in this area and was a guest of Arnold Pirie, having met first when Arnold was a policeman in Yorkshire.

**'Loons, Lairds, Preachers and Teachers'** is the name of a new book written about the parish of Deskford by George Anderson Clark who was born within the parish in 1924 at the farm of Hoggies and educated at Deskford School and Buckie High.

Sept 28 **Cullen Harbourmaster retires** - Harry Runcie who has been harbourmaster at Cullen for the past ten years has decided to call it a day now that he is 74.

**Tea dances** - It was decided that since the tea dances ran in the Fishermen's hall in February had proved to be popular Moray District council have decided to start them again every Wednesday afternoon from 2 till 4pm through the winter beginning on October 6. The entrance fee is £1 a session with tea and biscuits on sale.

\*\*\*\* **Property for sale** - The property at 10 Sutherland Street is for sale at a figure of £39,000.

Old rhyme about the colour of bridal gowns –

Married in white – you have chosen right  
Married in grey- you will go far away  
Married in black – you will wish yourself back  
Married in red - you will wish yourself dead  
Married in green - you will be ashamed to be seen  
Married in blue -you will always be true  
Married in pearl - you will live in a whirl  
Married in brown- you will live in the town  
Married in ink – your spirits will sink.

**Latest book from Buckpool quine of the Doric** - This is entitled 'En Kin EE Mine Es' by Isabel Harrison. Reviewed by Brian Wilkinson. Cost £2.50

**Presto Supermarket, East Cathcart Street.** We are now open on Sunday's from 10 am till 5pm.

**Autumn Fayre** - The Autumn Fayre held in the Fishermen's Hall ran by the Friends of Seafeld Hospital and Community Patients helped by hospital staff and Benreay Surgery raised the sum of £1,700 much to the amazement of Chairman Joey Bowie.

**Advert** - McLean's Coach and Garage Services – West End Garage, Arradoul.

Oct 3 **Planning application** - to fill in the former railway cutting east and west of Pringle Street and demolish two bridges.

**She belonged to Portgordon** - A letter was found on page 14 of the 'Advertiser' of this date written by Annie Mary Stewart (Reid), Ontario, Canada of interest to Portgordon folk. She talks of things and events of days gone by. It is to be found on page 14.

Oct 12 **Council rumpus** - The main talking point after last Wednesday's meeting of Moray District Council was the attempted censure of the Chief Executive Les Morgan for dereliction of his duties made by one councillor. Although the matter was dealt with at a closed session of the Council, because someone had leaked the document to a newspaper before hand a version of it had to be made public before the meeting.

**'Buckie Drifter' recipe** - Liz Ritchie manager of the 'Drifter' told the local paper that she had received her first recipe for the book she hopes to produce. It has come from Olive Bannerman, nee Shepherd and is known as 'Mrs Shepherd's Duff'. Ms Ritchie is now on the lookout for any literature of any kind pertaining to the early 1920's when residents in places along the coast were asked to vote on whether the town should be 'wet' or 'dry'.

**Best kept council gardens** - This year's winners were Alan and Charlotte Forsythe, 16 Redburn Drive, who received the Inchgower Quaich from Co. Jappy and a bottle of Inchgower Whisky from the distillery manager Douglas Cameron. The Runners Up was Robert and Lilian Stronach who live next door at number 18. They received a case of whisky miniatures. Third came Douglas Craib, while the gardens of Janice Diverty 8 Redburn Drive and Bert and Bella Newlands 18 Letterfourie Road were Highly Recommended.

**Buckie Community Council** - With only four nominations received for the 12 seats before the closing date there was insufficient members to form a community council in Buckie and it will be April 1994 before another opportunity is given to reconstitute it.

**Two well known local men die** - Last week saw the death of two men both well known in the local area. Thomas McKechnie served his time as a carpenter at the shipyard of Herd and Mackenzie but was forced to retire prematurely ten years ago due to ill health. It was in Masonic circles that he was perhaps best known not only in Buckie but through a wider area; He was a life-long member of the Craigenroan Lodge and was one of an elite band who had reached the 30<sup>th</sup> degree in freemasonry. From 1979 to 1984 he was Right Worshipful Master for Banffshire.

He leaves his wife Anne and two children, daughter Fiona and son Neil.

Willie Gordon Laing who had been a player with Buckie Thistle signed professional forms for Aberdeen F.C. in November 1938. Called up as a Territorial he served as a sergeant in the Gordon Highlanders in France and North Africa. After the war he returned to play for Buckie Thistle, later with Elgin city and Lossiemouth. He worked in the early post-war years as a PE teacher in local schools before working at Thomson's Shipyard, still later he became a linesman with Balfour and Beatty in Nigeria, Ascension Islands and Jordan. He finished his working days at Thorn Lighting. He married Flossie Simpson, a Keith girl in 1940 putting his occupation on his marriage lines professional footballer and Lance Corporal in the G. H. His wife died in 1989.

He retained a keen interest in football and was a keen follower of the Rovers and the Boys Football ever ready to offer advice. He was also a member of Buckpool Golf Club.

He leaves his son Gordon, daughter-in-law Christine and grandchildren Michael and Carolyn.

Oct 19 **Fire closes Low Street** - Low Street, Buckie was closed to through traffic for an hour and a half on Wednesday afternoon when a fire broke out in the furniture showroom of Grant of Buckie. There were four fire appliances on the scene.

Malcolm Grant, proprietor, had great praise for the firemen saying how, "their dedication was terrific, doing extremely well to keep the fire away from the house."

**Admiral's Inn, Findochty** - The first public house to be opened in the village after the vote to go 'wet' was decided a few years before has been sold by the people who opened the Inn then on Jubilee terrace. Anne and family and staff were thanking the public for their support over the years and trusted that the same would be given to the new owners Jack, Rona, Derek and Christopher.

**Doric Group** - The open meeting held in Buckie Community High School to examine ways of keeping the Doric tongue and culture alive attracted enough interest to form a group which will meet every second Tuesday in the school.

Oct 26 **Another bar changes hands** - Bob and Frances who have been 'Mine Hosts' of the Crown Bar on Low Street for the past nine years have sold the premises to John and Elaine.

**Buckie Market** - The market in the former Cluny Hotel annex on Cluny Square which is open every Thursday, Friday and Saturday is now under new management. There are a number of different stalls but there is room for others.

**Buckie Psoriasis Group a newly formed organisation** recently handed over an ultra violet magnifying light to Dr Marion White at Seafield Hospital. A photograph shows the group secretary Nan Rae and treasurer Fiona Newlands handing the instrument over surrounded by other members. The instrument cost £200, a sum collected by the group, which will help in the detection of skin complaints.

Nov 2 **'Buckie drifter' competition** – Liz Ritchie has set a competition open to everyone over 16 years of age in the BCK area from Portgordon to Cullen it is an essay of no more than 1000 words, the title being 'Why I am Proud to Be a BCK Person.'

**Single Christians meeting** - The first meeting of single Christians which was arranged by Rev James Thomson, in Buckie All Saints Church brought forth a good response despite the atrocious weather on the night. People came from all round even someone from Gardenstown

**A Warning is Given** – A woman from the Clochan area said how the Clochan hall (formerly Enzie Public School) was in danger of being lost to the community if they were unable to form a committee a requirement of the constitution.

Nov 9 **'A Happy School'** This accolade was given to Portgordon Primary School in the Inspectors' report.

**'The Old Rig off the Mucks'** the title of the latest serial by Spike had reached chapter 8 in this edition of the B. A.

**Buckie Builders' Merchants** - To celebrate the completion of our new yard and warehouse at Buckie AAH Builders' Merchants, Commercial Road are having a prize draw. All purchases from AAH over a certain period qualify for entry.

**He fell doon and hurt himsel** - A boy was hurt when he fell from the parapet of the bridge on St Helena Brae down on to the surface of the former railway track. The bridge has suffered from vandalism in recent times and a number of the coping stones have been dislodged... The safety barriers that were set up around the bridge were removed leaving the bridge in a dangerous condition.

**Rathven and Arradoul Community Council** - At the first meeting of the re-constituted council two new members joined. They were James Garvock, Rathven and Olive Kessack, Arradoul. Office bearers elected were – Margaret Wilson, chairperson, Fred Rumbles, secretary/treasurer.

**'Look Back to the Past'** - The compilers of the column in this edition were Ron Murray and Lyn MacDonald – Buckie District Fishing Heritage Society.

Nov 16 **The Clochan hall is safe** - Clochan folk rallied round, taking heed of the warning that had been printed in the local paper, with 25 people being present at the AGM and so were able to appoint a committee to ensure the hall is kept in local hands. Chairman – Rod Ellingham; secretary- Nancy Wood; treasurer- Wendy Crosby and hall booking secretary- Mabel Thain.

**Fishing Heritage receives grant** - Among the latest rounds of Small Community Education grants given to local organisations by Grampian Regional Council was one of £240 to Buckie District Fishing Heritage Society to go towards the cost of special lighting in the Society Cottage behind the library to enable video filming of people's reminiscences to take place.

**Friends given gift of £500-** Friends of Seafield Hospital and Community Patients received an anonymous gift of £500 towards the purchase of a microscope for the hospital.

**Cathcart Clinic received a gift from Buckie Cancer Link** - This is an Alpha Xcell mattress costing £600 which will be of immense value to severely bedridden people who will be able to use it in their own homes. It was handed over to District Nurse Mary Logan by two members of the Link Group Bella Jorgensen and Wilma Morrison.

Nov 23

**Buckie Coastguard Station** - The official opening before invited guests of Buckie's new Double Section Coastguard Base was performed on Friday by the former president of the Scottish Fisherman's Federation Willie Hay, Portsoy, who unveiled a plaque to commemorate the event.

**On an African safari** - Bill Forbes ('The Lightning Barber') who is meantime in Africa travelled from South Africa to Zimbabwe by a long distance truck. He then took an express bus to Zambia staying overnight in a hut at Livingstone. In the morning he discovered that although he had locked the door of the hut when checking his jacket found that he had been robbed of £400. This he said, in a communiqué to the 'Advertiser' would mean that he would have to cut his visit to Africa shorter than he intended. He hopes to leave Zambia and travel across Tanzania into Kenya though this will take some time. He is glad now that he trained especially hard prior to leaving for Africa as he recognised that this was to be a hard safari.

**Presto Supermarket** – Red Sea bread 29p; 4 pints of fresh milk 84p. A £5 voucher with ever £50 spent on one shopping trip.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Rotary Club** – For his contribution to the lunch meeting of Buckie Rotary Club George McKenzie (former High School rector who came from a fishing background in Lossiemouth) chose to read extracts from an account by a Lossiemouth skipper of his experiences during the gale of 1893, the centenary of which occurred on November 18 this year.

Some forty years after the event John Campbell, 49 Queen Street, Lossiemouth skipper of the sail boat Glide INS 455 painted a vivid picture of the dangers he and his crew endured that day as they made their way home from the fishing down south.

Four north east sail boats were lost with all hands – 'Comely' (Buckie) skipper James Murray; 'Glide' (Cullen), skipper Adam Addison; 'Toiler' (Lossiemouth) skipper John Cormack; 'Venor' (Hopeman) skipper Alex Main.

\*\*\*\*\*

John Campbell's description highlighted the hardships experienced by fishermen in the days before diesel and Decca. Sandy Sutherland, a semi-retired skipper himself, gave the vote of thanks.

**Parade commander is honoured** - Alex Ferguson, Parade Commander, of Buckie Remembrance Day Parades (organised by the local branch of the Royal British legion) for the past 16 years received a scroll and gift as a token of appreciation by branch president Mrs Alice Chalmers.

**Boys' Brigade on parade - Photographs** on page 15 of this edition of the 'Advertiser' show the band and boys of 2<sup>nd</sup> Buckie Boys' Brigade during their enrolment march from Queen Street to the Methodist Church on Pringle Street.

**Reduced travel rate for some** - Pensioners and others who presently enjoy a reduced travel rate on transport in Moray will be even better off next year. Grampian Region transport and roads committee has agreed to cut the concession fare charged to a maximum of 10p for each journey.

Nov 30

**Incident leads to death of Buckie man** - A popular Buckie taxi driver has died following an incident on Saturday night. Alexander Flett (47) 15 Shearer Avenue was taken to Seafield Hospital where he died some time later. A man is held in custody in connection with the incident.

**New owner for fish business** - Isobel and Kenny Smith have sold their business Kenfresh on Low Street to David Campbell. They thank both customers and staff for their support over the years and wish David all the best in the future.

**'Only the Lonely'** - The local Salvation Army will once again provide a dinner on Christmas Day in their hall on New Street for anyone of whatever age who will be on their own on Christmas Day.

Donations of food and gifts would be much appreciated as would offers of entertainment suitable for the guests.

**West Church stained glass window** - A stained glass window which previously occupied a space on the gable end of the West Church and which was donated by the Hendry family (Joiners) and which was removed when the building was sold is to be installed in the South Church in 1995, 25 years after the merger of the two churches. The window is presently in Aberdeen where it is being restored. When the work has been completed in around 18 month's time it will be mounted on a wooden frame and placed in a suitable position within the church.

**History of Buckie Thistle** - A book given the title 'Happy Days at the old Vic – A History of Buckie Thistle' written by Easton L. Thain was reviewed by Jack Johnston. The book costs £7.99.

Dec 7 **Picts' Battlehorn is heard again** - The carnyx was heard booming out its eerie note in Deskford for the first time in countless centuries when about 30 local residents and children from Cullen Primary School gathered at Leitcheston Farm to listen to a replica of the Pictish horn being blown at the spot where an original was found in 1816

**Opening announcement** - 'Pick a Flick & Glad Rags', 30 West Church Street. Video Library, free membership, also all the latest fashions. .

**'Hamilton Brothers Engineers'** - looks like the end of the road for Hamilton Brothers Engineers in Buckie. Most of the remaining work force was paid off by the Receiver last week with only five being retained to finish the last order on the books.

**'The Poets Quair' a book of poetry** written by local poets for a competition, won by a Nun living in Buckie and mentioned in the snippets earlier was reviewed by Brian Wilkinson. The book was published by Moray District Libraries and costs £2.

**Buckie Women's Gas Federation to have new name** - The Gas Federation which was established in 1935 will disband at the end of the year with the privatisation of British Gas. The Buckie branch has been a most successful organisation and members intend that it should continue albeit under a new name the name chosen is Buckie Women's Federation which will continue to meet monthly in the Town House on the third Wednesday of each month.

Dec 14 **Long service awards** - A number of employees of Grampian Region, including teachers and other members of school staff at Buckie Community High School were given awards for long service, some for twenty years and some for thirty as in the case of John Fowlie, a teacher, and Jimmy Ewen who was a janitor/groundsman. Jimmy is seen in a photograph receiving his award from Grampian Regional Council, Chief Executive, and Alan Campbell.

**Local doctor dies** - Dr Sandy Lawrence writes an obituary for Dr Eric Grassie Hendry 1917- 1993 who died the previous week.

**Harbour tours** - Moray District Council have given notice that responsibility for the popular harbour tours are to be handed over to the Buckie Drifter Trust.

**Help with 'Bag-packing'** Buckie Presto Supermarket have kindly given permission to the members of Buckie Boys' Brigade and the Thistle Boys Club to help customers pack their message bags at the till a gesture of good will. If people so wish they can drop a coin into a box which will be provided. (This must have been the first time that this very worthwhile practice, from the boy's point of view, took place.)

**'All Rails Lead to Aberdeen'** this is the name of a recently published railway book which here is reviewed by Brian Wilkinson. The book costs £4.00

**Look Back to the Past** - This week this was compiled by Lynn MacDonald under a new title - Buckie Training Centre.

Dec 21 **Wind Farms – Do We Want Them?** Earlier in the year another article said how Scotland was self sufficient in electricity production and wind farms which if they were to be erected would 'pollute' the landscape producing power for places outwith Scotland. The words have been proved true. The chickens have come home to roost. **The only people in Scotland who gain from the wind farms are the landowners**

Dec 28 **The dreams came true, Christmas was white this year** - A photograph shows a snowy scene on the A98 in as it runs through the Fochabers Woods.

**Salvation Army Christmas dinner** - A party of twenty people enjoyed a lovely meal, entertainment and gifts this year.

**A new garage for Robbie** - Robert Benzie has moved into a brand new purpose-built garage at the Highland Yard in Freuchny Lane.