



FPnews

DECEMBER 2018

The Magazine and Annual Review of The Stewart's Melville FP Club



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From the Editor's Desk



In 1963 Bob Dylan wrote, "The Times They Are A-Changing" – and that can perfectly sum up 2018, too.

Whether it be around the world or closer to home, the end of the year feels much different to the beginning of the year, be it Trump, Russia, Middle East, extreme climate or, dare I say it, the dreaded Brexit. Closer to home, we have seen a new Principal installed at ESMS, continued building works around the Queensferry Road estate, a major restructuring by the

SRU affecting amateur rugby clubs, a new Club Secretary and an upgraded Club website to be launched in the New Year.

It is apparent, too, that numbers attending events at Inverleith and some Branches have been declining as individuals' social habits change and it remains to be seen how the formats of some functions change to meet that challenge. In terms of individuals, it is refreshing to read that the London Club now has a resident of upstate New York as its President and its Vice President lives in Worcester.

And the FP News continues to reflect what amazing things some FPs have achieved during the year. The Club's first Centenarian, a Round the World yachtsman and the Talent & Development Manager of the GB Paralympic Triathlon team to name but a few and who all appear in this year's edition.

David Clarke, History Master and Assistant Archivist at SMC, has again written of the heroic deeds of FPs during the First World War, from the formation of the RAF and actual encounters with the Red Baron (see page 18) - and the end of WW1 being marked at the ESMS Remembrance Service, I am particularly grateful for his

support and contributions.

So there has been much happening around the Club and the Branch Clubs, although this year the response from the Millennial generation has been disappointing – so let's hear it from you guys next year! If nothing else, please keep in touch either with the Club or via the ESMS Development Office.

And Finally

Much as I have enjoyed putting together this magazine and seen it become established as an annual publication, after 5 years in the chair I feel it is now time for a fresh pair of eyes to take over as Editor. I feel I have made many new friends around the Club and re-established association with others, so I give a wholehearted **Thank You** to all who have contributed your stories and experiences and have made the content of the magazine so wide and varied.

So, the FP Club would wish to hear from anyone who might be keen to take up the reins and bring your own style and ideas to the magazine. As a self-starter and with a keen eye for detail, you will be amazed who you hear from and the ventures they get up to.

**Interested? For more details contact Charles Wilson at charles_s_wilson@btinternet.com
Bob Young**

Jim Tigar Centenarian



On Sunday, 25 March a special party was held in Ayr on the occasion of Jim Tigar's 100th birthday thereby becoming the FP Club's first centenarian. His niece, Debbie, says: "Uncle Jim speaks with great pride about his school days at Stewart's College and remembers all of the masters

and their words of wisdom. I brought him back to Edinburgh to visit his former childhood home which was House o' Hill farm at Davidson Mains a few years ago when he was still able to travel. We walked around the grounds of his old school and the memories came flooding back to him.

One story I recall, involved him coming to school without the correct attire. No one made comment, but at assembly the rector announced the school would go for a march that sunny spring morning past his home. This was, as you can imagine, a wonderful sight that brought everyone out to their front door to see the uniformed boys march past. Alas, Uncle Jim's mother was the only person who did not enjoy watching the march as she hung her head in shame at the sight of her son, the only boy not wearing his full uniform, skulk by. Needless to say he never went to school again without his full uniform. Very clever move by the masters! "

Past Principal, David Gray, was invited to

attend the celebrations and he recalls a very happy occasion:

"I attended the 100th birthday party of Jim Tigar, FP of Daniel Stewart's College, in Ayr. It was also attended by his second wife, to whom he has been married for 48 years, four of his five children from his first marriage and his child from his second marriage, as well as many relatives, including grandchildren and great grandchildren. We had an excellent lunch and afternoon and Jim Tigar was presented with a telegram from the Queen by the Deputy Lieutenant of Ayrshire and with an engraved quaich from Stewart's Melville College by me

Jim particularly excelled at History, Art and French at school. He loved drawing and painting which remained lifetime hobbies for him. He wanted to become an architect but could not master Mathematics and so instead, on leaving school in 1937, attended the Edinburgh College of Art. Two years later, however, his career ambitions were interrupted by World War II. He joined the army air corps and was attached to the glider pilot regiment. He trained as a pilot on a Tiger Moth biplane but then had a distinguished war career as a glider pilot over the Atlas Mountains, at D Day and at Arnhem.

His first major mission was in 1943 with the allied invasion of Sicily in which he led a very hazardous flight from North Africa to Syracuse into a strong gale. Many gliders fell short and crashed into the sea but Jim's survived.

His second major mission was in Operation Gesick in which he flew in vital equipment on D Day at night ahead of the arrival of ground forces. Remarkably he also survived this mission. His third major mission was the abortive attempt to take the Pegasus Bridge at Arnhem in 1944 in Operation Market Garden. His commanding officer said in advance that this mission was probably "a bridge too far", an axiom which later became the title of the eponymous film. He actually flew the first glider on to the Pegasus Bridge behind enemy lines and somehow, once again, once reunited with his comrades, survived and escaped German capture. He was demobilised in 1946 at Redford Barracks and then, having few qualifications, did what he could to make a living and became a hotelier. He ran the Queen's Hotel in Girvan for 30 years, known affectionately by his family as the Basil Fawty years. For them, he was the original Basil Fawty, outspoken, at times bombastic and unequivocally honest in his evaluation of guests of the hotel and of life in general.

On the day, I found him very engaging. He still has a full head of hair, is slim and dignified and walks with the aid of a stick. Unfortunately, he is very deaf so communicating with him is a little tricky even with the most advanced technology. I was also privileged to get sight of his flying log book and another relative, Grahame Taylor, has been in contact with the school and it has been agreed that a small ceremony will be arranged to formally hand over the book to the school around March 2019."

Contributed

President's Review...

To plagiarise a phrase attributed to Prime Minister Harold Wilson in the 60's "A year as President is a long time". However, it certainly does not seem like it. Perhaps that is down to the fact the "job" is so varied; attending Dinners; business meetings, reflective and sombre gatherings and social events – never a dull moment – that you are not aware that the year marches on relentlessly.

The Club's website has been live for over a year and is "visited" regularly. However, we cannot afford to be complacent and Past President Bert Barclay has re-joined the Council with the specific remit of keeping the website "fresh" and "user friendly". The website, along with our Facebook page, is a major means of communication with the membership and we are grateful for Bert taking on this important work. The 6th Form Representatives on the Council have advised us that Facebook is no longer "flavour of the month" with young people and, if we wish to keep in touch with school leavers and the younger FPs, we may have to look at using other social media sites in addition to Facebook.

Following an incident at Livingston RFC, we have installed CCTV in the Upstairs Bar and in the Function Room for the safety of the staff and as a security measure. The school has agreed to upgrade, and pay for, the front door with electro-magnetic locks. The intruder alarm system has also been upgraded and brought into the 21st century. We are also, as a Health & Safety measure, installing a defibrillator in the Clubhouse. We are continuing to work with the school on a Planned Maintenance Programme for the Clubhouse which includes internal/external decoration and an upgrade to the lighting in the Upstairs Bar. The Clubhouse has attracted many functions over the past twelve months, including two corporate events. This is down to the Clubhouse being an attractive venue, excellent catering provided by Joyce Waterston and her team and our friendly bar staff ably led by Denise Mitchell. We would like this situation to continue over the next twelve months, and beyond, and to that end we would encourage FPs to consider the Clubhouse as a venue for any events that you are planning – remember being an FP, you get a discount on the booking fee.

Inverleith remains home to the affiliated Rugby, Hockey and Cricket clubs. All participate in increasingly competitive environments but, nonetheless, are faring well.

At the time of writing, the rugby club 1st and 2nd XV's are third in their respective leagues and could go further as the season progresses. In light of the changes imposed by the SRU on Club rugby, the rugby Academy merged with Heriot's Academy to form North Edinburgh Barbarians and this has proved to be a great success with many boys coming along who have no association with either school.

The Hockey Club fields four men's and three ladies' teams each weekend. The men's and ladies' 1st X1's are both pushing for promotion from their respective leagues. The Club also has a strong youth structure which will stand them in good stead in the future.

The Cricket Club's four Senior Saturday teams performed well and the Trojans, playing midweek, had a satisfying season. Junior Cricket and Girls' & Women's Cricket continue to develop and grow.

All three clubs are in great heart and heavily involved in providing competition and practice to school pupils outwith their normal school fixtures.

Of the other affiliated clubs, the Golf Club merits particular mention; they are to be congratulated on winning The Queen Elizabeth Coronation Schools Trophy for the fourth year in a row and the fifth time in six years – a new record for the tournament. Congratulations to the team members.

In June, we said goodbye to David Gray, who was retiring as ESMS Principal after 18 years' service. To mark the occasion, we presented him with a framed engraving of the Clubhouse and bestowed on him Honorary Membership of the Club for Life to recognise his contribution to the Club over that time and sealed it by presenting him with an FP tie and cuff-links.

Apart from our own Annual Dinner held in September, the Aberdeen, Border, Glasgow and London branches held very successful dinners. Although attendances are low, these are all very sociable events which are enjoyed by those that attend. I was unable to attend the MES Guild and the Heriot Club dinners as they were cancelled due to lack of numbers – hopefully, this is a one-off but, equally, could be a sign of the times. I attended the Watsonian Club dinner which was well attended – over 100 – and two very enjoyable Merchant Company dinners – the 336th Anniversary Charter Dinner and a Court Dinner.

The FP Club is inextricably connected to the School. Officially I have attended Founders Day and Prizegiving, at which I presented the leavers with their FP Club tie; the Remembrance Day Service, at which I laid a wreath on behalf of the Club;



attended meetings of the ESMS Governing Council and Melville College Trust; meetings of the Boarding House Committee; meetings with Estates and Finance; the third annual debate between the School and the FP Club. In an unofficial capacity, I have attended a performance of ESMS's interpretation of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol", which was performed in the round in The Mar Hall, the ESMO Concert in The Tom Fleming Centre and the Junior School Carol Concert in St Mary's Cathedral. Again, unofficially, I attend the Club's End-of-Month lunches, which are very social affairs that attract reasonable numbers of FPs, family and friends.

I have also attended the Edinburgh Rugby Oldies Society (EROS) lunches which are held in the Clubhouse during the rugby season. Although these lunches are not run by the FP Club, they are good "earners" for us and I feel that it is important that the "host club" should have a presence – apart from which the lunches attract very good speakers.

Since its inception the FP News has been well received by the readers. It attracts articles from all parts of the world, penned by authors of all ages and on a variety of subjects and this year's publication is no different. As you will see elsewhere in this issue, the Editor, Bob Young, has decided to lay down his Goose quill pen and retire gracefully. Under his Editorship over the last five years the FP News has gone from strength to strength. On behalf of the Club, I would like to thank him very much for all that he has done and wish him all the best for the future.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the work and help of Laura McIntosh, Lindsey Geddes, Denise Mitchell, the Development Office and the FP Council during the past year. For me, as President, it has been an education.

Charles S Wilson MBE
President

FPS in the News

In Business



Alan S. Morrison (DSMC, 1982) has been elected the 62nd President of St Andrews Business Club. St Andrews Business Club - an association of people engaged in business who want to be involved in the furthering the

interests of St Andrews and North-East Fife by doing business in the area.

James Porteous



Photo Credit – Gerardo Jaconelli for the Scottish Gin Awards.

Last year James Porteous was one of the FP Millennials highlighted as they build their careers. He started his own business – Electric Spirit Co.- as a Gin Distiller and launched his own brand – Achroous Gin – 3 years ago and at this year's Scottish Gin Awards James won the award for Excellence in Branding.

James says: "Electric is a small company, but I've put design at the heart of everything since day one, as it really helps the business to punch above its weight with a product that people talk about. I was totally blown away to win the award at the Scottish Gin Awards. You just have to look at the field to see how far the industry has come in terms of design, and to take the prize ahead of some seriously big industry names like Eden Mill and Glasgow Distillery feels phenomenal, both as a designer and someone who has spent years building a small company."

Well Done, James

David Hourston committed to an adventurous fundraising challenge for Children 1st.

"Several months ago, an email arrived in my inbox from Children 1st looking for people who would like to climb Mount Kilimanjaro to raise funds for them. 'Who on earth would want to do that?', I thought to myself. However, the idea kind of stuck in my head and started to grow on me. So I met with one of the fundraising team from



David at the Summit

Children 1st and after finding out a bit more, I decided to sign up!

If you don't know Children 1st, they used to be known as the Royal Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, and they provide vital services to the

country's most disadvantaged, mistreated and vulnerable children. Some of the stories on the Children 1st website are heart breaking and they are as worthy a cause as I can think of; just look at www.children1st.org.uk.

I paid my own travel and accommodation and so everything that I raised will go straight to Children 1st "



Kilimanjaro

It is hoped that David will be able to give a full account of his adventure in the next edition of FP News.

Golf

Grant Forrest



Photo Credit – Kenny Smith.

A well-known name in FP News. Our congratulations to Grant on securing his first European Tour card. Playing on Europe's second tier Challenge Tour during 2018, Grant achieved a third second place finish in the Hainan Open, played in China, taking him up to seventh place in the tour rankings with two events left which, with the top fifteen getting playing rights on the main European Tour for 2019, guaranteed him that status.

His success comes after only 2 seasons as a professional and he will be joining 3 other Scots new to the European Tour – Liam Johnston, David Law & Robert MacIntyre. In his first event as a European Tour member in the Hong Kong Open he qualified for the weekend's play and ultimately finished in 36th place with a three under par total of 277.

More recently he finished tied for 7th place in the Afrasia Mauritius Open.

Grant also qualified for The Open at Carnoustie, however a first round of 80 was too much to recover from and he missed the cut at the half way stage.

Football

17 year old former pupil **Euan Henderson** was a late substitute in Hearts 3-0 Scottish Cup win over St Johnstone at Tynecastle.

Craig Levein described Henderson's performance against Ross County in October, 2017 as "clever" because he worked out for himself how best to play a highly-demanding role. The youngster believes his private school upbringing will stand him in good stead as he bids to make his way as a footballer.

"Stewart's Melville was a great school and helped me a lot," he said. "I played rugby there as well. It gave me a good stable base and helped build me up strongly."

At the end of July, Euan was transferred on loan to Montrose until January 2019.

Rugby



George Turner (SMC 2010) a member of the Scottish Rugby party touring the Americas in the summer not only came on as a 30th minute substitute at hooker for Scotland in the first international against Canada but scored three second half tries in an outstanding performance. Scotland went on to win 48-10.

George won his 5th cap against USA starting for the first time and added a further try to the three he scored v Canada. The following week he then returned to the scoresheet, with a try-scoring replacement appearance in the national team's 44-15 win over Argentina.

His fourth try put him level with Gordon Bulloch, Ross Ford and Stuart McInally as the national team's top try-scoring hookers of all time (4).

Well Done George!

Another notable achievement in rugby was the Scotland under 20s 24-17 win over England under 20s. Wins for Scotland at this level have been as rare as those of the senior XV, but the Under 20s team included SMC's last two 1st XV captains **Jamie Hodgson (2015/16)** and **Ross Thompson (2016/17)**. Congratulations to both and hopefully their rugby careers continue to progress although both have university courses as a "distraction".

Sailing

Iain Coke was a member of the crew of Visit Seattle, one of 12 yachts in the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race.

After 40,000 nautical miles, they completed the race in second place and, although much of the Press comment was devoted

to the winning skipper, Wendy Tuck who became the first female skipper to win the race. Jan Riley, mother of James Digney, (SMC 2016) was also on the winning boat.

Visit Seattle's skipper was also a woman – Nikki Henderson. Nikki had high praise for the team, saying: "It felt like finally after a year's hard work training everyone - blindfolded helming, ripping spinnakers, whiteboard sessions, reef after reef after reef - and so much more, this team did some real racing. Like really classy racing - slick gybes, everyone getting involved in the tactics, a massive team effort with everyone pitching in."

An account of Iain Coke's adventure appears on pages 10 - 11.

David Gray



If the tie fits

As a newly elected life member of the FP Club, David was very proud to put on his FP Club tie at a presentation to mark his retirement from ESMS at the Inverleith Clubhouse.

It was a surprise celebration as David thought he was coming to an FP Council meeting. However Ken Richards gave an eloquent address covering David's presence at the Schools emphasising that everyone will miss the support, passion, encouragement and involvement that he has given the Club, its Branch Clubs and the Sports Clubs over the past 18 years. President Charles Wilson then presented David with an engraved picture of The Clubhouse.



Helene & David

To Cap It All

During 2018, somewhat belatedly, former British & Irish Lions players were awarded caps in recognition of their achievements. There have been six such players from the DSMC Schools over the years and here they are proudly wearing their caps. See if you can recognise them now:



Philip Long and the V&A, Dundee



Photo Courtesy of Julie Howden

Philip Long Director, V&A Dundee

Six years ago, FP News carried an article about former pupil, Philip Long, Director of the V & A at Dundee. On 15th September, 2018 the V & A opened its doors to much acclaim. Philip gives an insight to what it is all about.

After many years of planning, and a construction start at the beginning of 2015, V&A Dundee opened its doors for the first time on September 15, 2018. We have been thrilled at the response to the new museum. Whether it is to see Kengo Kuma's breath-taking architecture and enjoy the beautiful spaces within, or to visit our galleries bringing to life Scotland's design story and to see the superlative exhibition Ocean Liners: Speed

and Style (until 24 February), or to take part in our inspiring learning programmes, over 250,000 visitors have already been welcomed.

Our visitors are coming from across Scotland, from across the UK and internationally. Attendance and participation across the city's attractions has risen dramatically, and so, while the value of culture to our society is priceless, it's good to know that investment in new cultural organisations such as V&A Dundee is already bringing real economic value to its home city - helping employment, providing educational opportunities across communities, and especially, playing a role in Dundee's growing confidence. Young people have played a vital part, bringing their energy and ideas to the project and we want to make sure that continues. In our first ten weeks, some 6,000 people got involved in our families programme, and we have had at least 30 school visits so far in the same period.

Excitingly, we are now looking forward to our major exhibitions in 2019, which look at design now and how it is shaping our future experience of the world. Videogames: Design/Play/Disrupt (opening 20 April) reveals how digital design and wider creativity is used to create virtual worlds that are now enjoyed by over 2 billion people world-wide. Later in 2019, in its only UK showing, Hello Robot; Design between Human and Machine investigates how design for intelligent machines is shaping all aspects of our lives, from children's rooms to industry to retirement rooms.

I do hope you are able to visit the museum soon, sharing in the wider excitement at the realisation of this new design museum for Scotland. We look forward to welcoming you!

Philip Long,
Director, V&A Dundee



Philip at the V & A, courtesy of Julie Howden



Peter Mann Trophy 2018

Bruntsfield was again the venue for the annual Daniels Vs Mellies golf match for the Peter Mann Trophy.

Things had looked good for the Daniels as Mike Kidd and Pinetree Preacher put Charlie Spence and Simon Haves Scott to the sword in the first match. However, some indescribable golf by Jeff Forrest and Richard Hughes against Johnny Muir and Sensible Smith levelled the scores. Jeff was later to win handsome Souvenir Programmes of historical golf tournaments for both nearest to the pin and longest drive.

The Daniels' optimism was soon quashed as Andy Scott and Bert Hutchinson defeated Moira Lister and Keith Donaldson and Richard Mann and Soye Clark edged past Eric Cartwright and Jack Mainland who had a combined age of 156. Icing on the cake was a further win for the Mellies as ex-Cap Ian Forsyth and Dr Dougie Stuart fell to more Mellie might and magic.

In the final match an honourable draw was agreed by Bert Barclay, Sam Malcolm, John Campbell and the Bearded Wonder Graham Pole.

And so the Mellies will go for a hat trick next year. Our photo shows the team captains illustrating the sheer determination to win by Bert Hutch.

Sam Malcolm

The Real Austerity Generation

Reminiscences of WW2 School Days



In those halcyon days of school sports in 1938-39 nobody could have envisaged the years of misery and austerity which lay ahead – yes real austerity. Little did the happy youngsters, pictured during races at Inverleith, know that they were destined to become the austerity generation for the next 15 years or more. And how Daniel Stewart's College and other Merchant Company schools kept going during the dark days of WW11 is anybody's guess. But we boys in that 440 yards handicap race faced a more immediate problem. We had to wear white trousers as well as a white shirt and pullover for the occasion and the stands at Inverleith were pretty primitive. They were open to the elements and the seats, just long planks of wood, had accumulated years of filth from 'Auld Reekie'. The prize-giving was the trouble. We had to sit on those dirty benches for an interminable period while numerous speeches were delivered for the benefit of the doting parents who had been given comfortable chairs on the grass below the stand. The longer we sat there the more we wriggled. Eventually my name was called because I was to be presented with a thing like a jam spoon for winning something or other. My parents, instead of being proud to see their son going forward to receive his prize were absolutely mortified. I was blissfully unaware that, like others, the seat of my pristine white shorts was filthy and black from the dirt on the benches!

Those primitive stands may strike a vivid contrast to today's luxurious Clubhouse, but

some comfort came from the classroom. The teacher of the 1st class, Lilian Grant, was a caring person who frequently sent me a get well postcard when I was ill. Such things as off-the-shelf 'get well' cards lay in the future. The postal system was so efficient that a card posted in Edinburgh with a penny stamp was delivered the same day. During the depressing war years and immediately afterwards education for an average of 650 pupils never appeared to falter. On the expansive Queensferry Road frontage of the school, air raid shelters were dug on the boundaries to the east and west. Although one had to practice evacuation I do not recall ever going inside those menacing dugouts. The school building became shabby. The floors were just bare boards in most cases and the floor nails polished by many feet. In many cases bare lamps, innocent of their round glass shades, swung from the ceiling. Stoutly built desks, engraved with the initials of former pupils, were survivors from earlier times.

The then headmaster Hugh Martin, reputedly a bibulous individual who retired on health grounds, led the nightly fire watching duties. Happily the elegant building escaped the attention of the Luftwaffe and I do not recall the huge windows being fitted with criss-cross sticky tape giving protection from flying glass.

Everybody's clothing was shabby. The teachers managed to maintain an appearance with frayed shirt collars and well-worn suits which reeked of tobacco smoke from the staff room. Their symbolic

black gowns, the status of a schoolmaster, frequently got caught on the corner of desks and in some cases were mere ribbons. Nevertheless, the school managed to keep up appearances.

Bob Guthrie, the head janitor, lived in the tiny cottage at the school gates. Although his blue tailed coat was shiny from wear he ensured the silver buttons were always gleaming. The under janitor was known simply as Sim, a sour faced former soldier, wore a button-up tunic which was equally shiny. Sim doubled up as the RSM for the school cadet corps and was a strict disciplinarian.

School text books were hard to come by. Exchange sessions were held at the end of each school year when tatty books were handed down to the next set of boys, probably for a modest fee. Otherwise one had to go to bookshops, James Thin or Baxendines in the Bridges, to seek out well-thumbed second hand books, to find that some had been embellished with crude illustrations from former owners. Jotters, with virgin white pages, were so scarce that the sparse allocation of one per boy had to last an entire term.

Some teachers had hoarded pre-war unfamiliar objects to illustrate their lessons. I recall being shown a coconut which had accumulated so much dust it had to be well brushed before being passed round for inspection. On special occasions we were treated to a film show, the jerky black and white pictures illustrating different aspects of the great British Empire. National Savings stamps were sold every week in support of the war effort and once a year the school fees, usually paid in cash with huge white five pound notes, were not forgotten.

One-third size bottles of milk were distributed at break time and school lunches were maintained and run by an efficient lady Catherine Blackie who, I think, lived at South Queensferry. Restaurants and schools were exempt from food rationing but what was on the menu was not particularly appetising. Unsurprisingly obese children were never in evidence and despite strict rationing nobody went hungry. The dining hall lay beyond the cloakroom to the right of the main entrance, an area now excavated and occupied by the Tom Fleming Centre. To the left was the gymnasium where a rudimentary stage had been erected for school plays. The entire area was covered by a leaky glass roof.

Early in the war years soup and a bag of crisps, complete with separate salt in a blue twist of paper, was available in a makeshift canteen in a cellar opposite the art hall, now the music centre. However, most boys brought a sandwich pack with them and played rough games on the very rough playground at the rear of the school building where foul smelling toilets were sited close to the boundary wall.

Somehow parents managed to maintain a semblance of school uniform sometimes from hand-me-downs. I recall that my mother, an ever resourceful person, would use precious clothing coupons to purchase a plain black blazer and she acquired a roll of red tape to provide the distinguishing trim which conformed to school uniform. Sometimes a plain grey blazer was in evidence. Incidentally, a school blazer cost 56s 8p. (a 1940s equivalent to £146 today) and those dreadful college caps were 8s 9p. (£22). Transport was at a premium and some

boys travelled some distance from villages in Midlothian. Invariably the blue SMT buses were seriously overcrowded, especially with inebriated sailors from South Queensferry, and could not stop to take on more passengers. So, a long wait for a bus with many overflowing vehicles failing to stop, was a frustrating matter. In a bid to ease the fuel shortage some buses were fitted with a smelly trailer carrying a compressed coal-gas system to fuel the overworked engine.

Austerity was probably worse in the immediate post war years than during the war itself. Rationing was still in force for most things and even sweets didn't come off rationing until 1953.

Those untroubled boys in the 1938 races at Inverleith faced at least 15 years of austerity which lasted into their teenage years.

The school year of tiresome lessons was relieved by membership of the army cadet corps which flourished especially in the post

war era. . . . but that's another story.

Oddly I picked up a prize during my first year at school and gained another a decade later during my penultimate year in 1948, when I received the prize for the best recruit in the cadet corps. On that occasion, I'm glad to say, there were no white trousers and my battledress was immaculate!



Cadet A. Chalmers receives a cup for best recruit from Vice-Commander Kennedy at Daniel Stewart's prize-giving and J.T.C. parade yesterday in the college grounds. ("Dispatch" picture.)

Aubrey Chalmers



Those who have attended Club Dinners over the years will have heard David Gray talking about ESMS, its progress and its achievements, so before he retired I took the opportunity to interview him about his life before and his impressions of ESMS.

Born in 1955 in Inverness his first school was Crown Primary and he remains grateful for the foundation this education gave him. After S1 level at the Inverness Royal Academy, his father decided to send him to Fettes as a boarder. This enabled

David Gray

him to become independent and a more social animal. He met a range of people he otherwise would not have met.

In 1978, having graduated in English Literature at Bristol University he decided to leave all Britain's then problems (recession, 3 day week, strikes etc.) behind and went to Greece for 7 years running language schools. At that time Greece was opening up to foreigners and Greeks wanted to learn English and he ultimately became a co-owner of an English language school. During this period he realised that the British way was not the only way and that education was the key to the prosperity of young people. This in turn made him angry that people in the UK did not rate education so highly.

He returned to the UK in 1985 and found a job at Dulwich College in London, for which he remains eternally grateful for giving this young unemployed teacher a job at short notice. He stayed at Dulwich for 3 years then headed north to Leeds Grammar School in 1988 as Head of English, where he remained for 4 years. He loves Yorkshire and after living there for 12 years, he reckoned he had reached the heights of "Yorkshireman, 2nd class".

After Leeds, he was appointed Head of Pocklington School in 1992 – then a school with 750 pupils – from which he accumulated much valuable experience.

He had been head of Pocklington School for 8 years and saw an advert for the Principal's position at ESMS, but he thought that it was too big and that he was too young (44).

There was however an attraction of returning to Edinburgh as he remembered playing rugby against both DSC and MC and he had also been to dances with MES girls. He also quite liked the idea of coming back to Scotland having been away for many years in Greece and England and felt he could give something back to Scottish education.

So he arrived at ESMS on 21 July, 2000 and, as a Scot, he was made to feel very welcome which made it much easier for him to settle in.

His first challenge was the sheer size of the Schools – 2,500 pupils, 500+ staff, on 3 separate sites (including Inverleith). The 2 Schools were independent of each other, although linked together. He was on a steep learning curve and learned a lot – eg even a small change could lead to other consequences all the way down and across the organisation.

His initial views on arrival were that SMC, although a good school, was a slightly undisciplined place (boys needed to be smarter and to exercise a degree of self-discipline); there was not a strong work ethic (except for the "boffins"), & too often things were done at the "last minute".

MES he felt was academically excellent and it was clear that the girls were conscientious. There was a buzz about the place but he felt that there was an unhealthy intensity, which needed to be more relaxed – ie almost the reverse of SMC.

During his 18 years as Principal, David feels that 2 things have substantially changed the Schools and which have led him to what he regards as his main achievements:

- 1 the explicit introduction of the 9 Core Values, which had been taught informally, but not explicitly through religious education. Initially a working party took a look at the Junior School curriculum and the Junior International Baccalaureate, at which some schools south of the Border based their curriculum on a values-based rather than a religious-based approach. The 9 Values were initially taken on in the Junior School and today are now taught explicitly throughout the Schools. They are explained, promoted and practiced, helping students to understand right from wrong and develop strength, resilience and drive – taking them through easy and difficult times in their school years.
- 2 extra-curricular activities have proliferated from a fairly limited level to today where the 3 Schools between them run 300 extra-curricular clubs & societies – not counting sport, music & drama. Now there are 1,200 children involved in instrumental music and 2/3 to 3/4 of all boys & girls represent School in one sport or another. ESMS is not an “exam factory”, it is an educational establishment with a holistic philosophy, allowing sound young people to emerge at the end – enabling them to make a difference in their own way. He believes it is very important for students leaving School to have the confidence to do what they are good at and what they enjoy whether that be as hairdressers or astrophysicists. The Schools today are much more tolerant than 18 years ago and the students today are recognised for what they are themselves and for their strengths & interests. His main aim on arrival was to make sure all students were turned out as well rounded individuals.

Abiding Memories:

- SMC winning the Scottish Schools Cup in 2016, beating Dollar Academy in the dying seconds of the game.
- Winning the Scottish Schools Hockey Cup 2 years in succession
- The performance of Carmina Burana at the Usher Hall – with 400 voices and outstanding music.
- The Christmas Services at St. Mary's Cathedral which blows visitors away with its range and quality.
- MES winners of the European Youth Parliament 4 times in the last 6 years – having a cutting edge in their debating skills. And are very ambitious.
- Malawi – building the Edinburgh Girls High School and who appeared at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo in 2018.
- Sir Fraser Stoddart speaking to 500 science students at ESMS a few days after receiving the Nobel Prize for Chemistry.

He remembers many outstanding individuals, but 3 in particular:

“**Christina**” who was suspended in S4 for some misdemeanour, but she transformed in the Sixth Year, got down to hard work and started 6th Form charities. She did biochemistry at Aberdeen but in her final year she wrote to DG saying she really wanted to do medicine and has now graduated in medicine from Glasgow University, as top student in her year. She has since been named as one of Scotland's top 25 women. She is an example that children at school change and develop all the time as they progress and should never be written off.

Peter Murray, who had had cancer since the age of 11 and died very soon after leaving School. He was always generous in spirit, hard-working, popular and a leading light in the RAF section and who served the School well. DG remembers him as someone who made the most of every day that he was alive.

Peter Ciobanu an outstanding pianist who came as one of the Silvestri scholarship students from Romania and who now has a very successful professional career.

Probably one of DG's proudest achievements however was the founding of the Silvestri Scholarship. This was conceived when at Pocklington School and involved sending groups of 6th formers to Romania to help to rebuild & refurbish the notorious orphanages after the end of the Romanian dictatorship. In turn this allowed school musicians of exceptional talent to come to western Europe & to move in to higher education. This continued at ESMS and it was found that the students were good role models for ESMS' own musicians – which gave them a much broader education. Scholarships are normally for 1 year in S5 or S6 and many have gone on to the Royal Scottish Conservatoire and distinguished musical careers.

Overall, DG feels he has achieved his main ambition for ESMS to turn out good people leading worthwhile, useful lives, but always mindful that the School's reputation is “only as good as yesterday”.

Disappointments:

Education has never been at the top of any Government's agenda. It's been taken for granted. Education, especially for the less well-off, is a great equalizer – giving the opportunity to escape poverty and make something of their lives. Teachers tend to get a bad Press and he wishes that they could be more highly valued.

He has found Scottish bureaucracy is extremely frustrating – SQA, General Teaching Council. Things move very slowly in these organisations and the rules seem to be aimed for the benefit of those who exercise them rather than the customers who need to use the organisations, which is a great pity.

Staff

Today there are a few people still on the

Staff since the day he started- Ian Scott, Mike Hamid, Kirsty Nicholson, Bryan Lewis to name but a few – ie a nucleus of people throughout the 18 years and younger, newer staff have injected a freshness of approach. Teachers are now more confident and pupils are easier to teach – working together rather than against each other. Staff have tried to make their subjects more interesting, stimulating and inspirational. Generally, the atmosphere is healthier than it was. Boys now are more ambitious, going to universities all over the world, and the staff's expectations of their pupils are much higher now.

FP Club

When he arrived, the relationship between Club & School was not great. It depends on leadership to get the School and the Club working together. On the whole, now, it is relatively very good and the willingness of the Club to work with the School is excellent.

There are some difficulties stemming from the FP Club being based in Edinburgh where many of the FPs live and consequently it is more of an Old Boys club where they can meet up. It is self-perpetuating and at times feels the Club would be quite happy going along without the School. The FP Club is dominated by older people as they have the time to get involved, sometimes at the neglect of younger FPs. The creation of ESMS Connect has been a big development, with a greater sharing of information and data.

He sees the Club, the Guild and the School working closer together. The School can now make contact with all FPs of all ages.

There can be a lack of continuity of personnel at the Club due to the voluntary nature of Club Presidents, and the School has been reliant on the President and his agenda and the link between the Club and the Development Office is very important.

He has enjoyed the company of members of the FP Club who have been courteous, friendly and inclusive – and he realised that he had come to a rather special place. He has always appreciated the friendly, cordial welcome from FPs and has enjoyed going to all the Dinners. Now that numbers are falling, he thinks because the nature of social activity has changed over the years, people don't go to Dinners any more (except London) – but that the School's Development Office can play its part in helping.

David now feels, after 18 years at ESMS he is as fresh as the day he started. ESMS is invigorating and stimulating, which is the reason he is not actually retiring now, but going to take up the position of Principal of Brummana High School in Lebanon. Lebanon is a fledgling democracy and one where education is valued. This then squares the circle since his days in Greece and gives him the opportunity to give something back to education in the twilight of his career.

Editor

Iain Coke – International Yachtsman



Iain on Visit Seattle

The Clipper Round the World Yacht Race, conceived in 1995 by Sir Robin Knox-Johnston, is a sailing race around the world in 8 legs. The organisers own a fleet of identical yachts, the Clipper 70, and provide qualified skippers to lead each team. In the 2017/18 race, 2 of the skippers were female – and they took 1st and 2nd places overall.

DSMC FP Iain Coke, who left School in 1991, joined the crew of Visit Seattle, signing up for the whole race. Visit Seattle was skippered by 25 year old Nikki Henderson and came in 2nd place overall. It would take a whole book to cover such a long race, so the following are excerpts from Iain Coke's Diary, which give a first-hand sense of what it takes to compete in this fantastic challenge.

Leg 1 Liverpool to Punta del Este, Uruguay

Day 1

It's here! It's started at last! No more training runs, this time it's for real! And, oh what a send-off we had. It was catching sight of my family standing behind our boat with a "Good luck Uncle Iain" banner that got me. Then, when we got on the boat, there were jobs to do and adrenaline kicked in.

Day 29

After a pretty traumatic and dramatic 24 hours, it was quite good to be back sailing safely again under our regular white sails. We have made some reasonable progress

One highlight of the night watch was that we crossed with one of the other yachts, Unicef, who came so close that we were able to shout hello to each other. Absolutely incredible that, after about 6,000 miles at sea, we were both at exactly the same point in the ocean. The race continues...

Leg 2 Punta del Esta to Cape Town

Day 1

Oh, what a start! We did it again, hitting the line at the right end of it with good speed and good timing, then rounding the marks in first place.

It feels good being back out sailing. Still a bit daunting, with stronger winds and bigger seas already than on any point in Leg 1. This is more like how I imagined ocean racing to be and the next adventure has just begun.

Day 4

Some of the waves crash across the deck so hard that it feels just like you are being hit by a wet pillow. One wave swept me along the deck until I caught hold of the next winch with my foot and left sitting safe and sound further back on the deck.

Day 6

Sailing this boat is not like floating around on a gentle cruise to find a nice spot for lunch. Helming her can be brutishly hard work, when the waves are pushing us around, but also huge fun.

Leg 3 Cape Town to Freemantle

This leg has certainly had plenty of challenges. One of the hardest parts is not knowing how much longer the hard conditions will last, and whether we will last it.

Day 6

It's the changing weather conditions, and the need to change sails often under very difficult situations. When an 'All hands on deck' call comes, you get up slightly disorientated, try to get your kit on and get on deck as fast as possible not knowing what you will face when you get there. Or how long you will be. Or when you'll get sleep again.

Not sure I can stand another two weeks of this.

Day 9

Utter exhaustion. I don't think the team can cope with much more of this. Nor me. Constant sail changes, putting in reefs, taking them out. It's getting the Yankee 1 or spinnakers down in heavy conditions with all-hands that's the problem. So much hard work, in the wet, being frequently hit by

waves that knock you off your feet. I had a few times when I was at the front and was washed back with only one hand on the jackstay stopping me from sliding back on my tether. And once in the cockpit when I was washed back on the low-side and was left hanging on my tether, still in the cockpit - uninjured but wet. I'm not sure how many more days we can take like this. I need a day or so of calmer conditions to recharge my batteries. Like everyone else.

Leg 4 Freemantle to Sydney



Visit Seattle and Crew

Day 2

It's hard to believe we're already into Leg 4 of this epic journey. In fact, I still have to pinch myself to convince me that we've sailed all the way from Liverpool to Australia. But on our way to Sydney we are.

We have been sailing pretty close-hauled, so the boat has been well healed over, which makes getting into and out of my bunk on the high side a bit trickier. Luckily, for this leg I have a bottom bunk, but still, I look forward to when we switch to the other tack, so I'm on the low side. It really makes such a difference – instead of having to climb up the walls to haul myself into a bunk that's angled up relative to the boat, I would be able to gently hop into and out of my bunk.

Leg 5 Sydney to Qingdao, China

Day 2

The big one. Sydney-Hobart. but having crossed the Atlantic twice and had 2 journeys into the Southern Ocean, the Tasman Sea is less scary.

Day 22

The physical challenges are more about the continual grind on our bodies of living in a hard environment, with limited sleep and little time for a proper rest and recharge. The bigger challenge currently is a mental one. The team might have different objectives for the race - to take part, to sail round the world or to win the race, and on that competition thing, I'm definitely in this for the racing not just the journey!



Visit Seattle in Seattle, courtesy of Jean-Marcus Strole Photography

Leg 6 Qingdao to Seattle

Day 9

Bring on the big winds, big seas, big boat speeds, and sheer adrenaline of accelerating down the surf. Let's see what we're made of, and let's make progress towards Seattle and our boat's home port.

Day 27 (From another blog)

We experienced one of the worst storms in sailing history - +100 knots winds; 20 metres waves; very cold and wet. Someone equated the height of the waves we were sailing through to a stack of four double decker buses. I would describe those couple of days as the ocean was violently boiling around us. It will be the second longest race – around 31 days. One month at sea in tough, cold and wet conditions. Hardcore sailing. Not too many people sail across North Pacific.

Leg 7 Seattle to New York

Day 11

I think having crossed the daunting Pacific safely, we know we can handle the conditions we expect for the rest of the race

Day 15

It is a real mental endurance test. And it seems like this test is going to get harder as we get closer to the finish line, particularly as we all seem to be getting closer and closer with the other yachts at the front.

Leg 8 New York - Liverpool Race 12 New York to Londonderry

Day 1

Our thoughts on the start of our last big crossing? As always, a mixture. From our new and returning crew-members, a mix of excitement and apprehension. For our round-the-worlders and continuing crew,

we probably all have our own feelings.

As for me? I just don't know. I expected to be excited about sailing home mixed with some nervousness about getting there. But getting on the boat just felt a bit odd.

I don't mentally switch on fully until a few minutes before race start then I quickly zone in. But I just am not feeling the energy or excitement levels that I thought I would have. I just want to get back home.

Day 8

Things go up and down over the course of 45,000 miles and 11 months. Sometimes the competitive pressures are bigger than others, and sometimes our competitive juices flow stronger than others. When one of those is stronger than the other, it can be a bit stressful and life on the boat can be tense. When the pressures and our own competitiveness are both running, it can be super-fun.

Just now, it is super-fun. And the race looks very tight, We are having a lot of discussions on board about our routing.. Understanding more about this big picture also makes it more fun to drive the boat.

Day 12

Land ahoy! We've just had our first sighting of British soil after over ten months. The island of Aran off Northern Ireland. We're nearly home. And, almost imperceptibly, it seems we are reverting to British habits. Firstly, our hot drinks orders used to be a real mixture. In a watch of ten people, you could have nine different drink choices in a round: black coffee, white coffee, hot chocolate, mocha, peppermint tea, lemon and ginger, white tea, black tea, some with sugar and some without. Now, it is almost all white teas, with the occasional black tea thrown in.

An even bigger change has been in how much we have been talking about the weather. Especially when we had no satellite reception. So we were studying the clouds and tracking the barometer, looking for any changes. One time Nikki came on

deck and asked me if it had been raining since we got on watch. I said yes but thought to myself, in Scotland, we don't call this rain. 'Is it dreich?' asked a crewmate. Nowhere near that, In Scotland, we have about 547 words to describe rain and bad weather, all with specific meanings (some of which we make up), but only about four to describe good weather – sunny, warm, hot and I can't think of the fourth for now.

The grey skies and potential for quick changes in weather does make it feel like we are getting close to home. Trying to stay ahead, desperately hoping to keep in decent winds that will continue to drive us to the finish line, and avoid any late wind holes.

Race 13 Londonderry to Liverpool

Day 6

And now for the finishing straight Sailing around the world. I signed up because I wanted to compete in the race, as the most demanding sailing race I could hope to compete in. I toyed with the idea of doing just a leg, but doing the whole thing was the big draw for me.

To borrow the phrase, the longest journey starts with a single step. It doesn't feel so much like I've done a long journey, but lots and lots of small steps.

Maybe it will sink in in the next few months that I've sailed around the world. But for now, it's more like I'm at the end of a long, tough race series, with some almighty ocean crossings. I don't know what I'll do next yet. But I'm looking forward to finding those new firsts to do.

And while it would have been great to compete to the end and get that first place trophy, second overall in the race is pretty special too!

Adapted from Iain Coke's Diary, courtesy of Clipper-Ventures.com web site.

Melville College Trust



Alan Veitch & Andy Scott

Another Eventful Year!

This is my third stint as the Chair of the Trust (which I think is a record!) and it has indeed been another busy and eventful year! Every time that I think that things will calm down, something else comes around the corner to keep my fellow Governors and me busy!

Much of the start of the year was spent bracing ourselves for GDPR, which seemed to appear out of nowhere and build up like a major hurricane, but largely fizzled out when it came into force in May. That is not to say we are not taking our obligations very seriously under GDPR - we have put

in place full and proper procedures to implement its requirements - but things have calmed down a lot and have not led to the major disruption to our lives that at one point appeared likely!

The Trust has once again provided over £250,000 in bursaries to the Schools this year, which has enabled 30 pupils to enjoy the excellent facilities and education at ESMS, and given them opportunities and friendships that I am sure they will never forget. In these days of diversity, I am pleased to say that the bursaries have been split equally between 15 boys and 15 girls.

In addition to the bursaries, the Trust has also donated over £10,000 for a number of school projects, ranging from a basketball scoreboard, books for the Boarding House and Junior School libraries, looms and wool for the Weaving Club and shooting jackets for the CCF. Our main donation was one of over £5,000 for canoes at Carbisdale, which I am told have been greatly appreciated by the pupils who have used them.

One project that has been dear to the hearts of the Governors is the installation of a commemorative plaque at the site of the old School in Melville Street, Edinburgh. Permissions have been granted by the current tenants and the Council and we are hoping to have it erected in the next 2-3 months. I am sure that it will be greatly appreciated by ESMS parents, FPs and pupils, and particularly by those Melville College FPs who attended at that School.

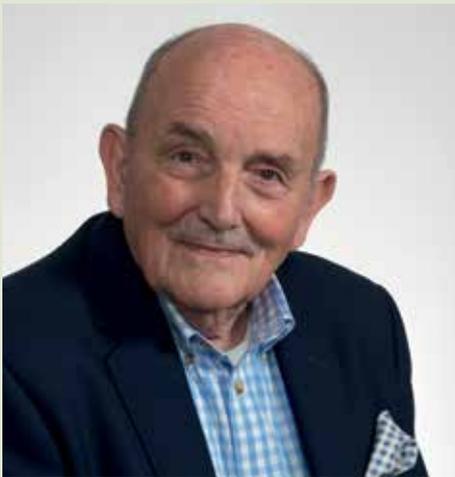
In that vein, one event I would like to highlight is the Melville College FP reunion, which was run jointly by the Trust and the Access to Excellence. This took place on the evening of 16th November (the day before the Scotland v S Africa match at Murrayfield) and we very much enjoyed meeting up with old friends and swapping stories of our times at Melville College - well, at least, the stories we can remember.

Last and by no means least, I would like to welcome the new Principal, Linda Moule. She has the daunting shoes of David Gray to fill, who oversaw many great things at the Schools and left them in such good shape when he left. Indeed, as a token of our appreciation for David's efforts and the support he gave the Trust over the years, we presented him with a Quaich at our AGM last December. That said, and despite being recognised as one of (if not the) top independent schools in Scotland, there are some storm clouds on the horizon that Linda and her Governors (and all the other independent schools) will have to face, but, having spoken to her on a number of occasions, I am sure that she will do so very well and continue David's great work. I and the Governors in the Trust look forward to helping her in these times and wish her all the very best.

So, it's goodbye from me. I will have retired as Chairman (again!) at the AGM in November and passed over to Alan Veitch, who I am sure will do a sterling job in his 2 year stint in the Chair. Best of luck, Alan!

Andy Scott

A Banking Journey (With a Little Sport Thrown In)



John Wright attended Daniel Stewart's until 1958, having left School at 16. He joined the Clydesdale and North of Scotland Bank as an apprentice in the same year.

Here is his personal account of his reminiscences of 60 years in Commercial Banking.

After 4 years in Leith I headed south as an International Trainee with National Bank of India. Six months training in London playing rugby and soccer and then on to Calcutta and Colombo for 3 and a half years. I became the youngest ever captain of the CFC (the Calcutta Football Club) at 22 (it was that Club that donated the Calcutta Cup to be played for between Scotland and England) and travelled to 2 All India tournaments in Madras and Colombo before transferring to Colombo. Lovely place, beautiful Island and rugby being played all over! Next it was to Nigeria where I was captain of Lagos Rugby Football Club and of a Nigerian side that played Ghana in Accra in 1969.

Great memories of travelling through to Ghana for that rugby match. Most of the guys flew but I chose to drive with 3 of the Team Members namely the brothers Nelson-Cole and Remi Okunnowo - the first 2, products of Strathallan school and Remi a product of Taunton School. All excellent rugby players. We went through 3 countries namely Togo, Dahomey and on to Accra - some trip, we arrived at the match venue with very little time to spare, stripped on the touch line and went on and played!

Emigrated to Canada on the back of an offer from Bank of Montreal, travelling Asia for 3 years, played rugby for Montreal Irish (no Scottish in Montreal unlike Toronto) and was a Member of the Bank of Montreal Soccer Team that won the Metropolitan Soccer League Commercial Division in 1972.

Married Christine in 1971, a young lady from Moffat whom I met in between Nigeria and Canada in Edinburgh and we were sent to Hong Kong to run the Bank of Montreal Office in 1973. Our children were both born in Hong Kong. Played at Hong Kong Football Club and attended the first 2 Hong Kong Sevens in 1976 and 1977.

Then it was on briefly to Los Angeles thence to New York as President of the New York subsidiary. Met up with Tony Lord there as President of a similar subsidiary for Crocker Bank of San Francisco - 2 Daniels from the same year running West Coast Banks subsidiaries in New York! Played for Old Maroons Rugby Football Club.

After a couple of years of absolutely loving life and the job in New York I joined the Bank of Scotland to help them set up their International Banking Division and was an Assistant General Manager there in St Andrew's Square from 1979 - 86 travelling the world.

My last game of rugby was for Edinburgh Accies (wash your mouth out!) 2's v Corstorphine, but winter weather was ghastly so hung up the boots and focused on squash!

In 1985 I looked around and went off to run a small 12 Branch Bank in Oman. I'd visited that country several times on business so was reasonably familiar with the place, absolutely superb country with great people. Seven wonderful years.

I think it's fair to say that Oman is probably the most family friendly place that I know, great people, beautiful country, mountains, sea and desert, had the opportunity when the children were out from school 3 times a year to travel around with them but found an absolutely great welcome wherever we went. Memories of roast goat dinners under the stars prevail!

Then in 1993 I joined the Northern Bank in Belfast. When the very pukka lady who called me from the London search firm enquiring as to my interest in running a Bank in Northern Ireland, I replied have you nothing in "Azerbaijan"! I thought that had killed the conversation but she came back "don't worry we supply a flak jacket!" The rest is history as I caused the only strike in

British Banking since the War over opening hours - we had done a very sophisticated piece of research into customer preferences (the latest crop of Bank CEOs who are shutting everything down might take a leaf out of this book!) opened certain branches with full service on Saturdays and those in Malls were open during Mall hours. Even opened a couple of market town branches on Market days at 8am. The strike took place on September 8th 1994 but we managed to open all the branches and generally support fell away, Staff were reassured by the independent research that this was what their customers wanted!.

In 1996 I had my year as President of the Irish Institute of Bankers involving 12 speeches around Ireland. My theme for the year was Gender Equality - seems that its day has come! In my last year in Belfast I took on responsibility for the Group's bank in Dublin and created a "2 brands single business model structure".

It's interesting that almost nobody amongst our Scottish friends and relatives visited us in Northern Ireland (too close to home maybe!) but we had friends from America, India, Australia, the Middle East etc who all came and visited and shared our tremendous enjoyment of The Province and its people. Very very friendly, beautiful place.

Then when the Bank's owners on the altar of centralisation (feels like Holyrood) sought to export Northern Ireland jobs to Glasgow, I resigned and took up an offer to run the Gulf Bank, the second largest bank in Kuwait. About 15 months later I learned that Fred Goodwin was going to the Royal Bank and I was asked if I'd return and put Clydesdale & Yorkshire Banks together in a similar structure to the Irish model. I returned in 1998, did that and retired at 60 in September 2001.

I then embarked on the latter stages of my career, had given up squash and jogging outdoors and became a gymoholic! Whilst taking on several board appointments in a variety of organisations.

After retirement I've been able to indulge in my keen interest in Strategic Planning, Change Management and Leadership. In addition to facilitating programmes at a number of companies where I've been a board member I've also lectured as an Honorary Professor at Glasgow University and currently at Heriot Watt.

The message at 76 is that "if you can, you should"!

John R Wright

Alasdair Donaldson

Paralympic Sport – From The Inside



Alasdair Donaldson

I joined Stewart's Melville in Primary 7, having previously attended North Queensferry Primary school. By the time I came to Stew Mel, sport was already a big part of my life, having attended primary school through the teachers' strikes of the 80s and struggled to get any sport at Primary school, sport was a big reason behind my daily journey across the Forth Bridge. As such it wasn't a surprise that from my first day in Mr McLeish's class sport was a big part of my motivation. I can clearly remember when Mr Dorman came into the class looking for any new boys who were rugby players; I think I jumped out of my seat to put my hand up and I was invited along to my first rugby session at the School just two days later and given the chance to wear my newly acquired red and black kits.

As I came to the School I was actively involved in a number of sports but rugby, having started out at Dunfermline rugby club, and athletics, were the two I was involved in. I was lucky enough to carry on both of these throughout my years at the School as well as jumping at the chance to get involved in other sports when I could. Funnily, I am not sure I can remember quite so much about the more academic aspects of school but I did enjoy a number of subjects and in particular Geography. I was lucky enough to have Mr Wood for a number of years and a particular memory (in the days well before digital cameras and power point) was of him putting up pictures of glaciers and mountain formations, but they were always clearly his family holiday pictures as you could normally see his kids hidden in the corner and every time one of these pictures came up there was a chorus of "oh dad!"

I left school in 1995 and headed to Loughborough Uni. As I left school my sporting focus became running over rugby and this is part of what has led me into my current career working with the British Paratriathlon team. For me leaving rugby behind was something I did with a heavy heart but the chance to start travelling regularly to Welford Road to follow Leicester Tigers was at least welcoming to keep a little of that fix. I decided to stick with what I knew and loved when I eventually moved into a proper career instead of pursuing my own sporting dreams, and had a couple of

jobs working in various ways in athletics, including a role back home in athletics development in Tayside & Fife. My boss for a couple of years there was Brian Samson, (father to FPs Struan & Ross)

Having hung up my spikes I began coaching at a club in Perth. I quickly realised that the lure of the performance end sport was still very much there and I really enjoyed the challenge of helping athletes to not only try to improve their own performances, but also of trying to be the best of the best. I was fortunate enough to work as a coach for UK athletics during the London Olympic cycle and was privileged to be in that position to do so. At the end of this period I knew that I wanted to seek a fresh challenge – I had been so involved in athletics for such a long time and at times working in the sport for which you have so much passion can be a little frustrating. It is also part of the world of performance sport that sometimes if you want to develop yourself you need to move between sports to get the opportunities which will help you to progress and develop.

This brought me to my current role and something of a new direction. In 2013 I took up a role with British Triathlon working as the Paralympic Talent Manager. Paratriathlon was a new Paralympic Sport for 2016 and this meant that it was a pretty small sport with lots of potential for development. It is a challenge which I have loved and which has really developed and fascinated me in many ways. Trying to describe what I do can



World Champs Team 2018



Wheelchair Athletes in Transition

take a while as there is a lot of variety and a lot of change, but that's what keeps it really interesting. My main focus is on bringing new athletes into the sport and developing them towards the Paralympic Podium alongside our Head Coach. However, I also travel extensively with the performance team in a number of guises from sorting the logistics to managing the support team and leading the full team and also working with wheelchair athletes in transition

It is a part of the job which is great fun and gets me a fair few stamps on the passport each year, I am not long back from the Gold Coast in Australia and the World Championships and I head to Madeira for the last race of the season soon. As good as all of the travel is, it can be tough with a young family at home.

Working in Paralympic Sport has been a really fascinating challenge and has shown me where the differences are, but also where the similarities are. At the end of the day sport is sport no matter which sport it is and who is taking part, everyone is still trying to improve on what they have done before and to beat the opposition. The athletes who are successful are still those who have natural ability, an openness to learn and develop themselves and an unquenchable drive to be better than they have been before.

There have been many times when I have been asked "did you expect to be doing that when you started this job?" One occasion particularly springs to mind when I was dismantling and cleaning out a prosthetic foot for a new athlete who had just been to the beach for an open water swim and their foot had stopped "working"! Another aspect of the role which can take some getting used to at first is the very dark sense of humour displayed by some of the athletes within the squad. When I first started I wasn't sure if I should laugh or not at some of the comments athletes made to each other, but over time you get used to most of it!

The environment is directed completely at performance and the athletes are driven in exactly the same way as those on the Olympic

side of the sport, it is just the way they come into it and some of the challenges they face which can be different. During the time I have worked in the sport I have seen a great deal of changes, despite it being just over five years. We have gone through three different classification systems (this is the way in which athletes are grouped into categories for competition depending on how their disability affects their ability to compete in triathlon); we have also had to deal with two very late decisions on which of those categories will compete at the forthcoming Paralympic Games. Last month we got note of which classification groups would be competing in Tokyo. With only two years to go our athletes have all been waiting to hear since Rio and we have just had our Paralympic Champion from Rio told that his category wouldn't be going forward to Tokyo; for him that is his dream of retaining his title taken away, together with the UK Sport funding which helps to support him and his family. In our sport the Games can't accommodate every category at this stage so we deal with a lot of international politics around how the decisions are made to select certain categories. It is always a challenge because there are people and their families affected by these decisions. It is certainly an area where our sport can develop internationally.



Rio Closing Ceremony

The length of pathway in Paralympic sport is the one area where it can really vary from Olympic sport. In some categories there

is very little difference and the athletes who are the best in the world are those in their twenties who have trained for the sport, or at least one or two of the disciplines for a number of years, but then there are also some categories where the age profile can be that bit more varied (from late teens all the way to early forties) and athletes can end up coming in and winning world medals in just over a year. When I started this was the case across all categories but as the sport has matured so have the most competitive categories. With my primary role being about recruiting new athletes having an understanding of the world level and what sort of athletes and impairments we are looking for becomes a key part of what I do. In itself Paralympic sport is about athletes with disabilities, but its nature means that certain groups are excluded from competing in certain sports and events; this is something we try and work to minimise in triathlon in Britain.

Another area of difference is how events are run. With 12 different categories which all need to compete and the cost of putting on a triathlon being high it is common that all, if not most, of our categories will be on the course at one time. The races are all started in a staggered manner but when trying to give feedback to athletes about their gaps to rivals on the bike while they are flying past at 30 miles an hour you have to become very adept at using a few different stopwatches at once, knowing every athlete in the world field, and at spotting different disabilities as they fly past at the same time as others.

What has been fascinating during my time in the role has been the rise in popularity and public focus on Paralympic Sport, which really kicked in off the back of the London Games. Such is the increased attention that this year one of our athletes (Lauren Steadman) reached the semi finals in this year's series of Strictly which will help raise our sport's profile greatly over the next few years into Tokyo. Although the media coverage is still lagging a long way behind that of our Olympic counterparts there is a lot more than there used to be and triathlon in particular as a sport is very well integrated and far more so than virtually any other Olympic/Paralympic Sport. We compete in our World and European Championships at one venue across a four-day period.

From helping to remove wetsuits from athletes to political meetings with the International Federation and UK Sport there is certainly a great deal of variety in the average year. I am privileged to be in a position where I work with a team of driven athletes and staff and have a job which never gets boring and keeps providing new challenges!

Alasdair Donaldson

Richard Le Sueur – Golf Course Architect



Richard Le Sueur

Most of the instantly recognisable golf course designers of the modern age are famous, retired players such as Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player and Arnold Palmer. However, the first professional golf architects date back to over 100 years ago, working during the booming golf era in America in the early 20th century known as the golden age of golf architecture. The design of courses in this period was dominated by Scottish golfers of the time who brought their influence to many of the finest courses in the States and moulded the game as it's known today. As a keen golfer, this is something that caught my eye at a young age and started me on the journey in to golf development.



Bahrain Golf Course

I founded and lead Architect at Golf Design Scotland having spent twenty-five years working in the golf course development industry. Through the years I have worked all over the UK, Ireland, the United States, emerging Europe and the Middle East, involved in the design, construction, establishment and maintenance phases of several projects.

Always a keen golfer having been introduced to the game at a young age by my father, my first job was a summer at The Braid Hills driving range acting as ball picker and moving target practice for golfers, before moving on to the slightly less glamorous world of caddying for a young

pro on the tartan tour.

At this time (the early nineties) there was no official route in to golf course design so following some advice while still at DSMC, I found that the best way forward was to combine a background in design and the practical side of golf development. I decided to apply for Architectural School, and while studying at Robert Gordon's University, started working on a golf construction crew in Ireland over the summer.

As a result of researching the various routes in to the business, I heard about a specialist golf programme at Michigan State University and applied for a place. The programme at MSU produces some of the best Golf Course Superintendents (or as we call them head-greenkeepers) in the USA and gives the opportunity for students to spend internships at the likes of Augusta and several US Open venues. Instead, I took the construction route to learn course development from the trenches, and took a job with MacCurrach Golf Construction, an award-winning golf contractor based in Florida.



Richard in Florida

Following graduation from Michigan State, I returned to MacCurrach to gain further construction experience on several projects in Florida, South Carolina and Michigan. and learned every stage of golf course construction from laying-out the courses to operating bull dozers, working closely with some of the best-known names in golf including Arnold Palmer and Pete Dye.

Knowledge gained, it was time to move back to Scotland and look for jobs in design, however the first job offer took me in a slightly different direction. Gleneagles were at the time managing the development of a new golf course in Bahrain called Riffa Golf Club. The project was about to start and they needed someone on site to help with project management and construction. So far, I had worked on various stages of several projects but none from start to finish. This was the perfect opportunity to see the development of a project from a flat, dry desert to an undulating, lush golf course.

Working in the heat of Florida was warm enough but nothing compares to a desert island in the middle of the Persian Gulf. Working in temperatures of 48 degrees, the golf course took shape over 2 years using

over 2 million gallons of recycled water a day to keep it alive. When the course was finished and ready for play, I was asked to stay on and manage the maintenance programme for a year until all staff were trained and the course was fully established.



Richard on bulldozer

Following my time in Bahrain, I returned to Edinburgh just as the first official qualification in golf course design had been set up, a Masters in Golf Course Architecture at the Edinburgh College of Art. So I enrolled in the one-year course and set up Golf Design Scotland at the same time, thereby becoming one of only a few golf course designers with a Masters degree to my name.

After setting up Golf Design Scotland, work started on a range of projects around Scotland. This mostly consisted of renovation and restoration, assisting clubs to make improvements to their courses. This can mean anything from tee, green and bunker re-design through to full course renovation. Having worked with dozens of clubs over the years, my current portfolio includes a number of Edinburgh clubs such as Murrayfield, Royal Burgess, Turnhouse and Baberton.

Over the years Golf Design Scotland has also had the opportunity to work on a variety of international projects including a new 18-hole course in Bulgaria, a private practice facility and short course in New Zealand (a concept based on the five elements) and a site investigation in Azerbaijan (paid for in caviar and carpets!)

Most recently I have visited Oman to look at a number of sites for a new golf and sports village on the outskirts of Muscat.

I am also a founder member of the Scottish Association of Golf Course Architects, a small collection of golf course designers based in Scotland who are once again trying to raise the profile of Scottish designers and bring them back to the forefront of the course design and development of the game around the world.

Looking back, my life since leaving School has been hugely satisfying and given me many unexpected experiences.

Richard Le Sueur



The Father of Argentinian Football

Although rugby is arguably the sport with which the school is most strongly identified, it was in the other football code, the association one, that a Former Pupil made his mark in Argentina over 120 years ago, earning himself the epithet of 'the father of Argentinian football.'

Alexander Watson Hutton, according to the Argentinian Football Association's [A.F.A.] website, was the 'principal driving force behind football in the country' where he is 'justly considered the father' of the game. Between 1893 and 1897 he was the first President of the Argentine Association Football League, the sport's inaugural national body which in 1903 became the AFA, still governing the game today. This was the first national association in South America and the eighth oldest in the world. Football fans may well think there is surely a cruel irony in the fact that Argentinian football after being established by a Scot went on to dual World Cup success while Scotland since 1998 has not qualified for the finals, where in any event it has never progressed beyond the preliminary stage!

Hutton was a pupil at Daniel Stewart's Hospital School, admitted with Roll Number 116 on 10th June 1862, aged 9 years old. The School was then residential, primarily for orphaned or destitute children, having been set up as such in 1855 when fifty boys were

admitted. He was born in Eglinton Street in Glasgow's Gorbals on 10th June 1853 to parents Robert and Ellen, originally from Fife, who had moved west in the late 1840's and opened a grocer's business in the Gorbals. Shortly after his birth, the family moved again, this time to Edinburgh but by Alexander's fifth birthday, tragedy struck his family as both parents and a younger brother died. Brought up then by maternal grandmother Helen Bowman in the city's Logie Green area, further tragedy befell young Alexander when she also died, leading to his admission to Daniel Stewart's. According to archives, when he started 'he could read words of two syllables only' and remained there for five years, in the company of elder brother Robert, admitted in 1860.

Between leaving school and going to Argentina in 1882, details of his life are patchy but he attended Edinburgh University from 1872 to 1881 when he graduated with a second class degree in Philosophy. It seems the length of time taken was due to his having to pay for his studies, which he did by teaching at George Watson's College, where according to the Principal, his classes were a 'model of excellence.' During part of this time, it is known he lived in lodgings in the city at 4 St. Patrick's Square in the house of widow Mrs. Alexandrina Waters, one of whose sons William would later emigrate to Buenos Aires and assist Hutton in football's development.

In late 1881 he accepted the offer of a teaching post with the St. Andrew's Scots School in Buenos Aires where he travelled by boat from Liverpool, arriving on 25th February 1882. His enthusiasm for football was immediately apparent as he encouraged

pupils to play the game and formed school teams. What is less clear is how his interest in the sport developed here although by the time of his departure the game had taken firm roots, with Hearts and Hibs by then well established. Whatever the nature of its beginnings, possibly in the school playground, there was no doubting his passion for the sport, which resulted in his leaving St. Andrews after two years because the school refused his request for better sports facilities.

On 1st February 1884 he founded his own school, the Buenos Aires English High School, at no. 253 Calle Peru, later moving to its current premises in the city's Belgrano district. His new school was soon successful and within two years had attracted over 500 pupils. Sport and particularly football were at the core of the syllabus as he was a strong believer in their benefits in instilling discipline among his charges. He himself played and refereed matches and was active in the expatriate community in promoting the game. Such was the regard in which he was held, that he was appointed President of the first national association in February 1893, a post he held for four years.

His High School team became very successful and in 1901 he formed the famous 'Alumni' football club, for pupils, former pupils and teachers of the school, he himself playing in a match that year aged 48 against Belgrano Athletic. 'Alumni' dominated football nationally in the first decade of the century winning numerous league titles ably assisted by son Arnold who went on to win 17 caps for Argentina as well as caps for tennis, cricket and water polo. When Hutton retired as headmaster in 1912, his driving force was missed and the club dissolved.

In 1885 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Buenos Aires he had married Margaret Budge from Edinburgh with whom he had taught at Watson's and they had three of a family. Although he was to remain in Argentina for the rest of his life, he never forgot his old school, in 1925 donating the 'Hutton' prize for Modern Languages, in memory of his older brother Robert who had died of consumption in 1871. According to that year's Stewart's College magazine, he was present in Edinburgh at the school's 'closing exhibition' in July.

He died on 9th March 1936 aged 82 and is buried in the British Cemetery in Chacarita, Buenos Aires, where a commemorative plaque tribute in the name of the A.F.A. sits alongside his gravestone. In 1950 an award winning film was made about him, his 'Alumni' team and Argentinian football, 'Escuela de Campeones,' [School of Champions]. This underlines the extent of his contribution to football in his adopted country, given the many years that had passed since his involvement. Although life threw many misfortunes in his path, it is an uplifting thought that the foundations of his success in Argentina may have been laid during his education at Daniel Stewart's.

Jack Davidson

Those Magnificent Men In Their Flying Machines



J R S (Titch) Young

Spring and summer 2018 saw a wide range of events to commemorate and celebrate the centenary of the founding of the Royal Air Force, which was, one hundred years ago, the world's first independent air arm. Looking back at the air forces of the Great War, it's easy to believe that the aircraft flown then were primitive, flimsy machines. Reality couldn't be further from the truth. The machines of their day were as cutting edge (and as eye watering expensive) then as the new F35 fighter is today, and in their context, pilots were as well trained as our aircrew now. It is absolutely no surprise that the technically minded youths and recent FPs of Edinburgh Institution and Daniel Stewart's College were queuing up to join the RAF- or as it was before April 1918, the Royal Flying Corps (controlled by the Army) and the Royal Naval Air Service.

Like any boy who has ever made an Airfix model, most pilots dreamed of a posting to a 'scout' or fighter squadron. Lieutenant William Maxwell (DSC) could probably not believe his luck in being sent to the elite 56 Squadron and given the brilliant SE5a fighter to fly. 56 was commanded by the legendary Major James McCudden who regularly flew with new pilots to encourage their confidence- indeed, Maxwell was acting as his CO's wingman in the fight that saw McCudden win his Victoria Cross. Lt. Edward Mather (DSC) was posted to 43 Squadron and found himself behind the

twin guns of the famous Sopwith Camel. Despite the stroke of fortune of both being equipped with the best Britain's designers could offer, the two DSC FPs didn't last long in the unforgiving skies over Northern France. Maxwell was shot down in flames by Lieutenant Herman Vallendor after sharing in three aerial victories, and Mather brought down in a fight with the Red Baron's squadron during a ground attack sortie.

The grim reality for most aircrew was to be sent to a 'corps' squadron providing day to day assistance for the armies on the ground. It was vital but unglamorous work, and arguably more dangerous than life in scout squadrons. Artillery or photographic duties meant hovering over the same position in the enemy lines in machines that were designed to be slow and perfectly steady. Lt. George Watt (EI) of 16 Squadron and Lt. William Cowan (DSC) of 3 Squadron both lost their lives in the dreadfully sedate BE2 series of machines. Watt's victor laconically described his death- 'After a short fight, my opponent's plane lost both wings and fell. The machine crashed into No-Man's Land and was fired at by our infantry'. Watt had just become the 28th victim of the legendary Manfred von Richtofen, the Red Baron.

Some aircrew seemed to lead a charmed life: perhaps none more so than the Lt. Cecil Heaven (DSC). He had already completed a year's service in the trenches before transferring to the RFC, first as a 'flying arsehole' (as observers were known from their winged 'O' brevet on their uniforms) then as a pilot. On one mission, his pilot was severely wounded (he was shot by a sniper- an alarming indication of their proximity to the ground) but via the means of dual controls, Heaven managed to get the machine back to British lines. After the bone jarring crash, he pulled his pilot from the wreck and dragged him to cover in a shell hole, under a hail of German fire. He was immediately awarded a Military Cross.

In a world away from the mechanized slaughter over the Western Front, other FPs were contributing to the war against the Central Powers in the Mediterranean. James Roy Stephens Young, an Institution FP who went on to become the Headmaster of Melville College from 1945-1955, makes a fine example. After enlisting in the Royal Scots in 1916, he transferred to the Royal Naval Air Service to become aircrew- a process that involved commissioning into the Royal Navy! Mustering as an observer, he mastered his trade training over Norfolk. He would no doubt have been surprised to learn that he was being posted to Imbros, on the Mediterranean island of Mudros. Far from being idyllic, Mudros was a dusty hellhole and life there was extremely spartan. It was from here in January 1918 that Young, nicknamed

'Titch' on account of his diminutive stature, undertook a career-defining operation against the Turkish navy. On 20th January, the Turkish battleship Yavuz broke out of the Dardanelles. She sank two British monitors, but was herself mined and badly damaged. The Aegean Squadron of the Royal Navy failed to capitalise on this and Yavuz was towed to safety up the Dardanelles Straits. It fell to the RNAS to locate the ship off Constantinople- and Young and his pilot were selected for the task. This involved a solo reconnaissance on a round trip of 434 miles- accurate navigation was crucial as the DH.4 bomber they were flying had a range of 470 miles. Any error would mean a forced landing in the sea- and almost certain death. Incredibly, the crew managed to reconnoitre the ship off the Golden Horn and brought back vital evidence as to its position. Even though follow up air strikes from the RNAS failed to damage Yavuz, Young and his pilot were awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for their incredible exploit.

It seems that after this he trained as a pilot himself, and was transferred to the Salonika front, flying the legendary Sopwith Camel. Between 15-18th September 1918 allied troops broke the Bulgarian lines and the Royal Air Force converted the defeat into a rout with ceaseless ground attack sorties. Within days the Bulgarians sued for peace, and no doubt Titch Young expected to return home. Alas not! After the Armistice in France, Young's squadron was transferred to Baku as part of an allied task force to assist the pro-democracy armies of the Whites fighting against the Bolsheviks. He again saw service in WW2, earning the War and Defence Medal.



Observer Plane 1918

No doubt every boy at Melville College could swell with pride at the thought that their Headmaster had, by 1945, witnessed the birth of the RAF, had helped defeat the Turks, the Bulgarians, the Austrians, Lenin's Bolshevik forces and Nazi Germany, and had served in all three British fighting services.

David Clarke,
History Master and Assistant School Archivist, DSMC

Branch Clubs...

ABERDEEN

The 2018 dinner which is our principal event was held at the Royal Northern and University Club on Friday 19th January and was attended by 40 people. David Fraser, next year's President piped in the top table. In my final year in that role, I chaired the evening and our principal speaker was Dr Ken McHardy who regaled us with a tale of Strathdon. This was Principal David Gray's last dinner in that role and once again he was warmly welcomed. He has been a strong supporter of this branch and we recorded this with a gift of a framed Washington Wilson print of Aberdeen harbour. Best wishes were extended to him in his prospective new role abroad



Probably reflecting previous pupils' respect for David, we attracted two recent school leavers to the dinner. It remains to be seen whether this will be repeated. Charles Wilson, President of the parent club replied to the toast to the School and College Club. Head Boy, Mark Ross represented the School. The next dinner will take place at the same venue on Friday 18th January, 2019 and we hope for a good turn out once again – few members (8) but numerous guests!

My contact is robertrjeffrey@btinternet.com.

Robert R Jeffrey
Secretary

AUSTRALIA

Our Annual Lunch was held on Tuesday 1st May, 2018. The venue was Long Reef Golf Club, our usual location on the Northern Beaches of Sydney and the weather was, as always, perfect. The attendees were Ian Anderstrem, Nick Crombie, Ron Gardiner, Sandy Hinshelwood, and myself. We greatly appreciated Ron Gardiner travelling from Brisbane for our annual lunch.

Apologies were received from Patrick Buxton, Brian Hunter, and Ian Johnston.



Sandy Hinshelwood, Graeme Reid, Nick Crombie, Ian Anderstrem, Ron Gardiner

We discussed the fabulous win by Scotland over Australia in Sydney last year and the related decline in rugby standards in Australia in the last few years. For those of us who follow the Waratahs, the Sydney based Super Rugby franchise, it has been very frustrating to see them fall from champions to no-hopers in a couple of years.

We were delighted at the news that former Lions will be presented with caps to commemorate their achievements and we eagerly await to see Sandy's cap at next year's lunch. Sandy was also invited by the South African Rugby Union to Cape Town to attend the 50th anniversary celebrations of the 1968 Lions Tour and as a guest of honour at the Test Match v England in June. Sandy has very kindly written about his memorable trip (see below).

Unfortunately our inaugural Sydney Branch Golf Day in December ended up, for a variety of reasons, being a match between myself and Brian Hunter at Killara Golf Club. We played on one of the hottest and humid days of the year and Brian nearly had to be stretchered off the 18th with heat exhaustion but he held on bravely to square the match.

We are still very keen to contact any members who have moved to Australia so we can widen our FP network.

Graeme Reid
Secretary
Email: gmr1160@msn.com

1968 BRITISH LIONS 50TH REUNION

In June last year my wife and I flew to Cape Town for the 50th Anniversary Reunion of the 1968 British Lions Tour of South Africa.

This was the sixth reunion, having held such events every five years since the 25th. The previous five were all held in the British Isles to coincide with the Springboks Autumn tours. We have had two in London and one each in Edinburgh, Dublin and Cardiff. They typically consisted of the "official" reunion dinner on the Friday night, attendance at the Springbok match and the official after match dinner on the Saturday then break up on the Sunday.

This time was very different. We were hosted in Cape Town for a week, with wives, as guests of the South African Rugby Union. Everything was included, even a Team Bus and two security personnel. There were twelve players from the team and sadly a couple of late call-offs who couldn't risk losing their places in an NHS queue!

We had a full week of activities in and around Cape Town. Included were visits to several schools where we witnessed the role sport, particularly rugby, is playing in transforming the lives of underprivileged children. The work being done by volunteers in these environments in education and sport was truly inspiring.

One, in particular, was at Masiphumelele where they have a major fundraising programme to develop an astroturf area for sport, to replace the bare bitumen they currently use. A key member of the programme is Colin Blaikie, the Heriot's FP, who is one of a long list of Scotland



Edinburgh Boys at Masiphumelele, Arneil, Blaikie, Hinshelwood

fullbacks from Heriot's. Colin and I were contemporaries in FP Rugby in Edinburgh and played together in several Scotland teams. It was great to catch up with him after several decades!

We also managed a couple of winery visits, and a host of lunches and dinners. We attended the third test between the Springboks and England – very hard to decide which of these two to support! Throughout the week there was an ample supply of South African wines which were sampled and enjoyed by all. All our reunions have been memorable but I think everyone agreed this one surpassed all the others and we will all have fond memories.

Sandy Hinshelwood



British Lions 50th Anniversary Reunion - can you name the players?

BORDERS

There are enjoyable Dinners, most enjoyable Dinners and then there are Memorable Dinners. The Border Club's 2018 Dinner held at the Kingsknowes Hotel in May this year, was firmly in that last category, hugely enjoyed by all those present.

The priority for the evening was to bid farewell to the School's Principal, David Gray, and to wish him well in his new venture. This Dinner was, we were informed, David Gray's last Dinner as Principal: it was therefore especially fitting that once again he was accompanied by his wife, H el ene, who we have always been pleased to see.



Finlay Marshall, David Gray, Liam Harvey, Douglas Stephen

His health was proposed by Liam Harvey, the Headmaster of St Mary's School, Melrose, who also proposed the toast to the Club, which toast was replied to by Charles Wilson the Parent Club President.

In addition to the usual toasts, we heard from Lochie Gunn and Jonathan Jackson, two Deputy Head Boys, who spoke of their experiences at the School.

Before that, guests had been piped into the hotel by Lochie Gunn, the Pipe Major of the School's Pipes & Drums, and had



Lochie Gunn and Jonathan Jackson

also enjoyed an impromptu recital by the Secretary during the Interval, taking full advantage of a set of pipes being handy!



All the Presidents Douglas Stephen, Charles Wilson, Hugh Henney and Woody Morris

A memorable evening indeed, and one befitting the contribution to the School made by the Principal during his 18 years at the helm. We wish him, and H el ene, equal success in his next appointment in Beirut.

Finlay Marshall
Secretary

GLASGOW

Glasgow Club sends warm greetings.

This year the pattern of our events in the West is similar to previous years.

Our annual golf match against the Parent Club was held at Milngavie Golf Club, Glasgow. The result was a resounding victory for the visiting team.

Hugh Stevenson continues to lead the Club's valuable exploratory research work into beer festivals in the West of Scotland!!

The main event in our calendar is our annual dinner. This year it was held again in the Blythswood Hotel, Glasgow on Thursday 8th November.

We were delighted that the Parent Club President, Charles Wilson attended and we welcomed the new Principal Mrs Linda Moule to her first Glasgow dinner.



Linda Moule & Alan Foggo



Adam McBride, David Salmond & Walter Proven

Walter Proven
President

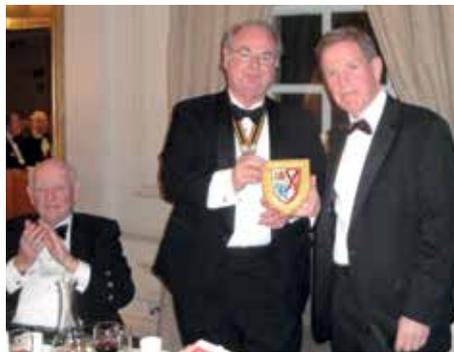
**Head Boys Past & Present**

LONDON

The London Club continues to provide a home from home for former pupils who have been relocated south from Scotland, as it has done, in various guises, for over one hundred years. The principal social event of the year is the Annual Dinner, which was held on Friday 23rd March 2018 at the Caledonian Club when 57 members and guests gathered to hear the School Principal, David Gray regale us with his wide-ranging reflections on Education ahead of his retirement from Queensferry Road & Ravelston before taking up a new role in the Lebanon in 2019.

The President for the past two years has been Dr Alastair Cormack, a Stewart's FP who is based in New York State and he will be succeeded at the AGM in November by Derek Serafini an FP of Stewart's Melville who lives in Worcester. So, for two successive two-year terms the Club has been led by members living outside London and the South East and indeed we also have members resident in Singapore, France and Spain.

Throughout the year there is a regular and

**London Presentation**

informal Club gathering. During 2018 this has taken place on the first Tuesday of each month, at The Clachan, an aptly named pub in Kingly Street, close to Oxford Circus in the centre of the city. This occasion provides a forum for local members to remain in touch with their friends and colleagues, and an opportunity for newcomers to the area to meet for a drink and a chat with colleagues with the common heritage of their school days at Stewart's Melville, Daniel Stewart's, or Melville College. Please note that with effect from January 2019 these gatherings are likely to revert to the First Wednesday of each month but venue etc shall remain the same.

The pattern of these evenings is to meet from 6.15/6.30 pm at a reserved table at the rear of the pub, often on the raised mezzanine section and around 7.45 / 8.00 pm we move on for a light meal usually to the upstairs restaurant of the pub.

We have been saddened in 2018 by the death of two Past Presidents - James Davie who died on 1st March and Lt Col John Cormack who died on 9th April. Obituaries of both these gentlemen appear elsewhere in this issue of FP News.

Any FPs visiting the South-East would be most welcome at The Clachan on any first Tuesday until January (or Wednesday thereafter) and similarly an invitation is extended to all Club members to make a Spring trip south to attend the Club Annual Dinner at The Caledonian Club, Halkin Street (near Hyde park Corner) on Friday 29th March, 2019 which by coincidence is also likely to be 'Brexit Day'!

Please contact the Secretary - Tom Scrimgeour for further details by email on TomScrimgeour@aol.com or by phoning on 01206 574797 or 07767 392423.

Tom Scrimgeour
Secretary

The Young Ones

Seen Around the Clubhouse

The Clubhouse at Inverleith plays host to an ever-increasing number and variety of events throughout the year.

Overall, there were some 250 such events held and here is a selection to give a flavour of what's been going on. For those readers

who were there, this will bring back some memories; for those of you who were not there – you don't know what you're missing!

There are the regular occasions such as Burns' Suppers, Club Dinners, Monthly Club Lunches and, during the winter months, EROS lunches.

January

Burns Lunch – January saw the Club Burns Lunch at which John Archer addressed the Haggis.



John Archer Wielding the Knife.

Inevitably, January also saw the EROS Burns Lunch. The usual full house enjoyed the fifth EROS lunch of the season held at Inverleith with main speaker Chris Paterson, Scotland's kicking coach/ambassador giving his views on the up-coming Six Nations matches. The occasion doubled as a Burns celebration with much haggis in evidence. Adopted Scot, great chieftain o' the Irish race the Reverend Howard Haslett addressed the haggis in his inimitable style



Chris Paterson.



Howard Haslett addressing the Haggis.

February

During the month of February, the clubhouse hosted a group of French tourists (who were in Edinburgh for the 6 Nations Rugby match). Bruce Ruthven held his mid term Rugby camp for the kids and the Golf Club held their AGM and Social.

A number of events had to be cancelled in February due to the wintry weather conditions brought in courtesy of the Beast from the East!

March

Pre Match Lunch Vs Gala



Gregor Townsend pre Match vs Gala.

Prior to the match with Gala a capacity attendance was privileged to attend a Q&A session with Scotland coach and ex Gala player Gregor Townsend led by Jim Calder. In a revealing chat among other things Gregor told us what goes on in the coaches glass box at Murrayfield during international matches and also how he prepared Scotland for the second half v England in the recent match when they were already 22-6 ahead at half-time (pretty

much leave well alone!). Roger Baird, formerly of Kelso, Scotland and the British Lions entertained the gathering prior to the Q&A with a rendering of "dirty Gala" and an insight to a team meeting with legendary Scottish and Lions coach Jim Telfer.

The Annual Golf Club dinner took place in the clubhouse on Friday 23rd March. Over seventy members and guests enjoyed the evening chaired by captain Adam Preedy. Jim Robertson was a thoroughly entertaining guest speaker with stories from his work as a Procurator Fiscal throughout Scotland.

April

The Clubhouse was quiet over the Easter weekend but the weekend of 14 April saw the Cricket season commence. The Hockey Club Boys and Girls Dinners were held on Friday and Saturday 20 and 21 April respectively, both were well attended



Girls Hockey Dinner.

May

The May End of Month Lunch Club got into the spirit of fundraising for the Clubhouse defibrillator and raised an amazing £108 towards the cost.

The theme of the day was Royal Wedding, wear something red, white and blue and / or a hat... as you can see, everyone made such an effort and thoroughly enjoyed the day.



Royal Wedding Club Lunch.

June

Leavers' Reception

Every year, after the Annual Prize Giving the FP Club hosts a Reception to welcome to the Club all who left the School earlier in the day and in recent years this has included the girls in the 6th Form too.

It's a great feeling, to complete your secondary education in fine style and optimistically look forward to what life will bring. This year was blessed with a lovely sunny day enhanced by the amazing backdrop of Edinburgh Castle. An evening to remember.



Leavers' Reception.

July, August, September

Club Lunches



Wimbledon Lunch.

The Club Lunch themes continued throughout the Summer with a Wimbledon lunch in July. Inverleith looked like a scene from Wimbledon centre court as the End of Month lunchers got into the spirit of the tournament, dressed in their finest whites and also raised a further £100+ for the defibrillator fund.



Is That Bjorn.



You Have been Warned.

A Back-to-School day in August and a Harvest collection for the Leith foodbank in September.



Back to School.



Happiest Days of Your Life.

September



FP Dinner Main Speakers.

The Club's Annual Dinner was hosted by President Charles Wilson on 7th September when 60 members and guests sat down to an excellent 3-course meal prepared by our in-house caterers, following pre-dinner drinks in the bar.

Colin Rigby, an SRU Council Member and Former Pupil, very kindly agreed – at the last minute – to fill the gap left by our main speaker who called-off unexpectedly the week before. Colin spoke eloquently on Agenda 3, the formation of the Franchises, better known as the Super-6 and why the SRU see this as the way forward for Scottish Rugby at all levels. Colin went on to explain how this new structure will impact on school and club rugby and the Super-6 themselves for the foreseeable future. He also gave examples of how clubs are taking steps to meet the challenges that will face them following implementation of the new structure in season 2019/20 e.g. closer collaboration between SMC RFC and Heriots RFC, which will see more 'nails' on the pitch at Inverleith.

Linda Moule, the new ESMS Principal, replied on behalf of the school encompassing, for our benefit, a resume of her career to date. During her speech, amongst other things, she brought us up-to-date on the academic achievements of both schools viz-a-vis the 2018 examination results, progress on the current developments on the Queensferry Road estate and the threats facing independent schools if certain Government policies are implemented.

Jack Mainland replied on behalf of the Club, emphasising the importance of the part the affiliated sports clubs play in the well-being of the Club.

Ross Johnston, SMC Head Boy, gave a very articulate and interesting speech on his 'Perspective of life at SMC'; how the school had shaped him as a person over the years from P1 to S6.

John Archer proposed the Toast to the Guests, which was graciously replied to by Rob Heatly, Watsonian Club President. Bob Young brought the official proceedings to a close by giving the Vote of Thanks.

After saying their 'Good-byes' to those that had to leave early(ish), the remainder of the company repaired to the bar for a chat and 'one-for-the-road'. All-in-all, a good time was had by everyone.

October

Moving into October, the Clubhouse hosted a number of private parties, funerals and events. Notably the 1968 Reunion Dinner organised by John Archer was held on 27 October and was well attended by his peers.(see Reunions for a full report)

November



St. Andrew's Day Lunch.



The Lions Rugby Club organised a Pizza and Beer afternoon and booked the downstairs function hall with TVs to watch the Autumn Test games. Again, this event was popular with Mums, Dads and a massive pride of Lions as they tucked into their food.

The Cricket Club held their AGM in November, and the End of Month Lunch for St. Andrew's Day went extremely well.

December

A number of the Affiliated Clubs had booked and enjoyed their Christmas parties at the Clubhouse.

The Daniel Stewart's & Melville College Annual Christmas Lunch was held on 17th December. Once again Father Christmas and his Elves surprised lunchers with a festive routine to entertain!



Introducing Lindsey Geddes - Our New Club Secretary

I was delighted when the opportunity arose to join the FP Club team. I was very familiar with the Clubhouse and some of the characters around the place as I have worked for the rugby club for the past four seasons. The overwhelming feel of the Club and clubhouse is a very warm welcome. Everyone I have encountered

so far has been no less than absolutely delightful!

As this is my first year, I am very much learning the job and the intricacies involved. There are a number of key times during the year that need to be adhered to and I am lucky to have Charles Wilson, President and Laura McIntosh, Treasurer to keep me right.

The parts of the job I enjoy most are the events where I get chance to meet the FPs. The End of Month Lunch which is open to everyone, is generally a joyful occasion, it is lovely to see so many regulars partake in good food and excellent company.

Born and bred in Dumfries and

Galloway, I moved to Edinburgh in the 80's. My first job when I moved to Edinburgh was with an advertising agency, some of you may remember "You can't get quicker (better) than a kwikfit fitter" and the wee jingle that went with it! From advertising, I moved into the world of beer. Scottish & Newcastle was my home for a number of years. I enjoyed being part of the wholesale arm of the business which ensured the public houses across Scotland were able to provide a variety of refreshments throughout the year.

On leaving the world of brewing, I ventured into the arena of professional sport where I was part of the backroom staff at Edinburgh Rugby. My working life has been varied and full. I have always enjoyed what I do, and like working in different environments.

If you see me around the clubhouse, please say hello. There's nothing better than putting faces to names.

Lindsey



School Reports...

Principal's Review



Linda Moule.

It is my very great pleasure to write my first report for the FP News Magazine as Principal of ESMS.

2017/2018 has been a notable year for Stewart's Melville College. The boys' industry and tenacity paid off – they achieved strong examination results at all levels. The pass rate at National 5 was 94.7%. At Higher level the boys secured a pass rate of 94.6%, with an A rate of 64.8%, outperforming the girls at The Mary Erskine School. At Advanced Higher level the pass rate was 92.3% and the A rate was a staggering 58.1%, which is the best on record.

If the boys' academic endeavours have been notable, then the successes in activities beyond the classroom have been equally remarkable. For the second year in a row the U15 and U18 boys won the prestigious Scottish Schools' Hockey Cup, a tremendous achievement which marks the ascendancy of boys' Hockey as a major sport at Stewart's Melville College. But if ever there was a year for success, it belongs to the swimmers who brought back The Bath Cup from the UK competition in London. They compounded this by sweeping the board from Primary 7 upwards in winning the Scottish Schools' Swimming Relays. Our triathletes, cross-country runners, golfers and badminton

players all enjoyed similar levels of success at regional, national and international competitions. Traditional major sports such as rugby, cricket and athletics also had their own moments, but for once, the year recorded exceptional performances in less highly acclaimed areas, perhaps evidence of the increased expression of free choice by boys for sports in which they are most talented or comfortable.

In the Performing Arts, we were treated to occasions of great quality and exceptional performances, including a wonderful Choral and Orchestral evening at Greyfriars Kirk. The Performing Arts programme included a series of Chamber Concerts, Award Holders Concerts and group musical performances conducted throughout the year, almost on a weekly basis. The schools' Senior Guitar Quartet were awarded the Performance of the Day at the inaugural Scottish Schools' Guitar Ensemble Day held at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Two excellent senior plays were also performed: *Blood Wedding* by Federico Garcia Lorca and *The Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner* by James Hogg and adapted by Mark Thompson. Both productions saw some captivating performances by boys, including some who had never performed before in a school play and yet who were able to learn and deliver hundreds of lines. Boys were awarded school colours in disciplines ranging from debating to boxing from triathlon to drama, showing the breadth of opportunity which the school provides as well as emphasising the value of the pursuit of individual interests performed at the highest level.

Over the past year, boys have had the opportunity to accompany colleagues on a Physics and Astronomy trip to NASA in the United States and on a History trip to Florence and Rome, during both of which the boys' keen interest was evident thanks to the engagement of their teachers. Enthusiasm for intercultural exchange was also evident on the return leg of the S5 and the Sixth Form work experience exchange with pupils from our partner exchange school in Marseille, in the south of France. While abroad, boys worked in hospitals, schools and engineering plants using their knowledge of French in the kind of work situation to which they

aspire when they leave school. This develops confidence and a sense of achievement. 400 boys, all of them students of History or Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies, were extremely attentive when they attended a talk by Eva Clarke, a survivor of the Holocaust, who was born in a German concentration camp. Her talk was chillingly inspiring of the triumph of humanity over brutality, and boys listened for more than an hour, totally still and engaged by the address, assisted, no doubt by the fact that many of them had, with the school, visited the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial or read *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* or *The Diary of Anne Frank* or seen the film *Schindler's List*. This was evidence of an education which enlightens, civilises and empowers, emphasising the need for understanding, tolerance, respect and appreciation, the last two of which are notable school values.

We continue to invest in the school estate. Work has now begun on Phase 3 of the redevelopment of the Queensferry Road site with the demolition of the old Belford and Beaulieu buildings. Phase 3 will provide new state-of-the-art Senior School classrooms for Modern Languages, Classics, RMPS as well as stores for CCF and Duke of Edinburgh. The estimated completion date is summer 2020.

The acquisition of the former Dean Church on Ravelston Terrace has been a major boon for the school, providing excellent space for a range of school activities. The venue has now been renamed The Dean, this being the name by which the former parishioners referred to their place of worship and it seemed appropriate for the schools to adopt this much-loved designation. The opening concert held in The Dean was the Jazz and Blues Festival in May, followed by the Sixth Form Leavers' Concert in June. We were delighted to welcome back some of the former parishioners to the newly refurbished venue to join the school community for these celebratory concerts. The Dean provides the schools with two large spaces which offer great opportunities for a multiplicity of additional events at school in future. I look forward to welcoming FPs to future events in The Dean.

Linda A Moule
Principal

Development Office

The 2018 Inspire Lecture - Mollie Hughes

The 2018 ESMS Inspire lecture last month saw over 250 adults and children gather in the Tom Fleming Centre to listen to an inspiring talk by a young climber, Mollie Hughes, who enthralled her audience with her reminiscences about her two ascents of Mount Everest. Mollie is the youngest woman ever to climb Everest via the southern route from Nepal and also from the more technically challenging northern route from China.



Inspire Lecture.

Mollie talked about her brushes with death when she feared she was about to be engulfed by an avalanche and then later when she was saved by a Sherpa after her oxygen supply failed. She emphasised how scared she felt almost every day but said she had learned to face her fears rather than give in to them, particularly when she was walking very slowly on flimsy ladders across crevasses or unhitching herself from her rope above a 1000 metre sheer drop in order to squeeze round another climber coming in the opposite direction down the notorious Hillary Step.

Mollie managed to come across as an absolutely ordinary young woman who had achieved extraordinary feats, having first experienced the hills on Exmoor as a teenager. Mollie's talk was accompanied by wonderful photographs and very scary video clips and the fact that we had to cut short the Q and A session after she had answered at least 30 questions was proof enough that she had left her mark on her captivated audience who gave her a very prolonged and well-deserved ovation when the evening ended.



ESMS & Malawi Girls.

ESMS at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

For the seventh successive year children from the ESMS Junior School and from S1 and S2 of MES and SMC contributed superbly to 26 sold out performances of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo throughout the month of August and deserve particular praise for continuing to sing with such enthusiasm each night even after they had returned to School. Sharing the stage with 32 Omani horses, 140 Mexican dancers and the US Marine Honour Guard among others, the girls and boys had an amazing experience and impressed everyone they met with their enthusiasm, good manners, professionalism and capacity for sustained hard work night after night. The children enjoyed all their contributions, performing exquisite harmonies as they joined our senior girls and their Malawian friends to sing the very poignant 'Amazing Grace' in recognition of the fallen of World War 1 before the pipers from the Menin Gate at Ypres played the Last Post. All this as the other 1,200 performers stood silently to attention on the Esplanade. A truly wonderful experience - roll on 2019!

FPs as Guests at the ESMS Remembrance Ceremony

Over 50 alumni accepted an invitation from the ESMS Development Office to attend the 2018 remembrance ceremony at Stewart's Melville College on Friday 9 November. As

2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War the boys were joined by all the Mary Erskine girls. Over 2400 pupils and 300 adults took part in what proved to be a memorable occasion for all the alumni who attended. The event proved to be so popular and successful that an invitation will be issued annually to everyone whose details are on the Development Office database. If you do not hear from time to time from Bryan Lewis or Suzi Squires, and would like to be added to their distribution list which will ensure you receive an invitation to next year's Remembrance ceremony, as well as to other events which you might find of interest. Please email development@esms.org.uk

Dinner for Doddie

You are probably aware that we are currently organising a very significant fundraising gala dinner for Doddie Weir, one of our Schools' most renowned former pupils, who was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease in 2017.

Doddie's Dinner will be one of the largest fundraising events taking place in Edinburgh next year, and it would simply not be possible without the help and support of the ESMS Community. The dinner is being held on Friday 1 February at the National Museum of Scotland with over 700 guests. All money raised will equally support My Name's 5 Doddie Foundation, which funds research into Motor Neurone Disease, and our own Access to Excellence bursary fund to ensure our Schools remains as accessible as possible. This really is our

most ambitious event to date and we are working very hard to ensure that as much money as possible is raised.

Doddie and his family have a long association with the Schools as pupils, parents and members of staff. The dinner will allow us to show Doddie, through our support on this special occasion, just how much he and his family mean to the Schools and how committed we are to helping him in his mission. As a school community, we owe it to Doddie to do what we can.

Melville College Reunion

A very enjoyable reunion for alumni of Melville College, which was jointly organised by the Melville College Trust and the ESMS Development Office, took place on Friday 16th November, the evening before the Scotland v South Africa autumn test match at Murrayfield. The event was held in the former Dean Parish Church, which was recently purchased by the Schools and is now called The Dean. All the guests enjoyed a very convivial evening with plenty of opportunities to mingle and chat while enjoying stovies and refreshments. There was a very interesting display of Melville College memorabilia (Miss Christie's detailed notes proved particularly popular!) and we were entertained by some amazing singing by the schools' Chamber Choir, recently returned from a tour in Italy where they had performed in Verona Cathedral and St Mark's Cathedral, Venice.

Suzie Squires

Access to Excellence

We are continuing to work very hard to build up the capital value of our schools' bursary fund, Access to Excellence, which is now about one third of the way to the final target of £15 million which the schools will need as a capital fund if they are going to be able to fully fund our bursary programme in perpetuity.

Although I have only recently completed my second year as Director of Development I am amazed by just how much support my colleagues and I are receiving as we work to build up positive relationships with all of our extended school community, including alumni young and not so young! More and more alumni are getting in touch, visiting the schools or offering support and advice to younger alumni and senior pupils. It is inspiring to receive so many interesting emails and letters asking for information about events we are organising, seeking news about former schoolmates or wishing to congratulate the schools for everything from examination results to the behaviour of

our children on the streets of Edinburgh! We greatly appreciate the warmth and sense the pride felt by so many in the pupils of today who are maintaining and developing the reputation to which you, and all our alumni, contributed in earlier days. Each of our alumni is very important to us so please do stay in touch and feel free to contact us at any time about anything at all!

Meanwhile please consider helping to provide life-changing education for children who would otherwise not be able to attend our schools. We are very grateful to all our alumni who are already regular donors to Access to Excellence but, if you have not made a donation before and decide that you would like to help by giving something back to the school which helped to shape your life, please support the cause as generously as possible. You can make a gift, or set up a Direct Debit, at <http://www.community.esms.org.uk/support/donate>.

Bryan Lewis

Annual School vs FPs Debate

This year the School vs FPs Debate, on 14 September, took the form of a "Mace Debate" in which two teams – the Proposition and the Opposition – took part. Each team consisted of two members – in this case, a Former Pupil and a Current Pupil – and the motion that they were debating was "The Fat Tax"; the Proposition advocating for its imposition to curb obesity in the young, while the Opposition argued against it, citing alternative ways of fighting obesity.

Both teams put forward well-researched and thought-out arguments, both teams answered questions from the floor adequately, and competently summed-up their arguments. At the end of the night, the Opposition won the debate following a show of hands by the audience. The evening was very well organised by Iain Major (Master-in-Charge of Debating) and his team of helpers and was well attended. By young and old.

Contributed

Welcome to the Class of 2018

Our newest Former Pupils, the Class of 2018, are now well ensconced in their new locations around the world, although most, as in recent years, have remained in Scotland to study. For the second year in a row, Glasgow University was by far the most popular destination for our leavers, with one in six boys choosing to "go west" for their undergraduate degree. Edinburgh and

(for the first time in recent years) Aberdeen completed the top three destinations for Stew-Mel leavers.

The biggest trend this year was for students to consider an alternative to going straight to university. Deputy Head Boy Mark Ross is undertaking an internship in London with JP Morgan, Dominic Caira has started a Modern Apprenticeship with Business Stream, whilst Thomas Bald has joined the RAF, also on an Apprenticeship. No fewer than five students have enrolled for further study at Edinburgh College, preferring to undertake a one year (HNC) or two year (HND) course rather than opting at this stage for the full commitment of a four year degree: Connor Gilzean (Administration), Alasdair Hood (Technical Theatre and Production Arts), Lucas McGregor (Art and Design), Liam Reynolds-Kerr (Computer Game Development) and Michael Spence (Architectural Technology).

Of those heading to university, Harry Crowe is venturing the furthest afield, enrolling on a Languages degree course at Trinity College, Dublin, although Pietro Gervastri and Neil Longair have returned to their native countries (Italy and Denmark respectively) in order to complete their high school education after successful "gap years" in our Sixth Form. Paul Roddam is maintaining the fine SMC Oxbridge tradition, reading Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) at Oxford. Lecturers at Loughborough now have the task of remembering which of the triathlete twins wears glasses as both Forbes and Jonny Jackson have begun their Economics degree course at the East Midlands university which, like Stewart's Melville College, enjoys a fine sporting tradition. The top rugby players of the SMC Class of 2018 have both begun Apprenticeships with the SRU: Connor Boyle is combining his Murrayfield commitments with part-time study at Heriot-Watt university, whilst Jack Blain has found himself playing alongside his former school rugby coach Mr Edwards in the first team at Heriot's. Nathan Brown, who had the distinction of captaining the Scottish Schools' FA national football team last session (having played in SMC's Brewin Dolphin Cup winning rugby team at Murrayfield the previous year!) has opted for full-time study for now, beginning a Law degree course at the University of Aberdeen. He was one of only three boys to choose to take a legal degree, with Business and Economics related degrees attracting a total of over thirty boys, by far and away the most popular course choice again this year.

This hard-working cohort of talented young men has made a great contribution to Stewart's Melville College over the past six years, no more so than in a highly successful final year, and they will surely participate with equal enthusiasm in the FP Club over the decades to come.

Jeff Marsh



ESMS Remembrance.

The Remembrance Ceremony this year was perhaps the largest and arguably the most significant since the dedication of the memorial at Stewart's, marking as it did the centenary of the end of the Great War. The proceedings began early at 10am in the newly acquired Dean, with the Development Office hosting a very well attended reunion tea for FPs of both Melville College and Stewart's. The Old College itself was filled with cards bearing the family service histories of current staff and pupils, a truly worthwhile project organised by Sandy Frost in the English Department.

Guests began to gather around the memorial at 11am, when over 2,500 of our pupils fell silent around the lawns. There were over 400 remembrance crosses planted there, each one named by a Primary Seven pupil, a heartfelt tribute led by David McLeish. The CCF contingent,



Remembrance Garden at the Dean.

as ever under the watchful eye of Staff Sergeant Jimmy Coyle, looked particularly smart and the parade was ably led this year by RSM Andrew Morrow, with Sergeant Katie Scott bearing the contingent colours. Particularly significant this year was the laying of a wreath by Patricia Keppie of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission,

Centenary Remembrance Service



for Private Thomas Chalmers (DSC). After having lost his life on the first day of the Somme offensive, he was unaccountably missed off the war memorial, so it was deeply satisfying to know he was back amongst his own folk again after 102 years. Another rare and special touch this year was the Lament, played by ex-Royal Scots Pipe Major Rab Burns.

Mrs Moule led her first Remembrance Assembly shortly after in what proved to be an extremely thought-provoking address. Instead of following the well-trodden route of depicting the war as a muddy slogging match between Britain and Germany in northern France, listeners were transported to far off Serbia, Salonika and Gallipoli through stories of the service of Stewartonian and Institution FPs. A slideshow provided a vivid visual backdrop, showing scenes from the 'forgotten fronts'

of Palestine and Mesopotamia. Mrs Moule spoke warmly about the lives of four of our men- none of whom rest in a known grave- who, each in their own way, defined a different kind of heroism. There can be few people who were not moved by the story of Reverend John Ireland sacrificing his life on a sinking troopship or did not marvel at the gallantry of 17-year-old George Downie, who volunteered to try and take a message to help his comrades, though he faced certain death. It was quite a moment to hear for the first time the names of five Sikh troops who fought to the death with George Dempster in 1914, or to learn that Dr William Ridley, completely forgotten at home, is a national hero in Serbia.

After the main service, several classes returned to the Dean where former parishioners and representatives of John Watson's College gathered to honour their

memorials. All who attended were struck by the beautiful memorial garden planted by Willie Purdie, and the silhouette of a Tommy guarding it, which was organised by Mark Longmuir in the SMC History Department and the utterly indefatigable Rhonda Wright in the office. School chaplain Rev. Peter Nelson was again on hand to give depth to the occasion, and it was a moment of great significance to promise that in taking on responsibility for the memorials in the Dean, we adopted the men on them as our own. As Mustapha Kemal Atatürk is reputed to have remarked many years after the Gallipoli campaign 'Your sons are lying in our bosom and are in peace. Having lost their lives on this land, they have become our sons as well'.

David Clarke

REUNIONS...

Melville Class of 1963

13th October, 2018 was the date for what must have been our 56th reunion or thereabouts.

The lunchtime pub lunch at the Café Royal was attended by 11 of us. A notable absentee this year was George Ellis who lives in the Midlands and until now has not missed out on a get together. Such is the draw of our reunion that he gives up a Saturday supporting Walsall FC each year to join us! George is recovering well from surgery.



Boys Lunch.

Bruntsfield Golf Club did its usual good job in hosting the mixed evening event which was attended by 20 including a special guest this year, Sally Ray. Dougie and Doreen Morgan had lent Sally a commemorative British Lions cap from the 1977 tour to New Zealand and Sally brought it along to show us. We are very grateful for that. I am sure that I am not the only one who remembers Dougie's try in one of the Test Matches which, the internet tells me, was the final Test at Eden Park in Auckland.



Evening Dinner.



Evening Dinner – the Other Half.



Dougie Morgan's Cap.



A Quiet Tittle!

None of us is getting any younger and, while our attendances are good, we are going to be a bit more positive about encouraging as many as possible to join in these gatherings. Here's to next year!

Mike Wheeler

Stewart's Class of 1964

The Stewart's Class of 1964 held its 54th Annual Dinner at Inverleith on 28 December 2017. We had a good attendance of 14, with apologies from 19 others, including some in distant parts of the world and others suffering various aches and pains. Once again we were rewarded with a warm welcome from Denise and Brian and another excellent meal.

After dinner Adam McBride began by passing on greetings from our absent friends. He then went on to mention a number of items of interest. Two of those present had attended the triennial alumni event held in November which had been based on the theme of remembrance. Four of our number had attended the Stewart's Melville FP Glasgow Club dinner which combined fine food with good company and excellent speeches. Adam drew attention to the new FP Club website. He then informed the gathering that the Principal, David Gray, would be retiring in the summer of 2018 after 18 years of outstanding service. His successor is to be Mrs Linda Moule, who has been Head of the Senior School at Mary Erskine since 2009.

On a personal note, Adam talked about a delightful occasion in July when he met up with one of our former teachers, Alex Balfour. Alex joined the Maths Department at Stewart's in Session 1959/60 and, as luck would have it, had the pleasure of teaching some of us last period on a Friday afternoon, often referred to in teaching circles as "the graveyard shift". Alex decided to give us a weekly puzzle, which those who wished could tackle and hand in their solutions before the following Friday. Adam recalled one such puzzle which took him a whole week of tedious calculations when it should have taken him just one line of writing. Alex left Stewart's to join the Department of Mathematics at Heriot-Watt College. Over the next few years his interests in Computer Science developed and in 1970 he was appointed to the newly created Chair of Computer Science at Heriot-Watt University. As part of that

department's 50th anniversary, Heriot-Watt University awarded Alex an honorary degree of Doctor of the University in July 2017. Adam had spotted the happy news in a newspaper and this led to a most enjoyable reunion with Alex one morning. Adam displayed to the gathering a rather special book which Alex had given Adam as he was leaving. It was a translation of a textbook on high school algebra written in the 18th century by Leonhard Euler, one of the greatest mathematicians of all times. Most mathematicians have had their interest in the subject kindled by an inspiring teacher, a role which Alex fulfilled with aplomb. (Sadly Alex has now passed away after a short illness.)

The meeting then discussed future plans. We had a big splash for our 50th Dinner and, God willing, would like to do something similar for our Diamond Jubilee Dinner. However, facing up to the reality that our ranks might have been somewhat depleted by then, we felt that in the meanwhile we should try to get an especially good attendance at our 55th Dinner. It was agreed that this would be held on Thursday 27 December 2018 at 6.30 for 7 p.m. at Inverleith.

There being no further formal business, we broke up for further socialising and a few more refreshments before setting off into the cold, moonlit night.

Adam McBride

Melville Class Of 1968

Fifty years to the day since their final concert and prizegiving, 25 of the Melville "Class of 68" dined together. Melville Street is now offices and Ferryfield has been built on, so we met at the Grosvenor Maybury Casino – where none of us had been as schoolboys! Our group included one who had left Melville in 1960 after P5, and 11 who had been at Melville for all 13 years. The furthest-travelled came from Hobart and Perth in Australia and Bangkok in Thailand; 5 came from England; 7 live in Edinburgh; the other 10 live elsewhere in Scotland including Lewis and Orkney. The reunion was such a success that 10 met again for lunch the next day and the next reunion has been booked for 24 July 2023.

Duncan Macniven



Left to right: Ali Craik, Ron Johnson, Graeme McDowall, Jamie Dobson, Douglas Small, Ally Miller, Colin Nairns (behind Ally Miller), Sandy Hutchon, Martin Waugh, Rab Thomas (in foreground), David McLaren (at back), Alastair Anderstrem, Gordon Aitken, Neil Crichton, Allan Bruce, Ian Miller (at back), Michael Smail, Blair Forbes (at back), Duncan Wylie, Sandy Purdie, Alastair Morgan, Stuart Wilkinson (behind Alastair Morgan), Duncan Macniven, Richard Stirling, Grant Macrae.



Melville Class of 1966

Not so much a reunion but a gathering of the Class of 1966 who had celebrated their 70th birthdays during the year.

They all met at the house of Donald Muirhead in Edinburgh on 17th November, spending the evening reminiscing about the Happiest Days of their Life and even rendering impromptu versions of Summer Suns Are Glowing – the hymn that signalled the start of the Summer Holidays at the end of the Prizegiving in the Usher Hall.

Although limited in numbers, there was no limit to the enjoyment of the occasion with wivws & partners joining in the musical interludes..

Those attending were Bobby Clark, Richard Scott, Richard Ellis, Hugh Mackay, Bill Wallace, Donald Muirhead (the host!), Neil Cavers, Mike Hunter, Pete Bain and James Mason.

Contributed

REUNIONS...



Stewart's Class of 1968

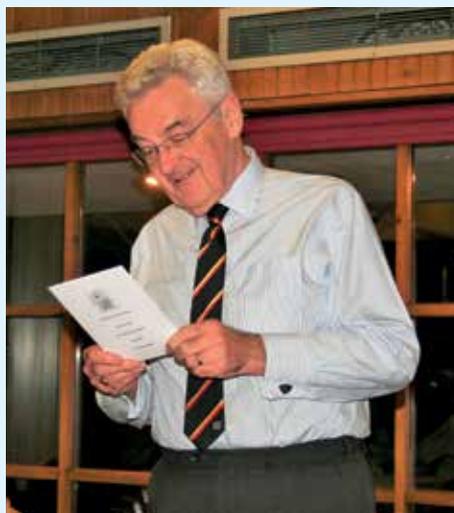
50TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION

The Daniel Stewart's Class of 1968 held a 50th Anniversary Reunion celebration on 27th October.

The day started with a tour of the School conducted by Bryan Lewis from the Development Department and was an eye opener for those whose last recollections had been from 1968.

In the afternoon, with the FP 1st and 2nd XVs not playing in Edinburgh, some of the party swallowed their scruples and took in lunch at Goldenacre, where they were warmly welcomed, before watching Heriot's demolish Hawick.

The evening saw thirty people sit down to dine and be entertained at Inverleith. After a welcome drink in the bar those present inspected three tables covered with memorabilia including class photos from Primary 2 onwards, mementos of



Sandy Benzies leads the Singing

Carbisdale, (of which our year was the first to attend), and other School trips. Denise then sent us downstairs to dine where each place held a special commemoration menu, a history of Daniel Stewart's and a booklet

giving individual recollections about life at School which had been compiled from the accounts of many of the year.

At the conclusion of the meal "Wee Pete" Stoddart entertained us with many tales of the School and his colleagues, most of which were scurrilous and some probably actionable! After reminiscences from former School Captain, Colin Harris, Nabeel Affara gave a most entertaining Toast to The School and to conclude Sandy Benzies led us in singing the School song. The rest of the evening was devoted to catching up with old friends but notably a collection was made for My Name's 5 Doddie charity to combat motor neurone disease with over £600.00 being raised.

Many thanks are due to the staff of the Development Office who were a great help and to Denise and Joyce at Inverleith who ensured that the evening was a great success.

John Archer

Sports Clubs...

RUGBY

The season got off to a positive start with good playing numbers in evidence and a real buzz about the club. This buzz was particularly evident during the social events that the club has organised to date.

We welcomed England and Lions legend and current Newcastle Falcons Director Of Rugby Dean Richards to Inverleith for an entertaining Q&A evening in mid August. Dean and Finlay Calder were kind enough to present special ties to the players reaching 25, 50 and 75 'caps' for the Senior 1st XV and this is what embodies what is best about amateur sport – having two genuine legends of the game (with three more Lions players and three more Scotland players also in attendance) investing in grass roots sport was great to see and a real honour for the recipients.



Sponsors Evening, Dean Richards, Gavin Hastings & The Bear.

The Lions' annual fundraiser took place on 22nd September with circa 200 people in attendance and a portion of the funds raised going to the Wooden Spoon Charity.



Scott Riddell, Courtesy of Scottish Rugby/SNS Group.

The Senior club's annual Ball took place on 9th November, this year moving from BT Murrayfield to Prestonfield House to

accommodate a bigger event. TV celebrity Sally Gray hosted the event, at which Scott Riddell was made an Honorary Life Member of the rugby club to mark his distinguished Scotland 7s career.

We were also delighted to welcome George Turner to Prestonfield, having watched him progress from Stewart's Melville College to the Senior 1st XV and then move on to play for Edinburgh Rugby, Glasgow Warriors and (ultimately) Scotland. 'G' remains intensely proud of his Stew Mel roots.



George Turner, Courtesy of Scottish Rugby/SNS Group.

On the business side of the whitewash, the Lions continue in rude health, with around 230 children from P1 to P7 and 55 coaches participating regularly. In addition to regular training sessions at Inverleith, the Lions participated in 21 events during the 2017 / 18 season, ranging from full-scale tournaments to round robins and friendly 'development fixtures', and this season's schedule looks similarly full.



Lions 2018.

Our rugby 'Academy' acts as a continuation of the Lions' Mini section for players from S1-S6. Like the Lions, the Academy is open to all players from any school who want to play rugby, embodying the same values and ethos as the Lions. The Academy provides a rugby programme to ensure that each

player receives a well-balanced season plan incorporating specialist skills sessions and performance workshops from top coaches in a measured environment, with player welfare at the forefront. Mixing hard work and fun remains at the core of everything we do at Mini and Academy level, and the style of rugby we want to play is fast, free-flowing and attractive to watch.

Life does not stand still, however, and we are continually searching for ways to improve what we can offer the players. To that end, the decision was taken in the close season to join our Academy section with that of Heriot's, effectively forming a new club. This decision has been taken to ensure that both clubs can provide the players with the high quality of coaching that they have come to expect as well as the opportunity to demonstrate and develop their skills in competitive matches.

We believe that, by coming together, we will provide a sustainable platform for the players to enjoy their rugby through the Midi age groups, encouraging as many as possible to take part and to prepare them for Senior rugby, hopefully as part of the Heriot's or Stewart's Melville Rugby Clubs. The combined player numbers at each year group within the Academy should also ensure that we can always provide a full team for matches on a Sunday while adhering to the SRU guidelines on player welfare by not having any Academy member playing more than 90 minutes of rugby within a 48-hour period.

These arrangements are being phased in this season, and, while the changes are significant, the feedback from the clubs, players, coaches and parents to date has been phenomenal.

The Senior club has also forged links with our friends at Goldenacre this season, with our 3rd XV joining forces with their Heriot's counterparts to form the Ferry Road Wanderers. Both clubs have struggled to put 3rd XVs out in recent seasons, with Stewart's Melville deciding to stop playing competitive 3rd XV games at the end of last season as we were simply failing to fulfil too many fixtures.

The Ferry Road Wanderers have taken the place of the Heriot's 3rd XV in East Reserve League Division 2, and, at the time of writing, sit in third place in that league with six wins out of eight. The Wanderers have, in fact, had more players than they know what to do with at some of their games, and there is now talk of establishing a second FRW team to play over 35s or veterans games.

The Wanderers are currently playing in Heriot's colours, but (I am delighted to report) will be donning a combined strip in the very near future. As with the Academy, we have received considerable praise for deciding to swallow our pride and start working with 'the old enemy' along Ferry



Stew Mel vs Falkirk courtesy of Jackie Mackenzie.

Road for the good of both clubs – such arrangements are likely to become more and more common if player numbers continue to dwindle around the country.

There's no such collaboration further up the Senior club, which continues to run two proudly independent XVs. While relegation to National League Division 2 at the end of last season wasn't pleasant, there was a feeling of inevitability about it, as we had only managed to win 9 of our previous 62 games. Coming down a league gives us a change to regroup, refocus and get back to winning ways.

With club legend Nick McCashin having replaced Gordon Henderson as head coach, and Graham Inglis established as Director of Rugby, the Senior club started the season well, with excellent numbers down at pre-season training, and sit in third place in National 2 at the time of writing with 8 wins from 11 games.

We have won all of our home games, with our three defeats occurring at Hartree Mill (Biggar), Park Farm (Dumfries Saints) and Canal Park (Highland RFC, Inverness). The names of these venues underline the fact that relegation to National 2 has given us the chance to visit some teams that we haven't played for some time – or, in some cases, have never played before!



Stew Mel vs Howe of Fife courtesy of Jackie Mackenzie..

Dropping down a league also means we need to provide a touch judge for each game we play – thanks are due to Michael Deignan and Colin McKay for stepping into the firing line for us during the season to date!

It's a tough league, with plenty of streetwise players who would dearly love to get one over on the 'big guns' from the capital, but we have adapted well and should be in the mix for promotion at the end of the season if our current form continues. The second half of the season will begin at the start of December once the Autumn Internationals are out of the way, and we look forward to welcoming Biggar, Dumfries and Highland (among others) to the wide open spaces of Pitch 1 at Inverleith.

Inverleith continues to boast arguably the best playing surface and the best view in Scottish rugby, and everyone who plays there is extremely grateful for the hard work that Willie Purdie and his team of groundsmen put in on our behalf. Despite its advancing age, the clubhouse still draws praise from visiting players and supporters, with Denise Mitchell and her team offering a warm welcome to all.

There was a significant change on the committee of the Senior club at the start of the season, with Finlay Calder replacing Colin Rigby as Chairman. It's sobering to think where we might now find ourselves if it wasn't

for all the hard work that Colin has done for the Senior club over the years, and he deserves immense praise for his efforts. Fin has played a major part in re-energising the club this season, even if some of our younger players have had to ask their dads who the tall chap with the white hair on the touchline is!

Stepping away from Inverleith for a moment, Scottish club rugby is very much focussed on the planned creation of the Super Six, semi professional franchise teams that are intended to provide a pathway between the amateur club game and the professional Edinburgh and Glasgow teams.

We were invited to meet with the other senior Edinburgh clubs during the close season, the idea being to explore the possibility of putting together an Edinburgh Super Six franchise with players being drawn from each of the constituent clubs. With Fin Calder representing Stewart's Melville at that forum, it rapidly became apparent that the Super Six was (to quote Fin) 'too rich for our blood', and we indicated that we would like to step back from the discussions.

We did, however, agree to support the stand-alone Super Six bid that Heriot's eventually decided to submit. This bid was ultimately successful, and we are currently exploring how our link with the semi-pro team at Goldenacre might work in practice. It may be that joint coaching sessions and dual registration will be introduced over time, to the mutual benefit of both clubs, though it must be stressed that nothing has been set in stone thus far – and that our relationship with Heriot's at the Senior level is anything but a merger!

We remain focussed on making Stewart's Melville the best amateur side in Scotland in the post Super-Six era, as well as being the friendliest, most open club in the country.

Bill McNie/Ali Stewart



Stew Mel vs Glasgow Accies courtesy of John Preece.

HOCKEY

2017/18 Season

The club celebrated its 30th anniversary in May, with exhibition games for both the men and women's sides. There were a number of old faces that resurfaced, in a joyous occasion uniting the different generations of the club.



Men's 30th Anniversary Match.



Ladies' 30th Anniversary Match.

During last season ESM Hockey Club obtained Silver Accreditation with Scottish Hockey, meaning a number of policies and guidelines have been met where the management of the club is concerned. This is a great achievement which is hoping to be built upon to work towards the Gold Accreditation next.

The new Canterbury kit also freshened the club's image and allowed a unified front.

Men's 1

Last season was described as a transitional year for the Men's 1s with a divergent team by the end of the season. Finishing the season on a level playing field, having won 6 games, drawing 2 and losing 6: resulting in a top 5 finish, with optimism for the coming season.

Men's 2

Another consistent season for the Men's 2s, ending the season in 6th. The season had its ups and downs but the team were able to stave off relegation early and become true club players through helping the other teams.



2nd XI Team Talk.

Men's 3

A reshuffle in the East leagues saw the Men's 3s promoted last season. A hard challenge awaited them but they were ready to show their tough spirit and finished in a commendable 8th place, evading relegation.

Ladies' 1s

After play off relegation from National 1 last season in a resilient performance that took them to running penalties, the Ladies' 1s took the opportunity to rise like a phoenix; winning eleven games, scoring an incredible 77 goals they finished 4th in National 2.

Ladies' 2s

The Ladies' 2s struggled to find their form in the first half of the season, with a number of pregnancies announced, however the second half of the season saw (not only a number of prams by the pitch) a comeback to finish 5th overall.

Ladies' 3s

The Ladies' 3s had a turbulent season, with a few fixtures being played with only ten players or minus a goalkeeper. This did not deter the team and they powered through the season and welcomed Amy Atkinson's return after Christmas from her Transatlantic trip, to become top goal scorer (even though a 2s player).



Men's 1st XI.

2018/19 Mid Season Report

The beginning of the 2018 season has seen a role reversal for the men and women's sides with an influx of new ladies joining, creating a surplus. The men on the other hand have struggled with availability but not numbers. A 4th XI has been entered to help the club develop and support the youth section, with a number of players reaching the age of 14 and now being eligible for adult hockey. The women's side has seen all three teams in the top half of their leagues. The men have seen an assortment of results, however the Men's 1s have taken this season on with grit and pure determination and go into the Christmas break unbeaten. With no men's indoor team this season due to the closure of Meadowbank and lack of appropriate venue, it solely lies upon the ladies to represent the club on the indoor circuit.

Youth Section

Season 2017/18 was another great one for ESM Youth Hockey Club, with 165 youth members from P4-S4 from six schools training over four evenings at Inverleith. Our youth coordinator, SMC Hockey Performance Coach, Ally Dodge, and his ever-growing team of coaches and Duke of Edinburgh helpers, ensure that players learn new skills, whilst having fun and making friends! Our four U14 teams and two U12 teams enjoyed playing Sunday matches in the East Leagues and we hosted a fun end-of-season tournament for our U10s. This season we also introduced a dedicated U16 training session to smooth the transition to adult hockey and our older players regularly played for our adult teams. We again ran successful holiday hockey camps in October, Easter and Summer, catering for hundreds of children, including for the first time this summer, a Pre-season Bootcamp, which as well as hockey and fitness featured guest speakers on sports psychology, nutrition and strength and conditioning. This proved very popular and will return next year.

Junior Hockey 2018. Our fabulous team of parent helpers ran regular social events including Halloween dress up and bake sales, a games and pizza night, a roller disco and an ice hockey trip. We were delighted to raise over £1,000 for Maggie's Edinburgh in support of the Stick it to Cancer Hockey festival.

We were proud to have 11 of our players, most of whom have been with us since 2014, involved in SMC's victorious U15 Scottish Schools 2018 Cup Squad.



Junior Hockey 2018.

If you are interested in finding out more, we would love to hear from you so please contact us at info@esmhc.com.

Website: www.esmhc.com

Email: info@esmhc.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ESMHockeyClub>

Twitter: @ESMHockey

Club Secretary secretary@esmhc.com,

Club Captain clubcaptain@esmhc.com

or the Youth Secretary youthsecretary@esmhc.com.

Mark Thorley

CURLING

Club League Curling

Four rinks once again played throughout the season for the Andrew Williamson trophy. There were some very close games, with the winners not being known until after the final game of the season. The winning rink was again skipped by George Bee and ably assisted by Rob Garner, Jane Bruce and various subs. Harry Waugh's rink was second with David Brown's and Ralph Garden's rinks tied for third.

Glenfarclas Division 2 (Midlothian Province)

We again had hopes at one point of promotion back to Division 2, but sadly had a poor season and were relegated. Due in the main to an ageing rink the decision was taken to withdraw from the Province League next season.

King George IV Knockout trophy

Our rink were narrowly defeated by the Rotary Club in the 2nd round.

Midlothian Province Bonspiel

We had 2 rinks in this competition and although we managed to record wins against Holyrood and the Royal Bank of Scotland our average shots up was not enough to win the Trophy.

FP League

Watsonians won the league this season and we came 3rd

Challenge Match v Watsonians

We recorded one win, one draw and two losses and so Watsonians retained the salver.

Match v Schools

Mary Erskine were unable to raise a full team for this match and we played against a boys rink and a combined MES/SM rink and we managed to win both games to retain the shield. Vicky Gumley and George Bee continued with the coaching of the Stewarts Melville boys and Mary Erskine girls.

Individual Achievements

Vicky Gumley qualified in the Scottish Senior Championships to represent Scotland at the World Seniors in Sweden. The rink played very well and just failed to reach the quarter finals. Chris Morris played in the Scottish Junior Championship.

2018 – 19 Season

The curling season for 2018 – 19 began at the end of September and once again we have four rinks competing for the Andrew Williamson trophy. We have not entered a team for the Midlothian Province League this year and we were knocked out in the first round of the King George IV trophy by Penicuik. The FP League is also under way.

As ever, we are in need of curlers of all abilities and if anyone knows a curler looking to join a club, please get them to contact our President George Bee on 0131 336 4533 or gbee@blueyonder.co.uk

George Bee

CRICKET



The cricket season is now at an end and after a little reflection on the past 6 months we can look forward to next season.

Generally our four Senior Saturday teams performed well and the Trojans, playing midweek, had a satisfying season. The 1st XI finished 9th in the Premier League and while staying off relegation does not seem to be great it must be remembered that this is the top league in Scotland and the standard is very high with many former English county or current 2nd XI county players and current and ex- internationalists bolstering sides.

The 2nd XI, having gained promotion last season to Division 1 surprised possibly even themselves by coming 4th in that division and for a while looked as if they might come first. The 3rd XI did well but fell away towards the end of the season and finished 7th in Division 6 while the 4ths did a neat reversal and finished 6th in Division 7.

What was most pleasing was to see the number of juniors coming through to the senior ranks and looking quite at home. Special mention must go to 16 year old Sam Tait for an outstanding inning against Grange in the last league game of the season. Sam faced 118 balls from the best bowling line-up in Scotland but batted through and held on to his wicket to see out the 50 overs.

While our professional, Shaylen Pillay, did not contribute as much on the playing side as he himself would have wanted his coaching of the juniors is quite outstanding and, in the interests of nurturing future talent, we hope to have him back this season along with this year's Overseas Amateur, Hayden Sweet, who was also a positive influence on the Juniors.

Stew Mel Royals Junior Cricket

The club continues to work hard in developing and growing our Junior Cricket programme and provides opportunities for boys and girls to participate.

Our All Stars Cricket (a UK-wide introduction to Cricket programme run by ECB) is the largest centre in Scotland with in excess of 70, 5-8 year olds taking part on Friday evenings in May & June at Inverleith. This introductory programme feeds into our age group cricket at U10 (Softball), U12 (Softball & Hardball) plus U14 & U16 Hardball Cricket. A regular weekly programme of practices and matches is followed at each of these age groups. Across our U12, U14 & U16 groups we have played some 52 matches this summer (winning 32) – often playing 2 sides at each of U12 & U14.

Our focus is very firmly on participation and providing opportunities to play Cricket whilst ensuring that we work hard on developing skills and awareness to allow players to become the best they can be. A key aspect of our Junior Cricket is in providing a pathway



into Senior (Adult) Cricket and looking to build a strong foundation for the long-term sustainability of the wider Club.

As part of this pathway, our Junior players from S2 are offered opportunities to start playing Senior Club Cricket – utilising our Trojans team in Sunday Development League (in which we finished second) and Thursday T20 matches where we are able to combine experienced adult cricketers alongside our developing Junior players

Our Girls & Womens Cricket continues to develop, building off the fantastic P6/P7 programme run with MES – P7 MES team winning Scottish Schools Cup and (S1-S3) Senior School team being runners-up in the Senior School Scottish Cup. and beaten finalists in the Beyond Boundaries Women's T20 Scottish Cup A good number of players are progressing through the School programme and into our Women's Hardball programme.

Having developed a relationship with another local Club (Edinburgh South), our joint team won the Women's Scottish Premier League at the first time of asking were narrowly beaten in the Beyond Boundaries T20 Scottish Cup Final. Our team, very ably led by Tasmanian player / coach Hannah Short generally comprised 2-3 experienced adult players and 8-9 U15 Girls coming through both of our Club's systems.



Our Winter Indoor programme restarts on Sunday afternoons from January – March covering all Age Groups and our Girls programme.

We again ran 2 full week Summer Camps at Inverleith, under the guiding hand of Club Professional, Shaylen Pillay. An excellent total of 77 (P3-S3) Club Members attended the 2 Camps.

Although we continue to progress and develop we, as with all other sporting activities, face many challenges. We are very lucky to have such an excellent Coaching team covering the very different demands from All Stars right through to those looking to progress in Senior 1s/2s Cricket. Particular thanks must go to Shaylen Pillay who has been inspirational and overseen a huge positive move forward in our Junior Cricket over the last 2 seasons.

John M Archer

GOLF

Captain Adam Preedy has led the Club to a very successful season.

We teed off in March with our popular Annual Dinner with 80 plus Members and guests being well fed, watered and entertained.

Our Spring Outing at Crail was enjoyed by 29 Members on a fair March Sunday.

Muirfield was the venue for our Summer Outing and on another dry day 25 Members enjoyed the Championship Links. We finished the outings with the Autumn event taking place over Gullane No2 where 26 braved the strong winds and squally showers.

There has been a delay in finals being played, due to everyone's busy schedules, we await the winner from the Club Championship between Alan Anderson and Drew McIntosh, The Summer Singles winner was Ian Forsyth who defeated Bob Harrison and the Summer Foursomes was won by Tony Kelly and David Thomson defeating the reigning champions of the last three years Malcolm Maccoll and Adam Preedy.

A very enjoyable Retreat organised by the Captain with a base in Troon enjoyed golf over West Kilbride, Barassie and Western Gables. The winner was Murray Allan (a local boy!) and the Shankers' Tankard fell into the hands of Robin Mather. Some pictures below—



Donald Lowe, Euan Parker & Mike Buxton.



At Western Gables.



Arran in the background on the Links of Western Gables.



The Captain.

We again lost to the Schoolboys in the Annual Match, in the Gilbert Archer with MES against Watsonians, and the Edinburgh Cup vs Accies, Heriots & Watsonians. However, we did gain wins in the Glasgow Match and the Grand Match against Heriots at the Burgess.

We competed again in the Dispatch Trophy, managing to get to the Third round, and in the Siverwright Quaich we also advanced to the Third round before a narrow loss.

For the first time our team qualified for the Grafton Morrish Competition played down in Norfolk. For a first effort they did very well and lost in the Quarter Finals to eventual winners – Heriots.

Closer to home though, we are delighted to say that our team won The Queen Elizabeth Coronation Schools Trophy for the fourth year in a row, and the fifth time in six years. This is a new record for the Tournament and we congratulate our players – Kevin Cattenach, Stuart McLaren, Drew McIntosh, Stuart Cochrane, Alan Anderson and Ally Ritchie.

David Kyles



The record breaking QECST winners 2018. L to R: Stuart Cochrane, Stuart McLaren, Derek Miller, Kevin Cattenach, Ally Ritchie & Alan Anderson.

Obituaries...

William Morrison

(S 1940)

(Died 15th March, 2017)



Bill Morrison was born on 20 August 1926, the elder son of William and Mary Morrison. Along with his younger brother Eric, he grew up in the Comely Bank area of Edinburgh.

Bill was a former pupil of Daniel Stewart's College in the 1930s. He was evacuated to Canada from the outbreak of war, until call-up brought him home and into the RAF. After the war he continued his education at Edinburgh University where he graduated with first class honours in Maths.

He joined the staff of Scottish Life as a trainee Actuary, quickly rising through the ranks and became General Manager in 1975 – a boss who is remembered for having the respect of all staff. Bill was instrumental in computer developments in the company and went on to be a mentor, teacher and examiner in his role as President of the Faculty of Actuaries from 1987. He was also appointed to the board of Directors at Heriot Watt University, where he was awarded an honorary doctorate in 1996.

Bill met his wife-to-be Christine whilst they were at University together. They were married for over 50 years, celebrating their Golden Wedding in 2011. They shared many interests together, including a love of music, theatre and gardening and were both actively involved with their church – Blackhall St Columba's, where Bill's careful management skills were greatly in demand to guide numerous project committees.

Bill had a love of the outdoors and greatly enjoyed hill-walking managing to bag all of the Munros. He also loved the time spent on holidays with the family on the Isle of Arran – a place where Bill could relax and unwind.

Many people have described Bill as a gentle man as well as a gentleman. He was respected by everyone with whom he worked, for his courtesy and unassuming authority, tempered by his good humour, wit and wisdom.

Bill passed away on 15 March 2017 after a short illness. He is survived by his wife Christine, their son Douglas, daughter-in-law Mary and grandchildren Jamie and Katie.

Douglas Morrison

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Hamish McIntyre Paterson, MBE

(M 1948)

(Died 12th April, 2017)

Hamish was the eldest of three brothers all of whom attended Melville in the 1940s. They boarded at the Buckingham Terrace house during term time.

Hamish was an outstanding sportsman playing in the 1st XV in 1947 and 1948 and the 1st X1 in 1947.

He left school in 1948 and went to the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst where he was commissioned in 1950 to the Gurkha Signal Regiment. He was on active duty in Malaya between 1950-1953 and later in Borneo in 1956/7, being awarded an MBE for services rendered. He then spent a considerable amount of time in Nepal training young Gurkha soldiers and was a fluent speaker in Gurkhali. In his mid - twenties he played rugby for the British Army in the UK.

When he left the army in 1965 he trained and qualified as a CA in Glasgow.

Hamish died in 2017 after a long illness bravely borne. His brothers Colin and Alan still survive.

Barney Henderson

J.B."Ian" Craig

(S 1957)

(Died 8th November, 2017)



Ian was born on 3rd February, 1940, first child to William and Mary Craig . Sadly, Ian passed away on 8th November 2017, after a short illness. He is survived by his wife Janet, his sister Molly, his children Andrew and Jillian, and four grandchildren.

Ian's father was a teacher of mathematics at Daniel Stewart's College. Inevitably he attended the school from 1945 to 1957, and was dux in 1957.

Ian studied at Edinburgh University and, after graduating in chemical engineering, went on to Cambridge University, obtaining a PHD in 1964.

Janet and Ian moved to Teeside, where he joined ICI. They spent several years living abroad, returning to the UK in 1995.

Ian took early retirement and they set up home in Plymouth, but spent six months of the year in La Croix Valmer, in the south of France. They were often joined there by their daughter and family from Poland, and by their son and his family from England. They had some memorable get-togethers.

His children appreciated that, although not perfect, he was extremely knowledgeable and always had their best interests at heart. His family treasure his experience , wisdom and generosity. He will be sorely missed.

Janet Craig & Fred McLeod

Conrad Wilson

(S 1950)

(Died 17th November, 2017)

As a pupil at Daniel Stewart's College, legendary music master Eric Reid encouraged him to write about music, resulting in finely tuned reviews for the school magazine. Aged 15, Wilson attended the opening concert of the very first Edinburgh International Festival.

On leaving school, he trained as a journalist with the Edinburgh Dispatch. The reason he signed up for the now defunct evening paper was his fear of riding a bicycle, which was a prime requirement for doing essential night duty on The Scotsman.

The Dispatch's charismatic editor Albert Mackie gave him plenty space to hone his critical skills, sending him to review performances as far afield as London's Covent Garden. National Service took Wilson to Paris, an eye-opening experience that made the resumption of his traineeship in Edinburgh seem like a step backwards. Before long he was off to Amsterdam as programme editor for Records, writing with ease on jazz and pop.

A conversation with Eric Mackay, The Scotsman's London Editor, resulted in his appointment as the paper's London-based Cultural Correspondent. In 1963 he became music critic of The Scotsman in Edinburgh. It was what he had dreamed of as a boy. The next 28 years coincided with Alexander Gibson's influence on the SNO and the creation of Scottish Opera.

Away from The Scotsman, Wilson was a scrupulous programme editor for the Edinburgh Festival at the time that Peter Diamond was Director.

After retirement he did freelance work and was a compulsive writer until ill health crept in. He died on 17th November, 2017.

Wilson is survived by a son and daughter from his first marriage to Ruth, and by his second wife Sue and their 3 daughters.

Contributed**Arthur Christie**

(M 1937)

(Died 9th December, 2017)



George Arthur Duncan Christie had a wonderful, inspiring, funny, generous and sometimes difficult life.

Born in Western Australia on the family farm awarded to his father as a veteran of The Great War in 1921. The family later moved to Perth, and then as a consequence of the depression of 1931 his parents returned to Edinburgh with their now two children, Margot, having been born in 1925.

In October 1933 Arthur started school at The Edinburgh Institution. At this time Arthur cycled to school each day from Portobello, complete in red school uniform, to Melville Street. In 1936 the family moved to Great Stuart Street, the same street Margot now lives in, 71 years later. In 1937, Arthur left School and became, in his words, "a bank employee" – but definitely not a "banker".

In 1938, Arthur enrolled in the Territorial Army, joining the 94th Heavy Anti Aircraft Regiment and in September 1939 at the outbreak of war he was called up, aged 18 years and 5 months.

Initially he was part of a party posted to Aberdour, where the area of the first tee of Aberdour Golf Club had been selected as a site for an anti aircraft gun overlooking the Forth.

Later, Arthur moved to the south of England to join a recruitment team and be part of the D day landing force in the Light Anti Air Craft group. More recently, when asked about his memories of this part of England he wondered, with a definite twinkle in his eye, whether the ladies of the dance school might still be there...

In November 2016, as a surviving member of the D day forces, Arthur was made a Chevalier de L'Ordre National de la Legion D'Honneur, bestowed by the President of France as a thank you from the French nation.

After the war, he resumed his banking career with The Royal Bank, becoming a member of the Institute of Banking

and joined head office in the "Big Cash" department, receiving money from large events. He also worked at election counts throughout the period.

As a territorial he was mobilised again for the Suez crisis in 1956 but was finally released from service in April 1976. He retired from the bank in 1981, finishing his career in head office.

Arthur loved sport all of his life. In 1948, he played in a celebration rugby match of FPs against school boys, following the original rules of rugby. He sailed at the Royal Forth Yacht Club, sharing ownership of a Dragon and competing regularly. For most of his life, he was a member of Drumsheugh Baths and still found time to be a member of Ravelston Golf Club.

After their mother's death, aged 102, Arthur & Margot visited family & friends in Australia a number of times.

Alan Dickson

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Professor Arnold Maran

(S 1954)

(Died 10th December, 2017)

Arnie Maran who died on 10th December 2017 aged 81, was one of the leading Ear Nose and Throat Surgeons of his generation with an international reputation in the management of diseases of the larynx. Of Italian extraction, he was a pupil at Daniel Stewart's from 1941 until he left form V in 1953. As well as his academic excellence he demonstrated athletic prowess, his sprinting style, though "idiosyncratic", serving him well as a wing three-quarter in the 1st XV. He played for the 1st XV as a winger in his last year and also received an RL Stevenson Club Prize along with Kenneth Brown in 1953.

He trained at Edinburgh University and in North America, returning as a Consultant in Dundee and later in Edinburgh where he was appointed to the Chair of Otolaryngology. He was a writer, lecturer and teacher of great appeal, and no trainee could consider his education complete without attending his course or devouring his textbook. His acute awareness of medical political issues was recognized when he was elected president of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1997. He received many honours both at home and abroad including a DSc from the University of Hong Kong.

As well as his surgical skills, he had a great understanding of the problems of the professional voice user and treated many opera singers, rock stars and indeed dictators and presidents. His professional discretion owed much to the tradition of

omerta of the Mafia about which he wrote a widely acclaimed book. He himself once said that he regarded it a compliment to have been described as “Machiavellian”.

He was a pianist of note and founded a jazz group entitled “Alternative Medicine”. He was an enthusiastic golfer, who memorably played at the North Pole, a feat he recorded in his book *Golf at the North Pole: The Arctic and the Ancient Game*. He was a member of the Magic Circle and loved to amuse his grandchildren with the same legerdemain that served so well as a surgeon. An entertaining and gregarious person, Arnold was a member of the Monks of St Giles, an old Edinburgh dining club whose members compose and recite verses at their regular suppers.

His wife was the former Anna De Marco, and his children Charlie and Nikki practice in Edinburgh as dentist and anaesthetist respectively.

Contributed by Richard Ramsden

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Graham Henderson

(S 1960)

(Died January, 2018)



Graham Henderson was born in Edinburgh in July 1942 and from an early age his interests lay in sport and mechanical objects, especially steam trains and engines. When he was young, his mother took him to South Queensferry to view the trains crossing the Forth Rail Bridge.

After watching the first train go across, he appeared rather crestfallen and his mother asked him what was wrong. “I thought they went that way,” her son replied, tracing the profile of the bridge with his finger. It turned out he was totally disappointed as he thought the trains would progress up and down the structure, like a roller coaster. Travelling straight across in a flat line was just too dull for him.

At only eight years old, Graham and a few friends would go to Edinburgh’s Waverley Station to spot the trains. Often they would hop

on a train and travel 30 miles down the line to Carstairs Junction, where they had the chance of seeing trains from the west coast mainline bound for Glasgow, travelling home in time for tea, or at least before they were missed.

Mr Henderson’s passion for steam trains continued throughout his life. He was a member of a number of steam train preservation societies and had enormous depth and breadth of knowledge in the subject.

At school he excelled at rugby and cricket, playing for Daniel Stewart’s College 1st XV and the cricket 1st XI. He became a prefect and in his final year was school vice-captain.

His work as a civil engineer took him worldwide and among his notable projects were the foundations for The Globe Theatre in London.

One of the stalwarts of Worcester Rowing Club, Graham Henderson was club captain in 2004 and 2005, and was an ever present figure at the club headquarters beside the River Severn on Pitchcroft, getting involved in almost every aspect of its activities, until illness struck last year.

Graham was also a well-known figure in the village of Whittington, near Worcester, where he had lived for nearly 50 years.

Graham was committed to the village cricket club and was a steady medium pace bowler and hard hitting batsman. He kept the accounts and after the club ceased was able to organise reunions to spend the final funds.

His affection and enthusiasm for rugby also allowed him to play for Worcester and after retirement he maintained his interest and became one of the original group which promoted the Sixways Training Shed project, which evolved into today’s new Sixways Stadium complex.

Contributed

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John Carlile

(M 1973)

(Died January, 2018)



John was brought up in Corstorphine, Edinburgh, initially attending the local primary school then joining Melville College in Primary 4. John left Melville College in 1973, and was part of the final sixth year at Melville before the merger with Daniel Stewarts College was implemented.

John graduated in architecture from Edinburgh University, and worked in Sir Basil Spence’s practice, Edinburgh. He had a short spell of work in Ireland, and thereafter lived and worked in Yorkshire. John’s specialism in architecture was design for adults with learning difficulties, and he became a director of a national charity in this area. John married Clare Belbin in 1982, and is survived by Clare, sons Anthony, Thomas and Lawrence, and daughter Sarah.

At school he was involved in organising many activities, such as the Cairngorm (hill walking) Club, and the Literary & Debating Society. He received the prize for service to the School and community, and this whole hearted giving to his community was a theme he continued throughout his life. John’s love of the hills and the environment also continued through his life, and he shared this love with his family, taking them hill walking abroad. John was particularly fond of Northwest Scotland, a place he first visited with the school.

His memorial service was held in Botton, North Yorkshire, in a village community designed for easy living for adults with learning difficulties.

Giving the Eulogy, his son Anthony paid tribute to his father’s drive for continuous learning, which was sparked in his school years. He loved to research places where he would holiday with his family, so that they could have a learning as well as a fun experience.

Having always enjoyed literature, poetry and spiritual questions, in recent years John started creative writing. Some thought that his self developed skills in writing even surpassed those in architecture, the discipline in which he had been formally trained.

John had charm, he had style. He had great sensitivity to the feelings of those around him, both in professional and personal life. He could think or talk articulately and in an engaging way on a wide range of topics, and was keen to hear new ideas. He was very respected by professional colleagues for his ability to listen to alternative ways of achieving a design objective, but was fierce in his insistence on the very highest standards.

Within his family, the tributes were unbounded, including “A fantastic Father”, “the very best big brother!” He is well remembered.

Contributed by Addy Graham

Archibald Kirkhope Shiel

(S 1940)

(Died 11th February, 2018)



Archie Shiel was born on 25th September 1923 in the Berwickshire village of Whitsome, near Duns. He was the second youngest of a family of five girls and two boys. The family later moved to Edinburgh where Archie attended primary school at Davidson's Mains, and then Daniel Stewart's College.

Upon leaving school in 1940, Archie joined the Army and was mobilised and then posted to Northern India where he served until 1944.

After war service, Archie joined his father's firm of drapers in Edinburgh, and this gave him an excellent grounding in the clothing and retail markets. However, he saw an associated opportunity in Edinburgh's growing tourism trade, and in 1957 he bought The Tartan Gift Shop in Princes Street. This was followed by the opening of two further Tartan Gift Shops in Princes Street and one in the High Street, and finally one in Canada.

In 1964 Archie joined the Merchant Company, and he continued to enjoy his work until he retired in his late 70's, when he was able to spend more time on his many other leisure interests which included his beloved dogs, his fine garden, and his beautiful classic Mercedes sports saloon. He also took up French, collected antique furniture, and had more time for golf – his sporting passion.

Archie was an honorary member at Bruntfield and Gullane, and an ordinary member at Murrayfield. He was the Club champion at Bruntfield in 1957. In addition he was a long serving member of the Stewart's Melville FP Golf Club. His partner in the summer foursomes was Bill Middleton (who is still going strong), and they last won that competition in 1994.

Archie is survived by his wife Elinor, their two daughters – Jane and Gillian, and three grandchildren.

Jack Mainland**James (Jim) Davie**

(S 1958)

(Died 1st March, 2018)



James was born in Montrose on 2nd February 1940, the eldest of three children of Captain James Davie and his Australian wife, Marie Smith. In 1953 the family moved to Edinburgh and James went to Daniel Stewart's and then to St Andrew's University where he specialised in Medieval History before completing a post-graduate degree at McGill University in Montreal.

His career was in journalism - initially as Deputy Editor of 'Scottish Public Services' in the early 1960s before joining The Glasgow Herald Features Department and assisting Willie Hunter with his regular 'Samuel Hunter' column. A stint as Leader Writer on the Sheffield Morning Telegraph followed before he moved south to London as Deputy Editor of The Telegraph Colour Magazine throughout the 1970's.

James was also Chief Sub-Editor of the Radio Times and a regular contributor to The Guardian including an 'Eating Out' column for which he thoroughly enjoyed the 'field research'.

He was an active supporter of The London FP Club serving as President from 1986 – 88 and other interests included cycling, studying architecture especially churches designed by Hawksmoor and Wren, heraldry & coat-of-arms about which he published a book. James was an accomplished water colour artist and amassed a large collection of cookery books and as an expert cook himself often used his library to help produce mouth-watering dishes.

Transport was a life-long interest with an early passion for trains stimulated by the family home overlooking a railway bridge and later he toured Australia by train. Ships were another passion, perhaps unsurprisingly for the son of a master mariner, and in later years he enjoyed cruising, often with other family members.

As a teenager James experienced

immobility when an undiagnosed hip and leg injury led to his spending 7 months encased in a full body cast and he was left with one leg one inch shorter than the other but built up shoes disguised this problem most effectively. Approaching the age of 50 health issues again impacted when he was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis and over 30 years he became progressively more dependent on crutches and then a wheelchair which he persisted in using unaided although like elderly motorists being gently discouraged from doing so! When MS first affected him he said that, whatever the progress of his condition, he would die in the Barbican flat in which he had eventually lived for over 40 years and he achieved this after being diagnosed in January 2018 in hospital with an aggressive and inoperable brain tumour spending his final two weeks at home supported by a wonderful team of nurses and carers.

Jim Davie touched the lives of many especially his partners, Graham & Michael, his sisters, Marie & Ann, and his niece Clare, nephew Christopher and great niece Sadie. He was an active member of St Vedast-Alias-Foster, a Wren Church rebuilt after the Blitz, in Foster Lane where his funeral took place with his coffin covered by the Pall of his beloved Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks.

Tom Scrimgeour**Andrew Usherwood Lyburn**

(M 1945)

(Died 13th March, 2018)



Born in 1928, Drew Lyburn was the youngest of four, sibling to Bill, Jenny and Stewart.

He attended Melville College from 1933 - 1945 and in the process, made a number of lifelong friends. Whilst at Melville College, Drew played at scrum-half for the first XV, thereafter retaining a close interest in the sport for the rest of his life: he later went

on to serve for many years as a volunteer steward at International matches at the Murrayfield Stadium – a role he loved.

Drew also retained very close links with his school, fulfilling the roles of Chairman of the Melville College Trust and President of the Melville College FP Club.

After graduating from Edinburgh University in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, he entered the actuarial world but by his own admission he invested rather more energy into playing rugby and frequenting and recovering from weekly dances.

In 1954, he was called up for National Service and applied for pilot training, keen to follow in brother Stewart's footsteps. Drew adored his two years in the Royal Air Force; his face lighting up when he re-lived his time training in both Canada and the UK.

After the RAF, Drew joined Scottish Widows and during this time he met Joan at a university union dance and was instantly smitten. After their wedding, Joan completed her physio training and followed Drew to Canada, who by this time had moved to Standard Life. After 6 years in Montreal they returned to Edinburgh where he progressed through the ranks of Standard Life retiring at the age of 63 as Deputy General Manager, and an acknowledged pensions expert.

His particular achievement at Standard Life was securing final salary pension rights and also overseeing the ground breaking design and construction of Tanfield, the new Standard Life Operations building located at Inverleith. The design was vital in the perception of how staff felt valued as individuals. Externally, he commissioned The Axis Mundi, an eight foot sculpture of 5 Wise Virgins, by British sculptor Gerald Laing.

Vice Chairman of the Faculty of Actuaries for 8 years, in 1995 Drew was awarded the OBE in recognition of his services to the Occupational Pensions Board and his voluntary work, including looking after the interests of war-blinded men.

Socially, Drew was also partial to a dram of malt whisky, and after Mum died, it was at a Scottish Whisky tasting event that he met his 2nd wife Evelyn with whom he shared 20 years of happiness and companionship.

There are lots of happy memories of time with him including family holidays to many parts of Scotland and the north of England, all involving picnics, walking boots and binoculars, whatever the weather.

For many years, in the winter months, Drew enjoyed a weekly bridge group, playing for penny stakes. It was a bad night when he lost 42p!

Drew was particularly proud of his family and 5 grandchildren and would always ask, without fail, how they all were and listen

intently to news of their lives.

He will be remembered as a determined, hard-working, mathematically brilliant, smartly presented, punctual, modest and affectionate man.

Contributed by the Lyburn Family

Philip Ballantyne Kerr

(M 1970)

(Died 23rd March, 2018)

Philip Kerr, the author, best known for his crime fiction books featuring the Berlin private detective Bernie Gunther died aged 62 on 23rd March, 2018.

Born in Edinburgh, Philip was the son of William Kerr, a building planner, and his wife, Ann (nee Brodie) who were members of the Baptist Church. His baptism, therefore required "full immersion" which was not an easy fit for a boy with an aversion to water!

As a result, from an early age he knew that "Jesus and I were not going to get along."

He read widely, including "unsuitable" novels hidden by his parents. At the age of 12 he stole the key to a cupboard in which DH Lawrence's *Lady Chatterley's Lover* was hidden. This resulted in his first paid work as a writer. Aware his father would miss his copy of the book and that his friends wanted to read it, Kerr wrote his own version, *The Duchess of the Daisies*, which he rented out for "the edification of his schoolmates".

Though he had wanted to study English at Birmingham University, Kerr bowed to paternal pressure and took up law..

After he left law, work as an advertising copywriter included a spell at Saatchi and Saatchi – though he had a tendency to get fired. While colleagues enjoyed boozy lunches, he preferred to be in the London Library, where he worked on five novels until turning to crime in "March Violets".

His commitment to research led him into dangerous situations, sometimes in the seamier areas of Berlin, or as when travelling with the St Petersburg police for "Dead Meat" (1993), his thriller set among the Russian mafia. One particularly frightening day ended with the discovery of holes in the flak jacket he had been wearing. They marked where the previous wearer had been shot.

He continued working until shortly before his death, copyediting his last novel, due for publication in 2019.

He is survived by his wife, Jane, and three children, William, Charlie and Naomi.

Contributed

David F Brewster

(M 1971)

(Died 6th April, 2018)



Oh David...what a man...what a brother....

David and I were born at Bangour Hospital on the 3rd of May, 1954. He was a couple of hours older than me. We were the largest twins ever born at Bangour, David was 7lbs 12oz, and I was 8lbs 2oz

We were lucky to have 3 wonderful sisters, Nan, Linda and our little sister Janice. Family was so important to him.

The family moved to Bonnington Mains Farm in 1958 and David more or less called this HOME ever since.

We started at the local primary then moved to Gilsland Park School.

At the age of 11 having passed entrance exams for Melville College, The Academy and Heriots (look on the bright side...we could have been 2 Nails!!!)... there were no places for us so we were shipped off to board at Holt School as it had a young farmers club.

At the age of 13 David and I started at Melville College. This was to transform our lives, it created a massive passion for rugby in David and amazing friendships. He also discovered and developed his entrepreneurial skills, chatting up the lady in the local Spar shop and buying butter rolls and chocolate biscuits cheaper than school could provide.

At the age of 16 we became the proud owners of a Reliant Robin 3 wheeler which you could drive on a motor bike licence. David took so much pleasure in adding a bull horn which he would blast at not only every cow in our fields but every female en route. David passed his car driving test on his 17th Birthday, promptly left school and went back to the farm.

David was a very handsome man. He married Lorraine in 1985 and whilst sadly the marriage ended, between them they created two amazing children, Siobhan who arrived in 1987 and Alexander in 1989;

nothing made him happier.

In 1971 we both joined Melville College FP RFC which amalgamated with Daniel Stewart's in 1973. David continued to play until the late 80's. He was a true legend amongst the rugby fraternity, playing for Edinburgh, the Co-Optimists at 15's and for the Co-Optimists in the Hong Kong 7's.

However his progress was stifled by a greater interest in his social life, having been chucked out of the Scotland pre-season training squad at Jordanhill when he was caught coming in after lights out.

Dougie Morgan and myself through the years used to be driven mad by David sitting in the changing rooms as all ears and eyes were on David pre-match, revealing his previous nights' shenanigans to his team mates making it impossible for us to give the team talk

We were rarely targeted on the rugby field, people would have two of us to contend with. His team mates were comfortable knowing that David was on their side and very grateful not on the other!

Our Dad invested in a new piggery not long before his passing in 1977 and David started growing the business. For many years he sold 250 bacon pigs weekly to Halls of Broxburn. Nothing was wasted – even the (clean) syringes from the piggery were used to extract the fluid from each other's cauliflower ears - uncanny that we both got cauliflower ears at the same time !

And with the fortunate support of each other we took the farms from strength to strength ... even achieving a listing in the Guinness book of world records for the highest yield of barley ever grown. We bought Hermiston Farm in 1980, sold it in 1983 and bought Clifton Mains Farm, our adjoining farm to Bonnington.

Latterly David and I diversified into development and property rentals, building a large rental property portfolio, he was the bad guy and I was the good. He was a very talented entrepreneur and a fierce negotiator. Many a sales rep. rued the day they met David Brewster.

He often pushed the boundaries where others feared to tread ("if you don't push the boundaries...you'll never find them"); he was outrageous and at times inappropriate; a larger than life character who didn't live life to the full, he lived life to excess.

But a more generous man you could not find and as a result he touched so many lives, none more so than his family and my family.

He was an unforgettable character – my much loved brother, twin, partner and best friend.

Abbreviated from Alex Brewster's eulogy

Lt Col John Cormack MBE MC (S 1945) (Died 9th April, 2018)

John Napier Cormack who died recently at the age of ninety was born in Edinburgh in 1927 and was the last survivor of three brothers brought up in Trinity and educated at Stewart's. He left school in 1945 and enlisted as a soldier in the Royal Engineers before being selected for officer training. Subsequently he attended a twelve months academic course at Selwyn College, Cambridge before joining the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst and being commissioned into the Royal Engineers.

He served in the Korean War in 1951 and 1952 as a junior officer. At various times he was attached to a number of British armoured and infantry regiments and also to the Royal Australian Regiment and took part in the offensive in which the Commonwealth Division joined with four United States divisions and a South Korean division in destroying elements of four Chinese armies in October 1951. He was awarded the Military Cross and was eventually evacuated to Japan for medical reasons.

On returning home he trained young soldiers before moving to Mons Officer Cadet School as an instructor. Further overseas service followed, this time in Cyprus during the terrorist troubles after which he was again a trainer, this time with the Territorial Army in Liverpool.

Selected for the British Commanders'-in-Chief Mission to the Soviet Forces in Germany, he attended Russian Language training before joining the Mission for two years in the mid-1960s. The Mission's role was to gather intelligence on Soviet forces in the then East Germany in a manner that tested the boundaries of both legality and the temper of the hosts, and John was awarded the MBE for his work.

Further tours of duty saw him with an Engineer regiment in Germany and Northern Ireland, staff appointments in Britain and an attachment to the Netherlands Army. He retired from the Army in 1979 with the rank of lieutenant colonel and became Editor, Royal Engineers Publications as a civil servant.

A second retirement allowed him to become Director-General of the Burma Star Association and he was also active in a number of other ex-service organisations. Always a keen rugby man, he represented his College at Cambridge, Sandhurst and the Royal Engineers and was Match Secretary and later Vice President of Kent Rugby. He also rowed for Selwyn and the Engineers. Although latterly slowed down following a severe stroke, he maintained

holiday links with Scotland, in earlier days walking or fishing for salmon, and was honorary secretary and then president of the London Stewart's Melville Club, and a past president of the Caledonian Society of London.

He married Beverley in 1953 and she was his carer for the last decade and a half. She survives him with a son Alastair, a daughter Susie and younger members of the family.

Hugh Cowan

Stuart Russell Foubister (DSMC 1976) (Died 19 April, 2018)



Stuart joined Daniel Stewart's College in 1963 and left Daniel Stewart's Melville College 13 years later in 1976. During his time there he had been a regular member of the School 1st XV Rugby and 1st X1 Cricket teams.

On leaving School he headed to Edinburgh University to study law and after graduating found employment at Balfour & Manson where he completed his law apprenticeship. Stuart with an interest in politics was soon able to combine that with a job and he joined the Scottish Office (as it was then) now the Scottish Government to start a thirty year career as a government lawyer.

He became a senior member of the civil service, in turn Legal Secretary to the Lord Advocate, Head of the Economy and Transport Division in the Scottish Government Legal Directorate and Scottish Legislative Counsel., The current Legal Secretary to the Lord Advocate Colin Troup, described Stuart as an outstanding lawyer with the sharpest of analytical skills, a formidable intellect who will be fondly remembered for that and his kindness.

I first met Stuart back in 1976 playing cricket – FPs v School at Inverleith. He had enthusiasm for the game and if any youngster was keen (no different today),

then they would be asked to play on a Saturday afternoon for the Club...which they did. We were soon teammates which quickly evolved into our long standing friendship.

Stuart's playing career lasted all the way through to 2006, making regular appearances in the 2nd X1 and the Trojans, although he did play occasionally for the 1st X1, 3rd and 4th X1.

Stuart was primarily a batsman scoring over 7000 runs for the Club. A very good fielder, particularly in the slips and occasionally kept wicket. In total he took 200 catches. He was also a hard working administrator for the Cricket Club serving on the Committee for many years. He was 2nd X1 Captain 8 times, Treasurer for 8 years and Club President in 1997 and 2006.

Cricket was to give Stuart his long term nickname of 'Foz'. Apparently it was a University cricket tour to Hampshire when one of the tourists thought Stuart looked very like Fozzy Bear of the Muppets

Stuart also played rugby at School generally as a non-tackling stand-off – he took the view there were plenty forwards to do the tackling. Later, in winter he turned to Volleyball, attaining selection for Scottish Universities, then for the Pentland Club, and for a spell he was legal advisor to the Scottish Volleyball Association.

Cricket led to golf. In the early 80s the Cricket Club had established an end of season cricket tour to Comrie & Crieff. Being sportsmen we added golf clubs to the trip to play on Sunday morning. However through time this turned into 5 days of golf, with many others joining in. It got labelled the Tartan Tour, and continues to this day. Stuart did most of these trips covering over 150 golf courses. Golf wasn't the only thing on our minds on these trips – checking the hotel bar whisky shelf on the first night usually indicated how things might pan out during the holiday!

Stuart joined Prestonfield Golf Club in the mid 80s, and we become regular golfing partners. His golf handicap was generally around 19 / 20. Not really anything significant, but for golfers this does mean you qualify for 2 strokes at some holes, making him a dangerous man to play against!

Stuart along with David Gibson and others started a regular winter cricket watching group in the 1990s following England's various endeavours overseas. 7 trips were made – to the Caribbean, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

And finally returning to golf, a moment I still remember very clearly. Back in May 2004 on the way round Stuart said "sorry can't stay for a drink tonight, as someone is making my tea". Well, it had a very happy

ending as this soon led to his marriage to Kirsten, with Ruaraidh and Orla following on soon thereafter.

Very sadly Stuart suffered serious ill health in the summer of 2017. His innings alas is over, dismissed much too early and his death in April 2018 shocked us all. A convivial easy going colleague, team mate and great friend to many who shared their interests with Stuart over the years. For those of us who played cricket with him, we can still visualise his trademark shot – the nudge between backward point and third man.

Alan Veitch

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**Alan W. Mowat, BL., WS., NP
(S 1953)
(Died 23rd May, 2018)**



Born in 1935, an only child, the son of David and Jessie Mowat. Alan was not only proud of his Leith heritage, which shaped him, but of his schooling at Daniel Stewart's. He counted it a great privilege in later years to be President of Stewart's Melville Former Pupils Club.

It might have seemed inevitable that Alan would follow his father's footsteps into law, but his father thought it would help in his son's character formation if he undertook National Service. This he did, and as in all things, with gusto. Joining the Royal Corps of Signals, he went for a Commission and even considered making a career in the army.

However on returning home he resumed his studies and joined the law firm specialising in Court Work which he loved. His father's untimely death, however required that he take over the family law side of the business. Again Alan gave 100% to his profession being appointed a Writer to the Signet in 1967. And true to form this was not just a job, it was a "people" business! And there will be many tales to tell of Alan's unstinting support and "service to clients"

going well beyond that required by any contract. It was in his very nature to go the extra mile and this was also evident in his wider service to the community, recognised in his time as President of Leith Rotary, President of Edinburgh Junior Chamber of Commerce and Moderator of The Society of High Constables of Edinburgh. This is not an exhaustive list as there were many committees and projects to which he gave wholeheartedly of his time and energy.

Fred McLeod remembers "Alan was a keen sportsman. He was a highly effective centre three quarter for the Stewart's FP Club in the 1960s. He was also an outstanding opening batsman for the FP Cricket Club, going on to represent the East of Scotland on several occasions. His off spin bowling was not quite of the same high standard !!! His other sporting interest was golf. He was a regular performer at the Bruntsfield Links Golfing Society, and spent many happy days at the Club.

Heather was one of the several great ladies who organised the teas at Inverleith and Ferryfield."

Alan and Heather were very happily married for 53 years and were blessed with the arrival of three sons Nicholas, Richard and Philip. But also touched tragically with the loss of daughter, Louisa, in infancy. Her name, however, inherited by his latest grandchild, daughter to Philip and Sandra along, of course, with grandson Max.

Alan was a very loving husband and father and would do anything for his family and extended family and they would do anything for him. During his illness he very much appreciated the support and visits from his many friends.

Phil Mowat

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**Joshua Philip Gregory Mill
(DSMC 2007)
(Died July, 2018)**

Joshua died tragically of heart failure in Dundee, aged 27. He was by all accounts a larger than life person who made friends easily.

A self-confessed under-achiever at school, he resolved to improve himself and began a year at Dundee & Angus College, studying petroleum engineering at HNC level.

His ability to get involved with everything and everyone resulted in him being elected President of the College Students' Association for 2017/18.

Joshua had recently accepted an unconditional offer to enter 3rd year of the BEng (Hons) Electrical and Electronic Engineering degree at Perth UHI.

A talented sportsman, especially basketball (he was 6ft 4ins), and musician with an infectious laugh, he will be remembered by his family, friends and colleagues. His mother, said her son had joined the '27 Club' – the age at which many talented musicians, such as Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin and Jim Morrison died.

Contributed

Sir Gordon Minto Hourston (S 1952) (Died 18th September, 2018)



Born in Edinburgh in 1934, Gordon attended Daniel Stewart's from 1939 – 1952. After school he followed in his father's footsteps and graduated in pharmacy from Heriot – Watt University to enjoy a long career in retail pharmacy. He joined Boots the Chemists in 1958 and soon afterwards whilst working in Aberdeen, he met Sheila, whom he married in 1962.

An energetic, larger than life character, he introduced many innovations which we take for granted today, such as care home dispensing, collection of repeat prescriptions from doctors' surgeries and electronic tills throughout the Boots branch network.

His warm personality, good humour and strong leadership enabled him to galvanise his colleagues into accepting changes which fed through to impressive gains in profitability – and also promotion to Managing Director, which position he held for 7 years until 1995.

Gordon became a member of the Armed Forces Pay Review body in 1989, serving as chairman from 1993-99. He developed a huge admiration for the services and accumulated a repertoire of amusing anecdotes during his time with the forces. After one flight in an RAF Tornado, and emerging with "internal turbulence",

he discovered that his driver was in an even worse state having been on a flight simulator - and he ended up driving his driver home himself.

He was knighted in 1997 for services to Industry and the Armed Forces and was awarded an honorary doctorate at the Robert Gordon University.

Gordon enjoyed a happy retirement near Ballater, golfing and reading and with his 6 grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, Sheila and his 2 sons Michael and Steven.

Steven Hourston

Allan Anderson Blackwood (M 1961) (Died 12th October, 2018)



Allan spent the first 4 years of his life at Graden Farm, outside Kelso before moving to Oxenfoord Home Farm, Pathhead.

At the age of 7 Allan attended St Mary's School, Melrose. Whilst

being a less than enthusiastic boarder, it was where he discovered his lifelong passion for rugby and love of the Borders countryside. He then attended Angusfield School before moving to Melville College in 1957 where he continued his rugby career and made many lifelong friends.

After leaving school, he began training as a livestock auctioneer. He met his future wife Aileen in 1964 and the following year, changed career and moved to Caledonian Tractors in Coatbridge. After their marriage in 1967, Allan and Aileen settled in the West meaning Allan was unable to play for Melville College FP. During that time he joined West of Scotland and trained with Motherwell Football Club, even managing to play a couple of games and famously scoring a goal against Hearts! He maintained he played some of his best rugby during this time which included two appearances for Glasgow Districts. However his heart lay back in Edinburgh with Melville and so, after a couple of years, despite now working in Steel Stockholding in Motherwell, the family moved back East.

Towards the end of his rugby career, Allan was invited to a Scotland training session to be what he suspected was 'cannon fodder' for the full squad, although he modestly maintained that the invitation was in fact meant for his brother Andrew! In his final season in 1977, he was one of seven sets of brothers in the Stew Mel team which included him and his brother

Andrew, the Calders, Morgans, Brewsters, Scotts, Lowes and Duguids (definitely one for the pub quiz!). He was known as the grandfather of the team and it was said he must have shares in Elastoplast as he used so much to strap himself up before each game! He decided the time had come to hang up his rugby boots when he would play one game and then be off for the next two due to injury.

In 1978 he changed career once again to where his heart really lay, farming. Pig farming was one of a long line of challenges Allan met head on, and he learnt the business the hard way, quickly becoming an expert in his field. In the mid 1990s he won the Scottish Pig Stockman of the Year Award, the Scottish Livestock Stockman of the Year Award and the Great Yorkshire Show which saw him take the British crown.

The years leading up to and during retirement saw Allan enjoying golf and watching rugby in equal measure as well as following the achievements of each of his family of whom he was very proud.

After a 10 year battle with cancer, despite some excellent treatment which gave him many extra years of quality life, it finally became obvious that there was no more that could be done. Despite this, he kept a positive frame of mind and found peace in his final weeks whilst still showing signs of his trademark humour, energy and enthusiasm, right up to the end.

Allan is survived by his wife Aileen, daughter Julie, son Chris and 3 grandchildren.

Chris Blackwood

FP Club Council 2018-2019



Back Row L – R: Bob Young, John Archer, Mark Thorley (Hockey Club Rep), Joe Badger, Josh Grant, Al Napier, Chris Anderson, Bert Barclay

Front Row L – R: Lindsey Geddes, Linda Moule, Charles Wilson, Laura McIntosh

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