

2004

Jan 6 **MBE for Buckie man** - Fifty-six year old Gordon Pirie was both shocked and delighted to learn that he was to be honoured with the MBE in the New Year's Honours List for his work with the 1<sup>st</sup> Company Buckie Boys' Brigade. **See full report on front page of the B. A.**

**Vandalism at Cullen** - People awoke one day last week to find that mindless morons had woven a trail of destruction around the Square. The most damage was done to the Christmas Lights in the Millennium Garden but the wreaths at the War Memorial had been strewn around and damaged.

**Buckie skipper set to fish off Namibia** - Peter Smith, skipper and owner of the 5 ½ year old fishing boat 'Victory' has said that the decision had not been taken lightly but had been forced upon him by the Draconian cuts imposed on Scottish fishermen.

Jan 13 **Buckie Rovers began the New Year in great style** by beating Dyce by five goals to one on their own ground. Mark Wood had three of the goals.

The team was – Barron, Lamont, Brockie, Low (Findlay), Innes, Lyon, Shand (Smith), Taylor, Wood, Farquhar (Collins), Massie. Subs – Robertson and Nicol.

They had lost the services of Nathan Sharp who had returned to Huntly after the Rovers had thought they had his services until the end of the season.

Jan 20 **They enjoyed his lights and said so** - Kevin McKay and his wife set up a great display of Christmas lights at their home on McKenzie Road and invited onlookers to make donations for a good cause. They were surprised to find that over the Festive period the sum of £346.80 had been raised. Kevin made this up to £350 and presented the sum to the Special Education Department of Buckie Community High School.

**A new Master of the lodge** - George Mair was installed as the new RWM of Lodge Gordons 589.

Jan 27 **Abbeyfield Home may close** - The future of Struan House on Cluny Square, owned by Abbeyfield which provides care and sheltered accommodation for the elderly, could be under threat. An appeal has been issued for the community to rally behind the centre.

**Forced to resign** - George Slater, Craigbo, a retired ambulance driver who had been a member of Buckie Community Council for the past year has had to reluctantly retire due to ill health. He said how disappointed he was and how much he had enjoyed being a member and was quite pleased with what he had achieved in his short time.. He had raised a number of issues which he had seen being sorted, or nearly so, both in his own area and in the town in general.

**Two former Fishing Heritage members pass on** - **Peter Bruce**, former chairman of Buckie District Fishing Heritage (Society) Museum **wrote obituaries for two men**, former fishermen and skippers who in their time had been deeply involved with the organisation and who died recently.

**Willie Mair, Portknockie**, until he became ill was chairman while **John Murray** was one of the early members of the organisation. **The two reports are found on page 5.**

**The missing Buckie woman** - A new clue in the search for Mrs Patricia Duncan has come from CCTV tapes from a store in Bristol where a woman resembling her was seen on one of the tapes.

**Burns Suppers** - The anniversary of the birth of Scotland's National poet Robert Burns was celebrated by a number of different organisations including Buckie Rotary Club, Cullen Golf Club, Cullen Church of Scotland, Parklands Nursing Home, the Lythe Home at Cullen and by Deskford Community Association.

Feb 3 **Fancy a job?** The Buckie Drifter Maritime Heritage Centre is advertising for front house stewards for the period from 27 March to 31 October.

**Snow storm lashes Moray** - A good fall of snow with strong winds was experienced over the local area, The 'Advertiser' had a bonny clear picture taken of High Street, Buckie with a stormy sea as a back cloth.

**Eence again** - Allan Fraser tells in a letter to the 'Advertiser' how he had climbed the Bin Hill once again on New Year's morning for some thing like 38 times, perhaps more. Not a great feat in itself, as he says, as people climb the hill on a regular basis but the point he wished to make was that never in all these years did he ever experience a shower of rain or snow, going up or coming down. He asks: Is it a case of the De'il being good tae his ain?'

**Collapse of a Buckie firm** - A local firm that only three years ago won prestigious Investors in People award has gone into liquidation. Netherton Creative Solutions, a local based web design company ceased trading after a liquidator had been appointed. Founded in 1990 the business will not be sold as a going concern. The two directors were Lesley Parker and Stewart Buchannan

Feb 17 **Struan House (Abbeyfield) to close** - The facility on Cluny Square that provides care and sheltered housing for the elderly is to close its doors later this year.

**The fishing scene** - Last week five boats landed 465 bags of clams at Buckie harbour. The boats were – Kestrel, Keristrum, Kelly, Majestic III and Zephyr.

**Vandalism** - It was Fochabers turn last week to experience the mindless work of vandals with a large number of windows being smashed in property surrounding the Square between the times of Tuesday at 6.00pm and Wednesday 7.00am.

Feb 24 **Citizen of the Year** - Joe Mackay a retired fishing boat skipper and member of Buckie Community Council was voted Buckie's Citizen of the Year in this year's competition. He was the clear winner over 7 nominees and it was believed received many votes for the work that he has done in tidying up the bed and the banks of the Buckie Burn and planting flowers on the slopes.

**Bus stance in Cluny Square** - Letters were received by the 'Advertiser' both for and against the proposal to construct a bus stance on the south west quadrant of Cluny Square, while Derek Horrobin, chairman of the community council was taken to task for changing his mind and now supporting the proposal. In this edition he explains the reason why. He had watched elderly people struggling to get on and come off the bus at the stance near Mackays, on East Church Street, and watched how a child had ran off from his mother and was in danger of getting run down. He felt that a properly constructed bus station would improve the situation in both cases.

Mar 2 **Gates at Linzee Gordon Park** - The end of the long and often heated campaign to resolve the issue of the gates at the entrance to the Linzee Gordon Park looks like finally coming to a victorious end for Buckie Community Council. A photograph shows the secretary standing at the entrance to the park where the gates will hopefully be installed this summer. **See page 3.**

**Stormy weather** - Storms lashed the Moray coast last week leaving a trail of damage behind them. The Cullen area was particularly badly hit. **On page nine there are a number of photographs** showing children enjoying the snow that fell.

**Fochabers Heritage Group** recently received a grant from the National Heritage Lottery Fund which will allow them to purchase up to date equipment and hold regular meetings.

**Scottish Nationalists AGM-** The officials elected by the local branch to serve for the next year were Convener Gordon McDonald; vice convener – Linda McDonald; secretary Dr Sarah Henderson; organiser – Margaret Hamilton; treasurer, Louise Thain; press officer – Donald Morrison.

Mar 9 **D. G. McGregor, Watchmaker to close** - Local historian Allan Fraser in an article gives a potted history of the firm which had been in existence for over 100 years. **See page 3.**

**No! – Nae wind farms there** - Anti -wind farm campaigners expressed their delight last week when Moray Council decided to lodge an objection to proposals to site a wind farm in the Aultmore area.

**The fishing scene** - Last week six boats landed 100 boxes of fish and prawns also 599 bags of clams at Buckie harbour. The boats were Kestrel, Keristrum, Zephyr, Golden Eagle, Majestic III and Cavina.

**Rovers lose co- manager** - Jackie Reid left Buckie Rovers to become manager of Dufftown after receiving an 'offer he couldn't refuse'. His quick exit was not received well by the club.

**Gull scheme scrapped** - Moray Council have said that they wouldn't be continuing with the scheme of last year of trying to combat the menace of seagulls in Lossiemouth and Buckie because of financial constraints. Despite being well received by the public that saw nearly 100

nests being removed by the Council it has been revealed that there wasn't the cash to continue it for another year. Last year when £5000 was set aside for the project £3,500 of this was spent.

**Songs of Praise** - The annual Children's Songs of Praise, which was held in the South and West Church on March, was hailed by the organisers as a great success with around £350 being raised for a Children's Charity.

**First for Buckie Round Table** - Kenny Gunn a member for twenty years recently saw his son Kevin, 18, become a member. This is the first time that a father and son have been members at the same time.

Mar 23 **Three posties at Buckie retired last week** - They were Bill Clark, Richard Suddaby and Howard Samuel.

**The Buckie Drifter** – The popular tourist attraction is set to celebrate its tenth anniversary when it opens its doors to the public on March 27<sup>th</sup>. A new innovation will be the introduction of season tickets to mark the occasion. These will range from £3.50 for children and concession to £15.00 for families – this can be two adults and up to three children or concessions - to allow people to come back again and again to make sure that they see everything or have fun with favourite exhibits. New features this year are DVD's of the fishing way of life through the 20<sup>th</sup> century, CD Roms about life in the north east – dressing up costumes for gutting quines and skippers of all ages; the chance to cooper a barrel and all the old favourites such as the Knot Table, the 1920 quayside and children's activities room.

**The D. E Equitable** - In his article on the closure of D. G. McGregor's, Watchmaker, in last week's 'Advertiser' A. F. had forgotten to mention among the long lasting shops in the town that of the D.E. shoe shop and had been taken to task. In this edition he sets the record straight. **See page 8.**

Mar 30 **Moray Desktop Training Project** had reason for celebration having secured three year funding which will allow them to extend the service they offer.

**The last stage** - The final phase of the major environmental works at the former coast railway line at Buckie has got under way and when complete will provide a footpath and cycle link between the town centre and the harbour area. Steps with flat strip for bicycles will allow people to access the path from the Stroup Brae (or North High Street.)

\*\*\*\*\* **These names are being lost** - In an article Allan Fraser spoke of names of streets and features in the town which were once well known to most people in the town and which were gradually disappearing. This, he said, was made plain to him when a taxi driver was asked to pick up a fare at 'Hairy Corner' and didn't know where this was. He went on to name a number of other features and streets and left readers to say where they would have been found. **See page 8.**

April 6 **Badgers' Retreat?** The name was given in a request for outline planning permission for new housing at 'Whispering Meadows.'

**Postage** - April 1 saw the price of a second class stamp rise by 1p to 21p. First class stamps to remain at 28p.

**Grants for local organisations** - Friends of Moray Firth Dolphins, Portsoy and District Angling Association and the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society Wildlife Centre at the mouth of the Spey all receive the sum of £1000 from the Moray First Partnership.

Peter MacDonald representing Friends of Moray Firth Dolphins was given the money to hold education workshops for the group in schools and the like. The talks given by him had been widely acclaimed for their content and professionalism and this money will help to pay for slides, videos and a life sized model of a dolphin

April 13 **Local councillor dies** - Councillor Bill Jappy (68) who represented Buckie west ward as an Independent was found dead in his bed at his Buckpool home last Wednesday. He had been suffering from ill health for some time and had had two heart by-pass operations.

**Recycling facility to be shifted.** - The recycling facilities in central Buckie are to be re-sited following the closure of the Highland Yard Recycling Point.

**The Probus Club** - The speaker at the April lunch meeting of Buckie and District Probus Club held in the Cluny Hotel on April 8<sup>th</sup> was John Legge, retired Postal and Telegraph Officer. His topic on this occasion was one of his hobbies that of collecting bank notes from around the world. To date, he said he had amassed an extensive collection all of which were carefully preserved in albums with special see through plastic pouches.

**Local accountant retires** - Kenny Anderson, Queen Street, Buckie, retired on March 31<sup>st</sup> from Ritson's Chartered Accountants, Cluny Square. He had spent 46 years with the firm; the first two years in Elgin and the rest of the time in Buckie.

**Round Table AGM** - The officials appointed to serve for session 2004/05 were - Chairman – John Cushine; vice chairman Steven Grant; secretary, Hugh Cummings; treasurer – Alex Bain; Community Services Liaison Alex Bain; Press Officer – Albert Phimister; Visitation Officer - Andy Buchan; Sales Officer – Kevin Gunn.

April 20 **V.C. Ignored** - In an interview with the 'Advertiser' Robbie Gordon is critical of the negative response he had received from various people and organisations who he had written to and explained what he had a mind to do that of erecting a memorial to George I. McIntosh V.C. He mentioned that some had failed to answer his letters, mentioning that he had twice written to the late Councillor Jappy without reply but others had included Buckie British Legion and Moray Council. The RAF at Lossiemouth turned him down with the officer who replied stating that they had examined all avenues and found that they could offer no support. He said the sum required was of the order of £750 and to date most of the money collected had come from his immediate family and relatives.

**Some answers** to the places and features quiz - This is **found on page 10**

April 27 **Royal visit** - Prince Charles paid a visit to Buckie on Wednesday 21 April arriving by helicopter at the Linzee Gordon Park and hence by car to Buckie Shipyard Ltd (BSL) where he spent an hour inspecting the new £1.6 million refit facility which was opened last year. A number of photographs taken of him speaking to workmen and members of the public are found in this edition.

**Citizen of the Year** - A photograph shows Mr Joe Mackay receiving the Buckie Citizen of the Year shield from Councillor Sinclair Longmore and quaich from Derek Horrobin, Chairman of Buckie Community Council.

**A winning end** – Buckie Thistle won their last game of the season. The score was Huntly 3 Buckie Thistle 5. The Thistle team was – Main, Slater, Angus, Pirie (Smith), Catto, More, Munro, McGuigan (Milne), Shewan (Taylor), McDonald. Sub Lamberton.

May 4 **Anzac Day** - A number of people, including representatives from Lennox Community Council and the Convener of Moray Council, gathered at the Dallachy War Memorial in Bogmoor as Anzac Day was remembered. Rev Alison Mehegan performed the Remembrance Service.

**They ran the London Marathon** - Mr Craig Edwards, a mechanic with Moravian Garage and Dr Bernie Welch A GP at Ardach Health Centre both ran the London Marathon this year in aid of charity. Dr Welch ran the 26 miles in 4 hours and 5 minutes with Mr Edwards coming in three minutes later. Dr Welch has estimated that he will have raised in sponsorship money around £1000 which will be donated to Medical Charity Merlin. Mr Edwards had pledged to raise £1700 for Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund and invites people to still contribute towards this figure.

Dr Welch described Merlin as being ‘medicine without frontiers’ whose remit is to provide drugs, equipment and primary health care wherever there is a crisis or disaster.

**Buckie Post Office moved on April 30** from what had been its location for some time at 26 East Church Street to new dedicated premises at 9 High Street into the premises long occupied by D. G. McGregor, Watchmaker. **A photograph shows sub postmaster Paul Munch and his wife Faye** on the day that the new premises were opened.

May 11 **Book published** - Dr Nick Brown, an architect who lives in Cullen has had a book published entitled ‘Dooocots of Scotland – Moray’ He was awarded the PhD for his thesis of Dovecots of Scotland.

**The shutters came down** - Buckie Rovers were beaten in the last game of the season away from home to Maud. The score was 3-1. The Rovers’ team was – Barron, M. Slater (D. Wood), Nicol( N. Smith), Lamont, M. Shewan, Lyon, Shand, Taylor, M. Wood (Tallis), Massie, M. Smith. Sub Brockie.

**Buckie Lyric Theatre Group** - For their spring production Buckie Lyric Theatre Group will be performing the ever popular musical ‘The Wizard of Oz’ from May 12 to 14 in the Fishermen’s Hall. The producers are Keith McKay and Liz Imlach both of whom also play leading parts in the show.

May 18 **Obituaries are found on page 5** for **Bill Summerfield**, retired chemist and **Alex Ross, Cullen** who was well known in local golfing circles and the fish trades.

**More to 'lost' places and features** - On page 13 Allan Fraser adds to a previous bit he had written on places and features; the names of which have passed from the ken of many people it would seem - e.g. Coronation Den, Rotten Peel and The Ladies Waalie.

**A Skateboard Park** - Local youngsters in the Moray Wheels Group have now drawn up their plans and have them submitted to Moray Council Environmental Services Committee.

**A new boss at the Local Library** - The new Senior Librarian at Buckie is Elenor Kidd from Fochabers. She is based in Buckie but has responsibility for Fochabers, Findochty, Portknockie and Cullen libraries.

She is a native of Aberdeen and came to the Moray area from Berkshire where she covered 8 small libraries and also worked for some time in a larger one. In Aberdeen she worked in a number of school libraries.

**The Tories choice** - The Moray Conservatives have chosen their candidate for the Buckie west ward by election on July 1. This was previously held by the late Councillor Bill Jappy. He is retired PT Maths at Keith Grammar School Ian Moir (60) a married man with three children he has lived in Buckie since 1975.

**The Thistle's 'Players of the Year'** David Angus was voted the B. A. 'Player of the Year' and also 'Planwell Roofing Young Player of the Year'. Donnie Munro, 'Players' Player of the Year', 'Planwell Roofing Player of the Year' and the 'Supporters' Player of the Year'. Greig Pirie received two awards as - 'Thistle Review Player of the Year' and 'Committees' Player of the Year'.

**Very well done - a great achievement** - 'The Thistle Review' (Buckie Thistle match programme) came first in the football programme competition open to all non league football sides in Scotland in this year's awards with one mark ahead of two junior club Blackburn United and Tayport who took joint second place.

The 'Thistle Review' also won the Highland League programme of the year by some 25 points over second Fraserburgh to take the award for four seasons in a row.

The 'Review' also came 98<sup>th</sup> in the whole of the UK programme competition out of a total entry of 1039.

Easton Thain has been editor for 11 years and is worthy of great credit for what he has achieved.

June 1 **'D' Day stories** - As the anniversary of the 'D' Day landing on the beaches of Normandy come near the B. A. had in this edition reports from three men who were involved and who recounted their experiences at this time. They were Tony Falone who was an army dispatch rider, Alex McIntosh 'Mackie' the driver of a DUKW that carried ammo and petrol and John Smith who was in the Merchant Navy and part of the crew of a vessel carrying various things required by the army ashore.

June 8 **Mementoes from Cullen's past** - Memories of Cullen's civic past were stirred on Thursday June 3 when the Freedom Scroll and Casket awarded to Provost Lewis Bain MBE in 1962 were presented to the village's Library by his family. Accepting the Freedom Certificate and Casket on behalf of the community was Councillor Ron Shepherd. Both items were handed over by granddaughters of the Provost Mrs Irene Provan of Lochgilhead Mrs Sheena Stewart who lives near Edinburgh.

**An awfy come Doon** - Moray Council's Convener and longest serving councillor Eddie Aldridge saw his career come to an ignominious end when he pleaded guilty to fraud.

**Advert** – Nickel 'n' Dime – 14 High Street, Buckie. Like 'Woollies' they sell athing.

**Sit yi Doon** - Two new metal seats have been installed in Cullen Square and very handy when waiting for a bus or simply watching the world go by. They were donated by Cullen Tourist Initiative Committee who runs the Tourist Information Centre in the Town Hall. The Chairman of the Group David Anderson and local councillor Ron Shepherd are seen trying the seats out.

June 15 **Chairman is honoured** - Alex Fowler Chairman of Buckie Lifeboat Station was awarded with a Silver Honorary Award at the Scottish RNLI AGM held at Perth recently. Along with others Mr Fowler received the badge for long and dedicated service to the charity.

**Buckie West Ward election** - The candidates standing in the Moray Council election are – Joseph 'Joe' Mackay ,( Independent) who has as his election agent Kevin McKay (SNP) Droll! Gordon McDonald (SNP; Alexander Ian Moir (Scottish Conservatives); Gordon D. Holms (Scottish Liberal Democrat Party).

\*\*\*\*\* **Look Back to the Past** - This week saw the article written for the last time by Buckie Balloch Trust Trainees

June 22 **Scottish Champions** - A team of youngsters from Primary 7 at Cullen Primary School were celebrating last week after storming to victory in the National Rotary-backed Primary Schools quiz teams final. The Cullen school team was Sasha Reid, Lydia Francis, Liam Donn and Geordie Stewart. They had to fight their way through three qualifying rounds in the final at Stirling University where they ran out winners.

**Community Partnerships** - Secretary Allan Fraser told his fellow members on Buckie Community Council of the setting up of Community Partnerships in Moray. The general feeling was that they were an unnecessary additional layer of bureaucracy that when they came fully into operation would lead to a considerable overlap of issues being raised.

**The fishing scene** – Last week 19 boats came in to Buckie harbour to land their catches. They were Zephyr, Majestic III, Loranthus, Regent Bird III, Freeward, Loyal Friend, Hannah Ellis, Golden Eagle, Concorde, Osprey, Prospect, Golden West, Staronia, Charisma, Kemarvin, Providence, Copious, Wavecrest and Deeside.

The total catch was 1382 boxes of white fish and prawns with 108 bags of scallops.

**Buckie Probus Club** - At the June lunch meeting of Buckie and District Probus club the guest speaker was Gilbert Carling, Keith, a retired local government officer who now acts as Deputy Chairman of Moray Children's Panel. This was the subject of his talk.

**Buckie Thistle** has signed two new players – Twenty year old Duncan Stewart a striker from Peterhead and 18 year old Neil Murray, a defender, from Formartine F.C.

**Buckie Thistle' management duo**, Kevin and Doug Will have both signed extensions to their contracts at Victoria Park, a major boost to the club which will take them up to the end of season 2005/06.

**Thistle stalwart receives an award** - Joe Jappy, whose blood is green and white, received a 'Special Merit' award in recognition of his lifetime devotion to Buckie Thistle from the Highland league at the end of the season dinner held at Nairn. Joe often ran the line in the 1950's when club men did this later to become a member of the committee and is currently the club's hospitality co-ordinator. This latest honour follows on one Joe received earlier in the year from the club itself.

\*\*\*\*\* **Look Back to the Past** - The popular article has a new compiler - Will Hay. Apparently not the comedian, though he could be described as such, but a well known local character masquerading under an assumed name

June 29 **Open Day at Seafield Hospital** - Thursday 24 June was a big day at Seafield Hospital as they not only held their Open Day but also unveiled their new automatic entrance doors and took delivery of some top of the range equipment donated by the Friends of Seafield Hospital and Community Friends. The ribbon to open the doors was cut by Alistair Robson Chairman of the 'Friends'.

**Musical sisters** - Two girls Emma and Sarah Alexander the daughters of John and Jane Alexander Hillhead Farm, Drybridge, took part in the 29<sup>th</sup> Keith Music Festival, one playing the violin and the other the accordion.

**Help from the big guns** - SNP candidate for the vacant Moray Council Buckie west ward Gordon McDonald had MP's Alex Salmond and Angus Robertson in Buckie to try to drum up support for him.

**Buckie United F.C. The Welfare League team** collected the sum of £212.80 at their end of season dance. This was handed over to the Special Needs Department at Buckie Community High School by Neil Duthie and accepted by Willie Cowie, Assistant Rector.

**Clever loon** - This year's Dux at Buckie Community High School is Jamie Taylor, son of Ronald and Moira Taylor. He was also the recipient of the Miller Medal.

**To be a jail bird** - Former convener of the Independent administration of Moray Council faced the ignominy last week when he was found guilty and sentenced to 18 months in Porterfield Prison, Inverness, for fraud.

His successor is vice convener Eddie Coutts.

July 6 **Former fishermen now Moray Councillor** - Joseph 'Joe' Mackay who stood as an Independent candidate in last weeks election for the Buckie west ward seat triumphed over the other candidates with nearly two thirds of the vote.

**An older graduate** - Douglas Walker originally from Puttingbrae Farm, Drybridge and Buckie but now living in Aberdeen graduated from the Open University with a BA in Business and Economics at Glasgow Royal Concert Hall recently. He was a former pupil at Buckie High School.

**Canada Day was remembered at the Dallachy War Memorial** at Bogmoor last week. A number of Canadian airmen flew from Dallachy airfield during the war years 1943-1945. Present were – Keir Cruickshank, Sandy Horne and Gordon Inglis of Lennox Community Council also John Stewart, President of the Royal British Legion, Buckie Branch and Ann Henderson, Spey Bay Hall and Amenities Association.

**Organisation likely to fold** - Portknockie Amenities Association is likely to fold due to a lack of people willing to take on posts of responsibility within the organisation.

**Heritage Group and new book** - Cullen, Deskford and Portknockie Heritage Group are looking forward to Saturday July 10<sup>th</sup> when the launch of its latest book – 'Cullen – Recollections of the 1920's and 30's' takes place within the Town Hall. The author of the latest publication is Robert Grant Findlay known locally as Bobby Grant. The opening ceremony will be performed by John Fowlie, Buckie Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Banffshire.

**The story of the 'Girl Pat'** Arnold Pirie, retired police detective, member of the above group who has taken a great interest in the adventures of 'the fishing boat 'Girl Pat' and its intrepid skipper 'Dod Osbourne' and his crew gave a talk, illustrated with photographs. In the Buckie Library last week as part of the Buckie Festival. See page 10.

**Buckie Thistle** has signed Aberdeen F. C. Midfielder Kevin Souter (20). He made a number of appearances for the first team last summer and was surprisingly released at the end of the season.

July 13 **Buckie triplets were born to Rebecca and David Mair**, West Church Street recently. Their names are – Darcy, Jude and Austin.

**The fishing scene** - Last week 18 boats came into Buckie harbour to land their catches. The total catch comprised 912 boxes of white fish and prawns together with 586 bags of scallops. The boats were – Majestic III, Osprey (BF500), Kate Elizabeth, Golden Eagle, Wavecrest, Kelly, Zephyr, Lynn Marie, Staronia, Caledonia, Rival, Clarness, Quantas, Loyal Friend, Star of Annan, Oceana, Enterprise and Moray Endeavour.

**More on disappearing names** - Allan Fraser continued with his articles on disappearing names of streets and places. **See page 9.**

**Success means money for Cullen school** - The success of the Cullen Primary School team in the recent competition open to all Primary Schools in Scotland when they came out as champions has earned the school a prize of £1000. This was handed over to head teacher Moyra Hendry at Cullen Bay Hotel recently by Buckie Rotary Club secretary, Alex Fowler. The cheque was funded by three Scottish districts from Rotary International.

July 20 **The first Portknockie Fishing Festival** - Friday July 16 2004 marked the start of the very first Portknockie Fishing Festival, an event the organisers hope will mark a new step in the history of the village.

**The late Wm 'Beel' Jappy** - An obituary written by close friend Allan Fraser is found on page 5 of this edition.

**A new Memorial Shield** - St Peter's Primary School used their prize-giving assembly before the end of the summer term to honour the memory of former pupil, Dux of the school, and Buckie west councillor Bill Jappy

The Bill Jappy Memorial Shield was presented to Chloe Wiseman for being the hardest working pupil in the school over the course of the year. Head teacher Jo Murphy had words of praise for Chloe.

Handing over the award was Barry Taylor, chairman of the School Board and Gary Jappy son of the late Bill Jappy.

**Buckie Thistle** played a number of pre-season **friendlies** - Thistle 1 Aberdeen F.C. 2

Thistle 1	Ross County 1
Thistle 1	Morton 1
Thistle 4	Shotts Bon Accord 1
Turriff United 0	Buckie Thistle 7

July 27 **Unveiling of memorial cairn at Portknockie** - A photograph in this edition shows a memorial cairn being unveiled at Portknockie on Sunday 25 July to all fishermen who had lost their lives at sea. The cairn stands at the Flagstaff.

**Cash grant for Heritage Group** - Cullen, Deskford and Portknockie Heritage Group recently received the sum of £5000 from Moray Action for Communities and Leader + Projects.

**Plaque in memory of Buckie's V.C.** - the end is in sight in the battle to have a memorial plaque erected to the memory of Buckie's only winner of the Victoria Cross George Imlach McIntosh due in no small measure to a superb donation from Buckie Thistle Supporters Club. A photograph shows the instigator of the project Robbie Gordon as he receives a cheque of £250 towards the cost of the plaque from club president Alistair Jamieson.

**Gordon Pirie MBE** - A photograph on page 7 shows Gordon Pirie as he shows off his MBE he received from the Queen at Buckingham palace on Friday July 16. He said how his day was made for him when his mother was able to be present. The award was given for his long service with the 1<sup>st</sup> Company Buckie Boys' Brigade.

**Peter Fair** – The usual write up with many pictures appears on page 8.

**History teacher retires** - Peter Cowie a history teacher and Principal Teacher of Guidance at Buckie Community High School retired at the end of the summer term. A former traveller with an ironmonger firm in Aberdeen he had taught for almost 30 years, spending 26 of those at Buckie.

Aug 3 **More vandalism at Cullen** - Vandals climbed on top of the Town Hall roof took down the flag from the flag pole and burnt it on the ground.

**The fishing scene** - Last week 21 boats came in to land their catches at Buckie harbour. In total this comprised 1502 boxes of white fish and prawns together with 331 bags of scallops.

**The boats were** – Propitious, Mizpah, Star of Anna, Kelly, Copious, Harvest Reaper, Shekinah, Astra II, Lynn Marie, Enterprise, Vigilant, Carolyn, Harvest Moon, Denarius, Discovery, Marantha, Elphemia, True Vine, Provider II, Osprey and Pisces.

**Victoria Park – function hall** - The newly constructed hall built within the confines of the park and to the west of the grandstand is to be officially opened on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> August. A photograph shows brothers Mark and Murray Duncan, President and vice president of Buckie Thistle F. C. Respectively standing in front of the new building.

The hall has been fully funded by the Duncan Brother's Planwell Roofing Supplies and is to be opened by Joey Harper, former Aberdeen and Scotland centre forward and George Cowie a member of the all conquering Thistle team of the 1950's.

**Prizes for green fingered folk** - The winner of the Best Kept Council garden in Buckie this year was Mrs Barbara Davidson of 48 Milton Drive. Gordon and Isobel Cowie, 24 Letterfourie Road, Buckpool came second with David Harrison, 1 McIntosh Avenue, Craigbo, Portessie third.

**Buckie Rovers make an appointment** - Bruce Smith has been appointed the club's first ever full-time Development Officer.

Bruce was secretary of the club some twenty years ago and was also secretary of Buckie and District Welfare League for a number of years. He played football for the Rovers before moving on to play in the Highland League with both Elgin City and Buckie Thistle.

His job will be to devise ways of raising money to finance the team since with the Rovers joining the new Premier League this means playing clubs in Aberdeen and surrounding areas with increased all round costs. (For reasons not fully disclosed Bruce didn't stay long.)

Aug 10 **A new body on the beat** - Buckie welcomed its very first Community Warden - Dave Crawford.

\*\*\*\*\* **The new function hall at Victoria Park** - The front page carried a report on the event.

**Long serving teacher retires** - Mrs Morag Munro who had been PT English at Buckie Community High School for 22 years retired at the end of the summer term. He spent 38

years in the teaching profession, sixteen of these at Keith Grammar School before moving to Buckie in 1982 on the retirement of Mr Bill Ettles.

**Buckie Thistle** - Season 2004/05 didn't start too well for the Thistle losing by three clear goals to the Broch away from home.

The team was - Main, Shewan, Lamberton, Munro, Small, Gairns (McGuigan), More, Souter (Stewart), Bartlet (Coutts), Milne, McDonald, Subs - Murray, Gordon.

**First trophy for Buckie Youths** - The team who joined the Elgin and District Welfare League this season won their first trophy on Friday night coinciding with the opening of the new function hall. They beat the Brander Arms by three goals to one to round off a superb evening.

The Youths' team was - Redford, D. Clarke, Brockie, Costello, Copt., Leslie, Moir, S. Clarke, M. Smith, Ewen, N. Smith (Herd), West. Subs - Bell, Fraser, McPherson, Leslie.

**Best Gardens** - . The winner of the prize for the Best Kept Council garden in the Cullen and Portknockie area was won by George and Margaret Stephen, 2 Stuart Place, Portknockie. Second came Jean King, 2 Seaview Place and third Ian and Babs Addison, 14 Queen's Drive, Cullen.

Aug 17 **Rotary Club** - The new president of Buckie Rotary Club is David Anderson.

\*\*\*\*\* Sad news from Buckie Rovers - The news that the Rovers could not field a team to fulfil a fixture spread like wildfire throughout the town and indeed rocked the whole of north junior football on Saturday morning. Because of the shortage of players they had no option other than to forfeit the points in their away game against Stoneywood in the Grill League Cup. They are shortly due to play Banks of Dee in the same competition and find themselves in the same predicament.

**At long last** - Demolition work has at long last begun at the old outdoor swimming pool at Strathlene this week as part of the ongoing Buckie Community Environmental Development programme. The area had been an eyesore for many years with a number of plans made for the former pool never coming to fruition.

**School are recipients of major legacy** - A Portknockie man who died in December last year left his fortune to a school which was very close to his heart. William Wood, of Summerton, King Edward Terrace, Portknockie left a sum of £1.8 million to the prestigious Gordonstoun School, which he and four of his brothers attended as teenagers.

\*\*\*\*\* **The one and only match - see page 14** - Buckie Rovers put a team together to play Dyce Juniors in the Grill League Cup at Merson Park where they did well to draw two goals each. This however, was to be the only game played by the Rovers in season 2004/05 as they went into abeyance the next week when the same players were unwilling to play, being heavily committed in their own activities.

The Rovers' team was - Barron, McPherson, Galloway (Fraser), Nicol (Leslie), Robertson, Lyon, Clarke, Findlay, Wood (N. Smith), M. Smith, Shand. Subs - M. Smith, Paterson.

Aug 24 **New Portgordon Head teacher** - The new head teacher at Portgordon primary School is Mrs Davina Farquhar who hails from Elgin. She succeeds Mrs Buchan who has held the post for four years. Mrs Davidson was previously Deputy Head Teacher at Hopeman.

Aug 31 **Banners on the Brae** - McLaren's Brae in Buckie looked a lot brighter last week when a series of colourful banners were unveiled, attached to tall standing poles. They were erected under the C.E.D. Project. (Unfortunately many of the banners were destroyed not long after by strong winds and eventually they were all taken down. One may say in principal the idea was good but in practical terms perhaps not.)

**Bound for Normandy** - Cousins Peter Bruce and George Thomson, two local World War II veterans of the Normandy landings in June 1944 are heading back to Normandy to visit the places they knew then thanks to Lottery funding which is available to all Normandy veterans. The pair will be in France from September 1<sup>st</sup> until September 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Buckie Flower Show** - This year's winner of the Taylor Trophy for most points gathered overall was Robert Johnston a member of the Flower Show committee and an enthusiastic exhibitor of both Cut Flowers and Pot Plants including Fuchsia.

**Buckie Thistle won the Aberdeenshire and District League** in season 2003/04 with a photograph in this edition showing the flag being unveiled prior to their game last week against Inverurie Loco, which was won by three goals to two.

Sept 7 **Three up for Portknockie – well done** - Portknockie won the award for the Best kept Village in Moray for the third year in a row.

**Temporary closure due to lack of funding** - Ardach Health Centre, Buckie, is set to see a gym to which patients with a range of conditions are sent by their GP's close for the time being due to lack of funding.

**Now fully ordained** - Buckie and Portgordon Methodist Minister Geoff Shutt was recently fully ordained into the ministry at a ceremony at the annual Conference of the Methodist Church in Loughborough along with 60 others.

**A new Youth Club is set to open in Buckie** for children aged from P7 to those in the High School. Called 'Youth Extreme' the club gets underway in the Baptist Church Hall at 7.00pm on Saturday September 11.

**New folk in the Cluny** - The Cluny Hotel, High Street, Buckie, has new owners. After eight years Alan and Marie McDonald have handed over the reigns to Alex and Katie McGhee. In the report on events that took part during the tenure of the McDonalds in the Cluny mention was made of a book entitled 'Sail of Stone' - set in 1940 – when Norwegian and Swedish fishermen travelled to Buckie.

**Probus Club** – At the latest meeting of Buckie and District Probus Club held in the Cluny Hotel and before the departure of Mr and Mrs McDonald Marie was presented with a necklace from Bill Blanche, president of the club, while she was also made an honorary member the only woman yet to receive this hour.

Sept 14 **Obituaries are found on page 5** for two people who were well known in Buckie, former Regional and District Councillor, Mr Hugh Munro and Miss Margaret (Rita) Henderson who was a former hospital matron and specialist in the field of midwifery both in the UK and Africa. (The obituary to Miss Henderson was written by her niece Mrs Margaret Gordon nee Henderson.)

Sept 21 **V.C. Plaque unveiled** - A photograph on the front page shows a proud Robbie Gordon admiring the plaque erected to George Imlach McIntosh near to his last resting place in the New Cemetery, the fulfilment of a labour of love he had set himself. In the report Robbie thanked everyone and each organisation that had supported him, mentioning Buckie High School, the Royal British Legions in Buckie and Keith, Buckie Bowling Club, Buckie Thistle Supporters Club. There were others who gave financial support but asked to remain. The erection of the plaque was done free gratis by the sculptors, Cruickshank's of Keith.

A number of people had gathered to see the plaque being unveiled by Robbie's grand daughter Miss Christie Archibald, Musselburgh. The service of dedication was performed by Rev Jim Thomson, locum minister of the North Church, Buckie, who did his National Service in the Army.

A lament was played on the pipes by Stewart McMillan and Mr McAllister of Banff.

**More vandalism** - With the team meantime in abeyance few members of the Rovers committee are around their ground and pavilion much at present and the vandals have been given plenty scouf to conduct their acts of destruction. The surrounding fence has suffered badly over the years and more recently the storage shed has received their attention with the garage door being kicked in and the inside suffering damage.

**New teaching staff at Buckie Community High School.** - Anne Petty (1<sup>st</sup>) Geography; Carol Grey (1<sup>st</sup>) P.E.;

Elizabeth Norrie (1<sup>st</sup>) Art; John Stewart came from Perth Grammar to teach Biology and Science; Sarah Matthews came from Devon to teach Maths.

Sept 28 **Minute secretary** - At the September meeting of Buckie Community Council Allan Fraser stepped down as Minute Secretary due to having an increasing hearing problem, being replaced by Rev. Mark Bentham (Minister of the Baptist Church). Mr Fraser joined the community council in 1883 and became secretary two years later when Mrs Elsie Jamieson retired from office. He took on the treasurer's task 16 years ago. He has only missed one meeting of the community council in 21 years.

**Vandals create damage at Merson Park** - The damage done by vandals recently at Merson Park, the home of Buckie Rovers F. C. was raised by the secretary Allan Fraser at the September meeting of B.C.C. when the police present asked members if they had any issues to raise. He

has been connected with the football club since 1986 and was able to describe in detail the recent damage.

Oct 5 **Best in Scotland** - the Ice Cream Shop on Seafield Street, Cullen was recently voted one of the best Ice Cream Shops in Scotland by the B.B. C. A photograph shows the owner Kelsea Sutherland together with her daughter Heather and an assistant Emma Riddoch.

**More new staff at Buckie High** - Mrs Jean Wilson came from Keith to replace Mrs Morag Munro as PT English; Aaron Smith a graduate in an Art related subject started as a Teacher's Assistant in the Art Department; Zander Reeves, (1<sup>st</sup>) a former fisherman who later ran his own computing business joined the Computing Department; Sharon Smith (1<sup>st</sup>) an ex BHS pupil has joined the Music Department; Rebecca Pirie (1<sup>st</sup>) another former pupil is to teach Maths.

Oct 12 **Vandals in Portessie** - A woman in Portessie had her 4x4 car parked outside her home badly scratched by vandals. It was estimated that it would cost £2000 to repair the damage...

\*\*\*\*\* **Shock at Victoria Park – “Jags Managers Quit”** The management duo Kevin Will and his assistant his brother Doug decided after the game against Huntly on Saturday to hand in their resignation. This was accepted by President of the club Mark Duncan who told the ‘Advertiser’ that the separation had been by mutual consent. He added that the resignation had come as a shock to all and that Buckie Thistle was now in the hunt for a new management team.

**No smoking** – The Policy and Resources Committee at Moray Council recently confirmed their backing for a no smoking ban.

**School janitor retires** - A photograph shows Geddes Wood who was janitor at Buckie Community High School for 19 years receiving a cheque on behalf of the staff from Rector Chris Sugden. as an appreciation of his services. Geddes retired on account of ill health having suffered from heart problems for some time and has underwent a triple by-pass. A joiner to trade he worked in the ship-building industry with Wm. Thomson and Son for 16 years and then with Moray Council for a further five before joining the staff of the school where he was later appointed supervisory janitor.

Oct 19 **Radar speed gun** - Drivers who constantly flout the speed limit are set to see their chances of being caught rise with the introduction of a mobile speed gun to the town. A photograph shows Community Policeman, Jim Thomson on duty with the gun at the ready.

**The fishing scene** - Last week the large number of 38 boats had landings at Buckie harbour. The total landings amounted to 1718 boxes of white fish and prawns combined together with 1003 bags of clams.

The boats were – Pisces, Golden Eagle, Strathspey, Sovereign, Moray Endeavour, Nordic Venture, Silver Cloud II, Oceana, Just Reward, Harvest Moon, Lynn Marie, Amazon, Sardonyx, Primrose, Discovery, Vigilant, Clarness, True Vine, Provider II, Challenge, Carisma, Solan, Kestrel, Loranthus, Enterprise, Propitious, Christinie, Artemis, Isabella, Arnbog, Kelly, Regent Bird II, Zephyr, Majestic III and Tjeerd Jacoba.

**Former Thistle player dies** - An obituary written by Easton Thain is found on page 5 for Alex Stewart, a former player with Buckie Thistle who played in what for many people was the Jags greatest era – the 1950's. Alex signed for the Thistle from Welfare League side Findochty in 1948 and heralded his arrival in great style scoring four goals on his debut against Lossiemouth on October 9 of that year. He was to spend 14 years with the club. He was a member of the team in the season 1953/54 when they won so many trophies it has been described as the 'Grand Slam'. Only two of that team are still alive today – George Cowie and James Thain. (This was said in October 2004 and to my knowledge the two were still alive when I typed this up in December 2006. A.F.)

Oct 26 **An authority on the Doric** - A Buckie-born academic and former Buckie High School pupil Dr Jennifer Smith now working at York University revealed new research about the condition of the Doric language in the north east. She revealed that while changing Doric is still very much alive, as she had found out in doing research both at home in Buckie and in other places throughout the Grampian area. Some words she found were less used by younger people, such as nicht and fecht and more especially workit and sleepit. She explains that Doric, like other Scottish dialects, is a descendent of Anglo Saxon English and has existed in written form since the 18<sup>th</sup> century and had been a spoken language for a long time before. It is very distinctive from the Lowland form of Scots. Doric retained much of its uniqueness because of its relative isolation until transport links brought the area closer to the industrial heartland of the country.

**A poem is found on page ? and columns 1 and 2.** This is entitled *In Flanders Fields* written by Major McRae in November 1918 and repeated here as we near Remembrance Sunday.

**Cluny Square bus station** - Despite the support of Buckie Community Council for a bus station on the south west quadrant of Cluny Square it was said that a great many objections had been received against it while some shopkeepers were asking people to sign a petition against it.

**Improvements made to the path** - A 16 strong work force from Lochpark Challenge, Drummuir who provide training opportunities for adults with learning difficulties have, over the past month, covering over the track up the side of the Gollachy Burn from the Sand Hole to the Recycling Centre with recycled wood chips. 'Entrust' provided the money through the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme.

Nov 2 **New manager appointed at Victoria Park** - Duncan Shearer, the former Aberdeen and Scotland striker has agreed terms and has become the new manager of Buckie Thistle. He gained managerial experience as assistant to Steve Paterson at Inverness Caley Thistle and also with Aberdeen.

**We have coaches big and small** - The local coaching firm of Maynes of Buckie have seen some of their fleet reproduced in model form. A photograph shows David Mayne a fourth generation of the family to own the business holding one of the models with the full-sized bus in the background.

**Parkland resident reaches 100 years** - Miss Jessie Johnston a native of Portessie who has been a resident in Parklands Nursing Home for the past 8 years celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sunday October 31<sup>st</sup> with friends and family . She received a telegram from the Queen.

**All change at the Corner** - The ‘Cutting Corner’ hairdressing salon at 46 West Church Street officially changed hands last Thursday and is now under new ownership. The new owner Kirsty Simmers who has been hairdressing for the past 15 years began working at Cutting Corners when it first opened 8 years ago and now takes charge as she follows on from Hazel Crane. Hazel is to take a change in her life and has moved to St Andrews in Fife where she is to open a Bed and Breakfast establishment.

**A new Head teacher at Portknockie** - Mrs Moira Cooke who took up the reins at Portknockie in early October has announced that she has now settled in.

**Shearer names his assistant** - Duncan Shearer, the new manager of Buckie Thistle has appointed as his assistant Graham McBeath who he describes as one of the most experienced managers in the Highland League who had done an excellent job at Rothes with limited resources.

Nov 9 **Opening announcement** - A new hairdressing salon has opened at 21 High Street in what was formerly the dwelling house next to ‘Mielie’s’ Ice Cream shop. The two owners are Pauline Stewart and Fiona Thain both experienced hair stylists. Both girls previously worked at ‘Cutting Corners’ though Pauline was also at the ‘House of hair Fashion’ for a time.

Nov 16 **Remembrance Sunday** - The fallen of two world wars and other conflicts outwith were remembered on Sunday at Buckie War Memorial as they were at all the other war memorials in the area and nation wide. A large crowd gathered in Cluny Square to witness the proceedings.

**Plans for Portgordon harbour** - A feasibility study began on Portgordon harbour on November 4 . A sketch map shows how the harbour could look like if the redevelopment plans were given the go ahead.

Nov 23 **Objections raised** - The proposed re-location of the Ear Nose and Throat clinic from Seafield Hospital in Buckie to Dr Grays Hospital in Elgin has been met with dismay by Buckie Community Council and its members are to take up the matter with MSP Mrs Margaret Ewing. The shift would create difficulties for older people while there is also the parking problem at Dr Gray’s.

**A Church is closed** - St John’s Church in Deskford closed its doors following the service on Sunday November 14<sup>th</sup>.

The service led by Rev Melvyn Wood included a Thanksgiving for the life of the church, the baptism of six month old Abbie Mitchell from Inverurie and the Remembrance Service. For most people it was a sad occasion none more so than for Mr Muiry from Berryhillock who now stays in Elgin who has never missed a service in St John’s Church since 1947.

The reason for closure was outlined in the 'Advertiser'. Two years ago the Kirk Session voted by 53 to 18 in favour of closure. The building required extensive renovations estimated to be in the region of £35,000. There were no toilets, the heating system was outdated while the electrics put in in 1951 required to be renewed. The minister said that it wasn't a case that there would be no more services held in Deskford these could probably take place in the Community Centre.

**The history of the church is given on page 6.**

**The missing Buckie woman** - There has been no word yet of missing Buckie woman Mrs Patricia Duncan and it has now gone two years since her mystery disappearance.

**Remembrance Service comes in for criticism** - Allan Fraser had a letter printed in the 'Advertiser' criticising the service of Remembrance that had taken place at Buckie War Memorial this year. He said how he had received a number of complaints from various people and had agreed to write the letter in the hope that improvements would take place before next year. The poor provision of music and the apparent dis-organisation of the ministers were the two points stressed. (Later he was taken to task by one of the ministers who were present who suggested that I should resign from the community council because of what I had written even although the letter had been written as a private individual.

The service in November 2005 was better but the next year, following a meeting between interested parties, Allan Fraser being one, and some money being put up front by the community council at his request, the Remembrance Day service in November 2006 went off superbly, so much so that John Fowlie Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Banffshire had a letter in the local paper commending everyone who had played a part. The absence of the maroons to mark the start and end of the two minutes silence which had been widely missed was offset by a beat on the big drum at the appropriate times. .

Nov 30 **Christmas Lights** switched on on Saturday afternoon after Santa Claus had made his arrival courtesy of a Fire Engine were as usual quite spectacular and much praised by all.

**First in Scotland** - A photograph shows four members of the 1<sup>st</sup> Buckie Boys Brigade who received an award for coming top in the fund-raising stakes in Scotland. The boys Christopher Wood, Kyle Jappy, Jordan Geddes and Adam Murray were accompanied by two officers when they travelled to Dundee to receive the Boys Brigade Church of Scotland Fund Award for raising the most money for charity.

Last year the 1<sup>st</sup> Buckie Company raised the sum of £1700 mainly through the collection of 2p's and 1p's in jars. The money is destined to go to the World Mission Fund

**Honour for High School teacher.** Jeff Jones, PT of Chemistry was awarded the qualification of Chartered Scientist from Moray Council Convener, Eddie Coutts.

**Buckie Lyric Theatre Group** are to present their interpretation of the pantomime 'Beauty and the Beast' in the Fishermen's Hall from December 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>. There is a cast of 54 with most of the members being aged from 9 to 18 years.

**Launch at Buckie** - A new boat took to the water this week at Buckie, a rare event nowadays. The launch took place at the Buckie Shipyard Ltd where the Gemini class fibreglass catamaran work boat 'FRAM IV' was helped into the water by the crane normally used to man-handle lifeboats. The boat was built for Andrew Craig although the owner is Kenneth Livingstone. The new vessel 10 metres long by 5 metres broad are to be used for prawn creeling on the west coast. . It has been built with an open deck, ideal for this type of work.

**Retiral of Coastguard Station Officer** - Geddes Wood who had served for 42 years with the Coastguards latterly as Station Officer at Buckie retired on December 1. To mark his retiral he was presented with a vellum certificate from HMCG Area Operations Manager Nick Bryant. Speaking to the 'Advertiser' later Geddes said that one of the things that he would remember most in his time was the Elgin floods of November 2002 when they had worked non-stop for 22 hours and rescued 210 people, mainly pensioners, from their homes in one day using dinghies and other craft.

**'A Tribute to Ian Middleton'** is the title of a video that has just been produced containing both ballads and poems of the late Ian Middleton, who lived at Arradoul.

Dec 14 **Top of the Form** - The 1<sup>st</sup> Buckie Boys Brigade won the Banffshire Battalion 'Top of the For' competition held in the South and West Church on Sunday 28 November. The Buckie team was John Coull, David Chappell, Kyle Jappy and Lee Innes. Reserves – Callam Thain and Jamie Alexander. 2<sup>nd</sup> Banff was Runners Up. The other teams that took part were 2<sup>nd</sup> Macduff and 2<sup>nd</sup> Turriff. The Question Master was Mrs Jean Watt and scorer Miss Rhona Cowie both Primary Seven teachers at Cluny Primary.

Dec 21 **His medals go on display** - George Cowie of Aberdeen who played for Buckie Thistle in their glory days of the 1950's has given a framed set of his winners medals to go on display in the new function hall at Victoria Park.. There are ten medals all told - Three Highland League medals won in seasons – 53/54; 56/57 and 57/58; three League Cup medals won in the same years ; two North Qualifying Cup medals won in seasons 53/54 and 58/59 and two Aberdeenshire Cup medals won in seasons 53/54 and 55/56. **The report is given on the front page.**

**The Buckie Scout Post** - This year the Scout Post delivered close on 30.000 Christmas cards. Unfortunately 30 could not be delivered as they had no proper details on them while five have the names of the person(s) for whom they were intended but forgot to add the address. The names were given so that they could be collected if they were recognised and wanted to have them.

**The fishing scene** - Last week 17 boats came in to Buckie harbour to land their catches. In total this comprised 843 boxes of white fish/prawns and squid and also 538 bags of scallops. The boats were – Golden Eagle, Carisma, Wave Crest, Kestrel, Osprey, Pisces, Kelly, Arnbog, Hannah Ellis, Carolyn, Deeside, Tjeerd Jacoba, Zephyr, Shalimar, Rival, Regent Bird III and Lynn Marie.

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