

2001

Jan 2 **Christmas Lunch** - The local Salvation Army traditional Christmas Day lunch was less well attended this year but those that went along still appeared to get much pleasure and enjoyment out of the event.

Hospital receives an award - Seafield Community Hospital (note the new name) has been awarded the prestigious Charter Mark, an award given by the government for excellent public service.

Local man dies in accident - James Gordon (Jimmy 'Dookit') (59) a Buckie man died of injuries he sustained as a passenger in a car driven by a friend Margaret McKinlay which was in collision with another at Enzie Cross Roads on Sunday afternoon 24 December. Ms McKinlay escaped with only superficial injuries as did the driver of the other car, a Fochabers woman.

Flood Prevention - A 12 week flood prevention project will start in Buckie on January 8th at Baron Street. (Lennie Marshall who has a Panel Beating and Spray Painting business on the street was greatly inconvenienced as the road was largely closed to all traffic.)

A better road is required - The community council discussed the inadequacy of the road running from Golf View Drive to the refuse depot at Gollachy. The members complained that it was too narrow, making it difficult if not impossible for two vehicles to pass. Visibility was also poor and needed to be improved. (Although some passing places were constructed the community council in 2006 were still pushing for a better road in the light of the increased use being made of it.) (In 2008 the community council acting on the complaints received from users of the road sent a strongly worded letter to Moray Council asking that improvements be made to the passing places which had been worn down so badly that anyone using them were in danger of damaging their car or trailer.)

Former school teacher dies - George Duncan (Retired P. T. Technical Subjects at Buckie Community High School died in Dr Gray's Hospital in Elgin on December 16. He retired in 1988. A native of Fraserburgh where he served his time as a joiner and pattern maker.

Jan 9 **Good win for the Thistle** - Buckie Thistle beat Hamilton Accies at home in the 2nd Round of the Scottish Cup to advance into the 3rd round away to Ross County. The score against Hamilton was 2-0. The Thistle team was – Rae, Grant, Lamberton, Anderson, McPherson, Rattray, Rowley, Stephen, Thomson (Reid), Bruce (Craik), Stewart (Milne), Subs – J. Matheson, Duncan.

Jan 16 **Stained glass window to mark the anniversary** - The Church of Scotland in Portgordon has recently had installed a specifically commissioned stained glass window which celebrates the Bi-centenary of the village that actually occurred two years before.

The window was designed by Ed Lamont and incorporates Portgordon 200, farming and fishing with a strong Biblical theme.

Marie Dick, Session Clerk said the Portgordon 200 group generously allocated us £900 to install a specially commissioned window which in an unique way would commemorate and celebrate 200 years of Portgordon village life.

The pictures on the window can be seen from the outside not only from the inside which is more common.

Buckie Cricket Club won their second successive League Championship. Along with the players in a team photograph is long time scorer Dickie Brown.

West Church Street - Allan Fraser had a letter in the local paper in which he spoke of the changes in shops on West Church Street making special reference to that at 27a where in December 1920 Antonia Iannetta opened his café as the Central Soda Fountain. A completely new use is now being made of the property as a music shop.

Jan 23 **The 'Banffshire Advertiser' has a new member on the reporting staff.** He is John Rutter a native of Cheshire who is now living in Rothiemay the home of his fiancé. John is a graduate of Newcastle University

with a Geography Degree. He later became a chef, barman, delivery driver, road repairer, scientist with the British Govt. Overseas Aid, tour leader on trekking holidays in South America. Though he has written many articles this is first experience working on a newspaper. He will be working between the group's papers in Buckie, Keith and Huntly.

Improvements to Cluny Square - A photograph shows community council members, Brian Wilkinson and Zafar Ali with an 'Advertiser' representative as they look at the improvements made by Moray Council in the north west quadrant of Cluny Square. Flower beds have replaced the bushes and litter which had become an eyesore. This was something that was asked for by the community council.

Community council loses two members - With two members resigning, Kevin McKay and Joe Mackay Buckie Community Council can now only boast of six members out of a complement of 12. Zafar Ali, speaking to the 'Advertiser' expressed his concern for the potential demise of the council, which he said had done a lot of good work for the local community.

The fishing scene - Last week nine boats landed 238 boxes of white fish, 153 boxes of prawns and 1068 bags of clams. The boats were - Surina, Tjeerd Jacoba, Seagull, Kelly, Vigilant, Emily Jane, Jasper, Zephyr and Monadliath.

Jan 30

Buckie team to join the Elgin League - Buckie United has been accepted into Elgin Welfare League, played through the summer months. Any players interested in playing for the United should contact Jim McAllister or Alan Thain.

Success on TV programme - Buckie man Stuart Wood of Anton Street, Buckpool was successful in a recent round of Channel 4 programme 'Countdown' when he won seven games out of 8 to reach the quarter finals. Stuart said how in the conundrums the words just appeared to jump out at him. He travelled down to Leeds at the beginning of the week to record the show.

Netherha Home changes hands - Three residential homes for the elderly were transferred from Moray Council to the private sector when Parklands Ltd. recently took them over. The Homes are - Netherha Home in Buckie, Glenisla in Keith and Speyside in Aberlour, each being transferred following 12 months of negotiations between the Council and Parklands to ensure that the quality of care will be maintained in the homes.

End of the line - Buckie Thistle were beaten by 2 goals to 1 by Ross County at Dingwall in the 3rd round of the Scottish Cup. (Certain ramifications occurred amongst the committee members after the match, not fully made public, leading to the resignation of the President Raymond Cardno)

Footballers of yesteryear - A photograph shows Gordon Street United a successful juvenile football team taken in 1947. They are named as Lobban, Cowie (Diles), Sandy Murray, John Smith (Wicked), Reaich, and Munro front - Cowie, John Jappy, Adam Cowie, Johnny Cowie and Eddie Mitchell.

Feb 2

A' bonny deen up - W. F. Johnston and Sons will reopen tomorrow, Wednesday, 3 February. Come along and see our beautiful new refurbished shop.

Look Back to the Past - This page is now being compiled by Balloch Trust Trainees. Bill Skene who followed James Thomson finished on 23 January.

Mair fitba lads fae the past - This week it is the turn of Findochty Wanderers. They too were a successful combine. The photograph was taken in October 1949. **See page 17.**

Feb 13

Oh no snow again - Buckie was hit with severe weather conditions last week resulting in all schools being forced to close. Wintry and blizzard conditions hit many areas of Moray, with the east of Moray being most badly affected. **Photographs are shown on page one and elsewhere in this edition.**

Lynn to take on a major challenge - Findochty landscape photographer and only, as she says, a fair-weather cyclist, Lyn MacDonald is travelling to Ecuador in November 2001 to take on an extreme challenge to raise

money for the Macmillan Cancer Relief Hospice in Moray. Her sister died of cancer two years ago before also a niece of Leukaemia aged 11.

Feb 20 **Kids have it made** - New equipment costing £50,000 has now been installed in the Ian Johnston Park.

Business suffer when road works close their street - Local businesses on Baron Street have been suffering badly due to the work being carried out by the North of Scotland Water Authority which has meant the street being closed to traffic. The road has been blocked off for four weeks and Jim Cannell and his wife Anne who own the Bayview Stores, a bric-a-brac and second hand shop reckon that trade is down between 90-95%. Lennie Marshall, who owns Freuchny Garage a Panel Beating and Spray Painting business on the street has also been badly affected since his customers can't reach his premises.

Former Buckie minister was arrested - Ex Buckie North Church minister Rev Ainslie Walton was seen on Television news last week voicing his views about nuclear weapons while he was being arrested and taken to the police station along with 373 other people involved in the demonstration at Faslane Naval Base on the Clyde. Present were 35 clergymen and 15 ministers.

New Assistant Head at BCHS appointed - The new Assistant Head at Buckie Community High School is to be David Strachan who will take up his duties in May. He is a Geography graduate of Edinburgh University. He was a senior pupil at Madras College in St Andrews when the present PT of Geography at BCHS, Ian MacPherson started his teaching career.

Feb 27 **Historical items to go on show** - A number of historic items from Buckie's past are to be returned to the town and put on display later in the year. The items belonged to Wm J. Merson who was provost of the town from 1927 till 1945. They will be presented by Marshallina Fogg, his daughter and will be displayed in the local library in a case which presently holds regalia belonging to the former Town Council. James Merson, a relative, was responsible for having them returned to Buckie.

Road improvements at the Toll Bar Junction - Work was taking place this week to realign the road pattern at the Toll Bar junction on the A98 which has been an accident black-spot ever since the advent of motor transport.

Vandals damage the 'Perfect Park' - This was the title given to the Ian Johnston Park in Buckie after £50,000 had been spent on the provision of play-things for children, now only within a very short period of time a considerable amount of damage has been done. The cableway has been broken and had to be removed for repairs and checking. There is a mess of broken glass all over the place.

100 years young - Mr James Duthie, a resident at Parklands, celebrated his 100th birthday on Tuesday 20th February and enjoyed a party with guests and friends. Mr Duthie is a native of Aberdeen and trained to become a telecommunication engineer before taking up employment in China, Mongolia and Japan before he was married. Later he spent the most of his working life Kent and Hertfordshire. He and his wife moved north to Portknockie in 1965, moving into Burnside Court in 1985. When his wife died in 1997 he moved to Parklands.

Auld Nath and his donkey - In a letter from Mrs Annie Mary Reid (nee) Stewart, Canada she speaks of Alnath Place in Buckpool and says how it was named after Auld Nath (Robertson). She was only half right. When Mr J.L. McNaughton named the streets in 1953 he chose to name the street after Alex Mavor (who was tenant of the Seafield Farm later to become the 19th hole of Buckpool Golf Club) and Nathaniel Robertson two local worthies and bosom pals. He took part of both their names. Mrs Reid also recounted a story about Nath's donkey of which many have been told.

Mar 6 **Tragic death of Findochty schoolboy** - Ross Leitch (12) a first year pupil at Buckie Community High School collapsed within the grounds of the school last week. He was taken by ambulance to Elgin before being transferred to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary where he died on Friday 2nd March, the day before he was to celebrate his 13th birthday.

More snow - Buckie and area experienced another fall of snow last week with a photograph in the local paper showing that it reached to a considerable depth on the Enzie Braes.

Grant for Deskford fowk - Deskford and District Community Association have been awarded a grant of £5000 to help with the cost of replacing the kitchen facilities in the Deskford Community Hall.

Mindless vandalism - An act of mindless vandalism took place at Portgordon Primary School when a shed was damaged the day after it had been erected. The Nursery Group at the school purchased the shed which was delivered on the 22 February and was to be used to store wheeled toys for the children's new outdoor play area.

Closure of forests - For the first time ever Britain's public forests have been closed to the public. The move was announced by the Forestry Commission last Thursday to help contain the spread of Foot and Mouth disease which is now rampant in parts of Britain.

Danny and Muriel Fearn - A photograph shows the Buckpool pair of McKenzie Road taken beside the Scottish Heritage Map and information board at the start of the Speyside Way at Buckpool Harbour Park. This long distance footpath is closed until further notice as part of the campaign to prevent the spread of the foot and mouth epidemic.

Buckpool Harbour Group - At their recent annual general meeting the following officials were appointed - Chairman – James Newlands; vice chairman – Robert McPherson; secretary –Lorna Simpson with assistant Lorna Murray – Patel; treasurer – Moira Homewood; press officer – Brian Wilkinson,.

Mar 13

Foot and Mouth crisis continues - The disease that affects sheep and cattle continues with a total of 23 cases in Scotland. It is becoming clear how many people are affected by the problem, not just the farmers, but the new licensing system has provided some degree of hope for everyone in the industry.

Enzie WRI started off the New Year with a hairdressing demonstration by Maggie and her assistant from Elan in Portgordon.

Ellie Wood welcomed Mr Ian Leith from the Buckie Library who gave an interesting and informative talk on the services the library provides. He showed copies of books, videos, and music cassettes.

Roads on the Industrial Estate named - Moray Council have announced the names that have been given to streets on the March Road Industrial Estate. They are – March Road East, March Road West and March Lane.

Posties in the money - A syndicate of postal workers from Buckie won £138,000 in the National Lottery. Each of the group will receive the sum of £4,300.

You'll ken faur yer gaun noo - New finger signs have been erected at various parts of the town including Cluny Square. The signs form part of the package of environmental improvements being made to the town centre and harbour area. Also included are new style railings, iron benches with a nautical theme, cycle racks and floodlighting around the war memorial.

How the streets came to be named - Allan Fraser in a letter to the local paper told of the naming of the new streets in the newly built up area south of St Peter's Road in 1953. The names were all chosen by the Town Clerk Mr John L. McNaughton. **See the article on page 10.**

Rovers' supporter dies - In his report of the recent game between Buckie Rovers and Deveronside scribe A. L. Nath makes reference to the passing of Jimmy Mann a keen Rovers' supporter through the years. Jimmy's garden on Merson Street was not that far from the goals at the east end of the park and Jimmy would complain, jokingly, that the Rovers' shooting was so often off target that it was hardly worth his while looking after his garden as his Brussels sprouts were as often destroyed by wayward balls.

Mar 20

Improvements to Portknockie playpark - New equipment costing £35,000 has been installed at the Macleod Park, Portknockie. **See the report on page 1.**

What's to be done about our hall? – A public meeting was held on Thursday 15 March in Cullen Town Hall to gauge public support for the creation of a local management group to run the Town Hall as it is currently facing closure – **See page 1.**

Advert - “Put your feet in my hands. We have saved many a poor sole that's been down at the heel. The minister can help save the other. H. G. Stewart. Shoe Repairs, 158b Mid Street, Keith. I like it.

New teenagers 'hang out 'place – A great new leisure scheme for teenagers opens in Buckie this month after careful planning. The Solid Rock Café is set to open at 24 East Church Street (formerly part of the Town Council offices) on 24 March.

The café is designed to encourage teenagers to come along and 'hang out' there rather in the Square or street corners.

Captain Richard Welch of Findochty and Cullen Salvation Army with others, including Mrs Jacqui Foggitt, before she left for Edinburgh and who formerly ran a similar but much smaller café on Pringle Street called 'Jingles', has been instrumental in the creation of the café.

Foot and Mouth - The crisis continues with 39 confirmed cases of the disease, all cases on farms in Dumfries and Galloway. Fortunately up to now the disease has not spread north.

Mar 27

A queer fish thon - A most unusual fish was caught by the 'Ocean Venture' of Peterhead. A Buckie man, a member of the crew, said that the fish was caught 430 miles west of Lewis at a depth of 630 fathoms. Three of the same species were brought to the surface, two large and two small, like a family. He intends contacting Torry Research in Aberdeen in an attempt to find out the species.

They got it wrong - The local paper said that Allan Fraser had resigned both as secretary and treasurer of the local community council. (It seems that lines must have got crossed since he was still in harness in October 2006 when this was being typed up and even in July 2008 when this was being checked over.)

Built in Spain for Buckie owner - The 'Maranatha' UL77 a twin rig trawler built in Spain and costing £1million arrived in Buckie this week. This is the fourth boat to carry this name to be owned by skipper Neil Rumbles. He described the trip from Spain as being terrible.

The new 'Maranatha' is smaller than his previous one which he hopes will see a saving on the fuel bill. It is, however, 19.9 metres in length, with a beam of 7.2metres and a depth of 4.6metres. She is powered by a 600 hp Mitsubishi engine and will carry four men. She arrived in Buckie in the middle of a protest with all other boats being tied up.

A short poem is found on page 10, columns 4/5 – It is titled 'Why There's no Cod' It was written by James Smith (R.F. M.)Findochty.

New club - The Buckie Running Club has now started with a committee formed though they are still on the look-out for new people to join the club. The Chairman is Bruce Ferguson. More information may be had by contacting Paul Wojcik or Heather Goodall.

April3

Citizen of the Year - Described as being the first 'Citizen of the Year' was not quite right since the local Rotary Club had presented Gordon Pirie with a certificate as 'Citizen of the Year' some years before. Not having this knowledge Buckie Community Council decided in 2001 to present something tangible to the person who was declared to be 'Citizen of the Year' by the number of votes cast in the local paper.

The Community Council's first 'Citizen of the Year' was presented with his shield on Friday. The winner being Neil Dalgarno who was nominated not just for the funny hats that he wears on his rounds as a bin –man but for generally cheering up the town. The presentation was made in Cluny Square by Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Banffshire John Fowlie.

We dinna really wint those fowk near us - This appears to have been the attitude of the residents of 'The Meadows', a private housing complex at the west end of Highfield Road who are most unhappy to hear that the Council were planning to build council houses in a nearby area, claiming a loss of privacy and amenity .

The end of his term - Davie Wood, voluntary coastguard at the end of 42 year's service received a certificate and silver hip flask from Nick Bryant, District Commissioner.

Club membership growing fast - Only a few months after putting an advert in the 'Advertiser' appealing for members to join, the newly formed Moray Coast Motorcycle Club is welcoming between 30 and 36 people to their meetings.

Portsoy fisherman/author dies - James Slater died last week at the age of 97. He wrote a number of local history books, poems and reminisces of the sea, including 'Voyage', 'Bonnie Portsoy', 'Portsoy Past and Present', 'A History of Portsoy Post Office' and 'Portsoy in Paints and Pictures'. He wrote ten books in total.

We've been open for 10 years - The staff of Muirton Ward at Seafield Hospital, Buckie celebrated its 10th annual anniversary recently with a party in the Buckpool Golf Club. A picture in the 'Advertiser' shows Staff Nurse, Margaret Taylor, the first Muirton ward Manager, Norman Cockcroft and present Ward Manager, Terri Walton as they cut the celebratory cake.

He gave a talk - Author and broadcaster Bob Crampsey was in Buckie Library recently to give a talk about his experiences of football.

One of his many anecdotes was about Ian St John who commented that there was not a lot of grass on his first tour of Annfield. Said Bill Shankly, "No, but unless I'm under some misapprehension St John I brought you here to play football not to graze."

April 10

She struck 'oil' - A Buckie woman had a stroke of luck at the Bingo on Friday 30th March, winning more than £11,000 at the Carlton (formerly the Playhouse Cinema in Buckie). Sarah Geddes won the National Bingo Game, prize of £100,000 plus a further Regional prize of £11,370 and Club prize of £84.

You are a bunch of snobs - A letter to the 'Advertiser' condemned the small mindedness and snobbishness of the people living in the houses at 'The Meadows'. Many of those living there were likely to have been brought up in a Council house, was said. The letter was written by a woman who was likely to have spoken for many others.

Fishing news - Last week four boats came in to Buckie harbour to land their catches. This comprised - 110 boxes of fish, 22 boxes of prawns and 141 bags of clams.

The end of Buckie and District Welfare League - The news that the Buckie and District Welfare League is going into abeyance after a proud history going back to 1934 is bound to generate a mixture of nostalgia and no doubt some disappointment for followers of the local Welfare football scene.

Six new clubs who formerly participated in the Buckie and District Welfare League, sponsored by Quismat Tandoori, - Banff Rovers, Buckie United, Buckpool Victoria, Cullen, Portsoy and St Marnans (Aberchirder) are to join the Elgin and District Welfare League.

A brief history of the Buckie Welfare League is - In December 1933 the Scottish Welfare League gave Buckie Thistle permission to run a league during the summer beginning in 1934. This continued up until the beginning of World War II in 1939. Buckie Welfare Association football at this level was reformed in 1945 with John Duncan as President. This continued through the 1940's, 1950's and into the 1960's but went into abeyance when two successful clubs, Buckie Rovers and Buckpool Celtic pulled out. The Rovers joined the Morayshire Juniors while Buckpool Celtic folded.

Buckie and District Welfare League resumed in 1966 with 10 clubs, four from Buckie and Buckpool, Cullen, Portgordon and Keith. It remained 11 strong for a number of years until recently when five clubs disappeared and the writing was on the wall. The secretary of the league for some years, Dave Roberts of Cullen is to join Buckie Rovers in the North Juniors.

Buckie United played their first game against Kingsmills at Linzee Gordon Park and were beaten by the only goal of the game. Allan Fraser (A. L. Nath) wrote a report on the game.

The United team was - Coull, Stewart, Milne (Mair), R. Smith, A. Thain (Cormack), McIntosh (Innes), Hendry, G. Smith, Clark, Lamont, Middleton. Sub. Cathcart.

Apr 17 **Slow down** - A speed limit of 50mph through Arradoul has been approved after many months of negotiation.

Worth winning - Buckie woman Michele Mustard of Main Street, Buckpool won a brand new Vauxhall Astra Sri worth over £15,000 in the new National Lottery Instants game – Cars and Cash.

You can gyang farrer noo - Many of the paths around Buckie have now had the signs removed and are open to the public again following risk assessment laid down by the Scottish Rural Affairs Department to ensure that the area re-opened will not pose a threat to the spread of Foot and Mouth in Moray.

Buckie Seafood Fayre - This will take place on Saturday 5th May 2001 from 10am till 5pm. Page nine carries a list of all the bands that will be appearing plus other attractions like a RN simulator, HMS Archer (R.N) Open Day, boat trips, dolphin trips, horse and cart rides etc., etc.

Advert - Crannoch Hotel, Cullen (formerly the Waverley) is now open under the new ownership of Cilla Crocket and Brenda Young. Both ladies have extensive experience in hotel work.

Probus Club - The speaker at the April lunch meeting of Buckie and District Probus Club was fellow member Allan Fraser who read extracts from a book that he is presently compiling and which he has titled 'Buckie and its Hinterland from A to Z'. The passages he chose to read were A for Arradoul; B for Buckie; C for Cluny; E for the Enzie and Z for Zulu boats.

Look Back to the Past - On the page that carries this article a photograph shows the workers at the 'Bulb' factory taken in 1958. The factory opened in 1956 as British Thomson-Houston Co. Ltd. The company then changed the name three times to AEI (Amalgamated Electrical Industries), Thorn Lighting and then Thorn EMI.

Apr 24 **Two new boats named** - On Saturday April 21st two brand new boats were named at Buckie Shipyard. Both boats are for the same family and were ordered just over a year ago. The 'Antares' BF27 is for John Hepburn and the 'Pleiades' BF155 is for his brothers Phillip and Gary who all work out of Fraserburgh. The boats are identical in every respect apart from the external painting. The hulls were made in Russia and towed across the North Sea to Buckie at the end of last year. They are twin rig trawlers 16.7 metres in length; 6.40 metres in breadth with a depth of 3.60 metres, the main engines are 3408 Caterpillars producing 480hp at 1,800 rpm. The boats have a Renties gearbox 6-1 and a Lips 1.600 propeller and nozzle. The auxiliary engines are Cummins 157 hp at 1.500rpm driving the hydraulics and 24 volt electronics.

More members required - Derek Horrobin, Chairman of Buckie Community Council spoke of his concern at the small number of members at present making up the council and invited those who had shown an interest in joining to come to a meeting and see what takes place. Brian Wilkinson, one of the newer members, said what people should realise is that community councils are an integral part of the system of government in Scotland. Their role is defined in law and they have certain obligations and rights in relation to many issues such as planning regulations. I believe, he said, it would be detrimental to the town to be without its community council.

The fishing scene - One boat, the 'Marantha', landed 140 boxes of fish at Buckie last week.

Masonic celebration - Lodge Gordons No 589 will celebrate its 125th anniversary since being founded next month with a special re-dedication ceremony. The Lodge was consecrated on May 4 1876 with 13 founder members.

They were – Wm. Marshall, Rope and Sail maker; George Wood, Boot and Shoemaker; George Merson, Draper and Fishcurer; Robert Cheyne, Stonecutter; George Black, Builder; George Knox; James Cruickshank, Coachman; Wm. McKenzie, Fishcurer; Henry Flask, Picture dealer; Thomas Flann, Wm. Wilkie, Stone cutter; Wm Smith 'Fling' and John Hutchison, Tobacco manufacturer.

The first meeting took place in the Volunteer Hall with John Hutchieson as R.W.M. The only other founder member to become Master of Lodge Gordons was George Merson. He took the chair four times and held office from

May 1 **He ran the London Marathon** - Fochabers man Simon Pride ran the London Marathon and came in 17th place, 3rd out of all British entrants. His time was 2 hours and 16 minutes. He was pleased with his effort as his time counted towards a place in the British Commonwealth team.

Good effort – The 1st Company Buckie Boys' Brigade achieved first place at the Scottish National BB band Championships held in Trune recently where there were bands competing from all over Scotland. The Buckie band won the Novice Class.

The 'Body Shop' chooses winner from Buckie - A local woman Lorna Murray-Patel has been awarded the title of 'Woman of the Year' by the 'Body Shop Direct Company'. This is a division of the High Street retailers and sells products through party schemes.

Lorna was awarded a certificate at a ceremony in Edinburgh that she attended with her husband Pat. In addition she received a prize of a holiday in Italy for two. Both were handed over by Anita Roddick the 'Body Shop' founder, who Lorna described as just an ordinary person and very easy to speak to.

Buckie and District Round Table No 694 - The new chairman is Les Foreman. A photograph shows past Chairman Andy Buchan handing over the chain of office to his successor with vice chairman Alistair Farquhar ready to offer congratulations.

May 8 **Grisly find in Buckie garden** - A major police investigation is underway after the discovery of human remains in a Buckie back garden. The tenant of 6b Low Street Buckie Billy Dickson advised the police around 8.30pm on Friday that he had unearthed a skull while digging in his garden.

Buckie Seafood Fayre - The sun shone down on this the second Buckie Seafood Fayre and the crowds rolled up to enjoy the fun at this the second (and now perhaps annual) Buckie Seafood Fayre.

A Clydesdale horse on the street - Roddy a big Clydesdale horse pulling a cart is to become a regular sight in parts of Buckie over the next 12 weeks as he promotes a scheme to encourage residents to recycle more of their household waste.

Buckie Speaker's Club - Office bearers elected for session 2001/2002 which starts in September are President – Adrian Bell; vice president – Gordon Mackie; secretary- Bruce McLaren; educational director- Alan Paine; social secretary – Sandy Horne.

New post for former 'Advertiser' reporter - Buckie-born Jeannie Price (nee Lobban) a former reporter with the '*Banffshire Advertiser*' has been appointed Project Officer with the Royal Northern Countryside Initiative (RNCI).

A former pupil of Buckie High School she graduated from St Andrews University with a degree in English and has been working recently as Press Officer at the Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen.

Noo ye ken - Many people have been asking what the ornate blue posts erected on the grass outside the library on Cluny Place were for. Could they be to stop people walking on the grass or as a hitching post for tying your horse if you were to ride into town? The correct purpose had escaped most people. A photograph shows Allan Fraser scratching his head after bringing the posts to the attention of the 'Advertiser'.

A call was made to Moray Council in the hope that they could tell us more. The answer was that they were cycle racks where people could tie up their bikes. They were intentionally made ornate and coloured blue to fit in with the new railings on Cluny Square and the new signs and notice board.

An innovation - A photograph taken at Victoria Bowling Green shows Gordon Smith, club member, bowling the first jack as Janet Andrew the club's first lady president looks on.

May 15 **Skeleton in Buckie garden** - Further to the finding of a skull in the garden behind property on Low Street the whole garden was dug up and the remains of the skeleton found. Due to the kind of fragments of modern clothing found on the skeleton it is believed that the body is believed to have been buried within the last few years.

Probus Club - At the recent annual general meeting of Buckie and District Probus Club the election of office bearers took place for session 2001/02:- President – George Fleming; vice president Stan Smith; secretary – Bob Jamieson; treasurer – Hugh Patience; auditor – Ian Stephen. Members of the committee – Jim Reid immediate past president, Ian Jamieson, Arnold Pirie and John Smith. The club now has a membership of 38 with some new members joining during the year.

The fishing scene - Last week 7 boats landed at Buckie 11 boxes of white fish, 14 boxes of prawns and 667 bags of scallops. The boats were – Kestrel, Aspire, Zephyr, Golden Eagle, Oceana and Carisma.

May 22 **Buckie Lyric Theatre Group** presented their adaptation of 'Mary Poppins' in the Fishermen's Hall. Liz Imlach played the part of *Mary*, Keith McKay and Lesley Thain – *Mr and Mrs Banks*, Danya Smith – *Jane Banks*, Brian Macdonald – *Bert* and Sandy Young – *Michael Banks*.

Prestigious post for Buckie man - Jim Johnston has been appointed director of the Moray Chamber of Commerce

Another come back for the 'Copycats' - The musical group the 'Copycats' are to appear in Buckie next month to support Macmillan Cancer Relief with a special cabaret in the Fishermen's Hall, an old stomping ground of the band in 1960.

The 'Copycats' first came together 40 years ago with Alex Stewart (butcher) as the original manager (1963-1966) taking them on their first trip to Germany after turning professional in 1964.

A photograph that accompanied the report shows John Stewart (lead singer and guitarist) Rob Lawson (drums), Alex Stewart, Ian Lyon (lead guitarist), and Bill Cameron (bass guitarist).

Probus Club - The guest speaker at the May lunch meeting of Buckie and District Probus Club was Sandy Sutherland, retired fishing boat skipper and RNVR officer. He gave a potted history of the fishing history of the fishing industry from the days of the zulu. He stressed that the views that he put forward were his own and said how the fishing industry had ups and downs throughout all time and was probably going through one such 'down' at the present time. There were those, the best fishermen, who would survive while others, not so skilled would sink.

May 29 **They now know who the person was** - Grampian police have confirmed that the skeletal remains discovered in a Buckie garden on 4 May were those of a former tenant in the property - Michael Munro who had been reported missing for some time.

The fishing boat 'Gem' - Buckie fisherman Alan Cowie was recovering over the weekend after his boat, the Buckie-registered 'Gem' sank off the coast of the island of Rhona last Thursday after catching fire in the afternoon. Kevin was a member of the crew of the 'Gem' in the early 1980's along with friend Kenny Lawtie. **See report on page 1.**

Moray Councillor to stand for Parliament - Bill Jappy an SNP stalwart for many years and a Moray Councillor under the same banner has put his nomination papers forward to become a Prospective Parliamentary Candidate standing as an Independent for Moray.

He gave as his reasons for the change as "I'm just fed up with all the party political arguing", he said. "One comes out with a good idea and all the rest rubbish it. If one has a good idea, why don't they all run with it?"

He went on to criticise all the main parties, Labour, Conservative and Liberal not forgetting the SNP and said how each one had let the country and Moray down.

New uniform for nursing staff - From this week all nursing staff at Seafeld Hospital have been issued with their new uniforms - a tunic and trouser suit replacing the old style dresses. There was general agreement that the trousers were an improvement on the dresses which had the habit of moving up when bending etc., displaying a bit of leg. (Spoil-sports!)

The outfit will be of a standard colour of white tunic and blue trousers the identification of auxiliary staff from normal staff being by different coloured name badges. Each nurse has been issued with five tunics and four pair of trousers.

The Inner Wheel - A photograph shows members of Buckie Inner Wheel (all wives of men who are members of the Rotary Club) as they celebrate their 35th anniversary in the Old Coach House Hotel. Seen cutting the celebratory cake is Milly Wilson, longest serving members and Mae Summerfield club president.

June 5 **The candidates standing against Bill Jappy** - Angus Robertson SNP; Nigel Kenyon UK Independent Party; Catriona Munro, Labour Party; Frank Spencer Nairn- Scottish Conservative Party; Norma Anderson – Scottish Socialist Party; Linda Gorm- Liberal Democrat Party.

A milestone for Buckie cricket stalwart - Saturday's match against Elgin brought a milestone in the sporting career of Bill Flett as he played his 1000th game for Buckie Cricket Club. Bill was taken aback when the Club President held a ceremony at tea time during the match and presented him with an engraved Quaich to mark the occasion.

Bill played his first game against Fochabers and has told how he was literally pulled off the street to do so. He had been crossing Cluny Square when the late Alex Smith met him and asked if he would play for Buckie that day.

Including the match on Saturday Bill had scored 18.115 runs, including 3 centuries, 77 half centuries, taken 26 wickets, 637 catches and 184 stumpings. (He retired in 2006 when a special dinner was held in his honour.)

Rovers lose in the final - Buckie Rovers were beaten by Islavale by 2 goals in the final of the Stewart Memorial Cup. What was sickening from the Rovers' point of view was that player Mark Wood who had been playing for the Rovers at the start of the season scored one of the two goals and was awarded 'Man of the Match'.

The Rovers' team was - Belcher, Mowat (Slater), Brockie (Cormack), Cruickshank, J. Matheson, Costello, Miller, Shewan, West (Sinclair), A. Matheson, Cowie. Subs – Nicol, S. Innes.

June 12 **SNP hold on to Moray** - The Scottish National Party held on to the Moray Seat vacated by Mrs Margaret Ewing with Angus Robertson being elected. Margaret Ewing had become an MSP.

Mace staff say goodbye to manager - Graham Taylor who has worked at the Mace Supermarket on St Andrews Square, Buckpool for 14 years, for some time as manager left on Saturday to start his full time Minister's post at St Peter's Episcopal Church in Peterhead.

The Solid Rock Café which opened in Buckie in March of this year has proved to be a really big success, providing youngsters in the town with a fun safe place to go. The café is open on a Wednesday and Friday night. One of the organisers for the café is Captain Sandra Welsh of Findochty and Cullen Salvation Army said they usually have over 100 youngsters through the door over the course of the evening.

Déjà vu - Rovers lose another final - Their adversaries were once again Islavale with the trophy up for grabs being the Morayshire Cup. The match was played at Burghead, as had been the previous one, but the win for the Keith side was more emphatic on this occasion with the Rovers losing by five goals to one after ending the game with nine men when both the Matheson brothers were sent off.

It was most disappointing that the Rovers could not win this cup as there was a certain romance about it being the first ever trophy won by the Rovers just after the war and they would never have the opportunity of winning it again. All the cups previously played for by the north sides, apart from the Clive Williamson Trophy having been laid up under the new set up.

June 19 **A return trip to Anzio** - A group of ex Gordon Highlanders, including some Buckie residents, accompanied by their wives, widows and friends made a pilgrimage to Italy recently to attend the Re-Dedication Service of their Regimental Memorial at Lavinio near Anzio.

June 26 **Schoolboy cook did well** - Richard McIntosh a third year pupil at Buckie Community High School took part in the final of the 2001 Creda Cooking Challenge last week and was delighted to come second overall. There were nine entrants representing the whole of the UK with three from Scotland including Raymond. The competition took place in Birmingham. The winner came from Pitlochry.

Thistle 'On the Web' - Buckie Thistle has launched its own web site. Committee member Bill Lobban said that they had decided to do this to attract finance and to help with merchandising items world-wide. The site has been up and running for over a week and already there have been hits from different continents.

A big day for Graham - A large congregation packed into St Andrews Cathedral, King Street, Aberdeen, on Sunday for the ordination of Buckie Lay Reader, Graham Taylor as a Deacon in the Ministry of the Scottish Episcopal Church. **A photograph of Graham and his mam and dad are shown on page 6. (Isobel and I were there.)**

Awards for High School pupils - A photograph shows Allan Fraser, secretary of Buckie Community Council handing over the Community Shield to pupil Amy Hill while Hugh Patience, vice chairman of Buckie District Fishing Heritage Museum hands over the Heritage Shields to History students Susan Cumming and Ian Johnston.

July 3 **Buckie man wins TV competition** - Local 'Countdown' (a TV programme) hero Stuart Wood was shown on TV last week winning the overall 'Countdown' Tournament.. For winning Stuart who was up against a retired schoolmaster in the final, won 20 volumes of the new Oxford dictionary worth £4,000 and also received clocks and various other mementoes of the show.

Drybridge Community Association (DCA) has been having a busy time recently organising events in support of its need for a Community Hall, the group is hoping to approach the Lottery Committee to ask for funds of around £200,000 which would pay for the building of the hall and give the 200 or so members of the community a proper meeting place.

From events held once per month they have been able so far to raise £4,000. Many of the events have been held in the former smiddy by kind permission of the owner Alan Duncan.

Buckpool sub postmaster retires - Percy Watt who has been sub-postmaster at Buckpool for 25 years retired last week. He is seen receiving a farewell present from assistant Elizabeth Sutherland.

A poem is found on page 14 and columns 6/7 - This is titled 'A Portknockie Loon's Drifter Memories' and written by George Pirie, San Francisco, USA

Fochabers schoolboy capped for Scotland - Kyle Macauley, a pupil at Milne's High School, Fochabers was selected to play football for Scotland at under 15 level. He played against Northern Ireland. (Kyle is a grandson of Rev Macauley long time parish minister of the Bellie Church.) (He later signed for Aberdeen F.C and was on the bench in the match against Hibs on 31st October 2006 when this was being typed up.)

July 10 **Canada Day was remembered at Dallachy War Memorial** recently where wreaths were laid by Lennox Community Council, Spey Bay Amenities and the Royal British Legion (Buckie branch).

The 'Buckie Drifter' is breaking new ground this summer with drama presentations for visitors from 31st July to 11 August.

Celebration at St Peter's - On 29th June 150 years to the day since the foundation stone was laid for St Peter's R.C. Church, Buckie, the church celebrated the latest up dates to its fabric with a solemn service of re-dedication led by RC Bishop of Aberdeen The Rt. Rev. Mario Conti.

A report on page 3 tell of the various changes that have taken place both within and without the church since it was first built including those most recent. Among the recent changes has been the installation of the historic organ formerly in the Fort Augustus Abbey that was purchased for St Peter's though a generous legacy from Grant and Ethel Brown. The organ has the latest digital technology and can be played without an organist being present.

A clever quine - The Dux of Buckie Community High School and winner of the Miller Medal this year is Gillian Murray.

The guest speaker at the prize-giving ceremony was Keith musician Hebbie Gray who has played at the Christmas dances for well over thirty years. His wife presented the prizes.

High School teacher retires - Birnie Sutherland who has taught History and Modern Studies at Buckie Community High School for 14 years left on the last day of term, taking early retirement on account of ill health,

July 17 **Master baker dies** - The death took place this week of Bill Reaich, master baker. He was 85. During the war he served with the Royal Engineers and landed on the beaches of Normandy on 'D' - Day with the first wave of troops. Fifty years to a day he made a poignant return to the same beach where so many of his fellow soldiers had fallen.

After the war he returned to Buckie and with the help of his son Ronald and wife Molly opened the Craigbo Bakery.

The fishing scene - Last week a total of 12 boats came in to Buckie harbour to land their catches. They were - Antaries, Osprey, Clarness, Deliverer, Kestrel, Voyager, Jasper, Wavecrest, Aspire, Rival, Pisces and Shekinah. Between them they landed 296 boxes of white fish, 950 boxes of prawns and 123 bags of clams.

July 24 **A big grant for Deskford** - Deskford and District Community Association has been awarded a grant of £72,528 by the Community Fund. The funding is to assist with the purchase of a former community site adjacent to Deskford Community Hall and to refurbish an old commercial office for community recreation and educational use.

The Buckie Rotary Club Six Harbour Walk has been rescheduled for Sunday 2 September after being postponed in May due to the foot and mouth outbreak.

July 31 **Peter Fair** - The organisers of the age old fair declared that the fair had gone as well as they had hoped bearing in mind the recent problems relating to foot and mouth outbreak. The fair had not been smaller as some had said but only confined to a smaller space. There had been no problems this year with water.

Football friendly - Buckie Thistle 0 Glasgow Rangers IX 2 The only recognisable player in the Rangers' side looking back from 2006 was Bob Malcolm, although there were a few foreigners in the side.

Buckie was represented by - Rae, Grant (Bruce), Lambertson, Anderson (Davidson), McPherson, D. Rougvie, Holmes (Reid), Stephen (Milne), Green (Thomson), Rattray (Stewart), Rowley (Duncan).

Aug 7 **Buckie 10K** - The second Buckie since the race was resurrected takes place on Sunday and organiser Bruce Ferguson is feeling positive that it is going to be as big a success as last year.

He gave long service to the Rovers - Keith Sinclair, secretary, severed his connection with Buckie Rovers after 27 years at the annual general meeting held recently. His wife Chrissie who has acted in tandem in office as treasurer for many years also handed in her notice.

Keith who played for the Rovers for a number of years, later to become assistant manager before taking on the position of secretary has been appointed assistant secretary of the newly constituted North Region of Scotland Junior Football embracing all sections formerly in the east and north sections while Chrissie has been appointed treasurer.

Officials appointed - President - Robbie McKay, vice president - Alan Strachan, secretary- Dave Roberts, treasurer - Colleen Roy, manager George Wright, coach Graeme Roy. Committee- Dennis Clark, Ian Wood, Stephen McIntosh, Allan Wilson and Allan Fraser.

Aug 14 **Buckie 10K** - Close on 120 competitors took part in the Buckie 10K race held on Sunday, slightly down on the previous year.

The male winner was once again Simon Pride, the postman from Fochabers, with a time of 31m 10s. Second was Alan Reid, Banff, coming in 27seconds behind. The first lady over the tape was Marie Duthie from Fraserburgh with a time of 39m and 14seconds. Second was Karen Bowler, East Sussex a short 16 seconds behind. Karen was also the first super veteran to finish.

Rotary Club welcomes its first lady member - Mrs Paddy McGruer , Cullen, had the honour of being the first lady to join the Rotary Club of Buckie. Paddy who has worked as a nurse at Seafield Hospital for 33 years was introduced by club member James Findlay. David Wood was elected president of the Rotary club taking over from Bill Davidson.

Junior Football - In the first game of the season Buckie Rovers beat newcomers Dufftown by one goal to nil in the new Grill League Cup. This was the first visit of Dufftown to Merson Park. They moved up to the juniors this season from the Elgin and District Welfare League. The Rovers' team was – Barron , Nicol (Mowat), Brockie, F. McGettrick, Cruickshank, Costello, Lyon (J. M. McGettrick), Shewan, Sinclair, (Smith), Miller, Sellars. Sub- Belcher.

Aug 21 **Award for the Cricket Club** - Buckie Cricket Club were awarded a £5.000 grant from the Lotteries 'Awards for All' scheme to help with the cost of installing a synthetic strip on the pitch.

Benreay residential opened - The official opening of the new 'Benreay' development at Seaview Place, Buckie, was marked with the presentation of two benches for the communal garden. The benches were presented to the oldest of the eight residents from the £128.000 Hanover (Scotland) Housing Association Development, Mrs Nellie Mair.

Top of the school - Jamie Stewart, a fifth year pupil at Buckie Community High School sat five Highers and passed all at 'A' level. These were the best results in the school. The subjects he sat were Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Accounts, and Computing. He only picked up Accounts this year and had to work hard on this subject the others coming quite easy to him, he said. His mother Morag was naturally very proud of her son.

Aug 28 **Another Russian hull fitted out** - This one was fitted out as a twin trawler, designed for both white fish and prawns, for Fraserburgh skipper Ian Bruce. The new boat was named 'Holly. B' on Saturday after his children and is his second boat to carry this name. The 'Holly-B' is very similar to the 'Antaries' and the 'Pleadies' that were built earlier for the Robertson brothers of Portknockie.

Sept 4 **Visit of 'Tough Talk'** A group of men from the East End of London will be visiting Buckie this weekend to preach the word of God with a difference. As recovered drug addicts and criminals the six men will give a different slant on the Christian faith for the people of Buckie. 'Tough Talk' is a registered charity which Buckie Baptist minister Mark Bentham heard about after his wife read the book written by members of the charity describing their own experiences and their conversion to the Christian faith.

'Green Fingers' - Mr and Mrs Bert Newlands of 18 Letterfourie Road, Buckpool won the competition for the Best Council House Garden in Buckie for the fourth year in succession.

125th Anniversary - A celebration to mark the 125th anniversary of the opening of All Saints Church in Buckie takes place this week-end - 8 and 9th September. The church is a Grade B listed building, designed by Alexander Ross of Inverness.

Union man is honoured - Jimmy Reid, a joiner to trade, received a presentation in the Old Coach House Hotel last week to mark his 50 year's membership of the Union of Construction , Allied Trades and Technicians. He was for a great many years president of the old Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, later becoming treasurer of UCATT. Jimmy worked with Campbell the Joiners and then with Hamilton Brothers, Engineers until forced to retire through ill – health . (His father was a celebrated rifle shot, probably the finest marksman Buckie has ever produced.)

Buckie Flower Show - The number of entries at Buckie Flower Show at 350 was only half that of the year before and only a fraction what it had been in the early years after the Show was resurrected. There were no entries at all in the Floral Art section. It was a bitter disappointment to the committee which works hard to stage the show. It happened that this year a number of Shows took place on the same day .

Black Belt winner - A student from the local karate club 'Tsuyoi-Do' has recently acquired his black belt at the age of 16 years and club coach Peter Stanton is sure that the boy is a budding star. Roy Petersen a fifth year pupil at Buckie Community High School spent a week in Lancaster on a karate course in the summer and was delighted to return with a black belt.

Sept 11 **Cullen Town Hall** - There was a much larger crowd at the latest meeting to discuss the future of the Town Hall which was in danger of being closed by Moray Council unless a management group could be set up to keep it going. A large group of interested people joined this group dramatically reducing the likelihood of the hall being closed

Lennox Community Council - The paper had it that the two members from the Clochan area, Mrs Freida McLean, Kirkland, and Mr Jeff Jones, Schoolhouse were to retire at the coming election. Between them they had given 45 years to the organisation.

**** **Buckie Rovers played their first game in Aberdeen under the new set up** in the quarter final of the Grill League Cup. The host team was Glentanar. The Rovers could have been better prepared they took the field without a regular keeper Craig Sinclair being given the unenviable task. The score was seven goals to one in favour of the Glens.

The Rovers' team was Sinclair, Mowat, Brockie, Costello, Cruickshank (Nicol), McGettrick (Cowie), Lyon, M. Shewan, Farquhar (Matheson), J. Shewan, Miller. Sub – Graham.

Sept 18 **Provost Merson's memorabilia** - A major new exhibition was opened in Buckie Library last week featuring personal mementoes, family photographs and other items previously belonging to one of the town's most well known civic leaders. Provost William Merson was elected to Buckie Town council in 1914 and served as a councillor for 30 years. 18 of his time being spent as Provost and 13 years as vice convenor of Banff County Council before retiring in 1945.

A photograph on the front page shows Provost Merson wearing the medal of the Order of St Olaf that he received from King Haakon of Norway when he paid a visit to Buckie in July 1943. The picture was taken at Strathlene House, Hotel.

In sympathy - In keeping with places around the world a three minutes silence was observed in Buckie on Friday as a mark of respect for those who lost their lives in New York, Washington and Pittsburg. A minutes silence was also observed at football matches on Saturday while prayers were said for all the victims in all the churches on Sunday.

Married in Sri Lanka - Karl and Catriona's wedding photograph appears in this edition of the B. A. They made a mistake with her name and had to apologise and put it right the following week.

The 'Bulb' factory bus run - A photograph on the 'Look Back' page shows the staff of the 'Bulb' factory about to set out on a bus run in the late 1950's.

Sept 25 **Church of Christ** - An ordination ceremony took place last Sunday at the Church of Christ on West Church Street for Andrea Benzie who has recently graduated from Aberdeen University with a Bachelor of Divinity (BD) degree.

Oct 2 **Hinging up his stick** - A photograph shows Clem Welch, lollipop man at the junction of Pringle Street with Cathcart Street shepherding some young pupils across the street on his last week before retiring. Clem had done the job for the past 8 years. But has reached the age of 75 and has to finish. An Englishman, Clem came to this area during the war and married a local girl. He was a baker to trade and worked with Murray's in Fochabers and Fowler's before later doing a number of other jobs including having a fruit and vegetable round.

Oct 9 **Seafield Hospital** - The contractors for the re-building of the new wing of Seafield Hospital, Hall and Tawse, have completed their work and handed over the new keys to Grampian Primary Care Health Trust. A photograph shows how the former flat roof had been changed to a pitched one.

Fishing Heritage Museum - The annual general meeting took place in the Town House on Thursday of last week when there was a company of 30 people present. The chairman in his address said how the Museum had signed a lease for the Cottage with Moray Council and was now a Limited Company. He mentioned that the Museum was now on the 'Net' and had much to do with an increase in the membership on a world-scale of which there were now 310 members who all received a newsletter four times per year.

Honour for Buckie man - Keith Fraser, formerly of 21 Sutherland Street, a married man who now lives in Aberdeen has been honoured by his profession. He has been awarded honorary membership of the Scottish Library Association. Keith is librarian at Robert Gordon's University in Aberdeen.

Oct 16 **The Buckie murder** - The Buckie garden skull murder case was concluded last week when Essex man John Dean was convicted of culpable homicide by reason of provocation and of attempting to pervert the course of justice. He was sentenced to 10 years by the High Court in Edinburgh.

Oct 23 **The Fochabers by-pass** - The saga of the Fochabers by-pass continues to rumble on. The heading in the 'Advertiser' this week read - "Fochabers long wait could be at an end" (Wishful thinking)
A computer-generated picture shows the proposed by-pass running to the north of the village with a roundabout at the top of Christie's Brae. However the route to the north doesn't please everyone including the laird of Gordon Castle and the congregation of the English Church on Castle Street. Who are prepared to put up a fight against it?

A new Chief Reporter is wanted - John Rutter who has filled the position with the *Banffshire Advertiser* for the past year is to move to the Edinburgh Evening Express.

Buckie Community Council - The council which has still been meeting regularly though not elected in the normal way held a meeting last week to put some of their financial affairs in order such as making a donation of £200 to the Christmas Lights. A fund of £10 over the next 10 years was put aside for the Community Council Shield winner that was given in Millennium Year. The person winning the shield is seen by the school to have done the most for the community during the year. £25 was also set aside to pay for the wreath laid on Remembrance Day and finally £100 in trust to maintain administration facilities until the new council is formed in January.

Oct 30 **Future of the Seafood Fayre** - Despite the success of this year's Seafood Fayre which brought people from the region and further afield into the town its future is threatened due to a lack of sponsorship and the resignation of some of the committee members.

An early photograph on page 5 of this edition shows the **All Saints Church when it was first built 125 years ago** taken from where the Banffshire Advertiser stands today. The photograph forms part of a **good article written on the history of the Episcopal Church** in the local area

A new start - Heather Fraser, a BA graduate of Commercial Studies of Queen Margaret University College, Edinburgh recently joined J and M Publishing (the new title of the Banffshire Advertiser business) and has been working between the three papers Banffshire Advertiser, Banffshire Herald and Huntly Express. As John Rutter Chief Reporter is leaving Heather has been working in Buckie meantime.

The OVD Scottish Junior Cup - Buckie Rovers have been drawn away to Oakley United in the 'Scottish'; Portgordon United are at home to Auchenleck Talbot with Fochabers, also at home, to Irvine Meadow.

Cricket - Buckie Cricket Club won the Macallan League in 2001 and celebrated the end of a successful season with an excellent meal in the Marine Hotel.

Nov 6 **The Fochabers By-Pass** - Pictures showing the proposed by pass were on show to the public in the local Institute and drew a large crowd of interested viewers.

Advert - The Willows Coffee House and Tea Room – 8-10 the Square. Cullen (formerly the Tea Cosy), will open on 10 November after refurbishment. Proprietors – Wm. Donaldson and Maralyn Brown.

Robertson s (Fordyce) Ltd., 13 High Street, Clearance Sale for four days only all remaining pieces of furniture have to be sold before we move and will be offered at ¼ of their normal selling price.

A poem is found on page 13, columns 1 and 2 – ‘Oor Early Days in Finechty’ Tae Iris, Mairi and Annabel

Nov 13 **Remembrance Day** - Buckie and all the surrounding places marked the end of two World Wars with a service of Remembrance on Sunday 11 November - the date and time peace was declared between Britain, her allies and Germany in 1918.

A wife Bobby at Buckie - Keith-born Shona Stewart has recently started her new role as the first female sergeant to be based at Buckie Police Station.

Findochty Community Council - held their first meeting after the election on Wednesday 7th November. The Chairperson - Mrs Anne Mackay; secretary – Miss Sheena Reid; treasurer – Mrs Christine Campbell; press secretary – Miss Mabel Smith ; other members – David Campbell, Alistair Campbell and Robert Campbell.

Open at last - The first patient moved in last week to the newly refurbished wing at Seafield Hospital. The wing contains 12 single rooms with ensuite, several four bedded rooms and three day rooms amongst others. Ward managers are Rita Easton and Linda Macdonald.

To change their currency - As from the 1st of January 2003 12 countries in Europe will ditch their own currencies and switch to the euro. The countries are – Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, the Republic of Ireland, Italy, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain.

The Scottish Junior Cup - Buckie Rovers lost by the odd goal in three to Oakley United in the 2nd round of the ‘Scottish’. The Rovers’ team was – Belcher, Stewart (Miller), Brockie, Costello, J. Shewan, Mowat, Lyon (F. McGettrick), M. Shewan, Farquhar, Cowie (J. McGettrick), Sinclair. Sub. Cowie.

Nov 20 **Christmas Lights in danger** - thieves have stolen the specially made power control panel which is needed for the lights. The panel was bolted down in Blairdaff Street and was as heavy would have required two strong persons to have taken it away.

Adam ‘Bullen ‘Cowie dies - ‘Adamie’ Cowie Past Master of Lodge Richmond Portgordon died last week after a long illness. He worked for many years as a stone mason with A. Milne and Son, Buckie and when the firm closed down on the death of the owner he started out on his own accord. He was a talented footballer and played for both Portgordon and Buckie Rovers in the years after the war. On retirement he did many jobs free gratis including work at Buckie High School where he built walls and made a pond for the school boat that had also been retired. Some of Adam’s stone work can be seen at the entrance to car park on Cluny Place and also on North High Street.

Blythswood Christmas Shoebox Appeal - The Baptist Church Hall is meantime stacked high with mountains of packed shoe boxes all of which will eventually find their way to people in the Eastern Bloc countries. Last year Blythswood, the International Christian Charity delivered 65.000 boxes to men women and children.

Robertson’s (Fordyce) Ltd., - During this week we will be moving into new premises at 18 East Church Street and apologise for any inconvenience at this time. I look forward to welcoming old and new customers to Flooring **Solutions.**

It’s nae fine fin yer ain turn on you, maks ye rale seek- - Saturday was a sad day for Buckie Rovers when they were beaten at home by six goals to one by Islavale with no less than five of the goals being scored by local loon and former Rovers’ player, Mark Wood, who had grown up with the ‘Lilywhites’

Nov 27 **Switch on** - The Christmas Lights were switched on Saturday by Chris Watt the oldest resident in Abbeyfield.

Grant Eckersley of Moray Seafoods came to the rescue after learning of the theft of the control panel and provided another from the firm's electrical store.

Pay off at Jones' Shipyard - Jones Buckie Shipyard is to lose 15 of its employees with many of them finishing at the end of this week. Director and General Manager of the Company, Wm. McBain told the 'Advertiser' that there were no voluntary redundancies those going had to be chosen. "It was a terribly hard task to decide," he said.

The 'Drop-In' Centre is situated at the back of the Red Cross shop on West Church Street with access to it being via the lane up the side of the shop.

Chairman Barry Brewin told the 'Advertiser' that although there is a board on the pavement advising people of the Centre very few people venture in. He said, "For £1.50 people can have as many cups of tea or coffee and entertain themselves with a number of games that are available."

The Centre has been in its present location for the past six months; previously it was in the Episcopal Church hall.

'A Career in Ivory Towers' is the name of a book written by Professor Arnold W. Hendry, Buckie-born graduate of Aberdeen University. In the book he recounts his life and career as a far-travelled academic and civil engineer. He is a son of former Provost and GP Dr George Hendry.

Buckie Community Council - Despite not being an elected body since not enough names were put forward before the closing date due to the nomination and election mix up by Moray Council, a meeting was held recently in the Town House. Present were – Derek Horrobin, who took the chair, James Smith, Allan Fraser, Joe Mackay, Brian Wilkinson and Sergeant Robertson of Grampian Police, Buckie.

Mr Fraser who has still been acting as secretary remarked on the amount of correspondence he was still receiving from Moray Council who, he felt, were still of the opinion that the council was still in existence.

Honour for Mrs Nannie Coull - She received a certificate to mark 50 years service with the Red Cross, for many years Commandant of the local branch. She also received the Voluntary Medical Service medal and Red Cross Badge of Honour for Devoted Service.

Dec 4 **The Fishing scene** - Four boats came in to land their catches at Buckie harbour last week, they were – Maranatha, Golden Eagle, Kelly, Shekinah, Rival and Southards. . Between them they put ashore 240 bags of white fish, 126 boxes of prawns and 222 bags of scallops.

Buckie Flower Show annual general meeting - John Grant who had been president of the show for a number of years tendered his resignation both as president and member of the committee. His wife Pat also decided not to continue. The office-bearers elected for the next session were – Ian Wishart who took on the mantle of President also with the office of treasurer; Mrs Beryl, Secretary. Committee members – Barbara Davidson, Margaret Geddes, Sheila Milne, Mabel Douglas, Allan Fraser, Wm. Douglas, Wm Milne and Bert Johnston. Gordon Low who had been associated with the Flower Show since it was resurrected and Show Manager for many years was known to be ill in Seafield Hospital. Best wishes were expressed for a speedy recovery.

Presentation to Keith Sinclair - A party of over 100 met in the function room of the Ugie Hotel, Keith for what was billed as a Casino Night to raise funds for Buckie Rovers but was in fact a surprise party for Keith Sinclair who recently severed his links with the club after 27 years as a player, committee man and assistant manager. . **A report is given on page 7 written by A. L. Nath the Rovers' scribe.**

A poem is found on page 18 and on column one - The title is 'Ode to the Mobile Phone' and written by Michael Ryan S6 of Milne's High School, Fochabers.

Dec 11 **Buckie Lyric Theatre Group** presented their adaptation of Snowwhite in the Fishermen's Hall, on three nights last week.

Advert – Bubbles Restaurant and bar, 9 Cluny Square, Buckie.

Chief Reporter of the 'Advertiser' is Jayne Chisholm, a married woman with four children who lives in Drybridge.

Thistle President resigns - Bill Lobban handed in his resignation last week as President of Buckie Thistle due to work commitments and has been replaced by Easton Thain, a member of the committee. And previously secretary.

Bill had been President since the annual general meeting the previous year, taking over from Alistair Miller who filled the post on a temporary basis towards the end of last season after the departure of Raymond Cardno.

Dec 18 **"We are not Watchdogs"** - Long time secretary of Buckie community Council, Allan Fraser explains why he dislikes the term 'Watchdogs' used to describe community councils by the weekly newspaper – The Northern Scot for which he has written the 'Buckie' column for many years, He sets the picture straight as to what the remit of community councils is. He also urged people to get involved and become members of the community council.

Death of the late proprietor of the 'Advertiser' - On page 5 an obituary is written for the late Mrs Marie Johnston former proprietor of the Banffshire Advertiser who died in Seafield Hospital on Monday 10 December.

She passed on the business to her two sons Jack and Michael in 1991 when the firm's name was changed to J & M Publishing Ltd.

Dec 25 **Local priest is elevated** - Father Eddie Traynor, parish priest of St Peter's R. C. Church in Buckie was elevated to the prestigious and rewarding title of Monsignor on St Andrews Day. The title of Monsignor is a personal honour from the Pope.

Father Traynor gave up a job as a computer programmer to start to become a priest at the age of 27. On asked what he should be called now he replied he would still prefer to be called simply Father Eddie.

'There's Naething Mair Precious than Time' is the title of a book compiled by Tom Kennedy an Art teacher at Buckie Community High School and pupil Matthew Taylor. The book contains a unique collection of paintings by both as well as other pupils and invited artists. The illustrated Doric sayings have also been translated into English by High School pupils. The book which took two years to produce is really beautiful and is selling for £9.99 with 25p from every sale being donated to the Whale and Dolphin Society.
