Captured on Camera

Tannadice and Beyond

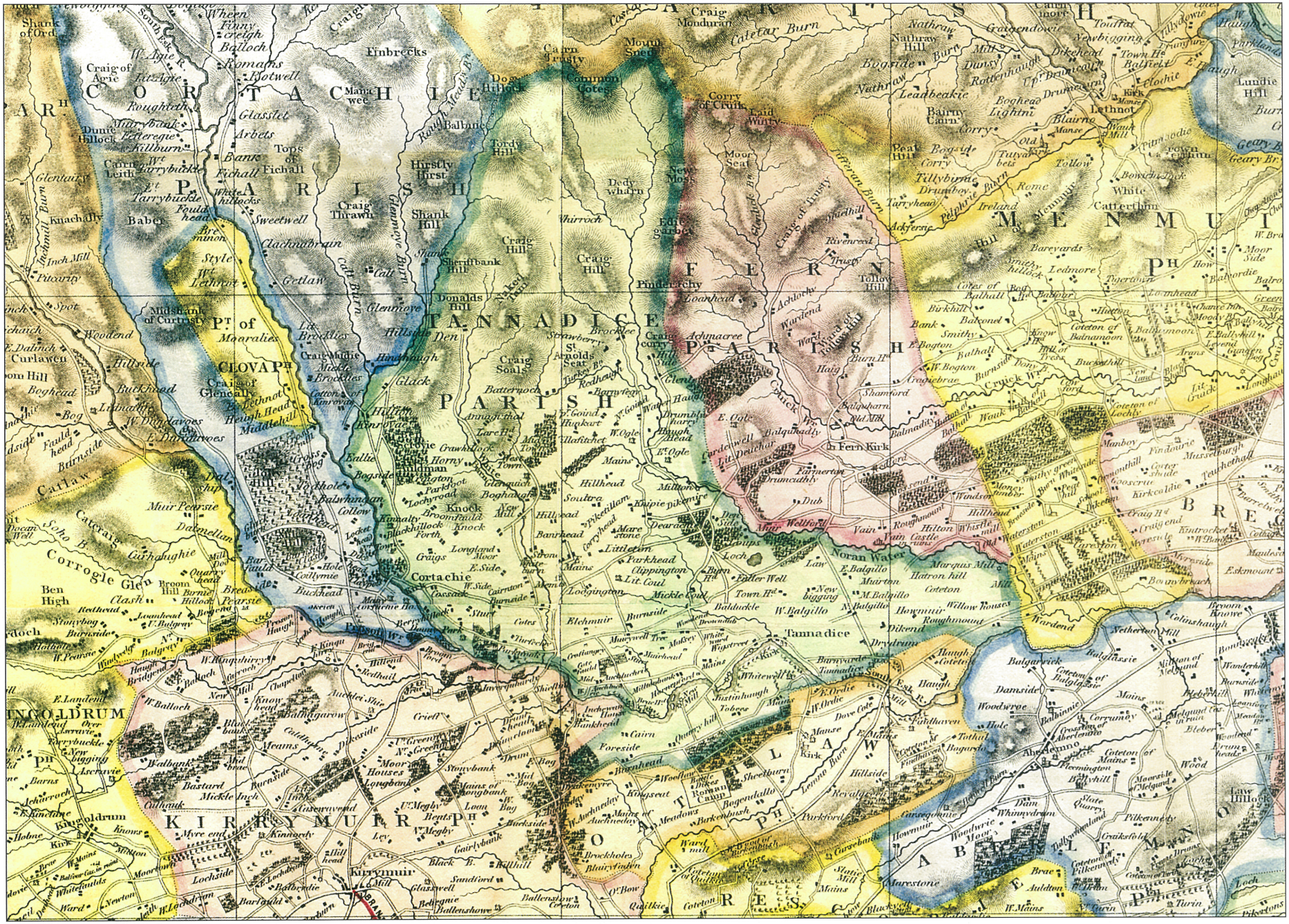


Tannadice, Oathlaw, Finavon, Justinhaugh, Fern and Glen Ogil

Captured on Camera

Tannadice and Beyond

Tannadice, Oathlaw, Finavon, Justinhaugh, Fern and Glen Ogil


TANNADICE PARISH
FERN PARISH
KIRRIEMUIR
CORTACHIE
CLOVA
Tannadice
Fern Kirk
Noran Water
Corrogle Glen
Ben High
Cortachie
Kirriemuir
Tannadice
Fern
Craig Mondurran
Mount Snee
Finbrecks
Craig Thrawn
Shank Hill
Craig Hill
Donalds Hill
Craig Soals
Knock
Hillhead
Littleton
Parkhead
Mains
Burnhead
Foreside
Roman Camp
Sheelburn
Bogendallo
Parkford
Auchnedaly
Auchwedaly
Meadows
Burkenbush
Brockholes
Blairsfalden
Kilhill
Ballenshow
Ballenshowe
Quiltkie
Cotton
Cotton of Fern
Cotton of Tannadice
Cotton of Balgillo
Cotton of Balgarrick
Cotton of Pilkenneddy
Cotton of Melgund
Cotton of Melgund
Cotton of Aberlemno
Cotton of Mains
Cotton of Leuchy
Cotton of Balnamoon
Cotton of Balhall
Cotton of Balgillo
Cotton of Balgarrick
Cotton of Pilkenneddy



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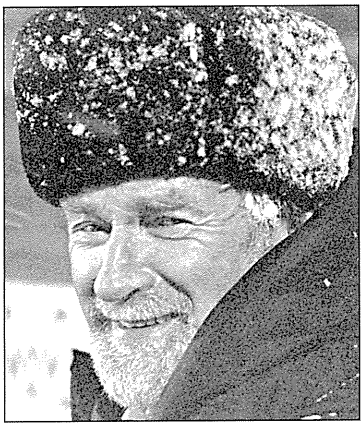
Finavon 83

Justinhaugh 97

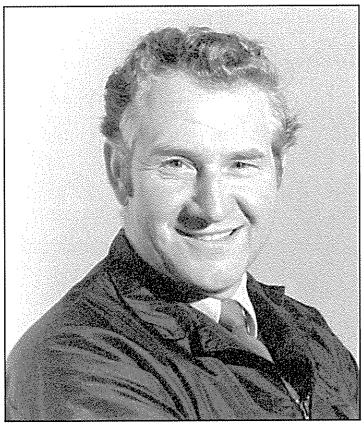
Fern 115

Glen Ogil 137

In Memory



Jack Cowper 1930 - 2005



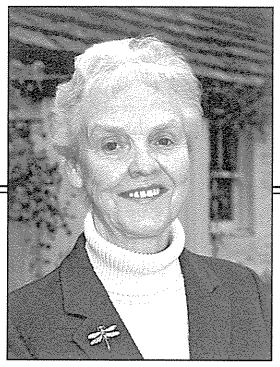
Chic Crighton 1933 - 2002

Remembering friends, family and also those who gave their lives in time of war.

Now they are all in Heaven's sylvan glade
No more can they be touched by human hand
They cannot feel the cold of Winter's frost
Nor yet the heat of Summer's desert sand
But still we hear their voices constantly
And in our memories see them every day.

David Monteith





They say time flies. It is now near the end of 2006, two years since the success of our book 'Tannadice and Beyond' and we have been asked - *"When are you to do a sequel?"* As a result the committee decided to produce one of pictures, people, and places - some of long ago and some of today.

We hope this book 'Captured on Camera Tannadice and Beyond' will remind you of what it used to be like in these areas.

In another 100 or more years someone will look at this book and say, "So that is what my great, great, great-grandparent looked like"; or maybe, "aren't the styles funny!" But things have a habit of going full circle and we may not look so different after all - who knows!

As a committee we have enjoyed meeting in Oathlaw/Tannadice Church Hall and now that our book is finished we will miss all the fun and laughter – not forgetting the cups of coffee!

In the words of H W Longfellow – *"We can make our lives sublime, and, departing, leave behind us...Footprints on the sands of time"*.



Isla Monteith



Kate Simpson 1958 - 2003

This book is dedicated to Kate and to all those who helped with its production.
Many of us thought about writing a history of the area but it was Kate who made it happen.

Tannadice

Tannadice has the Gaelic name of
Taynatas signifying
'A low, warm green plat upon the water'

The attractive village of Tannadice lies one and a half miles north west of Finavon off the A 90 Forfar/Aberdeen road. Standing on the banks of the river South Esk, Tannadice has a lovely Church, a well kept modern Primary School and a Post Office.

Like many communities the village has lost its shops, Police Station, Village Hall, District Nurse and other industries but despite this, it is an expanding village with a lively and forward looking population of about 120 people.

In Tannadice when days o' spring
Entice the gairden birds tae sing,
Ye'll see a heron on the wing
Glide ower the Mill,
An' settle by the river Esk
His crop tae fill.

When summer comes it's quite sublime
The gairden flow'rs a' lookin' fine,
Should ye come by aboot this time
Aye, in a trice –
Ye couldna help but fa' in love
Wi' Tannadice.

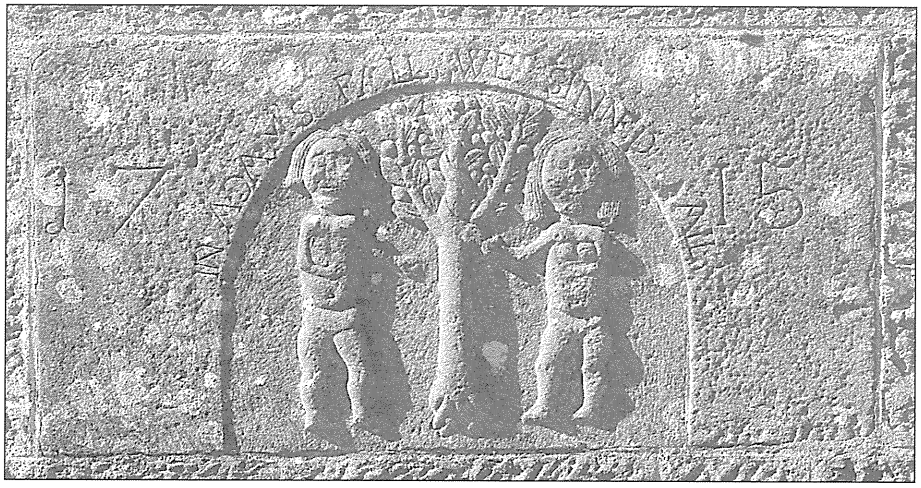
David Monteith



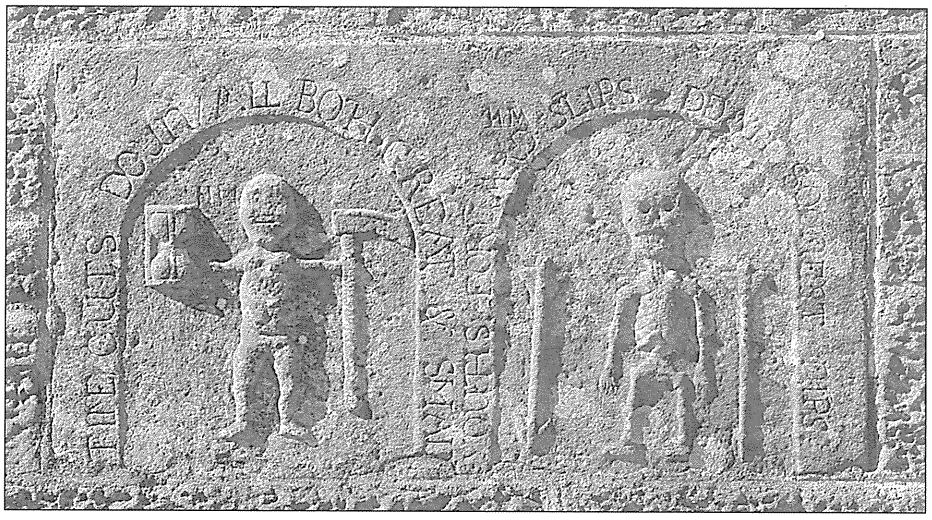
Tannadice from the bend of the South Esk.



In a Scout trek cart at Tannadice School, 1941.
Back: Winnie Cleland and Cynthia Elliot. *Front:* Madge and Jack Cuthill. Og Robertson is holding the cart.



At the former Policeman's house, Manse Lane, Tannadice
a stone with the inscription *"In Adam's Fall We Sinned All."*



At the former Roadmans house, Manse Lane, Tannadice a stone with the inscriptions *"Time cuts down all both great and small"* and *"Youths forward slips - death soonest nips."*



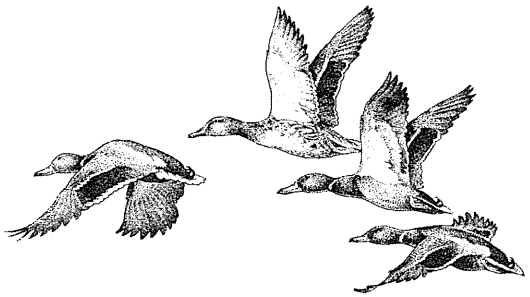
After research it was discovered that this preserved stone was part of Vayne Castle, Fern in 1678. The Coronet has the initials R.E.S underneath which stand for Robert, Earl of Southesk, followed by the words "Disce. Meo. Exemplo. Formosis. Posse. Carere".



A wintry scene in late 1980s.



Every leaf and twig coated with a dusting of snow, on the road out of the village.

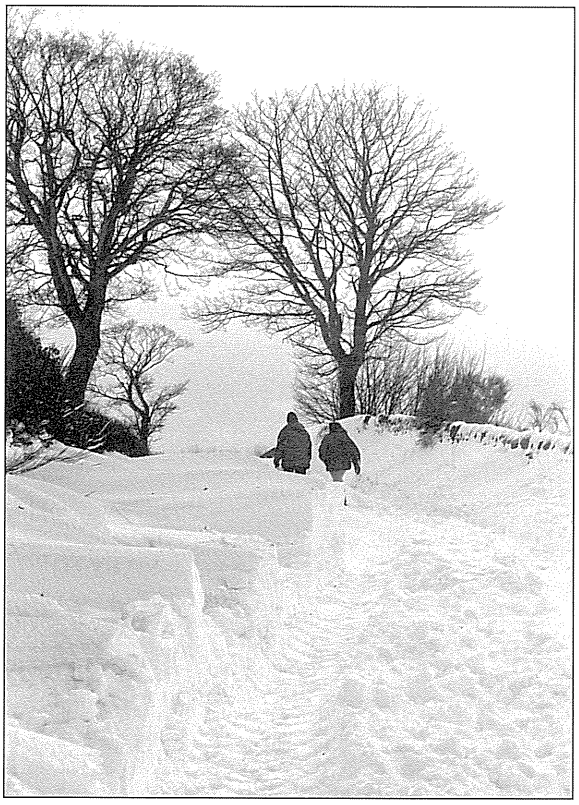




Sunshine after a heavy snowfall on the driveway to Inshewan Estate in the winter of 1981.



Snowplough clearing Broomhill Road, January 1996.



Approaching the rise at Barnyards after the snowstorm, January 1996.



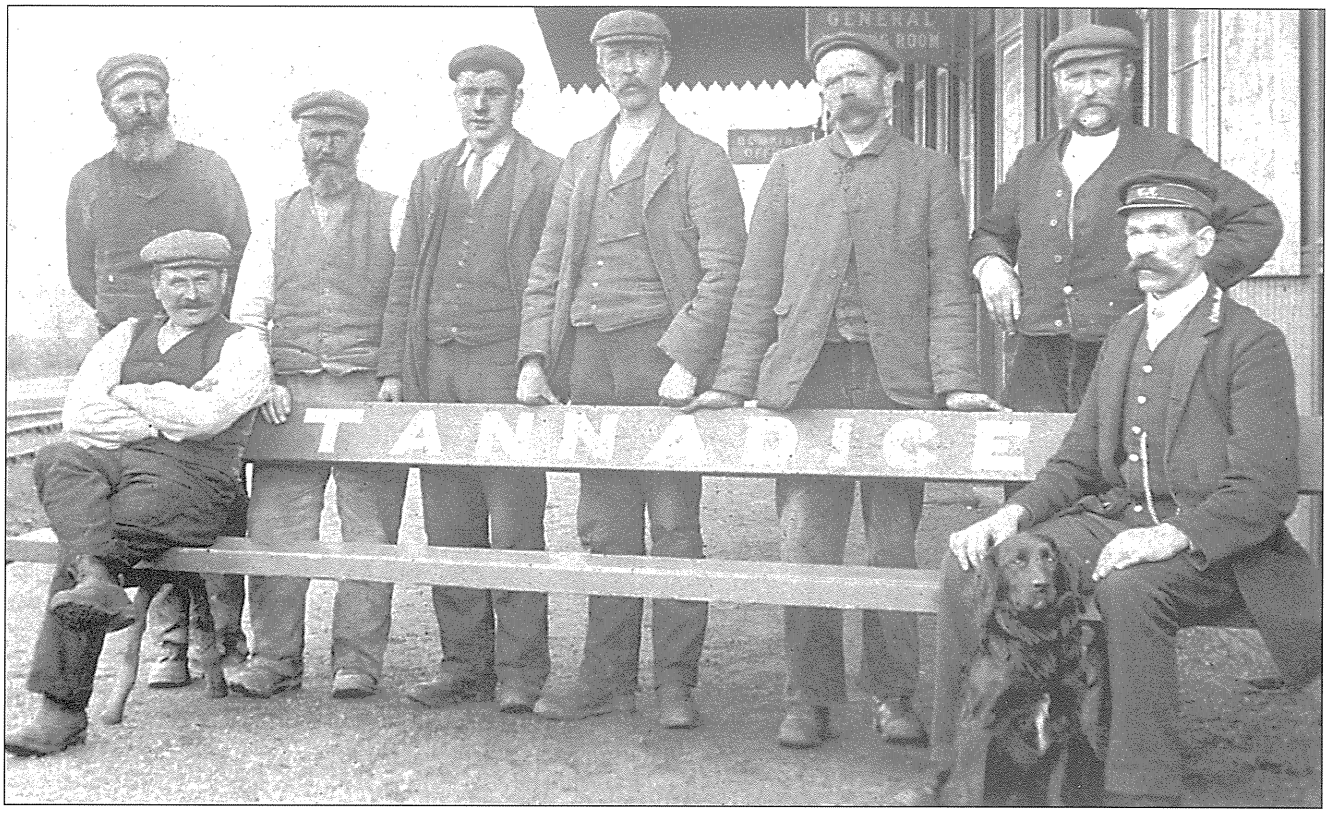
Jemima

This goose along with two ganders belonged to Mr Williamson of Justinhaugh, but, as they were forever showing disapproval of the passing traffic - it was time to go! The Wilkies made a home for them at West Mains of Whitewell farm. After a while the geese decided that they wanted to live with the ducks on the river in Tannadice where they were fed by many of the residents. Jemima survived for many years until the late 1980s.



Johnston

The Wilkies' African Grey parrot lived at West Mains of Whitewell farm for 25 years. He was already a wise old bird when he was brought from Cameroon. Johnston habitually perched on trees in the garden and was everybody's favourite. He had a large vocabulary, a wicked sense of humour, was a superb mimic and danced whenever he heard music. He died in 2001 and will long be remembered around Tannadice and far beyond.



The staff of Tannadice Station, 1907.

Tannadice Railway Station, which opened in 1886, was closed in September 1959. Mr Robert Grant, member of Fern and Tannadice for the County Council, strongly objected to the closure, pointing out that 1,984 tons of potatoes left the station in 1958. Other councillors were in favour of the closure – it was to save them £360 per year.



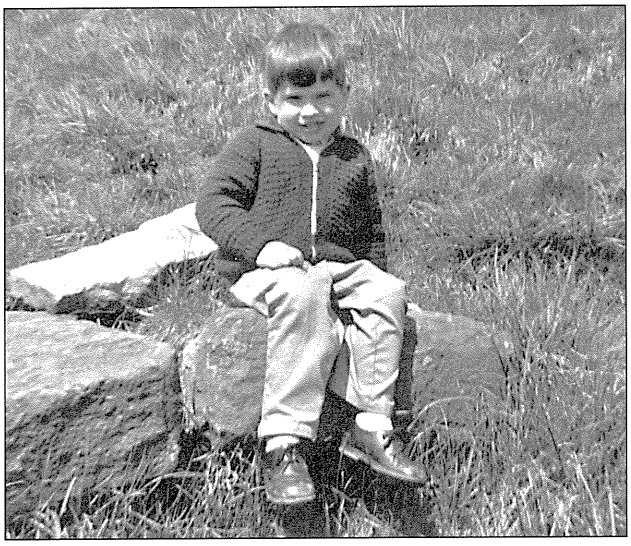
Three generations of the Craik family, 1924.



May Campbell providing the music while on a break at the tattie gathering at Barnyards, 1948.



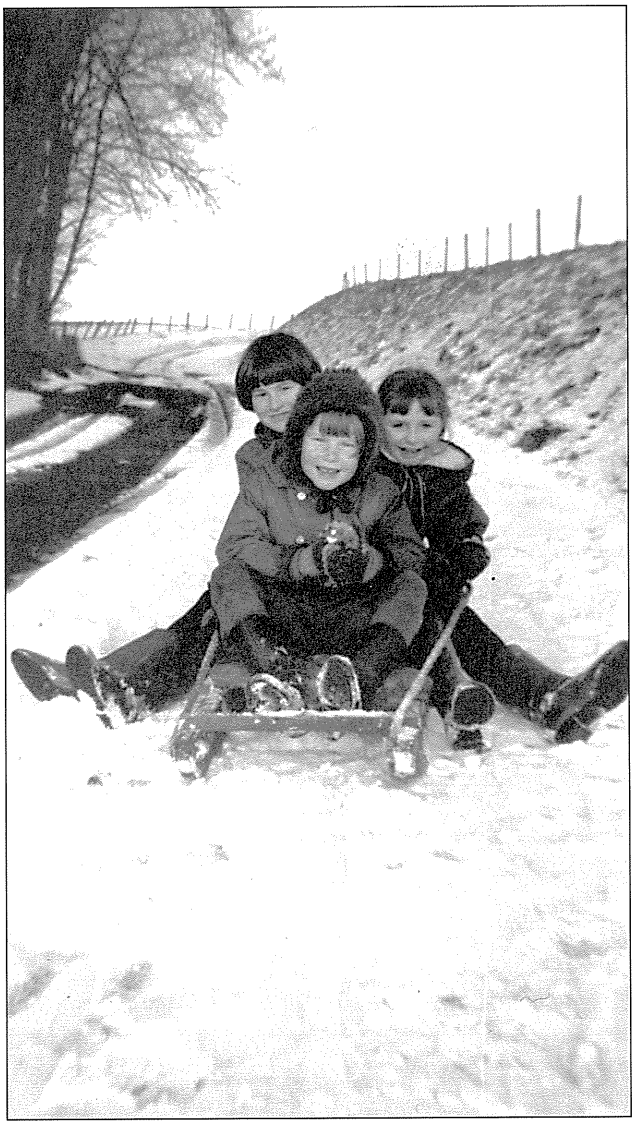
Piece-time at the tattie gathering at Barnyards. *Left to right* Heather Stewart, Ella Brown and Rosie Todd, 1948.



Headmaster's son Campbell Robertson at Tannadice School House.



Mrs Mary Innes at Benholm, Broomhill Road, Tannadice



June Wood, Norma Milne and Lorraine Wood having fun sledging down the school brae, Tannadice, 1969.



Hugh Cook Snr and Will Strachan had their work cut out with this large tree.



Gordon and Angus Strachan helping to clear the shrubs at the back of Tannadice Bungalow.



Angus Strachan on the Ferguson tractor with Cynthia Gammack at Barnyards Farm, Tannadice.



During the spate in November 1992 a fallen tree came down the Bog burn, hit and burst the dam wall, causing it to flood. The lade from the dam drove the meal mill.



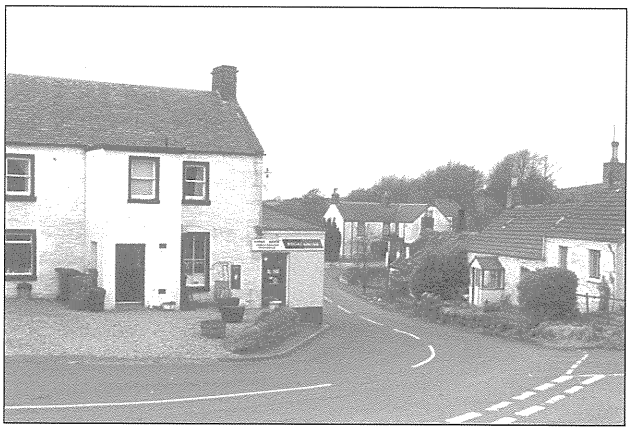
The remains of the dam, 2005.



Angus Hepburn helping clear the Old Drove Road from Tannadice to Balgillo in 2005 with Geordie Wood and grandson, Scott Falconer, in the background.



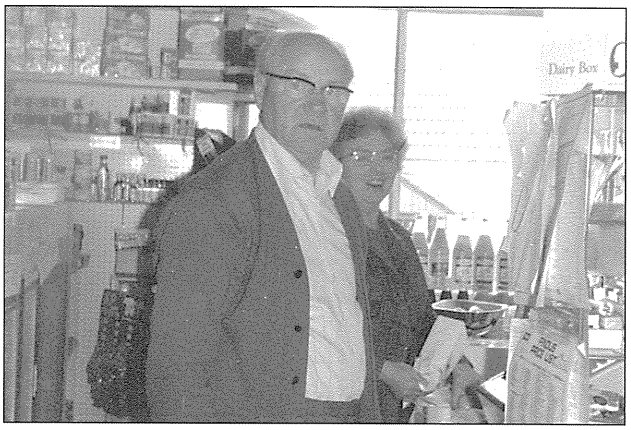
Tannadice Post Office, August 1977.
Postmistress Mrs Betty Milne.



The Post Office and General Store, late 1980s.
Postmistress Mrs Lorna Bruce.



Betty Wood, serving in Tannadice Post Office, 1977.



Betty and Jim Milne in Tannadice Shop, 1977.

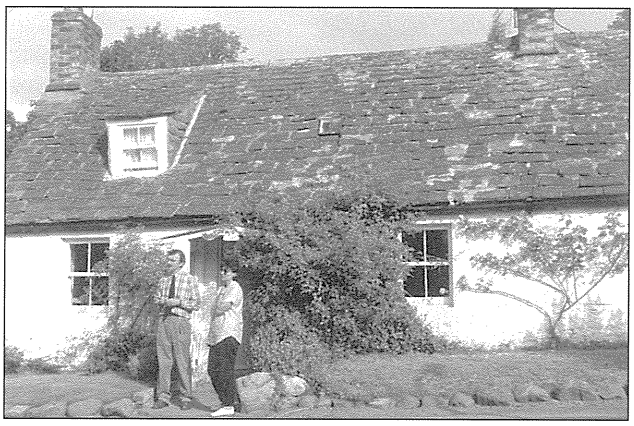


The Old Post Office and Old Smiddy, 2005.



The Tannadice Dairy in Kirriemuir

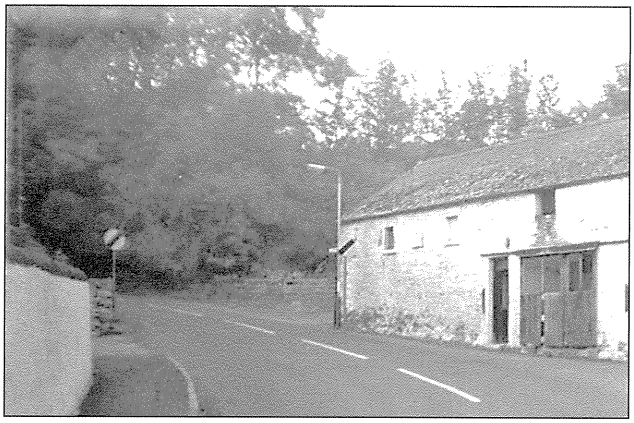
Bob Sturrock beside his Ford milk delivery van at 7 Bellies Brae, Kirriemuir. In 1929 J C Stewart of Mill of Tannadice ran the Tannadice Dairy shop and, in 1945, his daughter Anne and her husband Bob Sturrock took it over. Before becoming a dairy, the shop was owned by a china merchant and, after the Sturrocks, it was taken over in 1949 by E K Durston of Glasswell Farm, eventually closing in 1960.



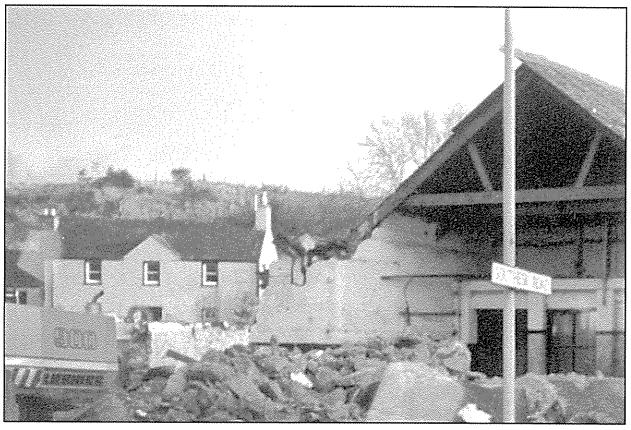
Rose Cottage, Tannadice
Bruce and Anne Rogers, 1988.



Bridgend Cottage, Tannadice,
during demolition in 1986.



Mill of Tannadice farm steading.



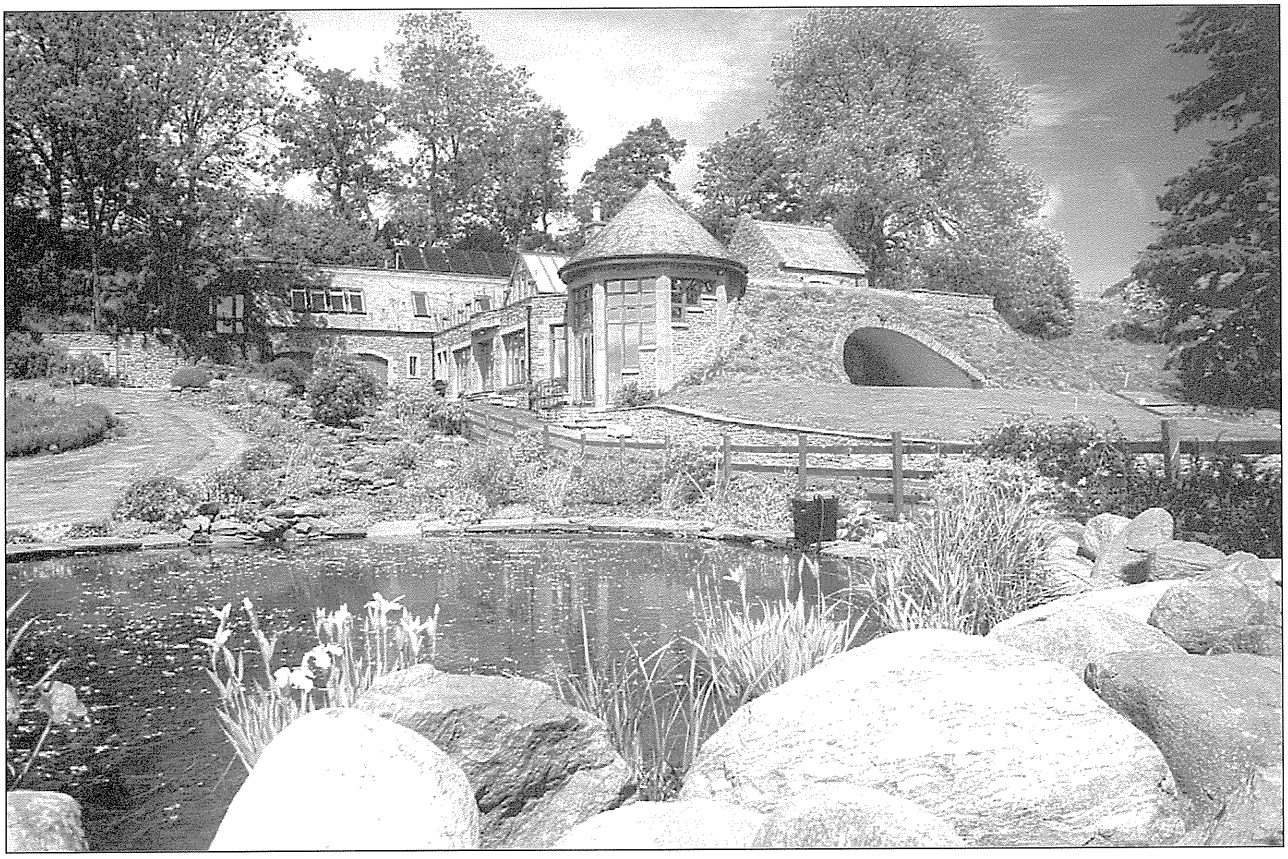
The demolition of the farm steading.



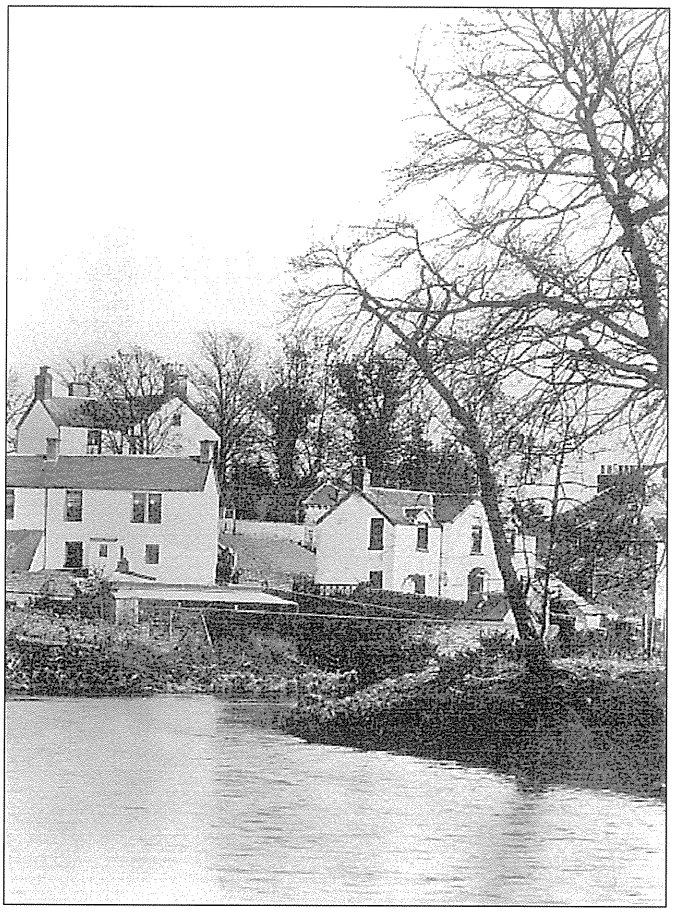
These houses were built and completed by 1995 on the site of the old steading.



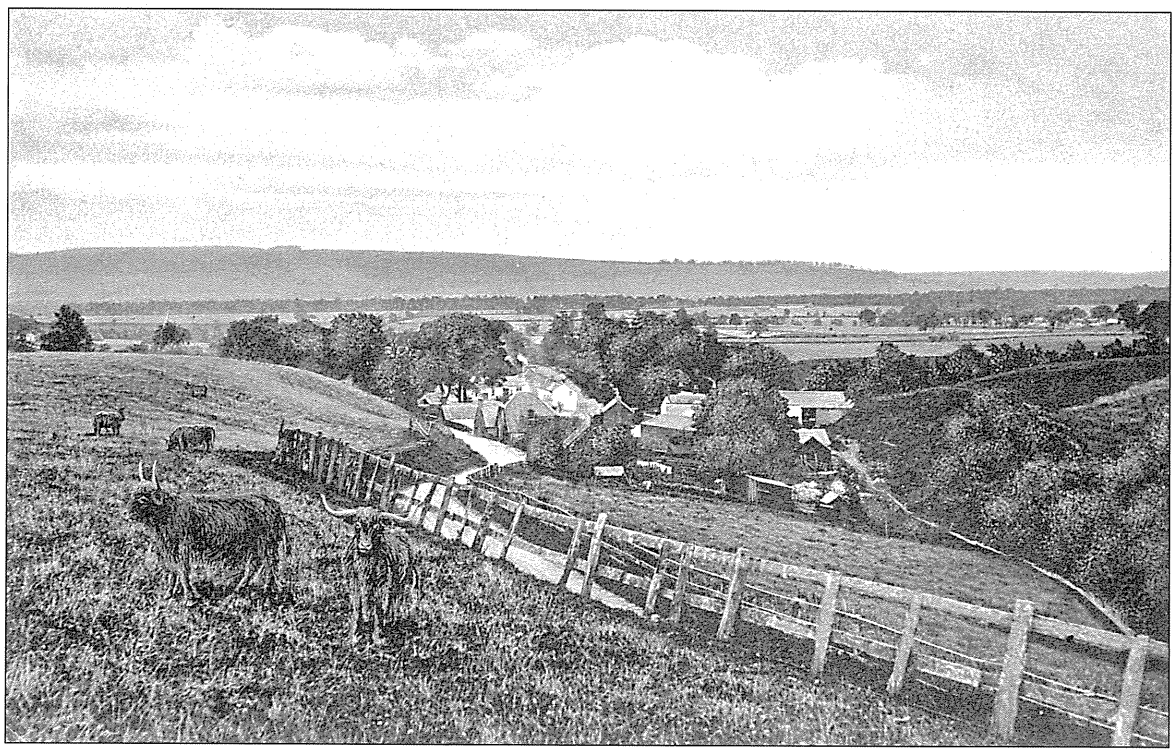
Bungalow at East Murthill prior to 1970.



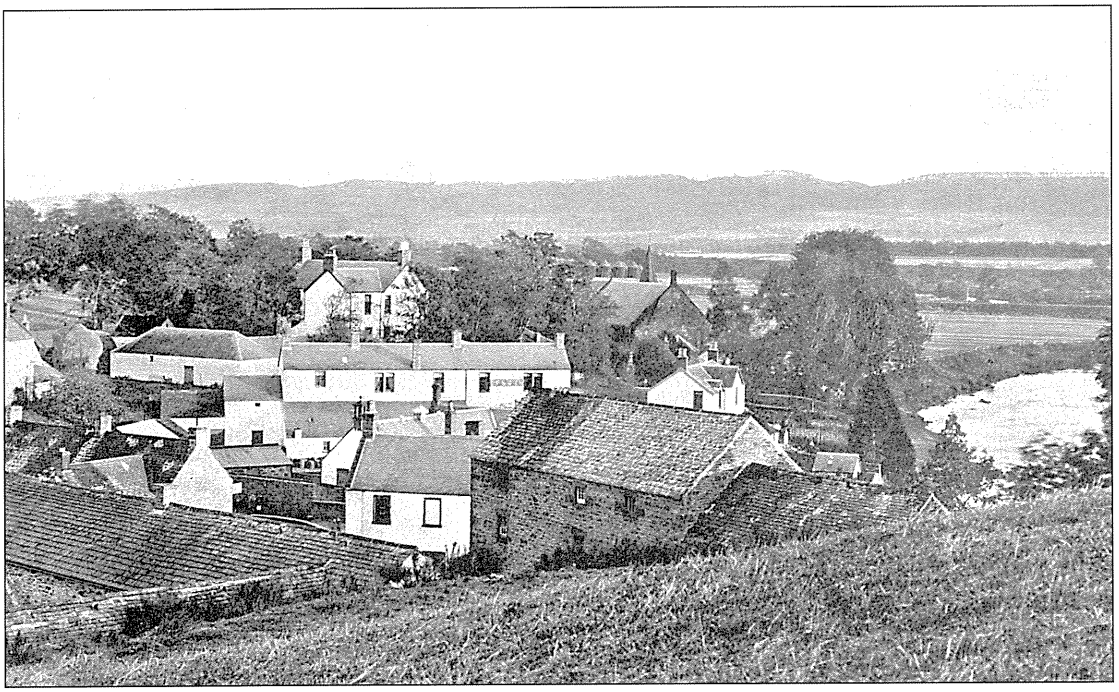
Kalulu House on the site of the bungalow at East Murthill.



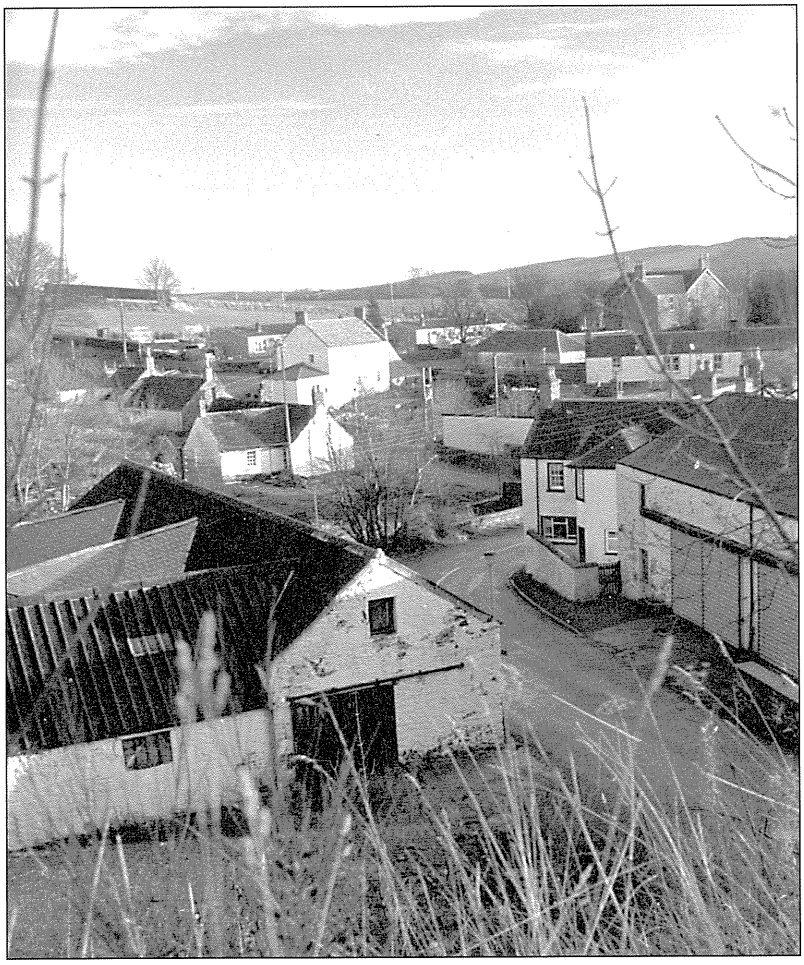
Tannadice in view from the River South Esk.



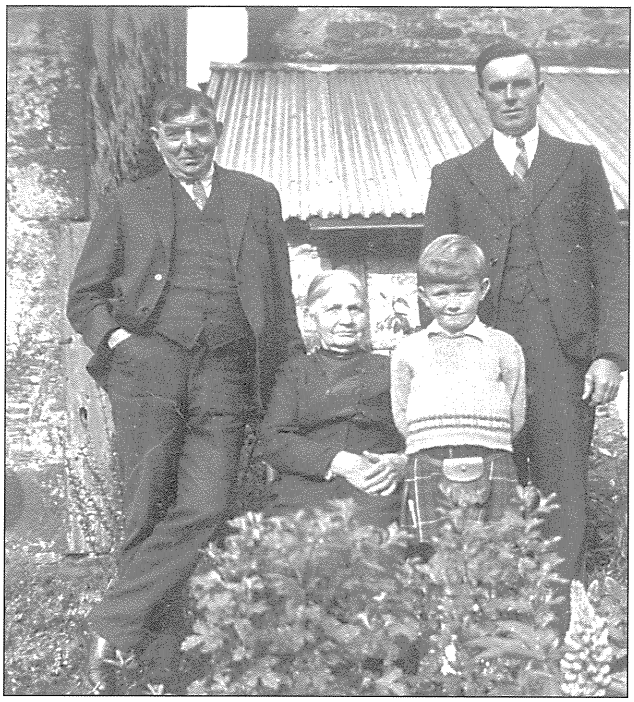
At the turn of the century – view of Tannadice from Broomhill Road.



Old postcard of Tannadice, with neat stacks of Barnyards Farm in the distance.



View of Tannadice, late 1980s.



Four generations – Magdalene McQuattie, Charles McQuattie, Eck McQuattie and Charlie McQuattie Manse Lane, Tannadice.



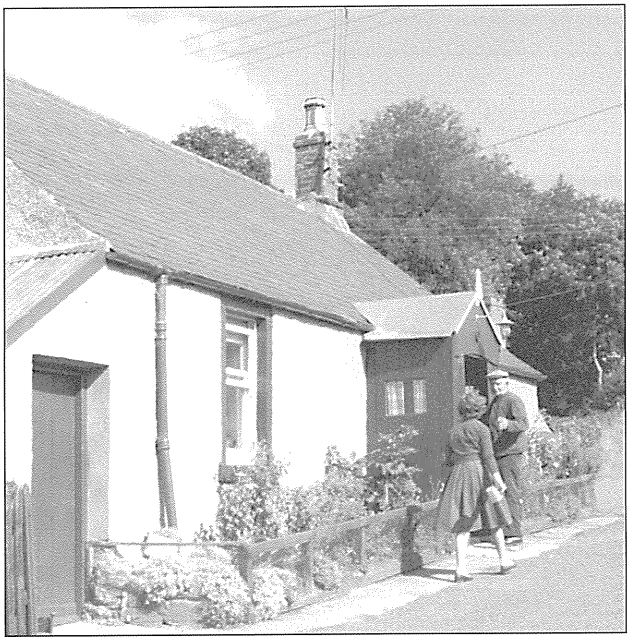
Elizabeth and Great Granny McQuattie, 1958.



Great Grandad and Great Granny McQuattie's wedding.



Grandad and Granny McQuattie.



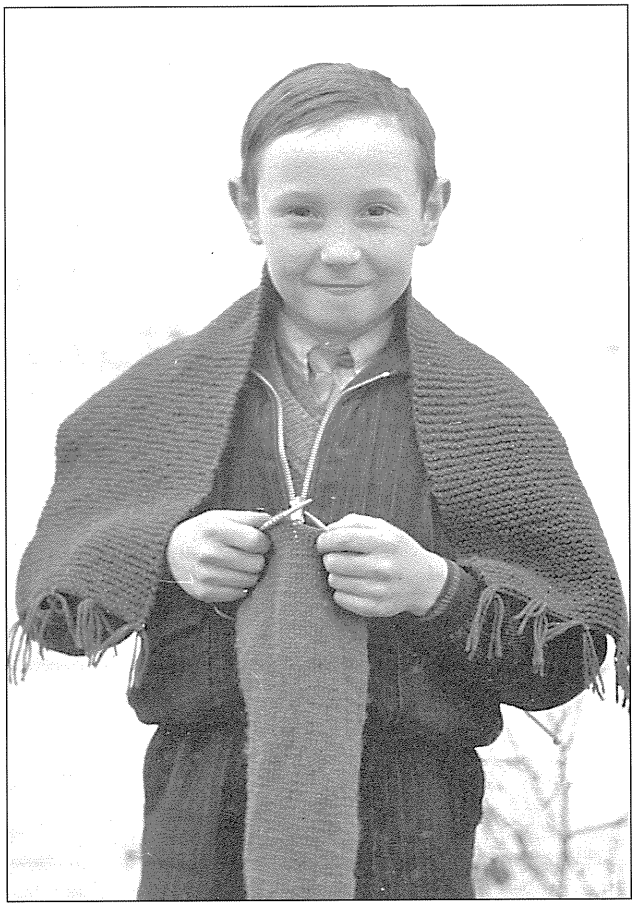
Grandad McQuattie outside his house in Manse Lane, Tannadice.



Chay McQuattie, Manse Lane.



Wedding of John Cuthill and Jean Hosie on 6th December 1929 in Forfar. Following the marriage, they lived for a number of years at the Old Hotel in Tannadice, then moved to Barnyards.



Jack Cuthill doing his bit for the war effort.



Four generations taken outside Tannadice School in 1939.
Back left to right: Grandmother Mrs Jemima Hosie, Jack Cuthill, Mother Mrs Jean Cuthill
Front left to right: Madge Cuthill, Great Grandmother Mrs Jean Duncan and Betty Duncan.



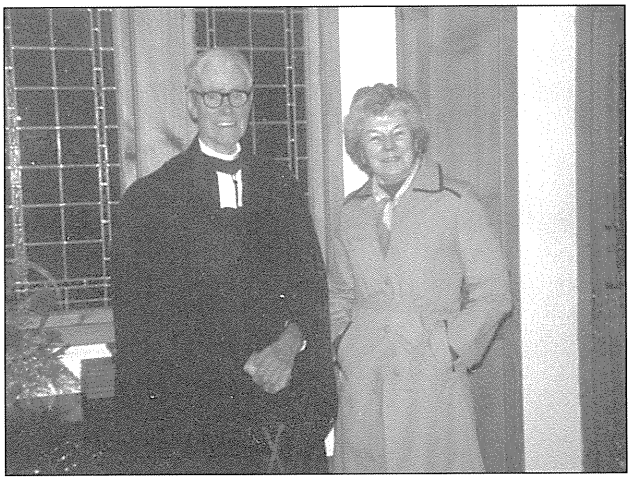
Wedding of Bill Robertson and Helen McDonald with attendants,
Jean Falconer and Alex Robertson in Tannadice Church, 1946.



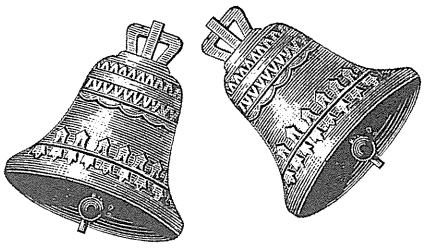
Bridal group at wedding of Ralph Seaton of Guthrie (formerly of Oathlaw) and Jessie Hosie of Tannadice. Mr Jim Fyfe was Best Man, Miss Fraser was Bridesmaid and Flower Girl was Madge Cuthill. The ceremony and reception were held in Botany Hall, Finavon on 20th July 1940. Rev J McMurray officiated.



Daniel Farquharson escorting his cousin Ailsa Simpson to Isla May Wilkie's wedding in Tannadice Church in 1990.

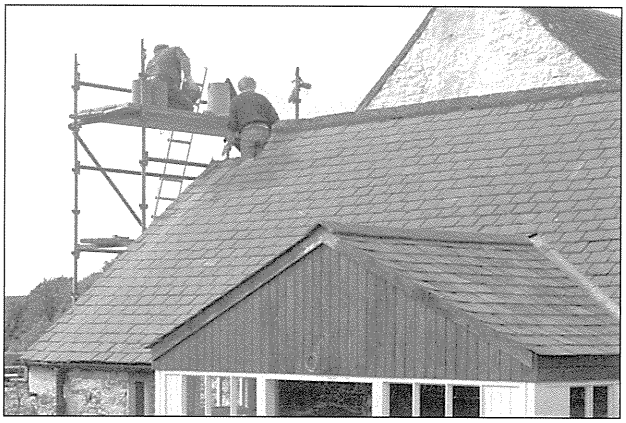


Rev James Dempster Taylor and Mrs Lena Taylor, 1980s.

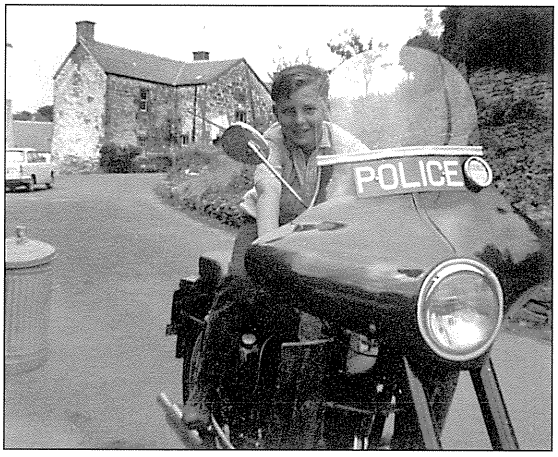




Godfrey Darling and 'Bingo' on Old Smiddy roof.



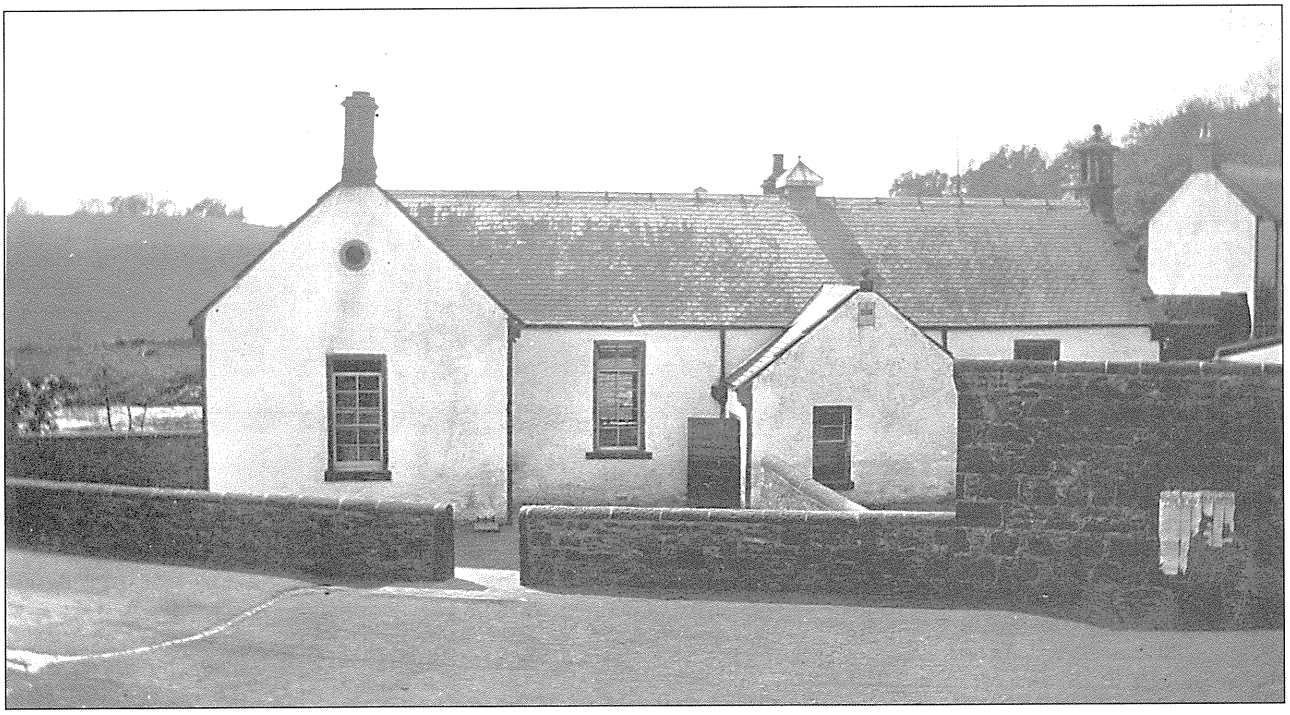
Jim and Kevin Meek rebuilding chimney at Manse Lane.



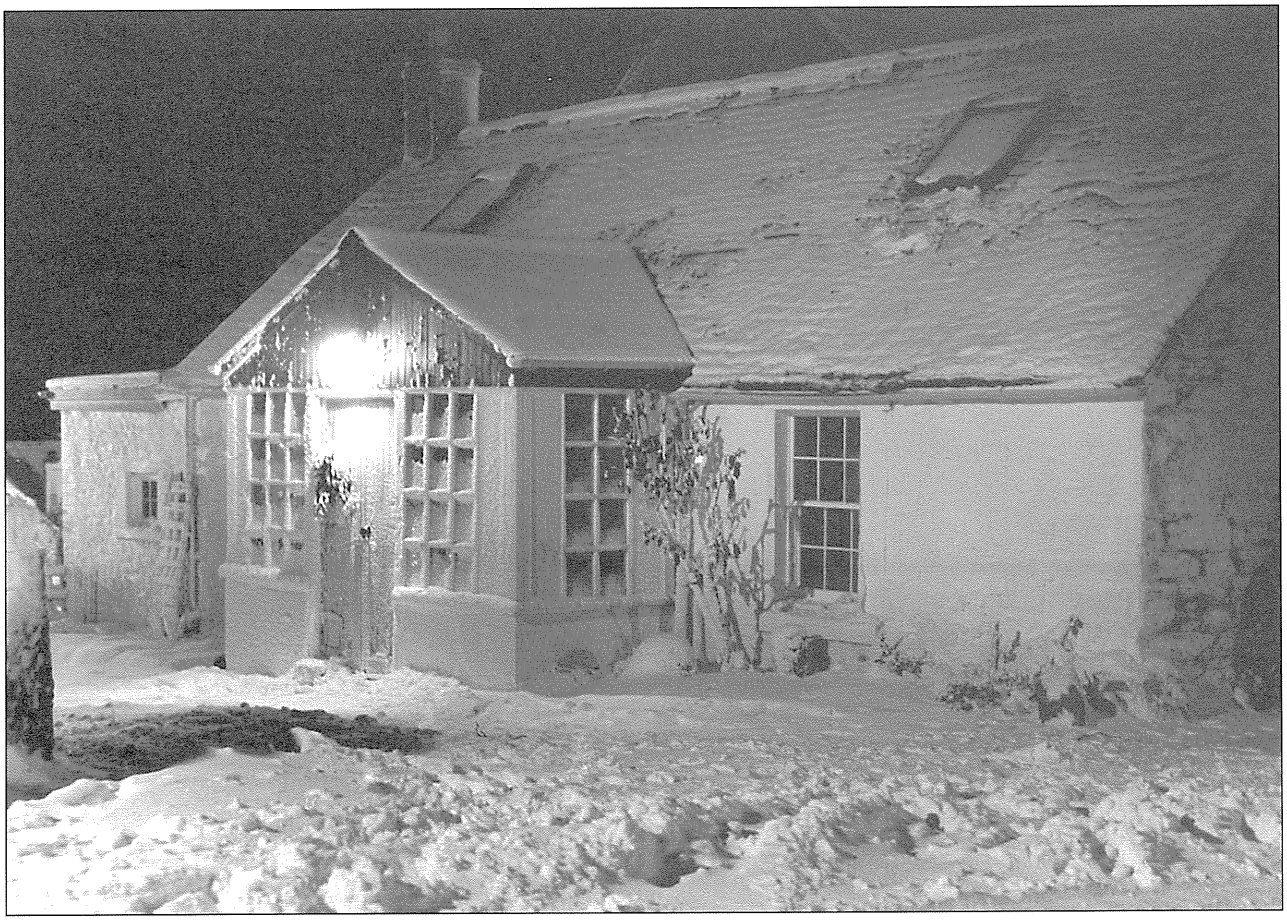
Alastair Stewart on a Police motorbike outside the policeman's house, 6 Manse Lane.



1 Manse Lane, home of Lorna and Bill Bruce, nearing the end of cottage extension.



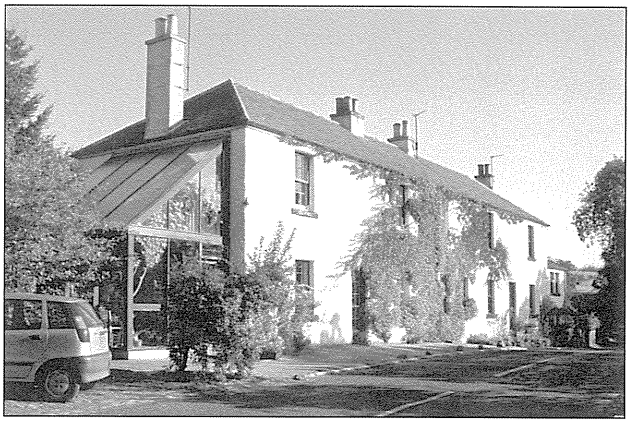
The Old School, Tannadice, 1931 after serving the village for many years, was vacated and a building embodying the most modern improvements is now in use.



Photographer Jack Cowper's magic on Manse Lane cottage, Christmas Eve 1995.



Whig Street, Tannadice, 1980s.



Whig Street, Tannadice, 2006.

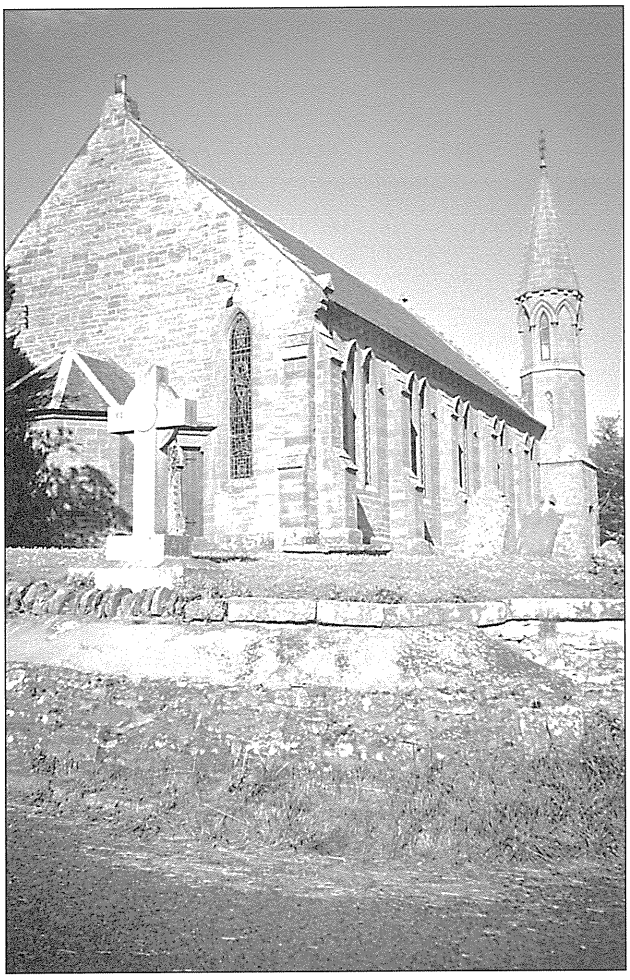


The Whig Street Gang

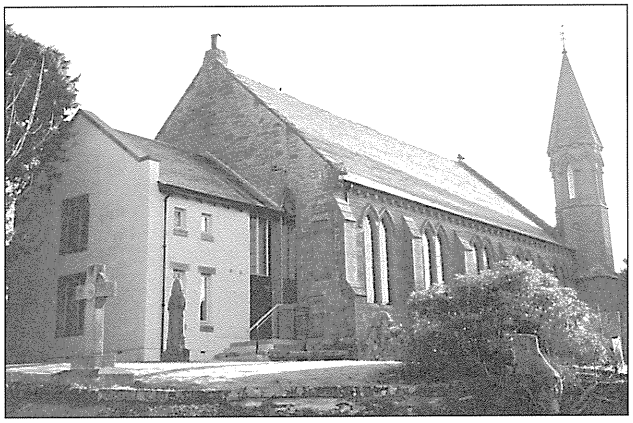
Back: Ruby Stewart; *2nd back*: Anthony Campbell; *2nd front*: Mary Campbell, Kathleen Campbell, Moira McAllan.
Front: Alison McAllan, Ally Stewart.



Bruce and Betty Findlay of Easter Balgillo in London for the Smithfield Show.



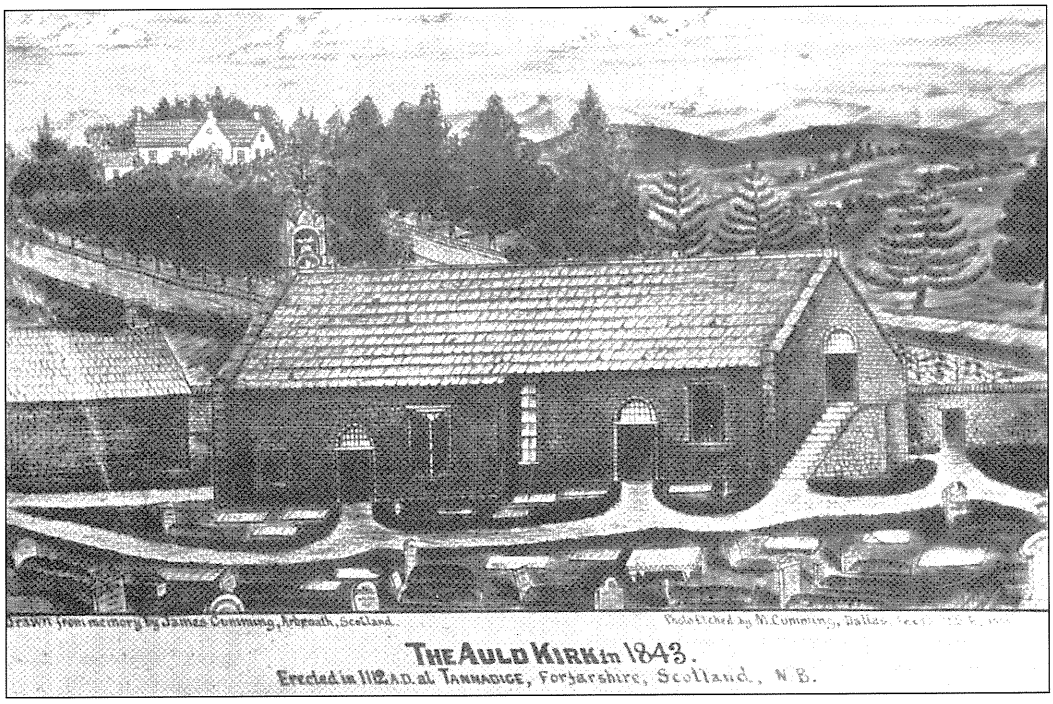
Tannadice Church



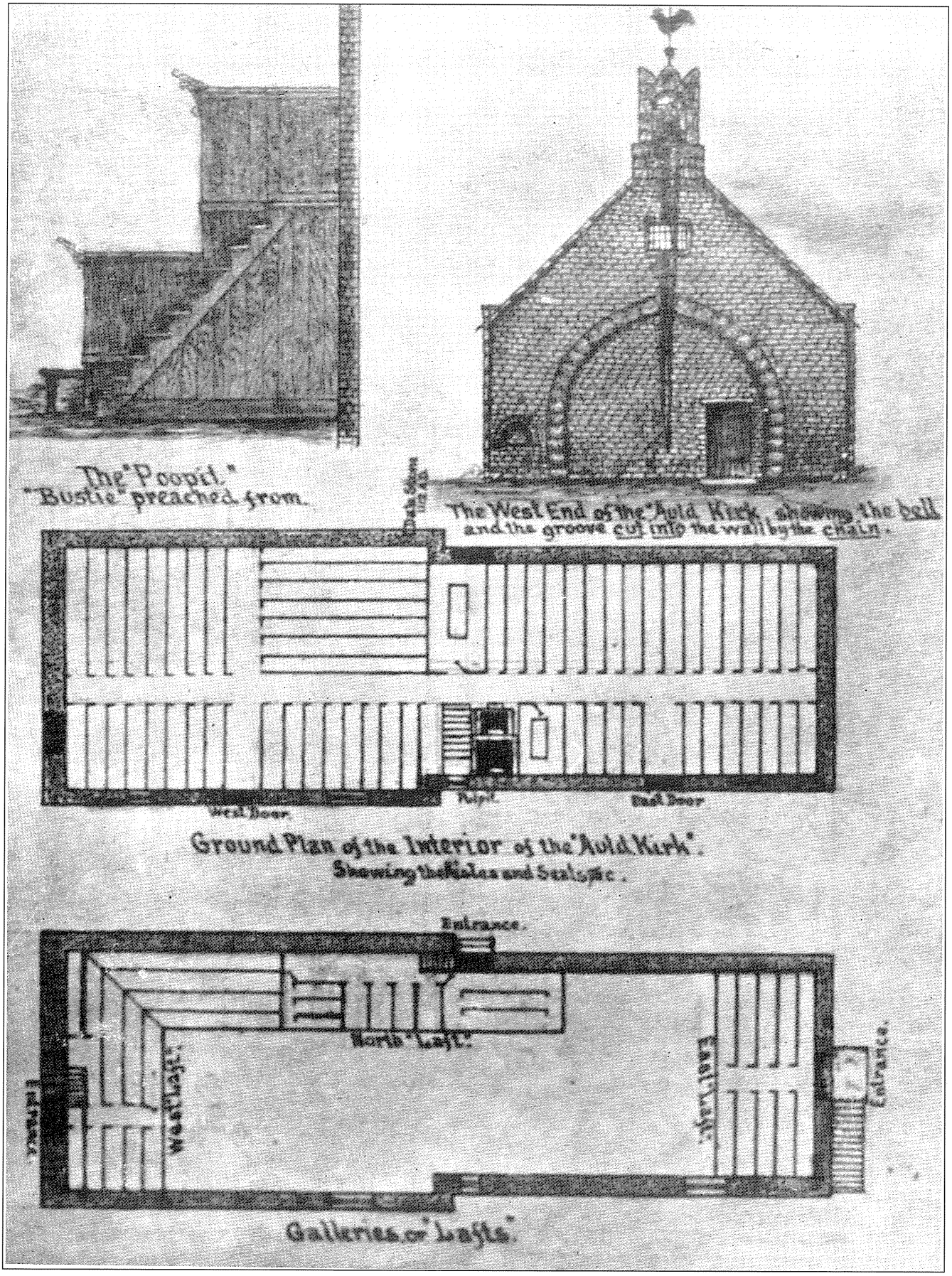
Tannadice Church after new extension.



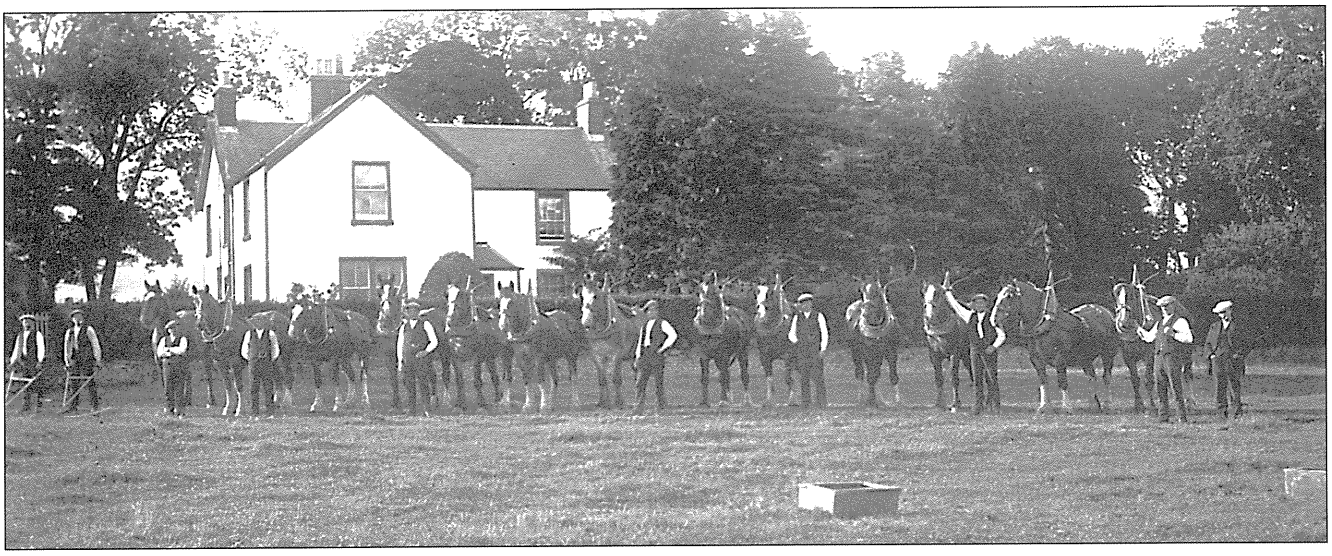
Snow and sun in Tannadice Kirkyard, December 1995.



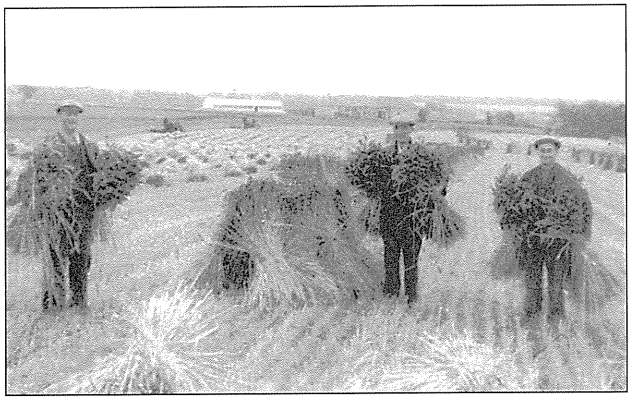
The Auld Kirk, 1843. Drawn from memory by James Cumming, Arbroath.



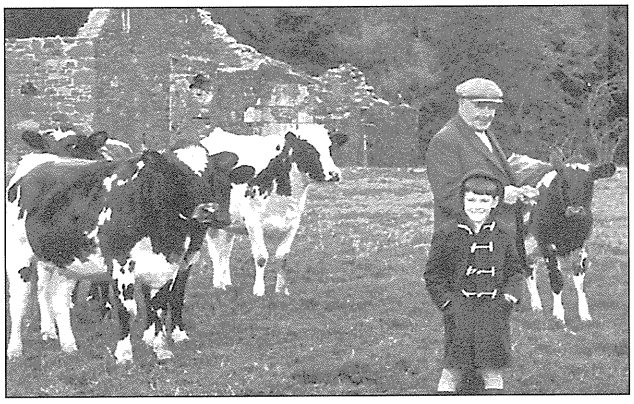
The Auld Kirk interior, 1843.



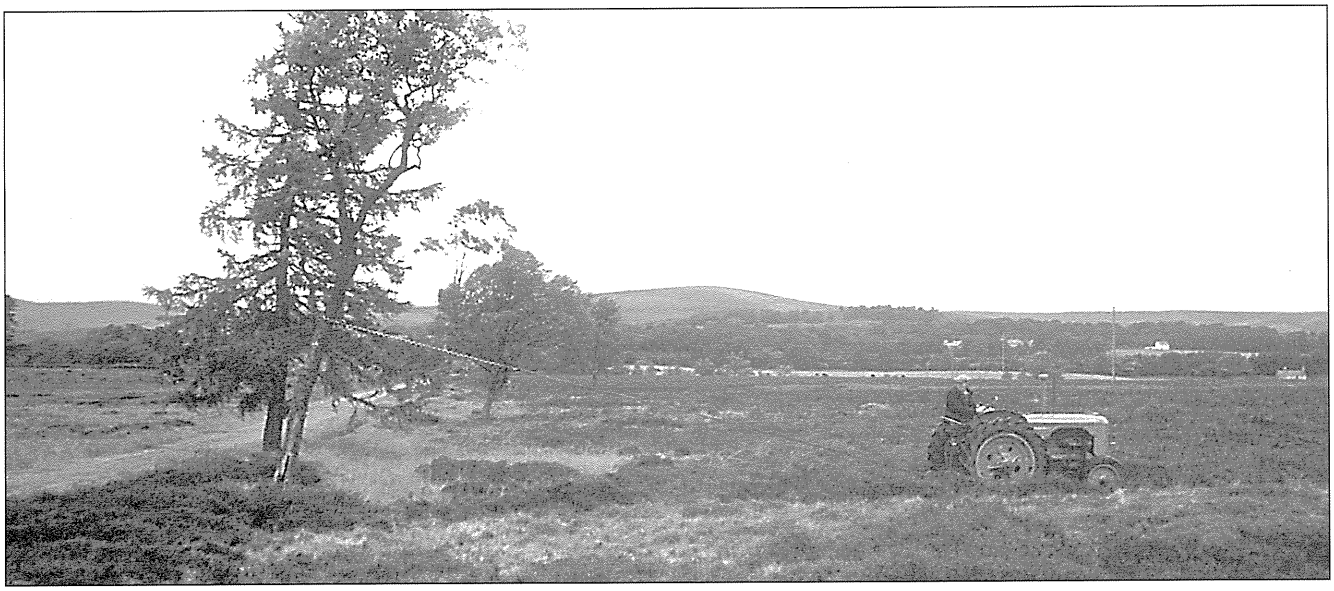
In 1926 a different horse power at Meikle Coull Farm from that of today.



Stooking wheat near Tannadice School.
Left to right: Leslie Glen, Will Innes, Gilbert McCall.



James and Alan McCall with the Loups ruin in the background.



Clearing trees at the Broom with the road in to the Loups on the left, 1940s.



Ed Innes leading the horses at a ploughing match at Mill of Tannadice, 1948, with Jim Crighton ploughing and Mr Carrie judging.



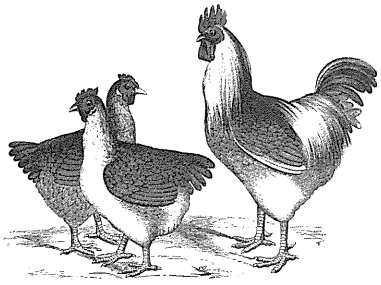
Gilbert McCall keeping a straight furrow at a ploughing match.



Alan, Irene and David McCall having fun on their tractor.



McCall Family, James McCall with his sons Gilbert and John – Broom Farm.





Broom Farmhouse, 1940s.



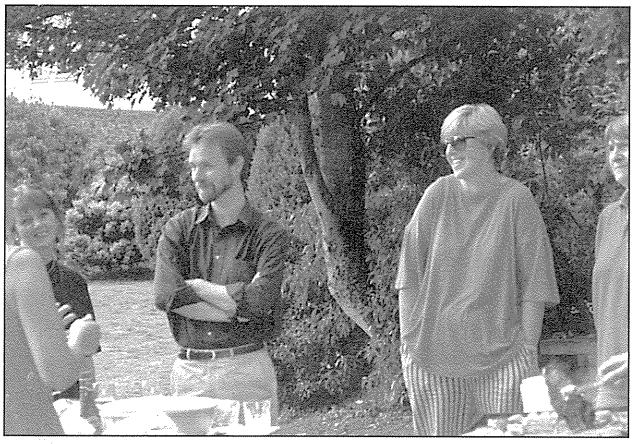
Broom Farm, 1950 – orginally Wester Balgillo.



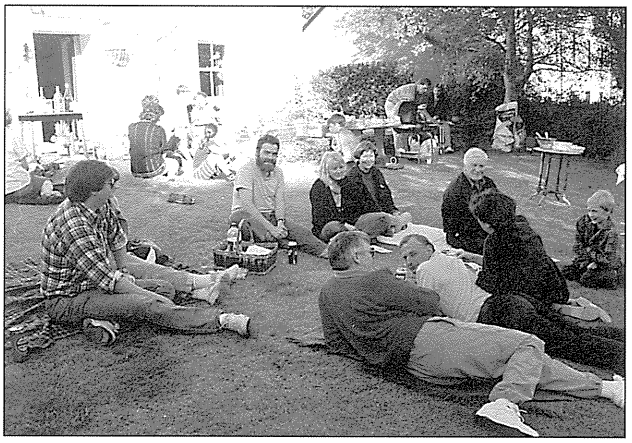
Pimms in the Park, 2005.



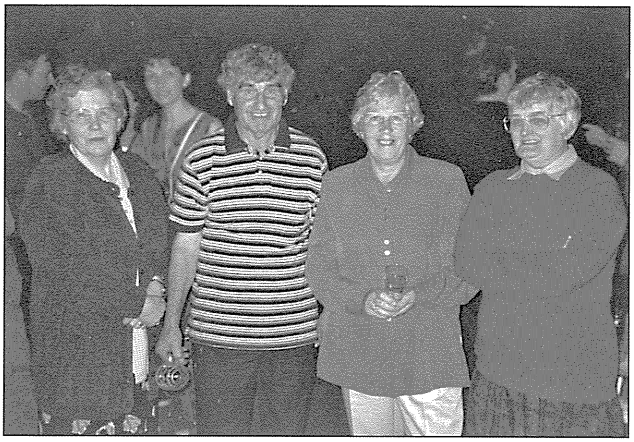
Beer in the garden, 2005.



Barbecue at Tannadice, *left to right:* Tina Lindsay, John Lindsay, Lorna Bruce and Dorothy Gow.



Picnic at William Syme cottage.



Summer Barbecue in Manse Lane 20th June 1998.
Left to right: Betty Wood, Geordie Wood, Ethel Innes, and Anne Robertson.



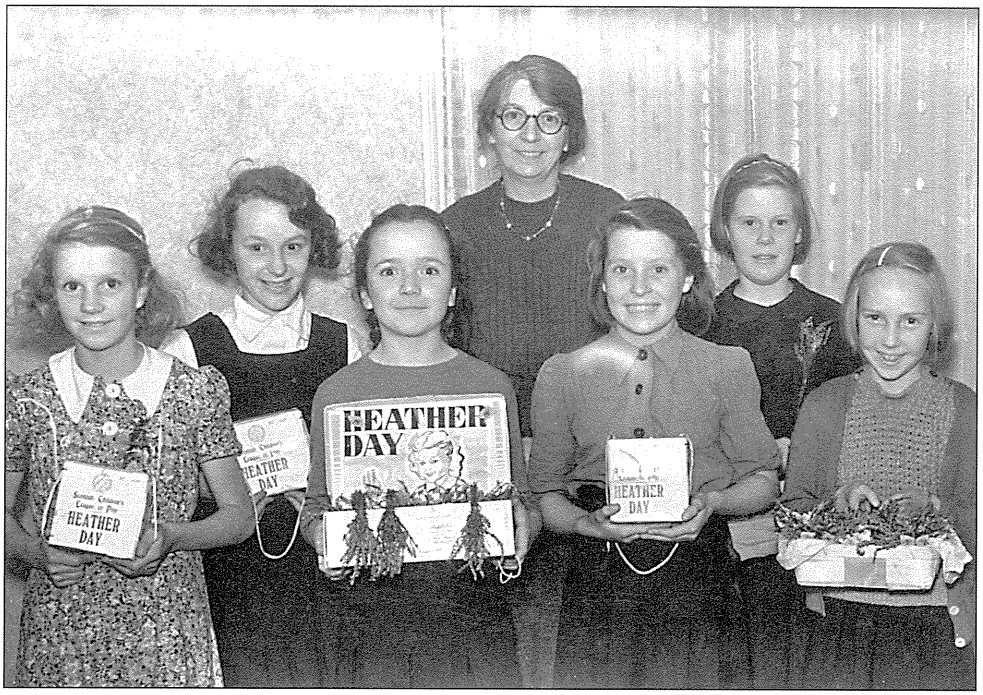
Village Green barbecue.
Left to right: Claire Farquharson, Dorothy and Neil Gow, Bill Bruce and Kate Simpson.



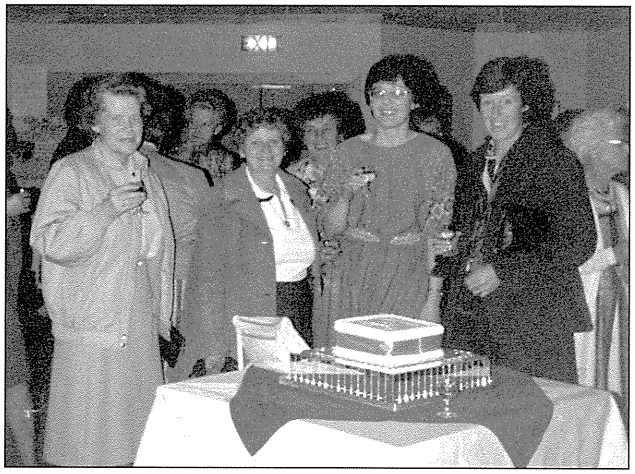
Tannadice and Oathlaw WRI 70th Anniversary at Finavon Hotel, 1995.



Cutting the cake at the WRI 70th Anniversary. Mrs Annie Glen, Mrs Jean Wilkie and Mrs Ruby Bruce.



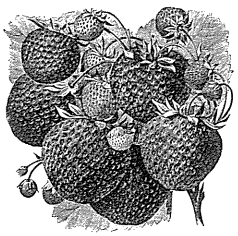
Pupils of Tannadice School selling heather with Mrs J Cleland, 1940s.
Left to right: Elizabeth Jamieson, Margaret Gill, Rhoda Lunan, Helen Robbie, Ella Will and Margaret Cuthill.

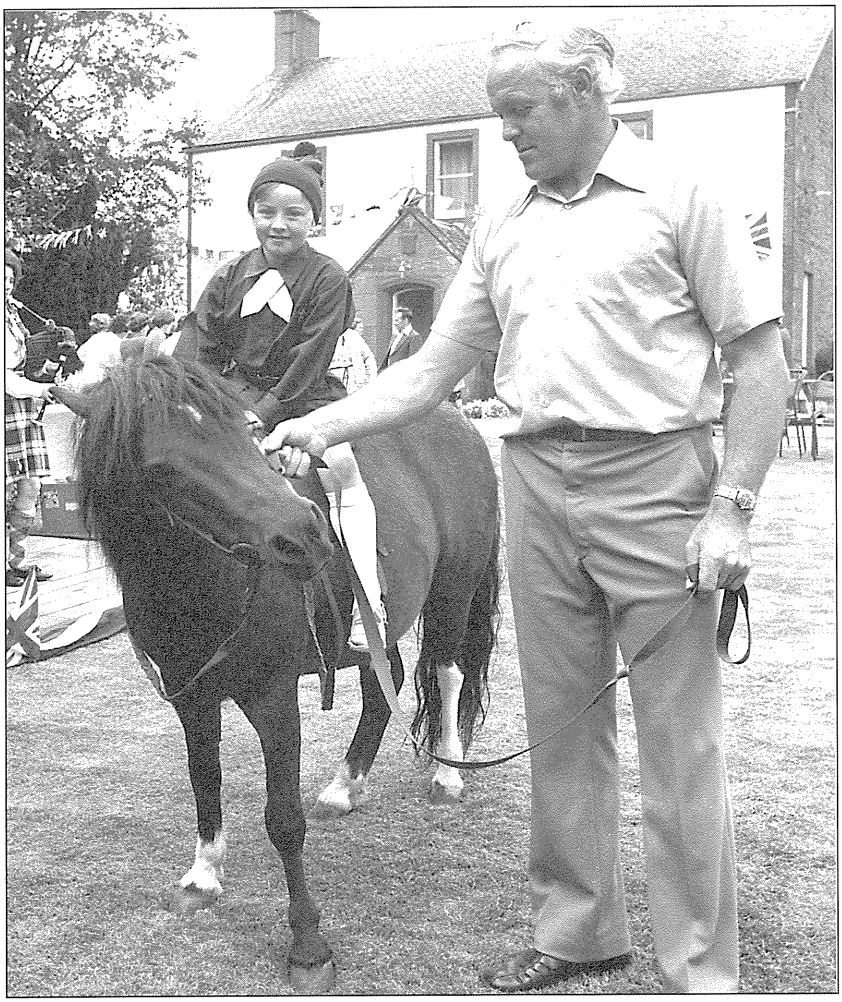


Tannadice and Oathlaw WRI 60th Anniversary at Letham Grange. Betty Wood, Etta Racionzer, Elizabeth Mitchell and Lorna Bruce.



Anniversary of WRI in 1975
Left to right: Mrs J Wilkie, Mrs J Whitton, Mrs A Elrick, Mrs J Cuthill, Mrs R Carnegie.





Tannadice Church Fete in the Manse garden, Ivan Laird giving a Brownie a ride on a reluctant pony.



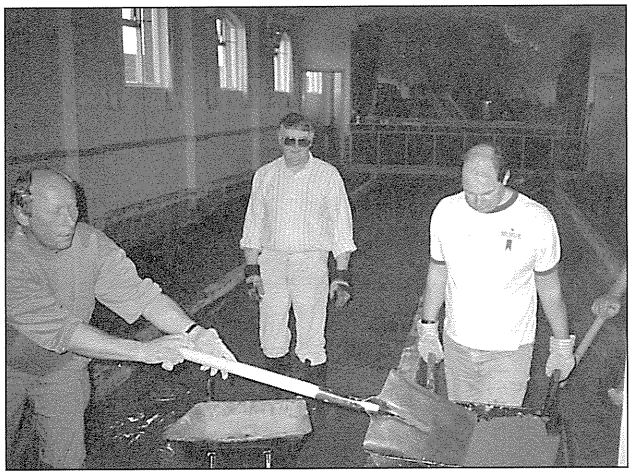
Tannadice Church Fete, 1970s. *Left to right:* Mrs Maisie Strachan, Mrs Margaret Robertson, Mrs Betty Wood, Mrs Beth Smart, Mrs Margaret Elliot, Mrs Violet Leslie with Moira Leslie sitting.



'Tossing the sheaf' at Tannadice Flower Show, 1939.
From right, competitor Alf Campbell, Tobees with Bob Grant, farmer of West Mains of Whitewell who was judge. The lady sitting on the grass is Mrs Lily Campbell with her daughter May who was 4 years old (now Mrs May Stewart, Murton Farm, Rescobie). The 2nd lady from the left is Mrs R Grant, Senior.



Race Night at Tannadice Hall
Back (left to right): Joyce and Bill Woodhouse, Sharon Pert, Carol Smith, Stan Draper, Lorna Bruce, Bill Bruce, Lorna Burgess, Jennifer Strang, Peter Yeaman, Gwyn Rees.
Middle: Lynda Findlay, Helen Fleming, Neil Gow, Stewart Roberts, Debbie Roberts.
Front: Cameron Smith, Briony Pert, Martin Findlay, Ray Pert.



Renovating the Village Hall
Ian Chisnall, Bill Bruce and Fraser McLaren.



Busy at the Village Hall
Aileen Irving, Liz Bridson and Iain Sutherland.



Tannadice Village Hall – as it was in 2004.



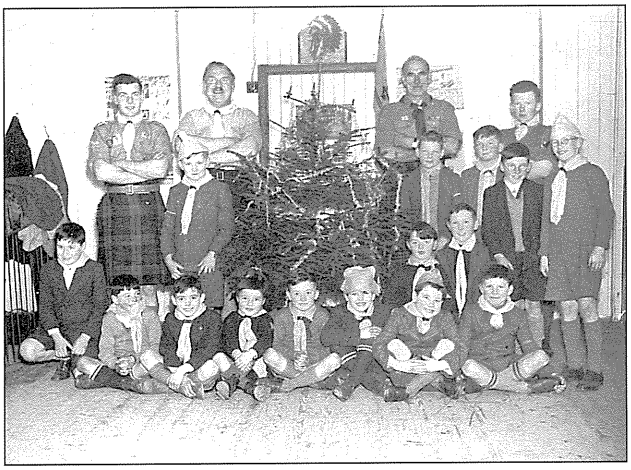
Stewart and Debbie Roberts' wedding reception in the Village Hall after refurbishment in 1994.



Tannadice Village Hall – now a private house, 2006.



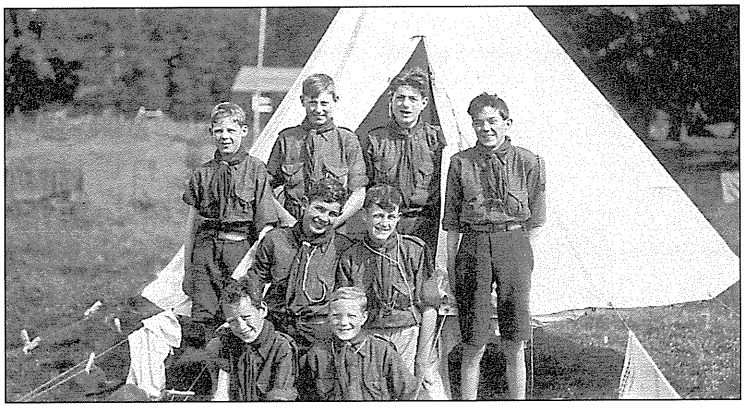
Tannadice Scouts skiing above Shallgreen – Ed Christie, Sandy Smith and Bill Adam.



Tannadice Cub Party, 1940s.



Tannadice Scouts, County Flag winners.



Scout camp at Tannadice, 1926.



Tannadice Guides, *left to right:* Lexie Neilson, Madge Cuthill and Betty Duncan, 1948.



Tannadice Guides at a weekend camp at Turfachie, 1956.
Left to right: Isobel Douglas, Leah David, Mary Ann Bodie and Ellen Douglas.



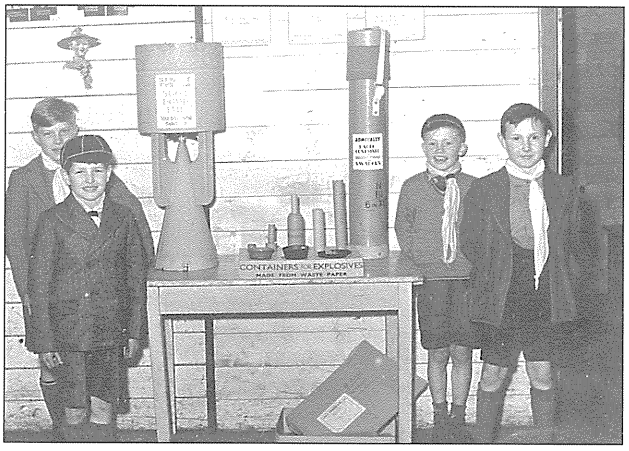
Tannadice Cub concert about 20 years ago.
Back (left to right): Grant Murray, George Edmonds, Sandy Laird, Steve Menmuir, Chris Gair.
Middle: Grant Johnston, Ian Murray, Alan Taylor, Scot Ogilvy, Mathew Reid.
Front: Neil McLeod, Willie Adam.



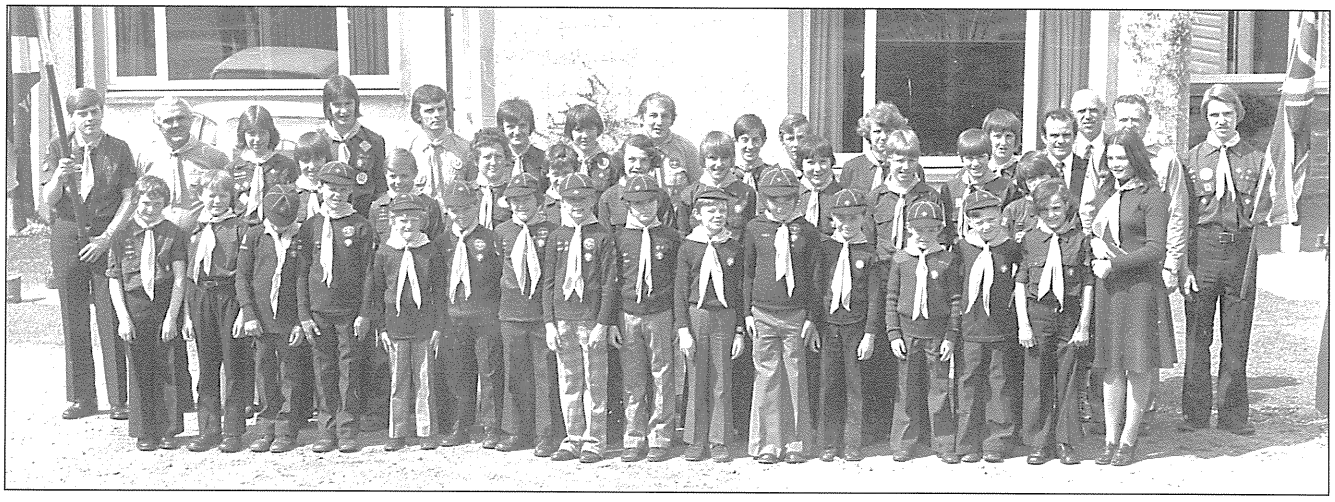
Tannadice Scouts, Cubs and leaders, 1980s.



Tannadice and Menmuir Old Scouts' reunion in the scout hut.



Tannadice Cubs making use of waste paper, in a wartime effort in 1940.



Tannadice Cubs and Scouts, May 1977.



Tannadice Scouts' Jamboree, June 1979.



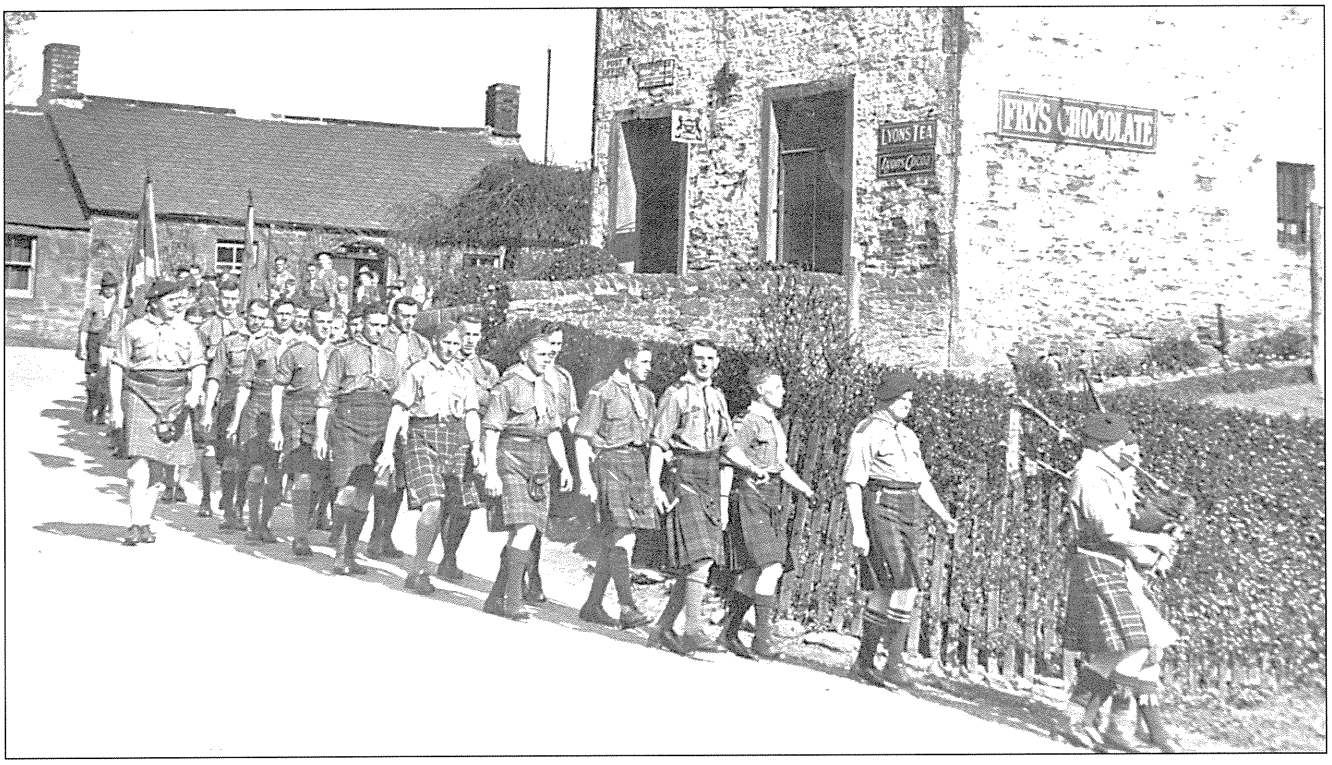
Tannadice Scout Jamboree, June 1979.
Col Rodger Learoyd RM, Commanding Officer at RM Condor with Ivan A Laird,
Chairman of Tannadice Scout Group.



Tannadice and Oathlaw Home Guard during the Second World War.



Scouts and Home Guard, Tannadice, 1941.



Tannadice Scouts - Church Parade in the 1930s.



Tannadice Scouts, Church Parade, approximately 1947.



Scout Football Team, 1948.

Back (left to right): E Simpson, W Simpson, E Innes, C Crighton, B Grant, L Stewart.
Front: G Smith, J Alexander, J Robertson, N Simpson, I McLeod.



Tannadice Scout Football Team, early 1950s.

Back (left to right): Alastair Campbell, Martin Barrie, Ken Smith.
Middle: Alastair Paterson, Jim Farquharson, Bill Beattie.
Front: Frank Stewart, Malcolm Paterson, David Welsh, Billy Dunn, George Cattenach.



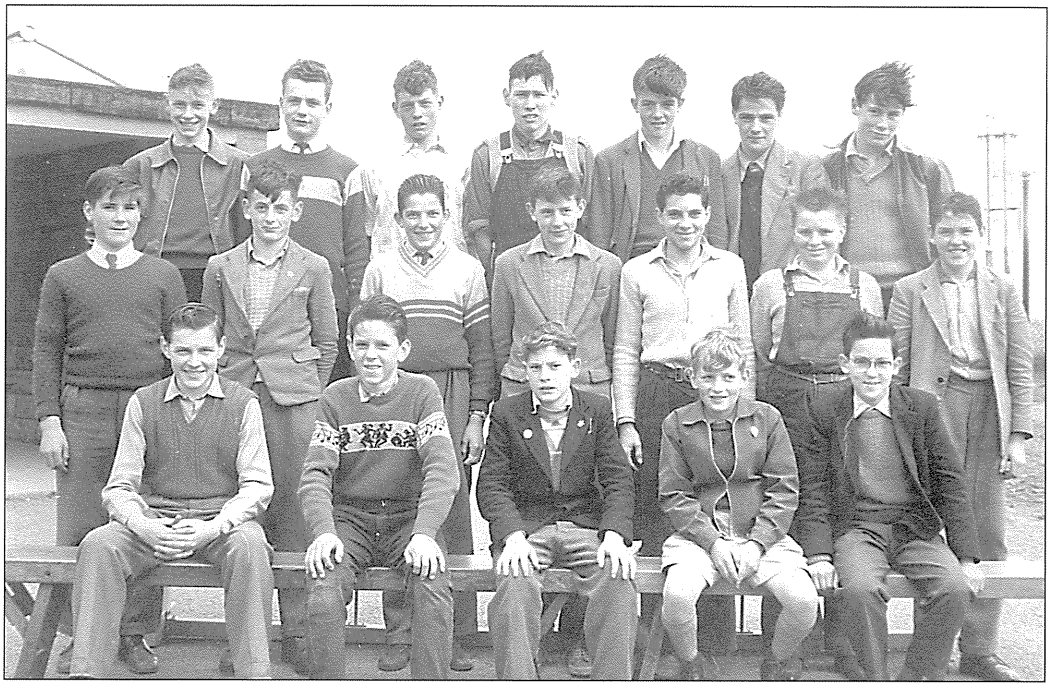
Tannadice Football Team, 1960.

Back (left to right): I Findlater, G Clubb, J Candy, B Silver, G McDonald, G McLeod.
Front: G Smith, R Stewart, C Robertson, P Clubb, I Robertson.



Tannadice Football Team, 1972.

Back (left to right): John Anderson, Colin Hazlett, Roy Innes, Sandy Leslie, Alan Harris, Alan Ramsay.
Front: Kenny Leslie, Malcolm Gibb, Ian Milne, Alex Ironside, Doug Noble, Billy Henderson, Derek Crighton.



Tannadice School Pupils, 1960s.

Back (left to right): Colin Hay, Mike McGuigan, George McDonald, David Crabb, Alex Rennie, Stewart Murray, Gordon Snow.

Middle: Alan Duncan, Bill Archibald, Mike Guthrie, Jock Candy, Charlie Robertson, Ron Guthrie, Ron Stewart.

Front: David Flett, Davie Dutch, Gordon Williamson, Arthur Burgess, Johnny Dawson.



Tannadice School Football Team, 1949.

Back (left to right): Bill Fotheringham, Jim Murray, Chae Davidson, Les Stewart, Siv Paterson.

Front: Davie McIntosh, Dicky Douglas, Ed Cargill, Ali Douglas, Ian McLeod, Peem Alexander.



This happy group of Tannadice Primary 1 pupils and their teacher, Mrs Freda Nisbet, 1990.
Left to right: Vicky and Sarah Calder, Debbie Smith, Barry Steven, Daniel Farquharson, Angus Hepburn.
Front: Kerry Morrison, Jennifer McLachlan, Anne-Marie Lindsay.



Tannadice Playgroup with leaders and mums, 1988.



Tannadice School, May 1973.

Back (left to right): Robert Ritchie, James Wilson, Steven Strachan, Roy Innes, Ian McKenzie, Colin Haslet.
Third row: Deborah Mottram, Jill Hyder, Sandra Sinclair, Carol Wood, Maureen McKenzie, Heather Finnigan.
Second row: Billy Henderson, Stewart Robertson, David Whyte, Ian Milne, Rodrick Paige, Alexander Ironside, Gordon Douglas, Derek Crighton.
Front row: Graham Walker, Susan McGlashan, Kathleen Mackie, Karen McFarlane, Linda Wood, Anne Chaplan, Jackie Joiner, Elaine Stewart, Anne Lee, Kenneth Leslie.



Tannadice School, May 1973.

Back (left to right): Alan Ferguson, Andrew Mazur, Calum Smith, Sean Esplin, George Ironside.
Third row: Alan Ritchie, Alistair Noble, Andrew Isles, Mark Gibson, Colin Gall, Peter Evans, John Forbes, Colin Whyte.
Second row: Leslie Isles, Ann Nicol, Mary Wilson, Heather Ironside, Lorraine Wood, Susan Duffy, Margaret Milne, Betty Dunlop, Janet Kermack, John Anderson.
Front row: Jackie Haslet, Ethel Finnigan, Jane Young, Pamela Douglas, Linda Findlay, Ann Henderson, Helen Ramsay, Carol Cameron.



Tannadice School - Primary 5, 1983.

Back (left to right): Tommy Sinclair, Linda Adam, Scott Mather, Jimmy Simpson, Lynne Stephen, Amanda Wood, Carol Coull.

Front: Alan Duncan, Stuart Ogilvy, Jamie Taylor, Mr Farrell, Scott Cameron, Roddy Stewart, Graham Douglas.



Tannadice School Choir at Burns Festival, Reid Hall, Forfar with teacher, Mrs Cook in mid 1960s.

Back (left to right): Helen Murray, Alison McAllan, Dorothy Forbes, unknown, unknown, Duncan Wood

Middle: Peter Elliot, Doreen Leslie, Carol Davidson, Fiona Menmuir, Ann Mellis, May McLeod, Stewart Davie, unknown, unknown, Charlie Stuart, Robert Cameron.

Front: Ann Wood, Isabel Tough, Brenda Keith, Sheila McIntosh, Gordon Webster, Alan Cheyne, unknown, unknown.



Fiddlers of Tannadice School Orchestra, 1965-66.

Back (left to right): Janet Menmuir, Doreen Rushway, May McLeod, Dorothy Forbes, Gordon Webster.
Middle row: June Imrie, Helen Leslie, David Wilson, unknown, Rudi Rushway.
Front row: Faith Findlayson, Anne Wood, Alan Bremner, unknown, unknown.
On step: Helen Aitken, June Irons, David Butters.



Mr Salmond's class at the Village Hall, where lessons were held during alterations to the school.
Left to right: Margaret Stewart,Sheena Symon, Helen Cook, Irene Moir, Cathie Cooper, Sheila Robertson, Elizabeth Rattray.



Tannadice prizewinners from 1953.

Back (left to right): Brian Robertson, Jenny Stephens, Eric Gammie (dux), Helen Munro, Lawson Grant, Florence Sievewright, Denis Milne
Middle: May Robertson, Margaret Sturrock.
Front: Ian Robertson, Cynthia Gammack, Martin Barrie, Bruce Dutch, Alistair Paterson, Angus Strachan, Malcolm Paterson, Frank Stewart, John Joss, Betty Sturrock, Alistair Ellis.



Tannadice School, 1948.

Back (left to right): Ewan Simpson, A McRitchie, Chic Crighton, unknown, Bob Montgomery, unknown, Bob Smith, D Milne, Frank Smith.

Third row: Sandy Simpson, Bill Fotheringham, Bella McIntosh, Ella Brown, May Campbell, Mary Joiner, unknown, Doug Hardie, Nor Simpson, Jim Guthrie.

Second row: Ann Jamieson, Mary Mudie, Rebecca McRitchie, Annie Forbes, unknown, Betty Smith, Mary Warrior, Betty Balfour, Minnie Stewart, Lena Smith.

Front row: Jock Edward, Sam Crighton, Stewart Brown, Arthur Black, Les Stewart, Adam Fleming.

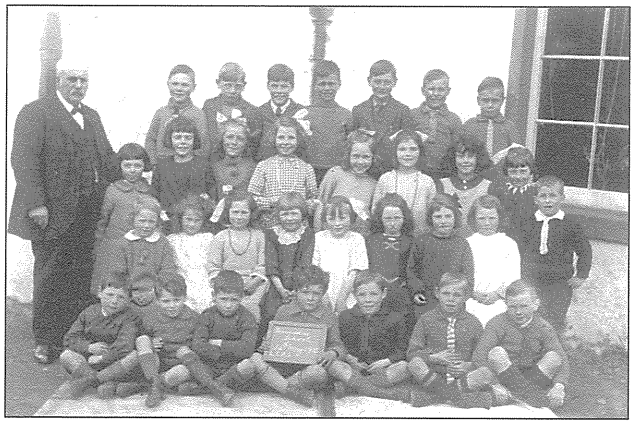


Tannadice School, 1949.

Back (left to right): Les Stewart, unknown, Jim Murray, Sandy Simpson, Bill Fotheringham, Arthur Black.

Middle: Sylvester Paterson, unknown, May Campbell, Jean Steven, Mary McIntosh, Chae Davidson, Douglas Clubb.

Front: Ali Douglas, Ed Cargill, Mary Millar, Helen Watson, Betty Duncan, Beatrice Guthrie, Bill Comrie, Geordie Mason.



The Old School, Tannadice, 1925.



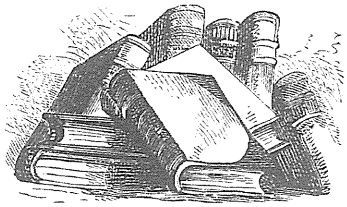
Unfortunately we can only name Mrs Alf Campbell, Tobees (formerly Lily Howe).

Second back row, third from the right.



Tannadice Public School, 1900.

Headmaster is James Sharp Henderson along with his wife, teacher, Jenny Henderson.





Tannadice Church, 2003.



New houses at the Glebe, 2006.



Arriving in Tannadice



Tannadice Village, 2006.



River South Esk at Tannadice, Boxing Day 1995.



Fishing the Flats below Tannadice



William Syme, Ivybank and Benholm Cottages from Jubilee Green, September 2006.



View from Jubilee Green across the bridge over the Bog Burn to Mill of Tannadice, September 2006.



Aerial view of centre of Tannadice 2004



© copyright

1st Tannadice Brownies 2006
with their leaders; Alison Moore, Linda Chisnall and Lynda Findlay beside the River South Esk.
Photo by Brian Cowan, Forfar.

Oathlaw

Oathlaw is perhaps a corruption of the Gaelic word Auch-law the 'field of cairns'

The Parish of Oathlaw seems to have been known as 'Water-ford-hill' and, in Gaelic and Old English, it would be 'Abh-ath-hloew' pronounced Ouathlaw. It is approximately six miles long and two miles wide and is overlooked by the 751 foot high Finavon Hill.

The Church which lies in its midst had two Mort Bells, one inscribed 'Othlo 1703', and a rare mould with Communion Tokens depicting 'Oathlaw Church' on one side and, on the other side, the date '1815'. These are now in the care of Oathlaw/Tannadice Church.

The sounds of the school bell and of the children at play are no longer heard; also silent is the Church bell which rang out on Sunday morning before the Church service.

The tiny hamlet of Oathlaw situated in the middle of the parish and surrounded by trees and green fields remains a peaceful place in which to live.

Bonnie Oathlaw

Oh it's grand in the springtime when winter has fled
and nature's astir in its dark earthy bed,
When the birds build their nests and the rooks
start tae caw
Oh wha widna be happy in Bonnie Oathlaw.
Then the fine days o' summer, the hum o' the bees
A' the flowers in their glory, the green o' the trees,
Or when Autumn paints gaily each rowan and haw
Then there's nae place tae touch ye, my Bonnie Oathlaw.

A verse of a poem written by a former headmaster of Oathlaw school:
G F Snedden (1949-1970)



Oathlaw Church in 1949.



Oathlaw Church 2006 (now a house).



Oathlaw Manse - 1950

Oathlaw Manse now called Oathlaw House became the home of Mr and Mrs Ian Kinnear in 1955. Mr Kinnear was an architect, while Mrs Isabella Kinnear ran a highly recommended and successful nursery school in part of the house. There were no modern play units like today's nursery schools, no bean bags, no heating, no comfy seats! The schedule of discipline was quite rigorous but the children and parents loved it! The school was in existence from 1962-1994, when Mrs Kinnear retired at the age of 82.



Lyell Cottage in the heart of Oathlaw, formerly the retirement home of the coachman from Finavon Estate.

Oathlaw Tannadice Church



Oathlaw communion cups, flagon and stand.

The communion cups have the following inscription

The Kirk Sefsion of Oathlaw Mr Thos. Raiker Minr 1789

Ex dono Eliz. Smith in usum Paroechiae de Oathlaw 1789

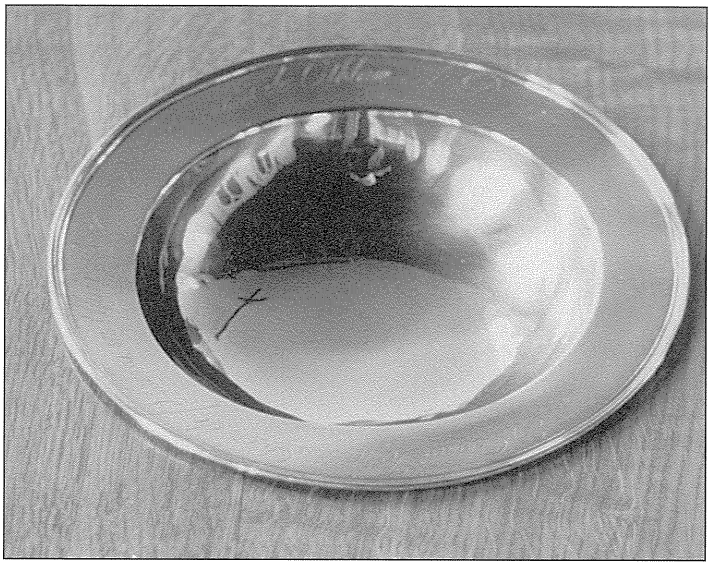
Oathlaw Flagon and Stand

Bequeathed to the Kirk Session of Oathlaw by the Rev. Harry Stuart who was Minister of the Parish for 44 years, ordained 28th April 1836 and died 18th March 1880.

The Oathlaw Flagon was presented by the Forfarshire Prison Board to the Rev. Harry Stuart, Minister of Oathlaw, in esteem for his Character and Services as Chaplain to Forfar Prison and especially for his having designed and superintended large additions to that prison in 1851.



Oathlaw Tannadice Church



Baptismal Bowl - Oathlaw Church

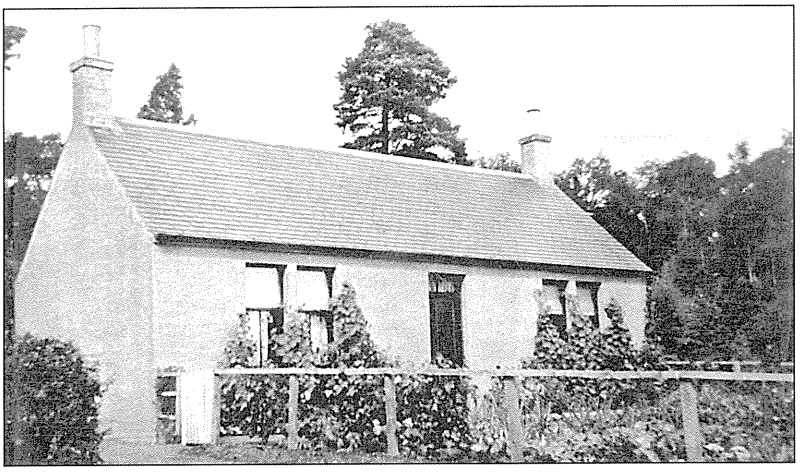
Oathlaw Baptismal Bowl

This beautiful bowl, more than 260 years old, has written on it the following words in Latin:

Ex Dono Johannes Dick de Pitkerro,
in Ujum Parochiae suae Navitatis de Othlaw AD 1742.



Stone trough dug up from smiddy floor at Clatterha' by Chae Mudie about 1966.
It was taken to Finavon Castle, but whether it is still there is unknown.



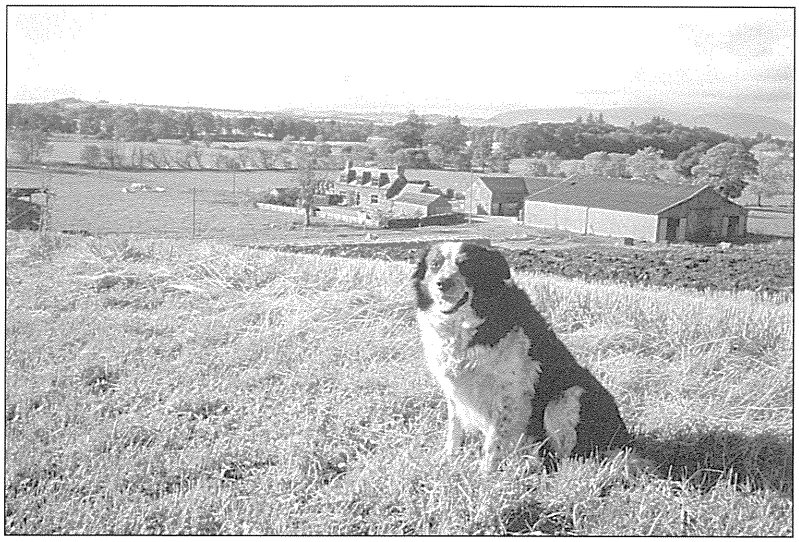
House built for the Skea family at Battledykes in 1925.



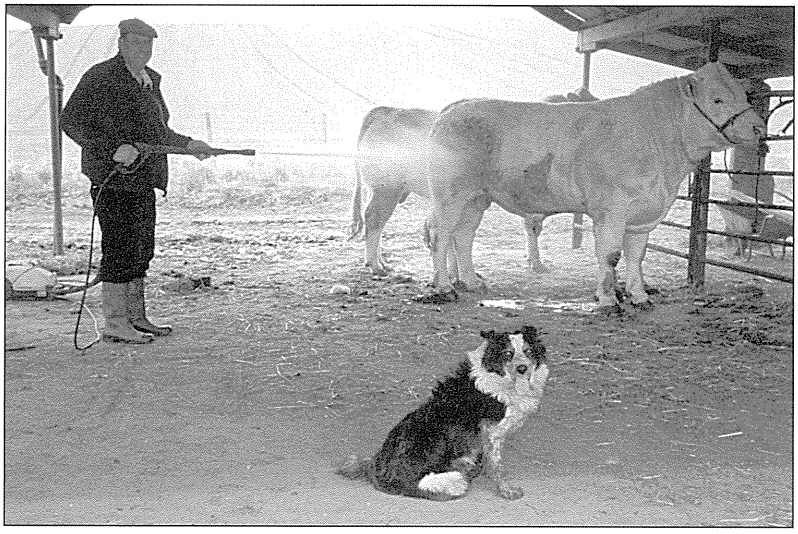
Skea family
back: Mrs A Skea, left to right: George, Nellie, Mr Skea (with Banker the cat), Jim and Alex.
Standing behind cat is David.



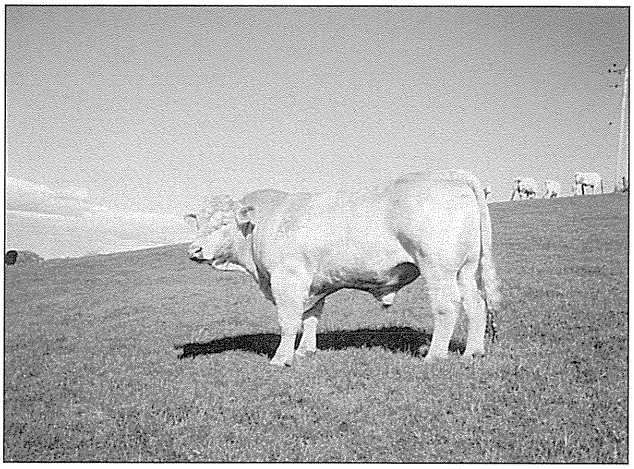
Jim and Isobel Skea (and dog) on motorbike/sidecar.



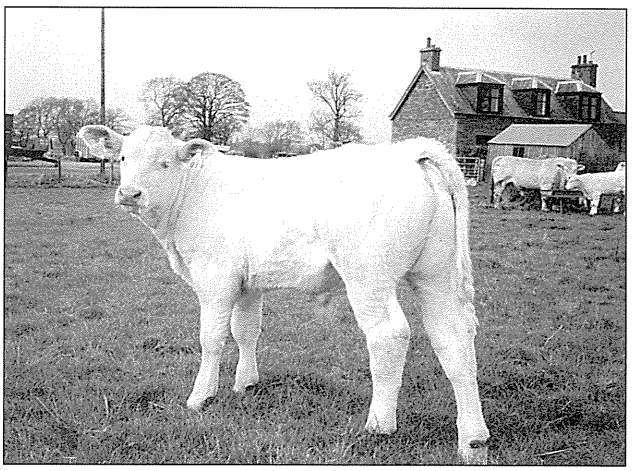
'Jill' in front of her farm, Wolflaw, Oathlaw - 2001.



Dave Murray, Wolflaw - prepares his cattle for show - 2001.



Charolais bull grazing at Wolflaw - 2002.

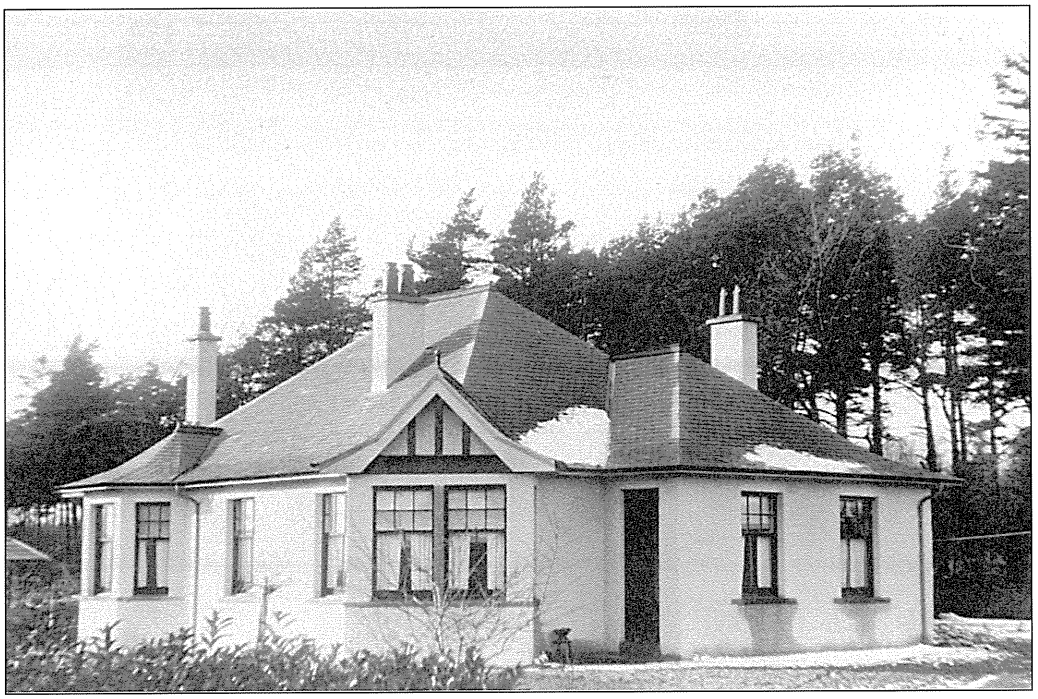


Charolais calf at Wolflaw Farm - 2003.

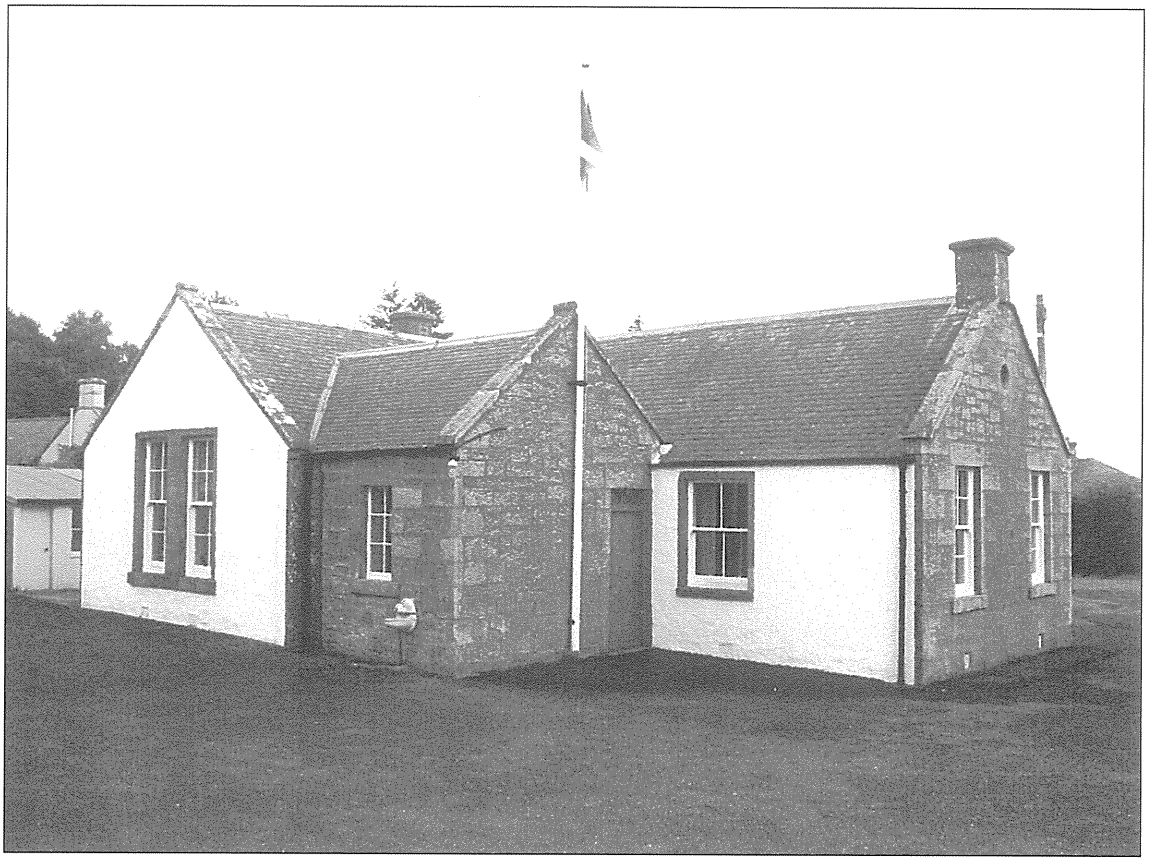


Westwood House
Mary Munro Martin seated 2nd right with either side Mrs Lizzie Mills and Miss Kitty Munro;
the gentlemen are Alec Munro and Charlie Mills of Brechin.





Westwood House, Oathlaw around 1920.



Oathlaw School



Part of a group who attended an Oathlaw Church Sunday School picnic in 1939.



Mr Jim Grant ploughing at Tobees in the 1930s. Jim was married to Lizzie Paterson of Easter Oathlaw in July 1937 after eloping to Gretna Green by motorbike.



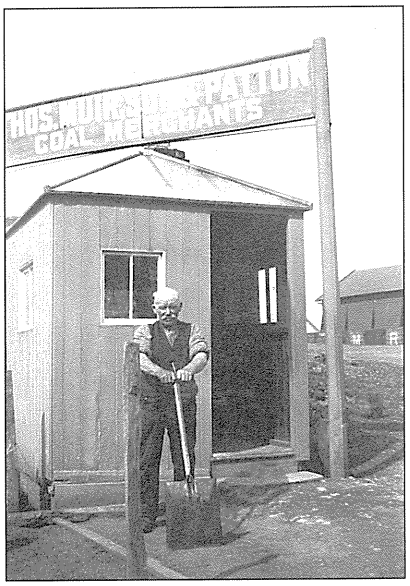
George Skea preparing his horse for show with help from his brother, Jim.



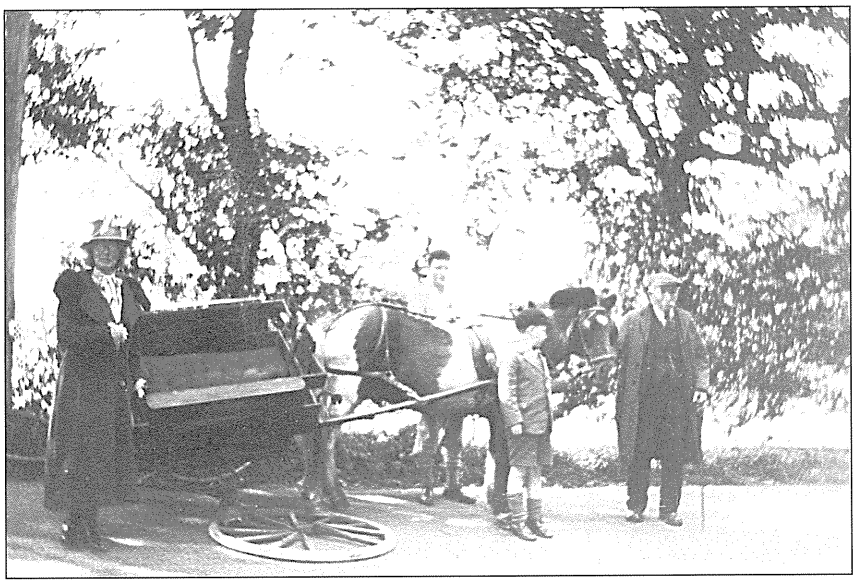
Margaret Kerr (nee Duncan) of Bourtreebush.



The Family Coach (Margaret Kerr in apron).



David Kerr, Coal Agent, Justinhaugh 1925 approximately.



Jane Kerr (Passingham), Ronald Passingham, Malcolm Passingham, David Kerr and Donal (horse) 1936 waiting to have the wheel replaced on their trap.



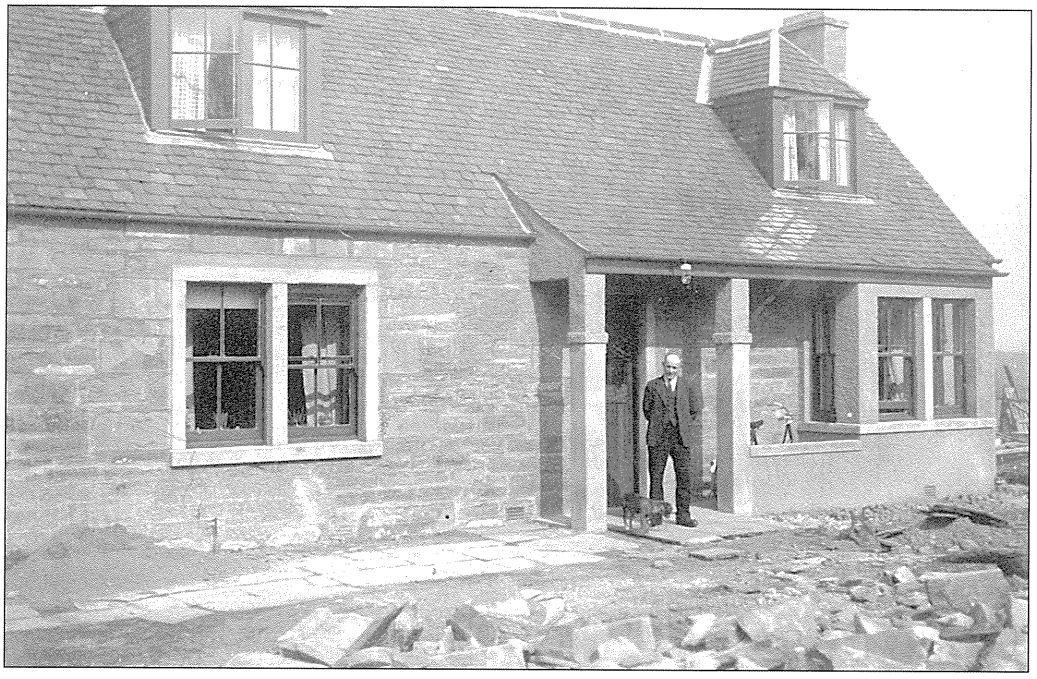
Bourtreebush (Malcolm and Ronald Passingham) 1930.



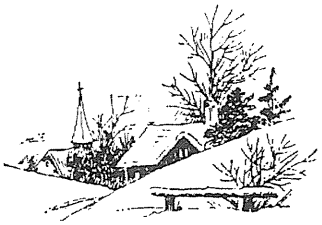
Lemno Bridge, 1925, William, Jenny (Jane) and Ron Passingham having a rest.



Ronald Passingham, Bourtreebush, 1920s, enjoying a smoke.



Bourtreebush rebuilt by Peter Kerr, 1945.





Train being dug out between Justinhaugh and Brechin, 22 January 1907.



Tannadice and Oathlaw WRI outing, 1951.



Main award winners at Tannadice, Oathlaw and District Horticultural Society's Flower Show 1987.
Back left to right: Mrs J Sutherland, Mr T Stewart, Mr D B Whitton, Mrs B Smart, Mr D Skea, Rt Hon Hugh Arbuthnott (who presented the trophies), Mrs P Gouck, Mr C Whitton.
Front left to right: Jennifer Millar, Alison Laird, Neil Smith, Joanna Smith.



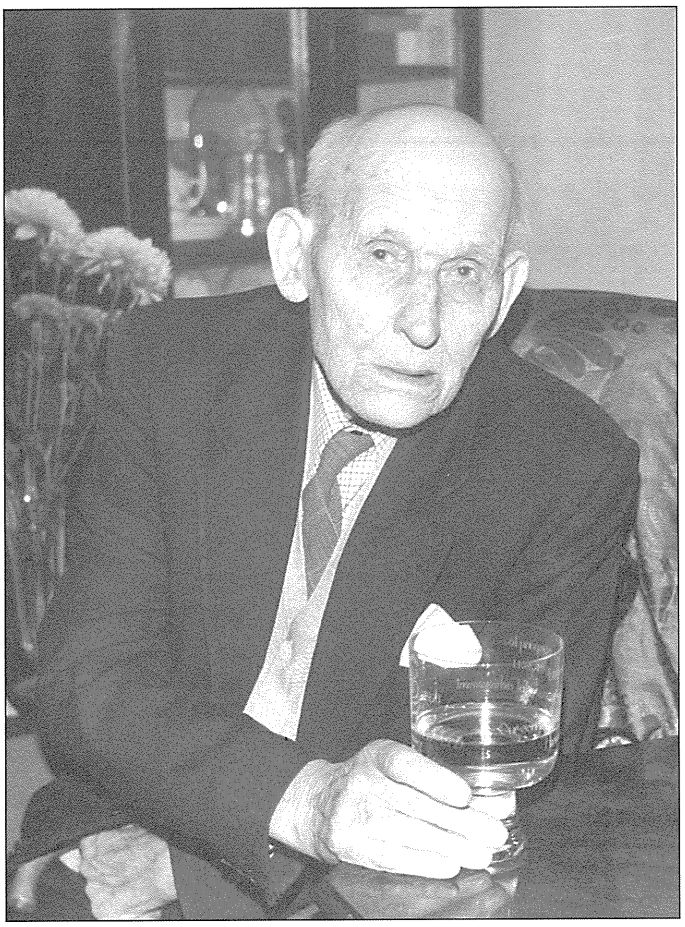
Betty Emslie (who later became Mrs Wm. Paterson, Snr., of Easter Oathlaw), standing behind her sister, brother and father.



Three members of the Paterson family at Easter Oathlaw in 1916. *Left to right:* Christina, who now lives in Canada and who reached 100 years of age in 2005, Maggie and Helen (Nell).



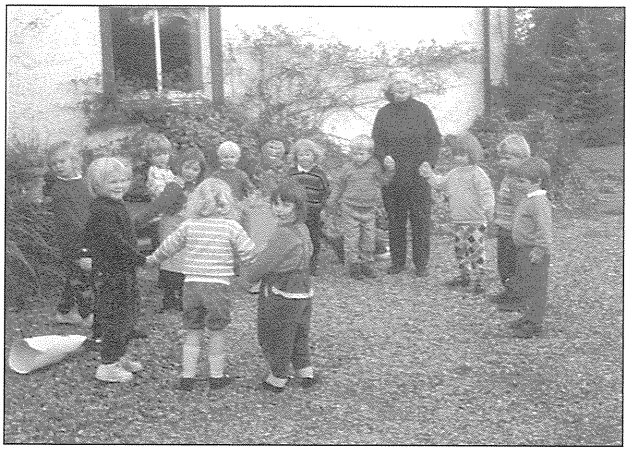
Jim Skea's maternal grandparents, Mr & Mrs James Thomson, along with their four daughters in 1900s. Mary, the daughter standing back right became Mrs Alex Skea and was Jim's mother. Mr Thomson was a horseman at Barnyards, while Mrs Thomson was housemaid there, where they met in 1883.



Mr James Paterson, formerly farmer at Easter Oathlaw, photographed when he became 100 years old in 1973.



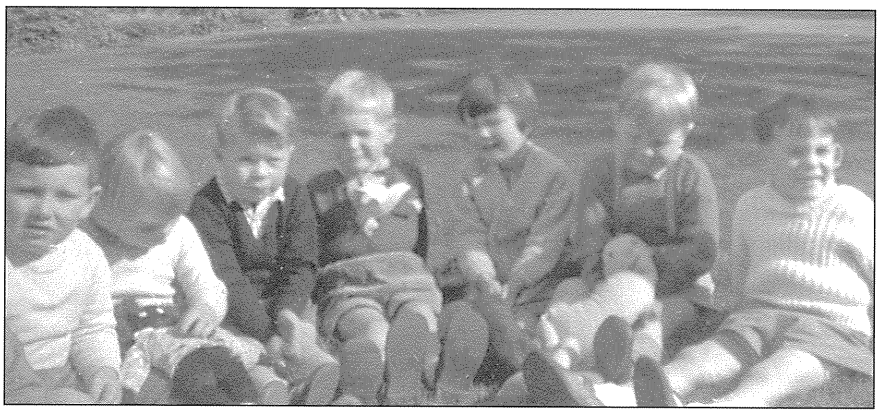
Left to right: Ron, Nora and David Whitton from Oathlaw by the River South Esk.



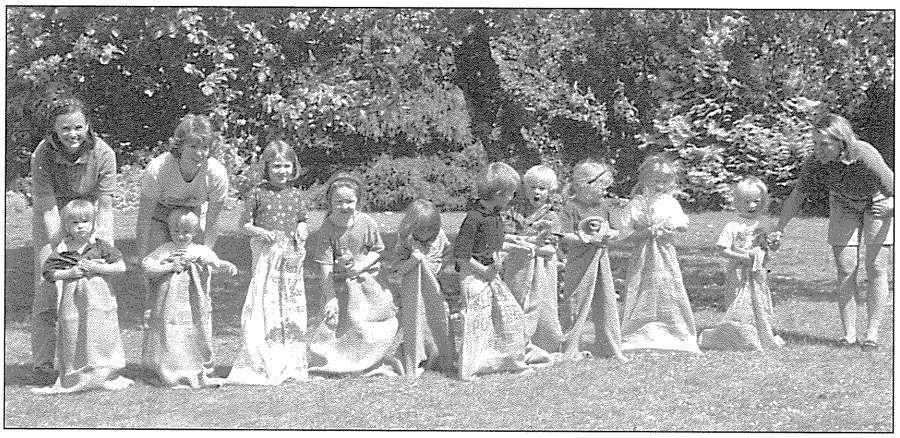
Oathlaw Nursery, 1992
Mrs Isabella Kinnear with Tom Elphinston, George Ransley, Eleanor Sampson, Douglas Rickman, twin, Charlie Southesk, James Campbell Adamson, Felicity behind Sim, Daisy Arbuckle, Katie Ferguson, twin, Lucy Lyburn.



Oathlaw Nursery – Egg and Spoon Race
Andrew and Jamie Wedderspoon, Emma Round Turner, Richard Round Turner, Anna Mackay, Lucy Wedderspoon.



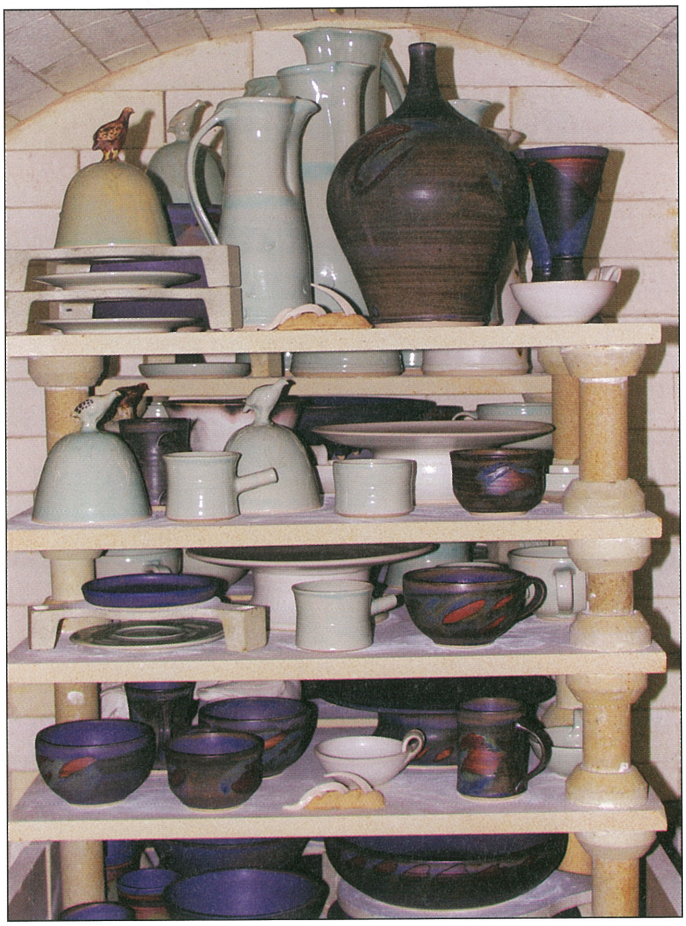
Oathlaw Nursery in the Manse gardens, 1963.
Left to right: Roy Callander, Hamish Nicol, Ewan Callander, James McCall, unknown, Alec Callander.



Oathlaw Nursery – sack race. Alison Campbell and A Danson in charge.



Courtyard at The Oathlaw Pottery



Kiln Interior



Ian Kinnear, potter at the wheel.



Eye-catching display area in Oathlaw Pottery

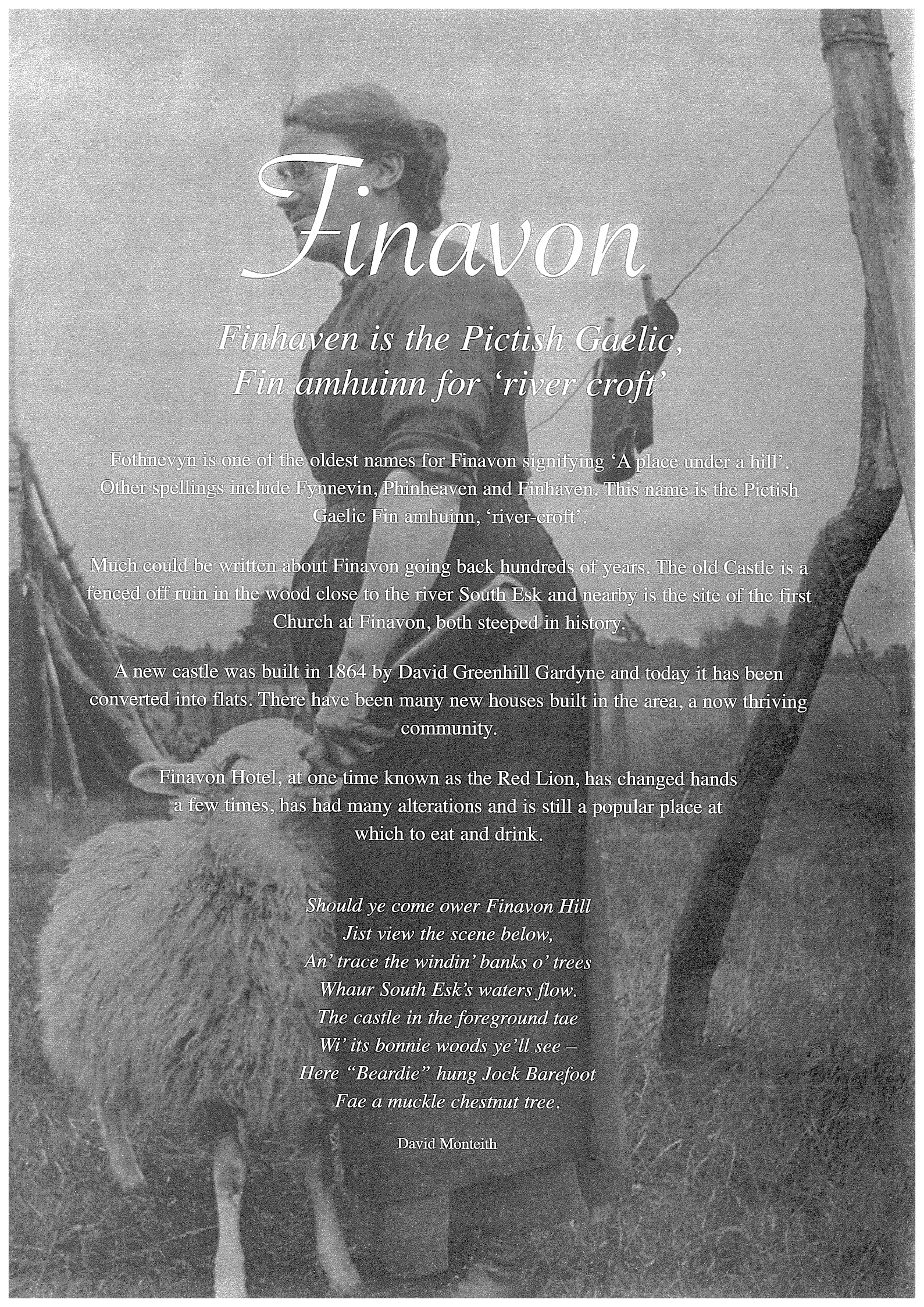


A frosty morning at Wolflaw, February 2003.



Foresters Croft

In the past, Foresters Croft was a part of Finavon Estate and has been a smiddy, a dairy and the home of the estate forester. During the 1920's the house was modernised when Miss Gardyne from Finavon Castle became the resident. Present owners are Mr and Mrs R E Galloway.



Finavon

Finhaven is the Pictish Gaelic, Fin amhuinn for 'river croft'

Fothnevyn is one of the oldest names for Finavon signifying 'A place under a hill'. Other spellings include Fynnevin, Phinheaven and Finhaven. This name is the Pictish Gaelic Fin amhuinn, 'river-croft'.

Much could be written about Finavon going back hundreds of years. The old Castle is a fenced off ruin in the wood close to the river South Esk and nearby is the site of the first Church at Finavon, both steeped in history.

A new castle was built in 1864 by David Greenhill Gardyne and today it has been converted into flats. There have been many new houses built in the area, a now thriving community.

Finavon Hotel, at one time known as the Red Lion, has changed hands a few times, has had many alterations and is still a popular place at which to eat and drink.

Should ye come ower Finavon Hill
Jist view the scene below,
An' trace the windin' banks o' trees
Whaur South Esk's waters flow.
The castle in the foreground tae
Wi' its bonnie woods ye'll see –
Here "Beardie" hung Jock Barefoot
Fae a muckle chestnut tree.

David Monteith



Red Lion Hotel



Finavon Hotel and Post Office



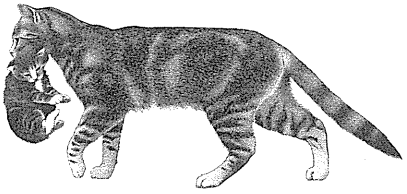
Finavon Hotel



Finavon Hotel, 2006



Having a day out; Granny, Grandad and David Robbie of the Croft, Finavon.

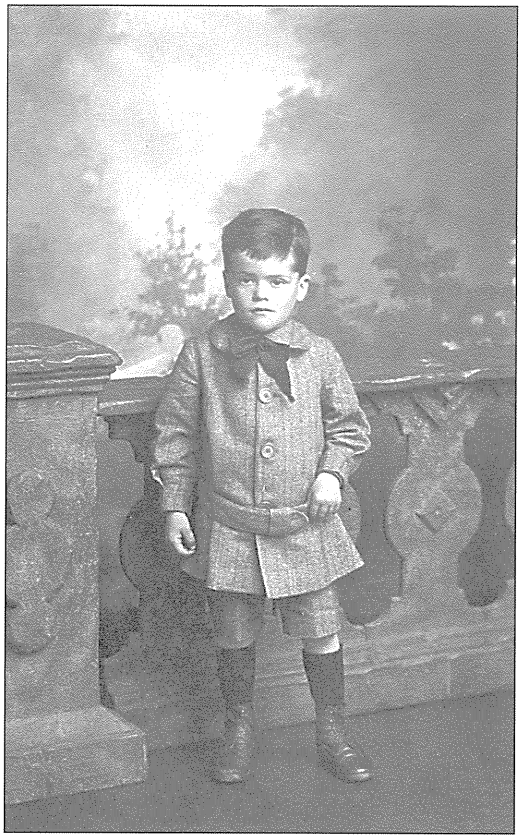




Aunt Helen Robbie
(David's mother, the Croft, Finavon)



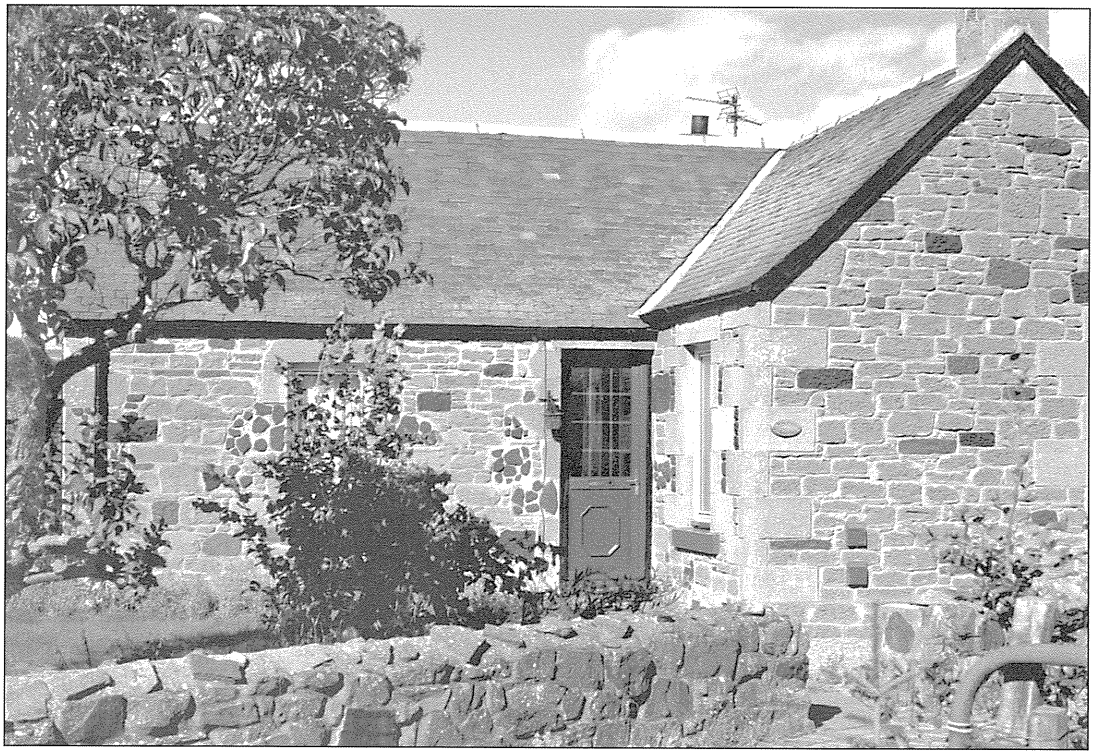
David's Auntie Meg
(Margaret Robbie)



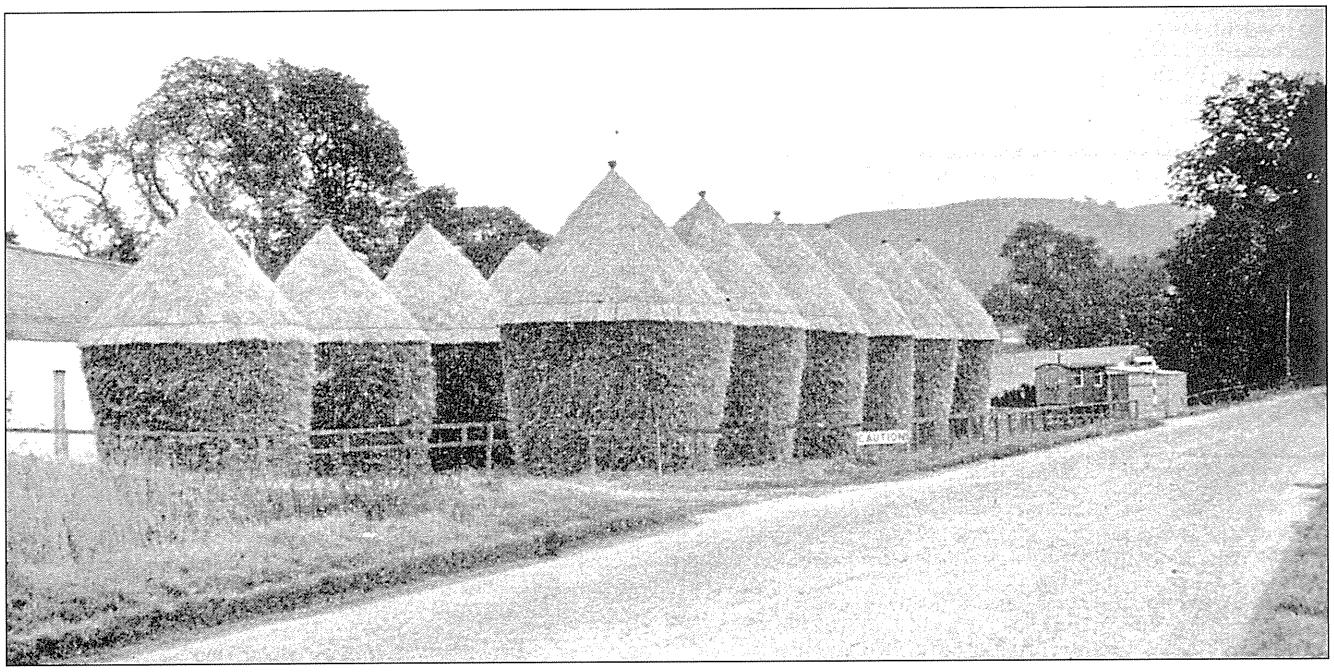
David Robbie



Granny Robbie



The Croft, Finavon, 2006.

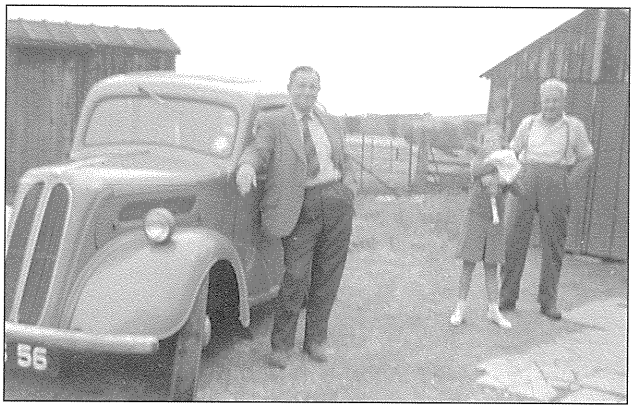


That mechanisation has not destroyed the art of building stacks is amply illustrated in this picture of a perfect stackyard on the Forfar-Brechin road in Angus. The builder of the stacks was Mr Gilbert M'Call, Milton of Finavon in the early 1950s.

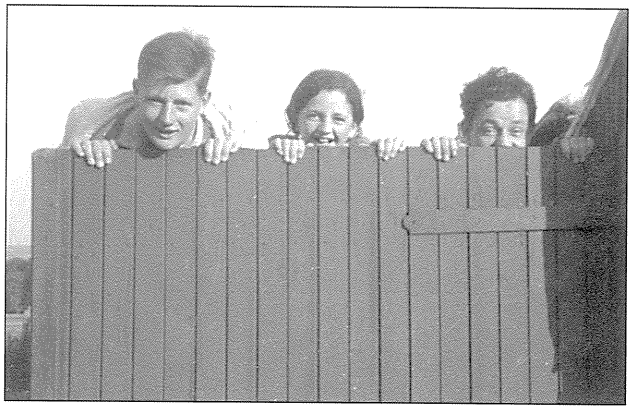




Tractors and four of the staff at Milton of Finavon;
From left to right Will Brown, Will Innes, Bob Craib and Leslie Glen in the early 1950s.



On a visit to Easter Marcus in 1961, George Blackburn and daughter Kay (holding grey cat) with Mr John Falconer.



At Easter Marcus, circa 1950, Ian Bruce, May Falconer (now Kidd) and George Blackburn.



Ian Bruce and George Blackburn at Easter Marcus, circa 1950.



Stuart Blackburn at Easter Marcus in 1958.
Margaret Fearn, who was land girl at Easter Marcus and later became Mrs George Blackburn, is Stuart's mother.



John Murrie aged 15 at Haughs of Finavon setting off for a Scout Jamboree in Wales. Summer of 1985.



At Haughs of Finavon, Elizabeth Murrie photographed with her brother John, setting off on her first day at Tannadice Primary School in August 1982.



John Murrie Snr with son John in charge of a Shetland pony in 1975.



John Murrie Snr with John Jnr on a Massey Ferguson Tractor at Haughs of Finavon in the early seventies.



Mr James Murrie (brother of John Murrie Snr) at Haughs of Finavon with his plane (a Nipper) in the 1980s. The children are John and Elizabeth Murrie.



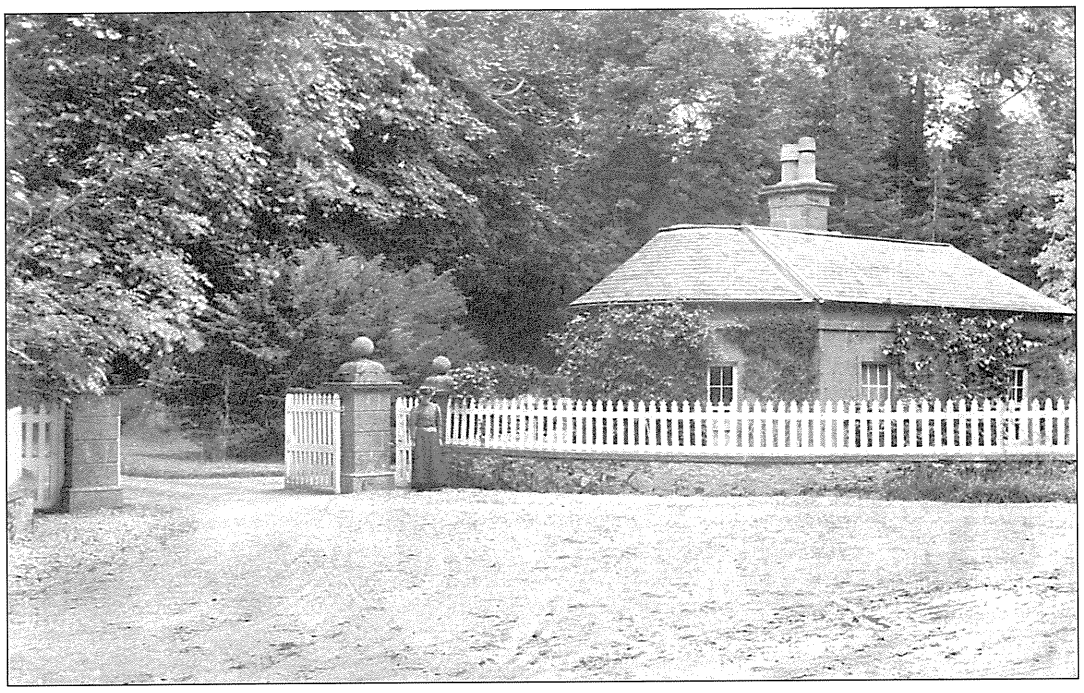
Cairney Cottage, former home of the Sturrock family. Reading a newspaper is Margaret Sturrock (who later became Mrs A Millar), while standing to the right of the cottage is her father, Mr Abram Sturrock.



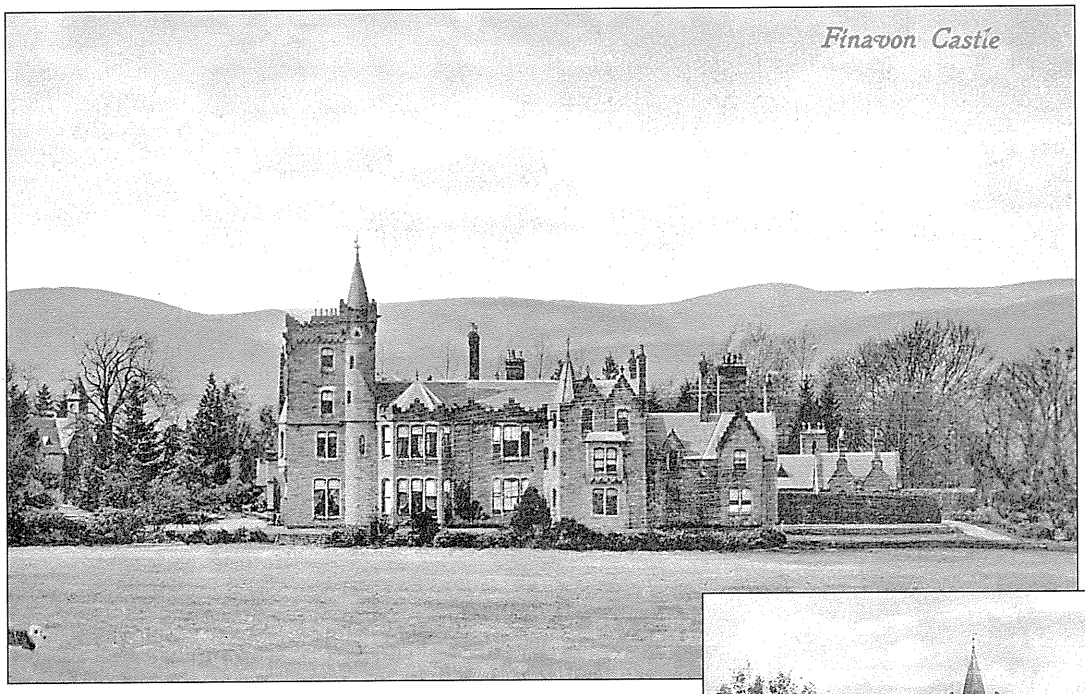
Cairney Cottage, June 2005.
It is lovely to think that John and Jenny Fuller incorporated every piece of the orginal cottage in their new home.



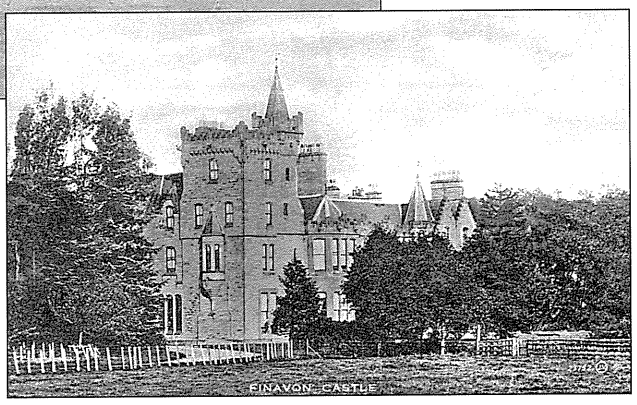
Mary and Abram Sturrock
parents of Dod Sturrock.



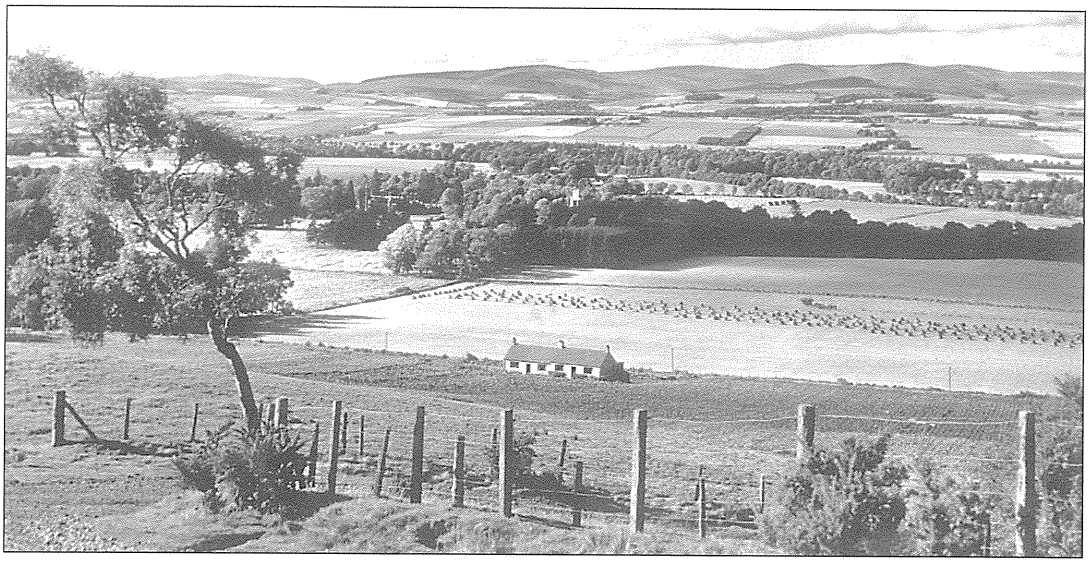
Gates of Tannadice Estate Lodge at the side of the old Forfar to Brechin Road (note lady standing at side of gate).



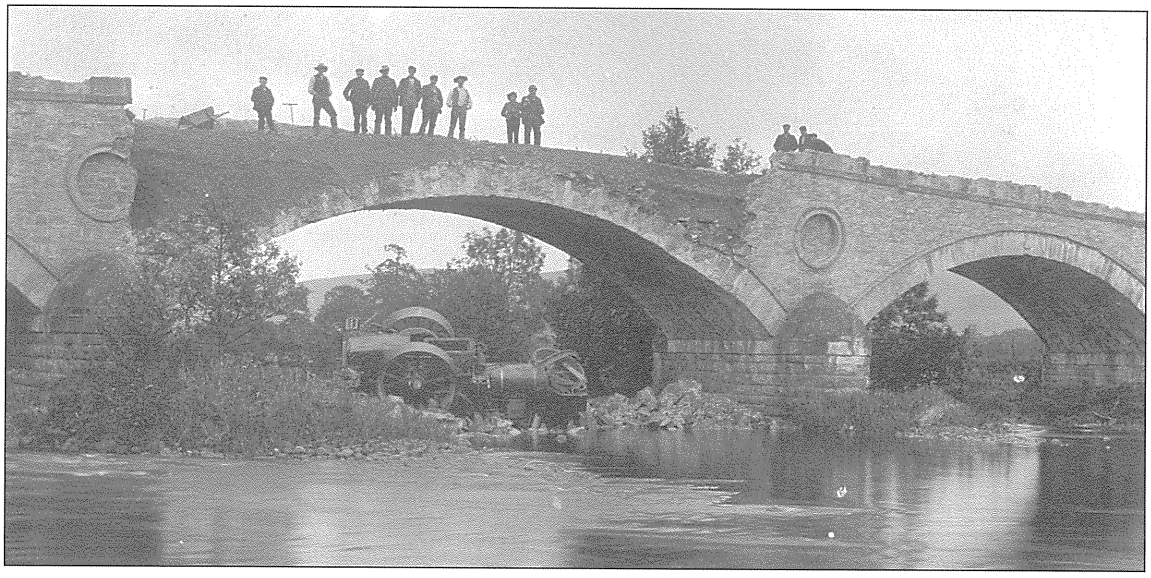
Finavon Castle (1913)



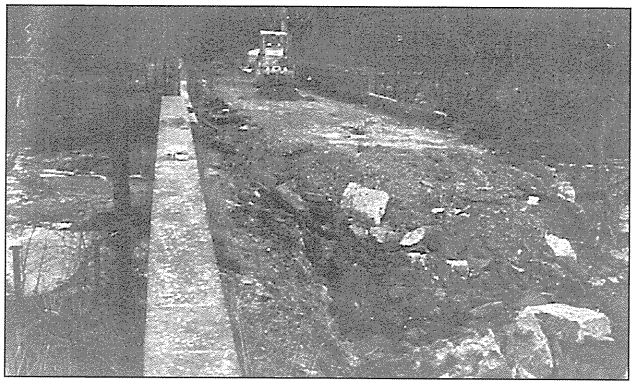
Finavon Castle



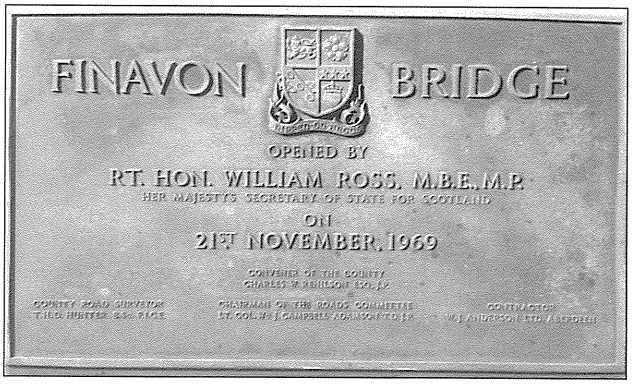
A view from Finavon Hill.



This rather grand looking bridge over the river South Esk at Finavon on the old Forfar to Brechin road was the scene of an accident on the 20th June 1906. A steam roller, while working on the bridge, collided with and demolished part of it before falling into the river. Thankfully the driver managed to jump clear.
Picture courtesy of David Orr, Kirriemuir.



A later bridge than the above, during demolition in 1960.



Commemorative Plaque on New Bridge



Forfar Pipe Band (including Stewart McFarlane standing in the centre of the photograph with a silver cup at his feet). Stewart was a piper for about 36 years starting first of all when he was a scout in the Tannadice Troop and then playing with this band. His father was a blacksmith, as well as farming at Howmuir, Finavon, so Stewart too became a blacksmith and farmed at Howmuir. Today, his son also Stewart, still farms there.



The Indies Pool - River South Esk



Fishing Tyndals Beat in Springtime.



Morton Simpson with Don Chornak, a visitor from Florida in 1999, in the grounds of Finavon Castle, previously converted to residential apartments.



The ancient vitrified fort on Finavon Hill

Justinhaugh

The name suggests a jousting place

It would not be hard to imagine a tournament taking place on the banks of the river South Esk with knights on horseback galloping up and down in all their finery.

Although Justinhaugh is a much quieter place now, it was in the early part of the century a bustling community. There was always something going on in the hotel and the river banks were busy with picnickers and fishermen. Nearby were the railway station and the Glencoul Distillery, the latter eventually being taken over by Hamlyn and Co Ltd. The curling rink lying downstream from the hotel on the south side of the river was a popular venue.

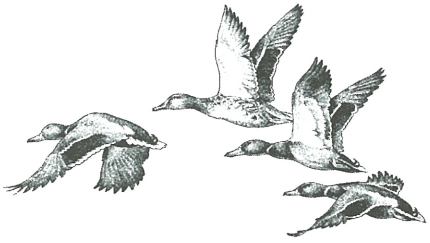
The little station on the brae
The auld mill-wheel o' yesterday,
While Eassie's craigs across the way
Rise up ower a'
Sae hamely an' sae bricht and gay
Is Justinha'.

Tho' some may wander far and wide
And tak' the world's girth in their stride
Fond memories forever bide
Wi' ane an' a'.
That ken the bonnie countryside
O' Justinha'.

A verse from a poem called 'Bonnie Justin'
written by Chae Mudie, who was a blacksmith at Clatterha', near Oathlaw

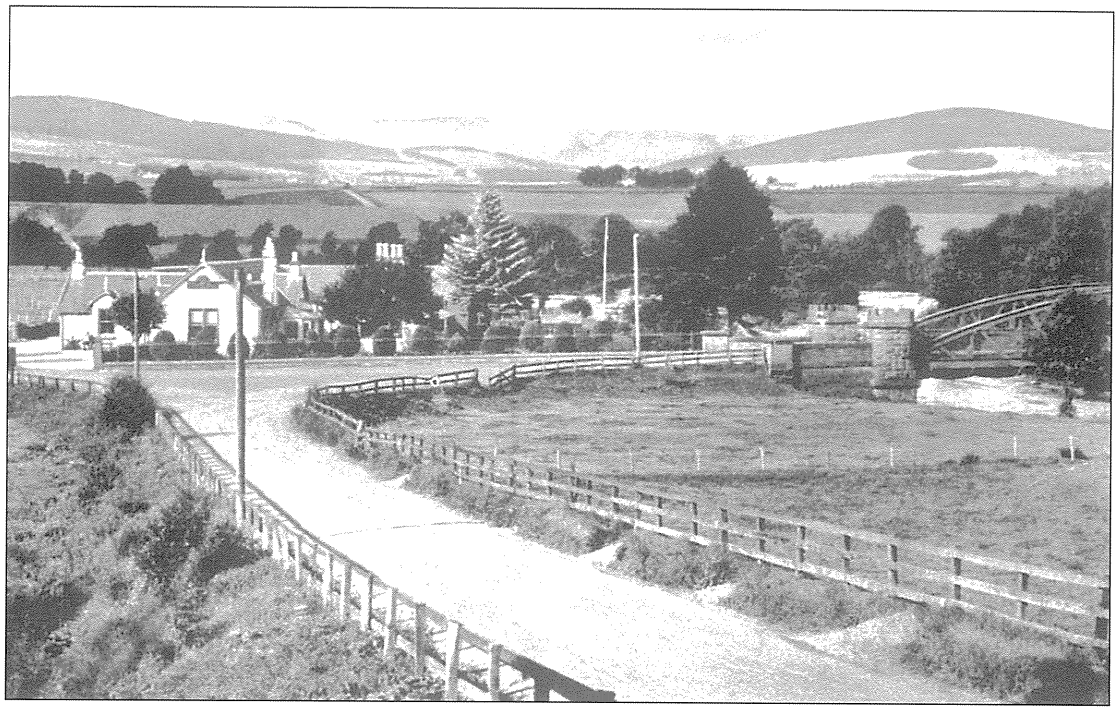


Potato dressing in operation at Justinhaugh in the 1950s.





The old stone bridge at Justinhaugh was replaced in 1906.



View from Justinhaugh railway bridge looking due north up Glenogil ,1930-1940.
The farms of Meikle Coull and Derachie, as well as Baldoukie Smiddy, Denside School, and Easter Ogil "Craw Roondie" Wood can also be seen.



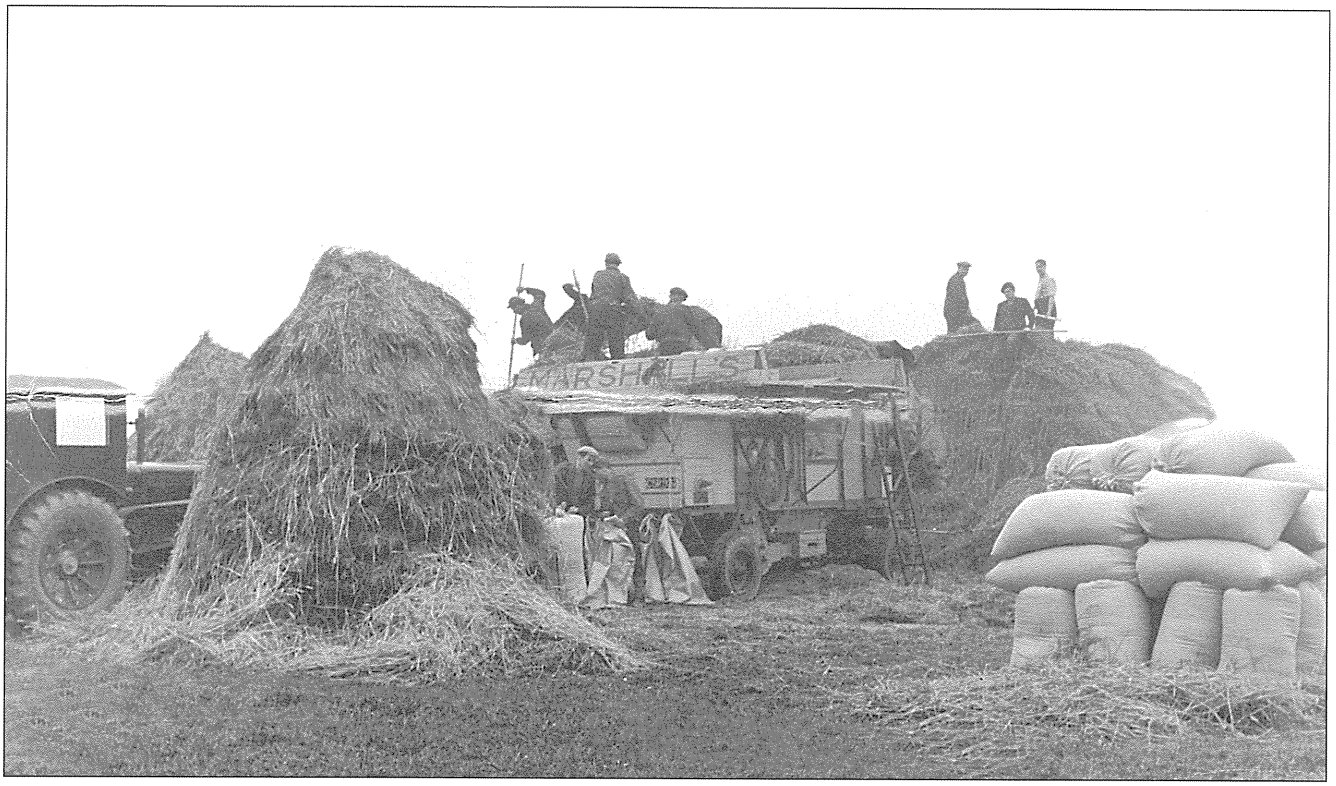
Photographed at Eskhill House in 1949.
From left to right: Mrs Anne Baker Baker, Mrs Olive Drummond, aunt of Anne, and Mr Oswald Baker Baker, husband of Anne.



Jessie Sturrock (formerly Crosbie) and Betty Lowe (formerly Wyllie) landgirls during the war, find harvesting thirsty work.



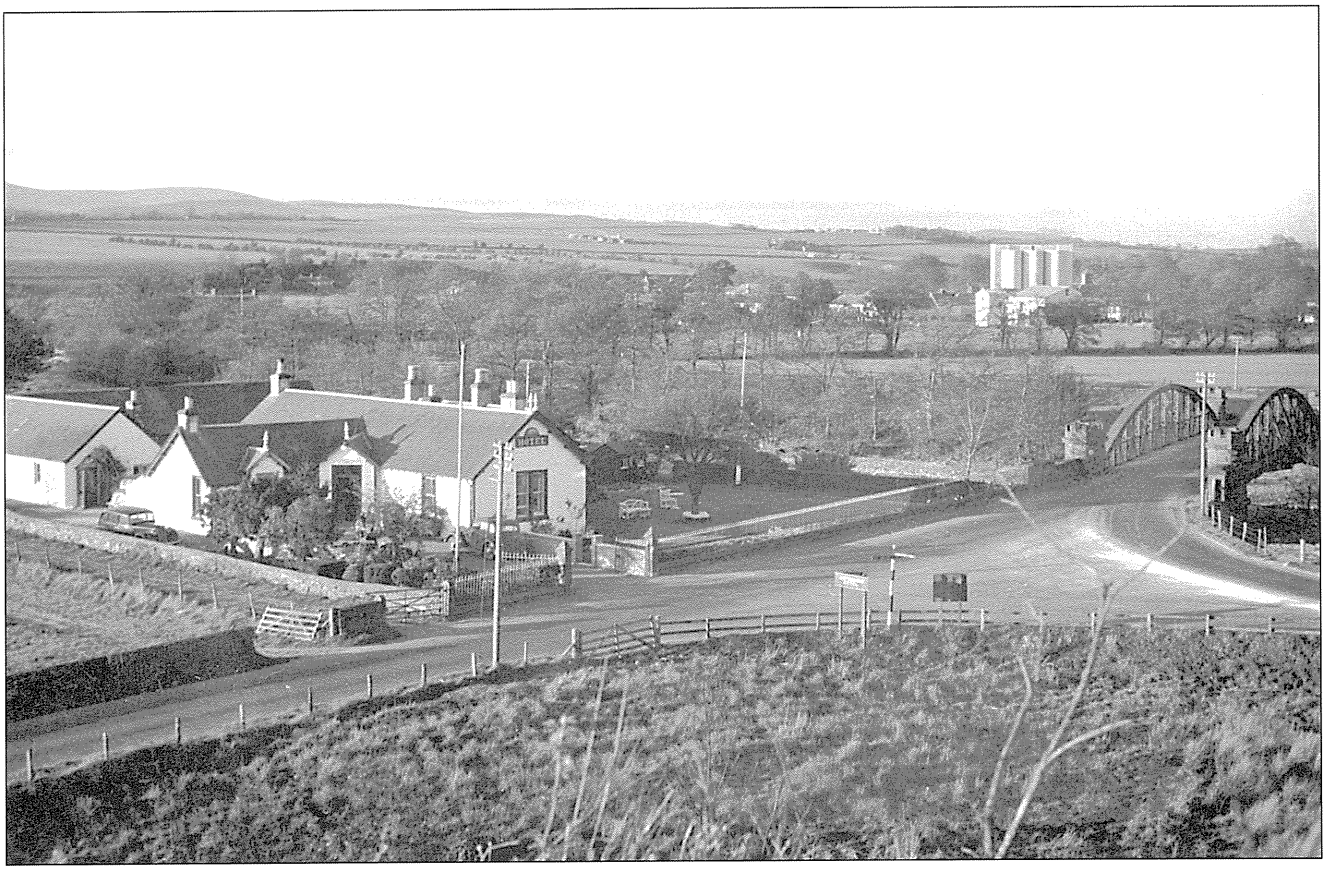
Marion and Anne forking sheaves on Craigeassie Farm where there were four landgirls.



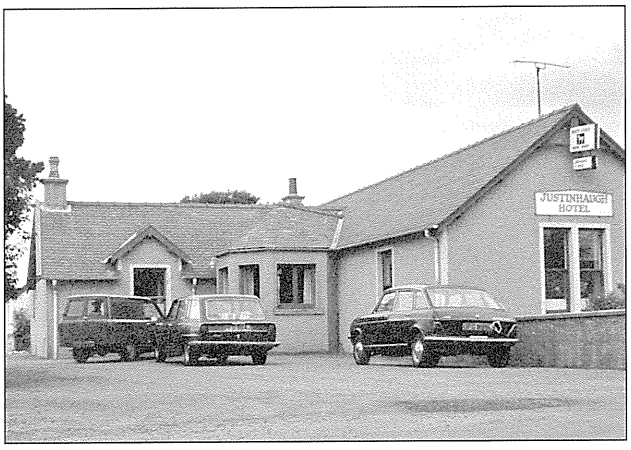
This threshing mill is rather different from the combine harvester in use today.
The workers in the 1940s had a hard job handling the one and a half cwt bags of oats – no forklifts in those days!!



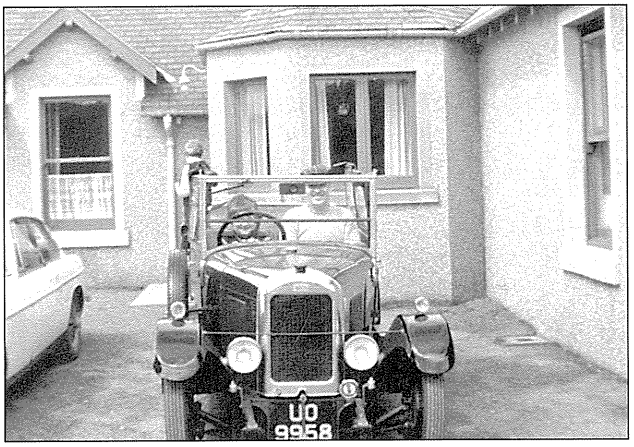
Local man Will Williamson gives a helping hand when the travelling threshing mill came to Justinhaugh in the 1940s.



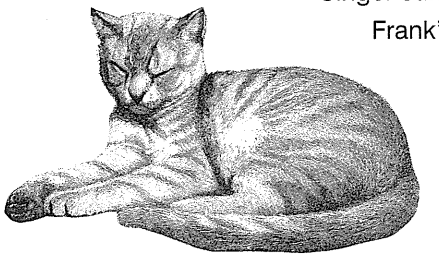
Justinhaugh Hotel with the Glencoul silos in the background.



Justinhaugh Hotel



The late Frank Farquharson's 1929 Vintage 9h.p. Singer Junior car outside the hotel in Justinhaugh. Frank's wife Davina still has it in her care.





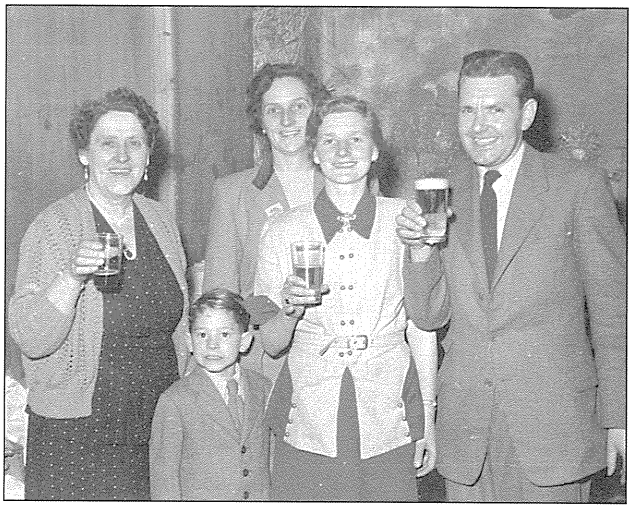
This is the way to the railway station and Justin' Hotel.



Mary Ferrier enjoying the sun in her garden at Justinhaugh Hotel.



Mary Ferrier, owner of Justinhaugh Hotel presenting ploughing match trophies to Dave Robbie *(centre)* and on left, Alf Campbell, Tobees, with unknown man on right.



Having a drink after a busy night are from *(left to right)*, the owner of Justinhaugh Hotel, Mary Ferrier, Margaret McLeod, Mrs W Williamson, Bill Roger, with young Gordon Williamson in front.



Mr Joe Smith who was a horseback despatch rider in the First World War.



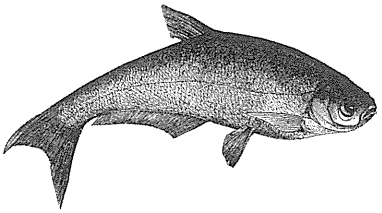
Smith family at Craigeassie Farm in 1941.
(back row, left to right) Walter, Joe, Joe Smith Snr
(front row, left to right) Isabel, Mrs J Smith, and Lily.

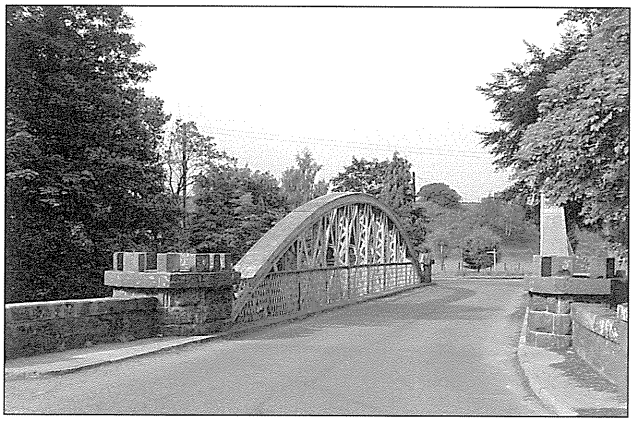


Golden wedding in 1966 of Mr & Mrs A Skea
(left to right) Mr A Skea, Mrs A Skea, Mrs J Skea, Mr Norman Skea, Mrs J Smith, Miss Margaret Skea, Mr J Skea, and Mr J Smith.

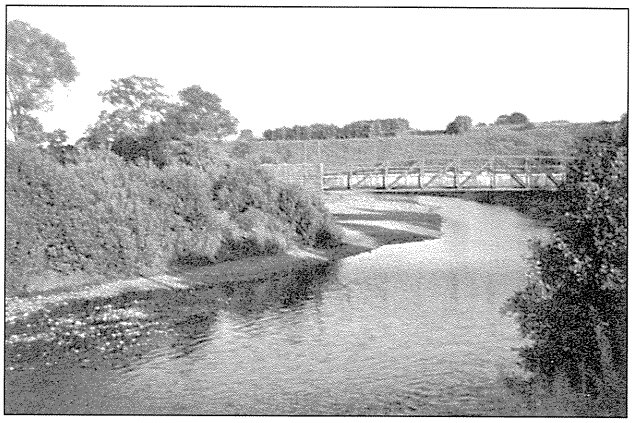


Visitors to Justinhaugh fishing on the River South Esk. It looks as if they are about to net a trout!

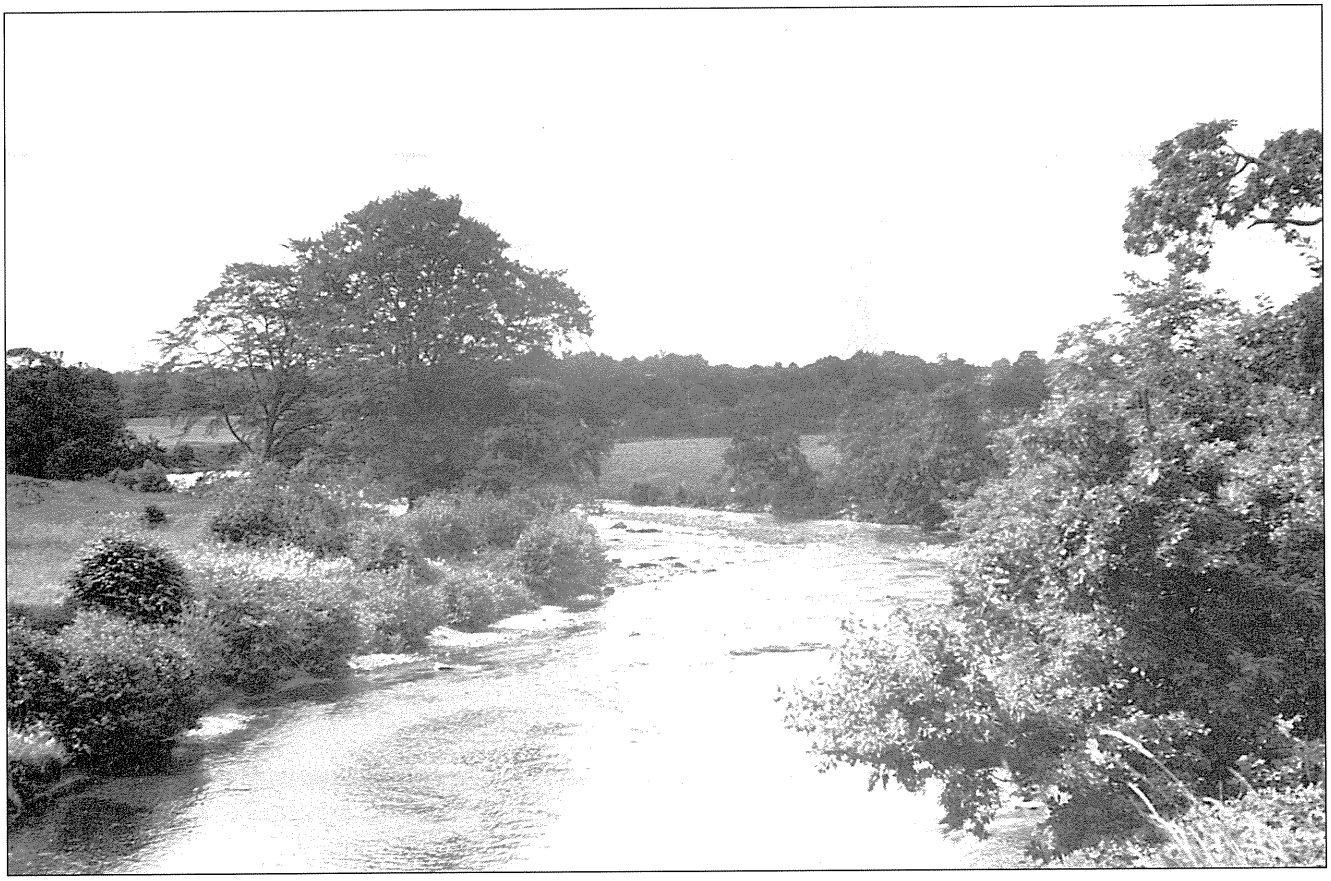




The bridge over the River South Esk after being repaired a few years back.



A bridge carrying the water-pipe over the River South Esk. The bridge is no longer in existence. Before it was removed, children used to jump off it and swim in the river.



A lovely stretch of the River South Esk near Justinhaugh Hotel.



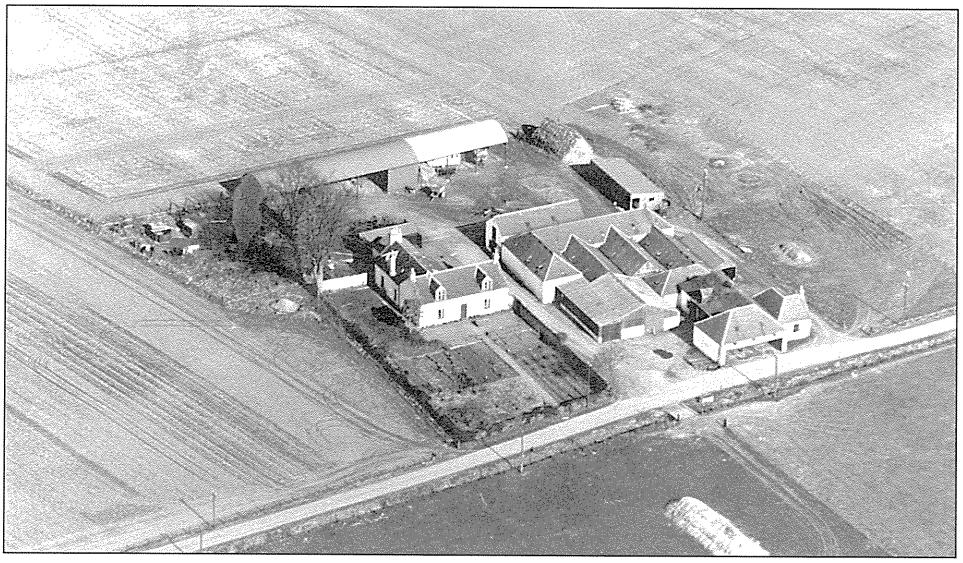
An aerial view of Eskhill Farm showing the River South Esk bordered by trees and making its way along the edge of the neighbouring Auchleuchrie Fields.



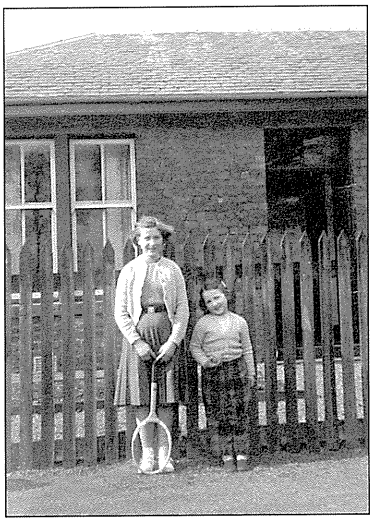
Celebrating outside the Hotel at Justinhaugh.

A happy crowd danced to the pipes and drums of Forfar Pipe Band in 1953, the year when Queen Elizabeth was crowned. Local man Stewart McFarlane and Jim Tait from Forfar, both pipers, and drummer boy Jimmy Hoy are in the picture and, who knows – maybe you are there!

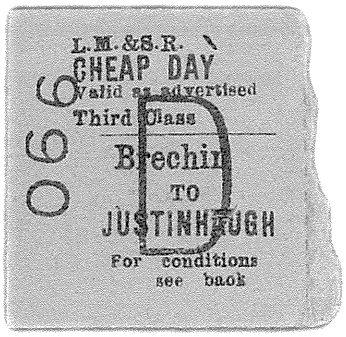
A train brought the band and the party to Justinhaugh Station from Forfar, waiting on the bridge to return them home – service indeed!



Tobees Farm from the air (home to Alf Campbell and his wife and family).



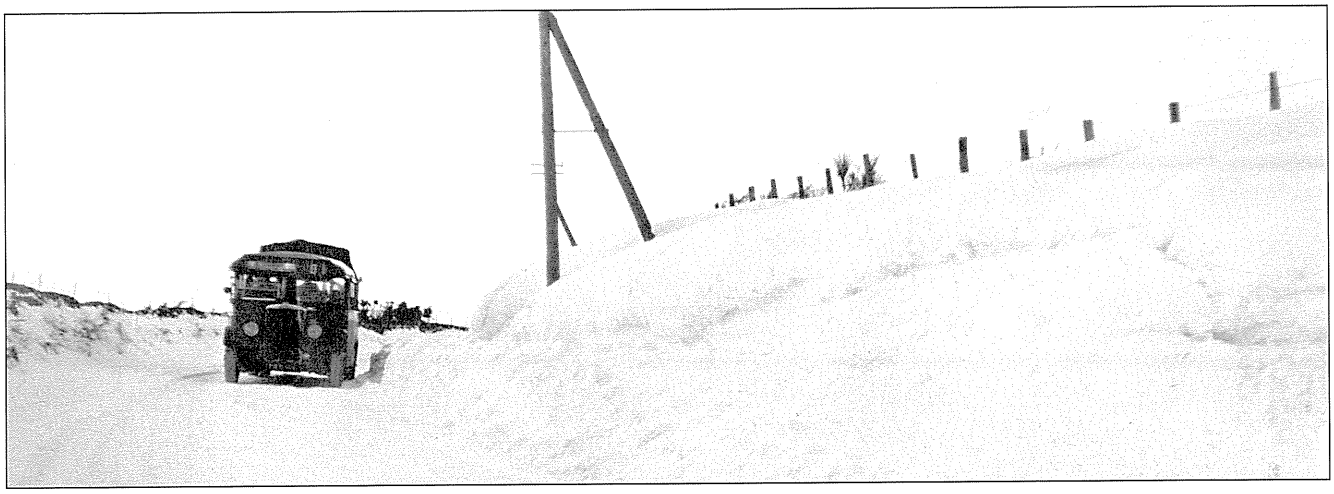
Norma Keir and May McLeod outside Justinhaugh Station House.



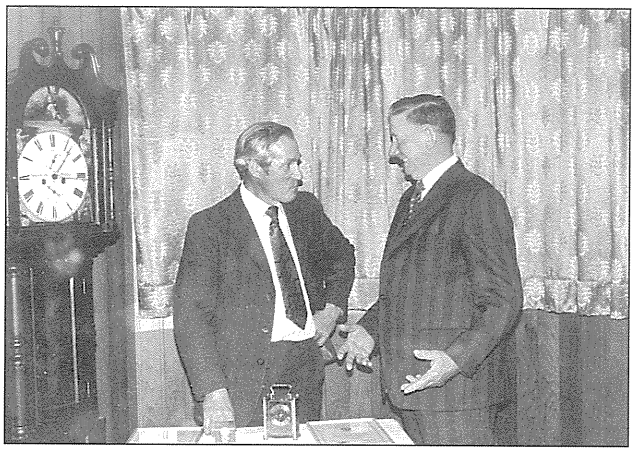
The last ticket to be issued at Justinhaugh when the passenger trains stopped running in 1952.



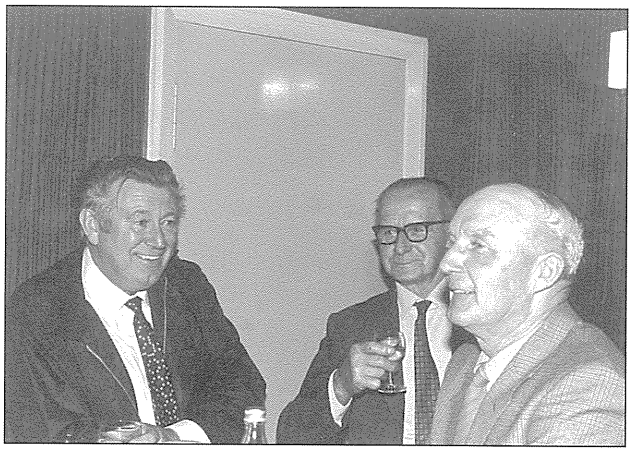
Justinhaugh Station no longer in use, February 1961.



A bus makes its way on the road from Kirriemuir in the snow in 1947.



Tom Adam's retirement in 1984 from Easter Ogil Farm, (owned by Mr and Mrs Naylor). The presentation was made by Will Murray, a co-worker at the farm.



Jock Rendall, Joe Wallace and Jock Stewart toast Tom Adam.



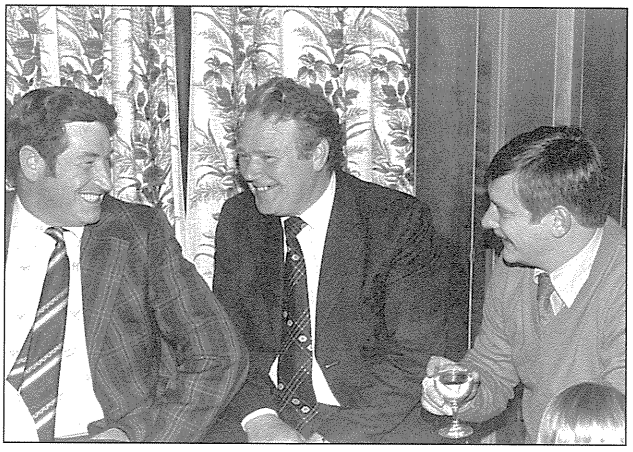
A party wouldn't be a party without the lovely voice of Davina Farquharson accompanied by Isobel Adam on the piano.



Mrs Milne, Mr and Mrs Ramsay, and Mr Milne listening intently.



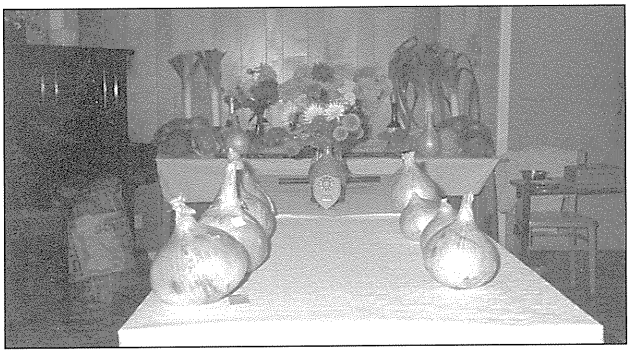
Aggie Stewart, Mrs Wallace, Mary and Tom Stewart (something has caught Tom's eye!).



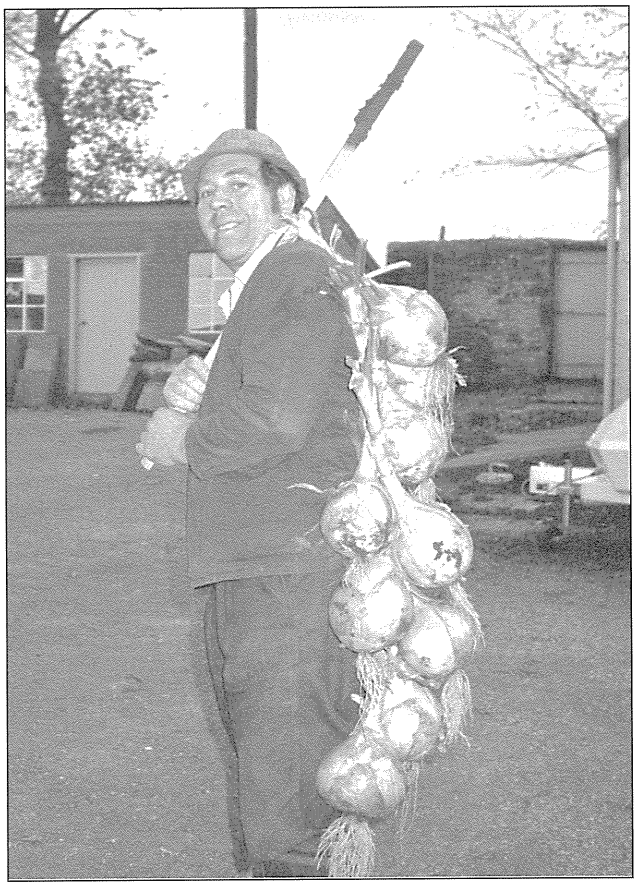
Will Mowat, Mont Ferguson, and Jim Munro having a good time.



Frank Farquharson, Meikle Coull and Jim Ramsay, Mains of Ogil enjoying a dram. Frank Farquharson *(on the left)* was the co-founder and auctioneer of the Onion Roups held annually in Justinhaugh Hotel.



A fine display for the first Onion Roup in 1980 held at Justinhaugh Hotel.



Frank Farquharson preparing his onions for the annual roup at Justinhaugh Hotel.



© copyright

An "Ingin Roup" which was held at Justinhaugh Hotel for many years has now ceased and the money raised has been distributed amongst various charities by members of the committee, a gesture which is greatly appreciated. *From left:* Ruth Leslie Melville - Friends of Stracathro, from Davina Farquarson; Belle Anderson to Margaret Pollock - Tannadice Primary School; Bill Adam to Liz Forsyth of Lippen Care; Maureen Cameron, Senior Staff Nurse, Macmillan Day Centre from Jean Peters; David Monteith of the Kate Simpson Cancer Fund, from May Simpson. Photo by Kim Cessford.



The riding ponies of the successful Eskside Stud at Justinhaugh seem to think that the grass is greener on the other side of the fence.



The Justinhaugh railway bridge is long gone on the road to what was once a popular hotel but is now a private home.





In the mid 1990s this travelling family were a regular sight on the road near Craigeassie woods on their way through Justinhaugh and Tannadice to camp at Finavon.



A view from the Justinhaugh Bridge



Craigeassie House, the home of Lord and Lady Glendyne.



An aerial view of Eskhill farm.

The Eskhill property was bought in 1902 by Admiral Ian and Mrs Olive Drummond.

Mr Iain and Mrs Katherine Elvers are the present owners. Katherine is a great-niece of Mrs Olive Drummond.

Fern

Fern may have got its name from the Gaelic word Fearn meaning Alder

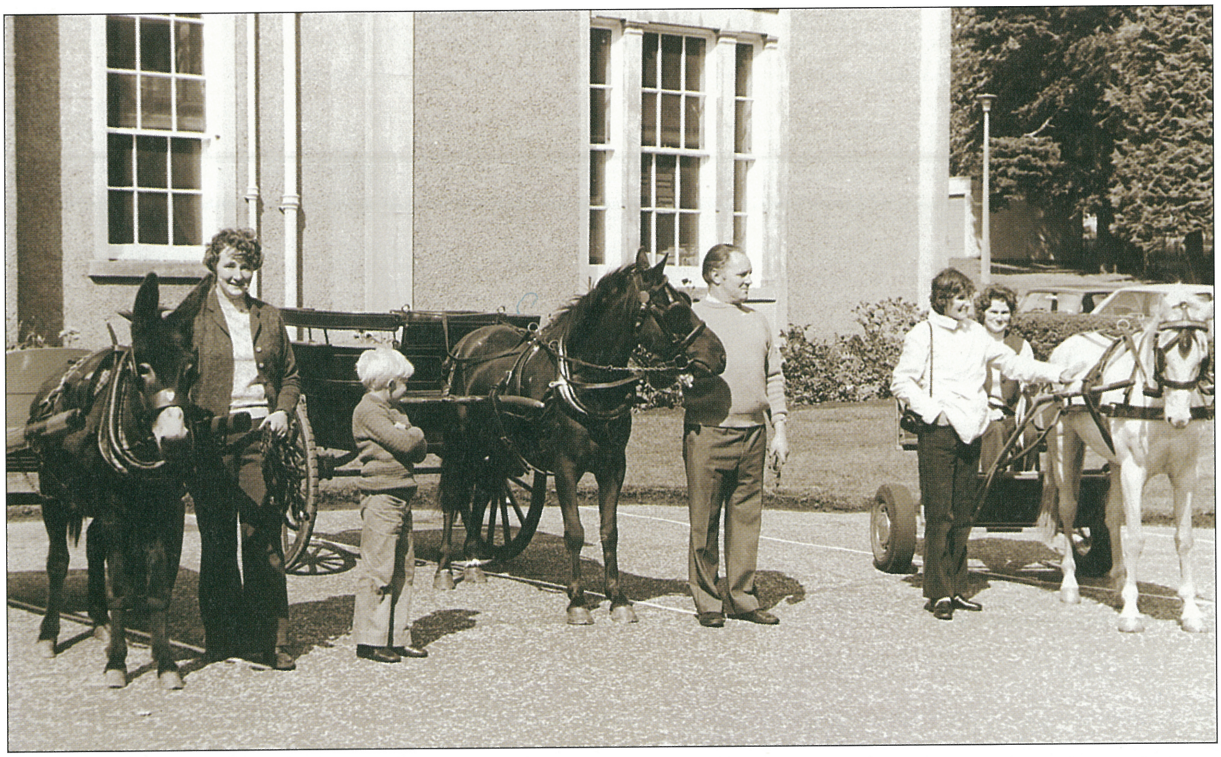
Many Alder trees are found growing in the area and maybe this is how the name of Fern came about.

Fern once had a Post Office, two shops, a smiddy, hall with library, school and schoolhouse, Church and manse, and a few dwelling houses. Now all the buildings, apart from the Church, are in private use, two cottages having been knocked into one dwelling and two new houses built. Nearby to where one of the shops used to stand, there is now a telephone exchange.

The lovely little Church is situated on a hillock in a picturesque den. Not far away is the ruin of Vayne Castle which overlooks the Noran Water.

Doon in a hollow Fern lies
Surrounded braw wi' pastures green,
Whaur stirks an' yowes at leisure graze –
A quainter place ye'll ne'er hae seen.
The Kirk stands high upon a knowe,
An' in its yaird some noble men.
By chance at nicht ye'll maybe meet
The fearsome ghaist o' Fern Den.

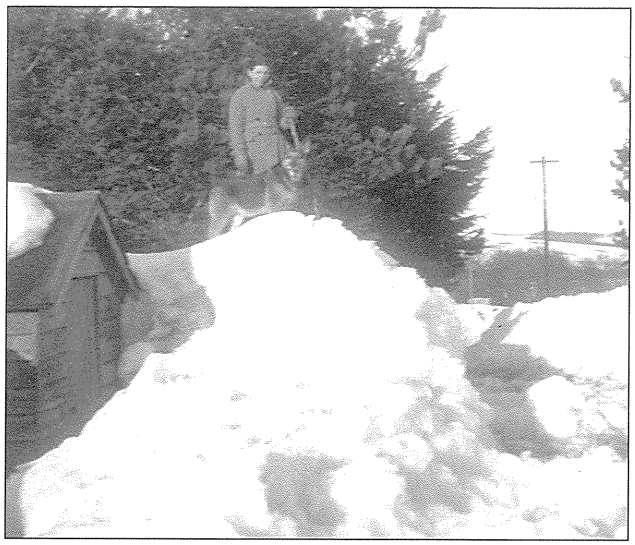
David Monteith



An outing of the Strathmore Vintage Vehicle Club to Noranside Prison on the 22nd August 1977. *Left to right:* Marion Farquharson with her pet donkey, Darkie, Stephen Dear, Chic Christie, Joy Ingram and Battie Christie with their ponies and traps.



Left to right: Jan Stewart, Bruce Farquharson and 2 children, Colin with his mother Marion Farquharson admiring Darkie her donkey, next to Chic Christie with his pony and trap, Battie Christie, Joy Ingram and Jock Farquharson with his penny-farthing.



George Brown at Farmerton,
Fern, in the winter of 1947.



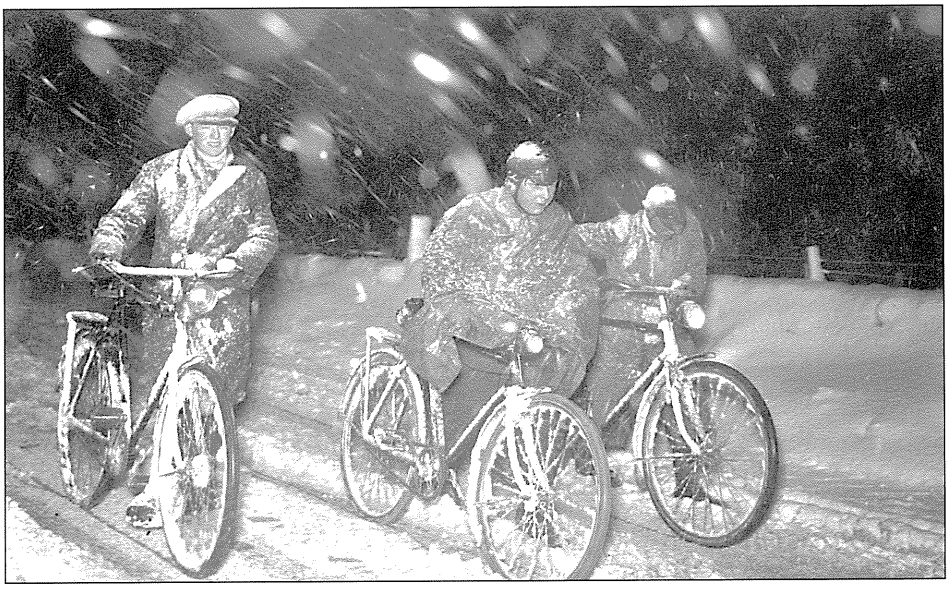
Scott Cameron aged six in the winter
of 1978 at Wellford, Fern.



The hamlet of Fern with the Parish church in the foreground



Left to right: Pat, Faith and Billy Finlayson arriving at Fern School after a three mile trudge through the snow from their home at Trusto above Afflochie Farm, Fern. They had been marooned at their home for two months over Christmas due to a stormy winter in 1963.



Jim Crabb on the left and his friends coming home from Kirriemuir in a freak storm in the spring in the 1930s.



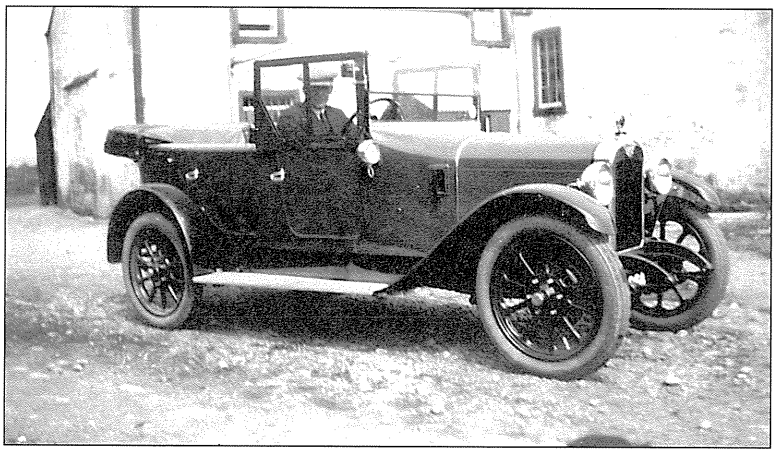
Mrs Bruce (grandmother) with Frank Henderson's mother about to leave Shandford Cottage, Fern, on her cycle, in the early 1900s (see page 132, Frank Henderson).



Mary Murray (now Mrs Crabb) setting off visiting, on her bike.



At Afflochie - Jim Crabb astride a BSA motorbike on which the postman delivered the mail.



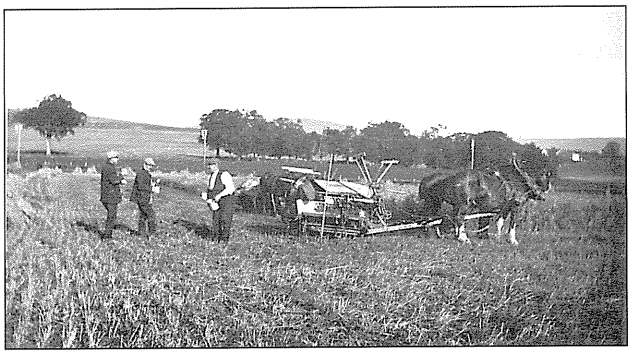
A splendid looking Austin 12/4 car parked outside the backdoor at Farmerton, Fern.



John Joss ploughing in a field at Boggie, Fern.



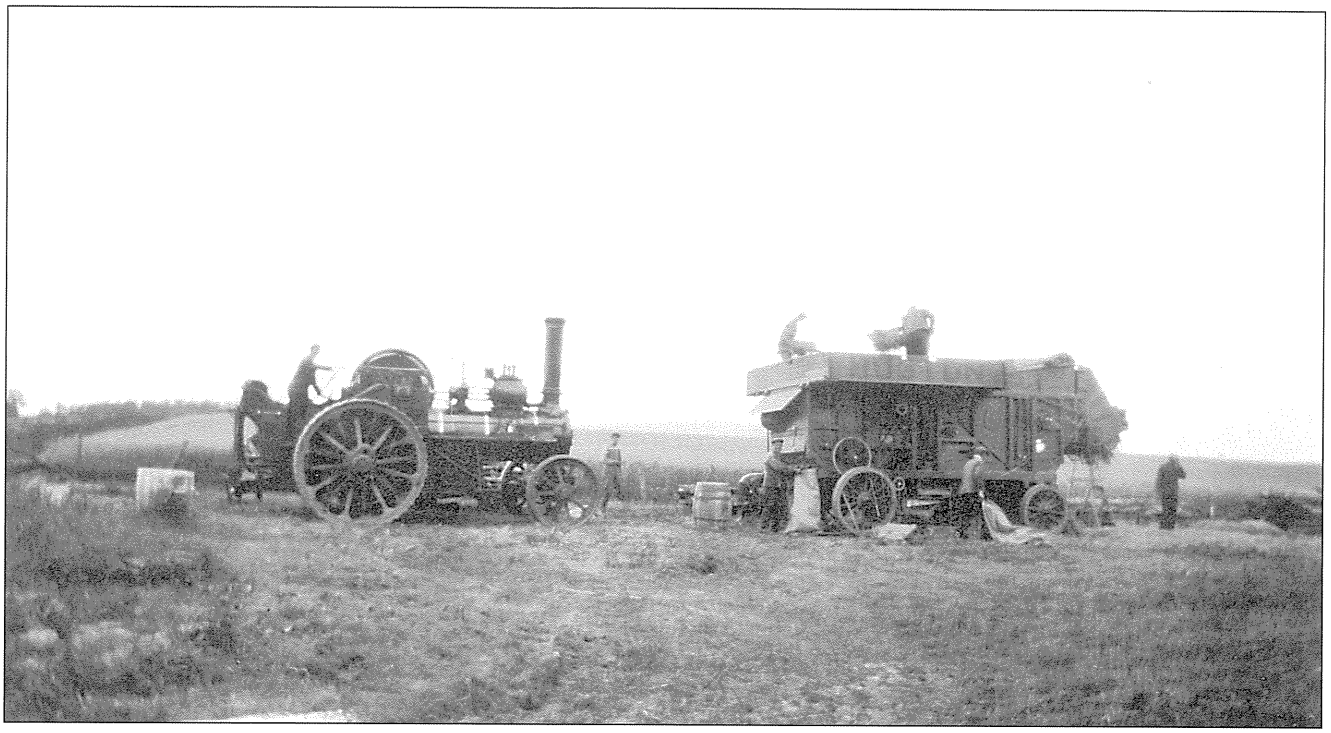
Chae Crabb on his Massey Harris Challenger tractor at Balquharn in the 1930s.



Harvest time at Farmerton, Fern.



George Brown offering to share his 'piece' with his horse when bringing in the harvest at Farmerton.



Threshing time in full swing at Farmerton, Fern in the 1900s.



A busy time for the sheep shearers at Afflochie Farm, in the 1900s.



Jim Crabb *(front right)* along with fellow workers at the annual sheep shearing at Trusto in Fern in the 1920s. The farmers at that time were Jim and Willie Robertson. Willie Jamieson who may be in the photograph was the shepherd from 1917 to 1937.



A typical bothy scene.



Forfar Farmers' Dance

Committee
W. Carnegie
W. Alexander
D. Warden
W. Scott
D. Breckenridge
D. Robertson
A. Christie

The Committee request the pleasure of your company at the Annual Dance to be held in the Reid Hall, Forfar, on the evening of Friday, 25th January 1935, at half-past seven o'clock.

Music by Cameron's Orchestra.
Catering by Imperial Restaurant.

Ladies 6/6
Gentlemen 7/6

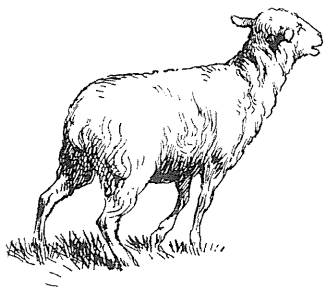
R.s.v.p. by 15th January to J. L. Wishart, Secretary, 12 Market Street, Forfar. [Carriages at 2-30 a.m.]

DISPATCH, FORFAR.

In 1935 an invitation to a Farmers' Ball looked like this!



Spectators at Fern Games held in the games park, Balquhadly every year.



FERN GAMES

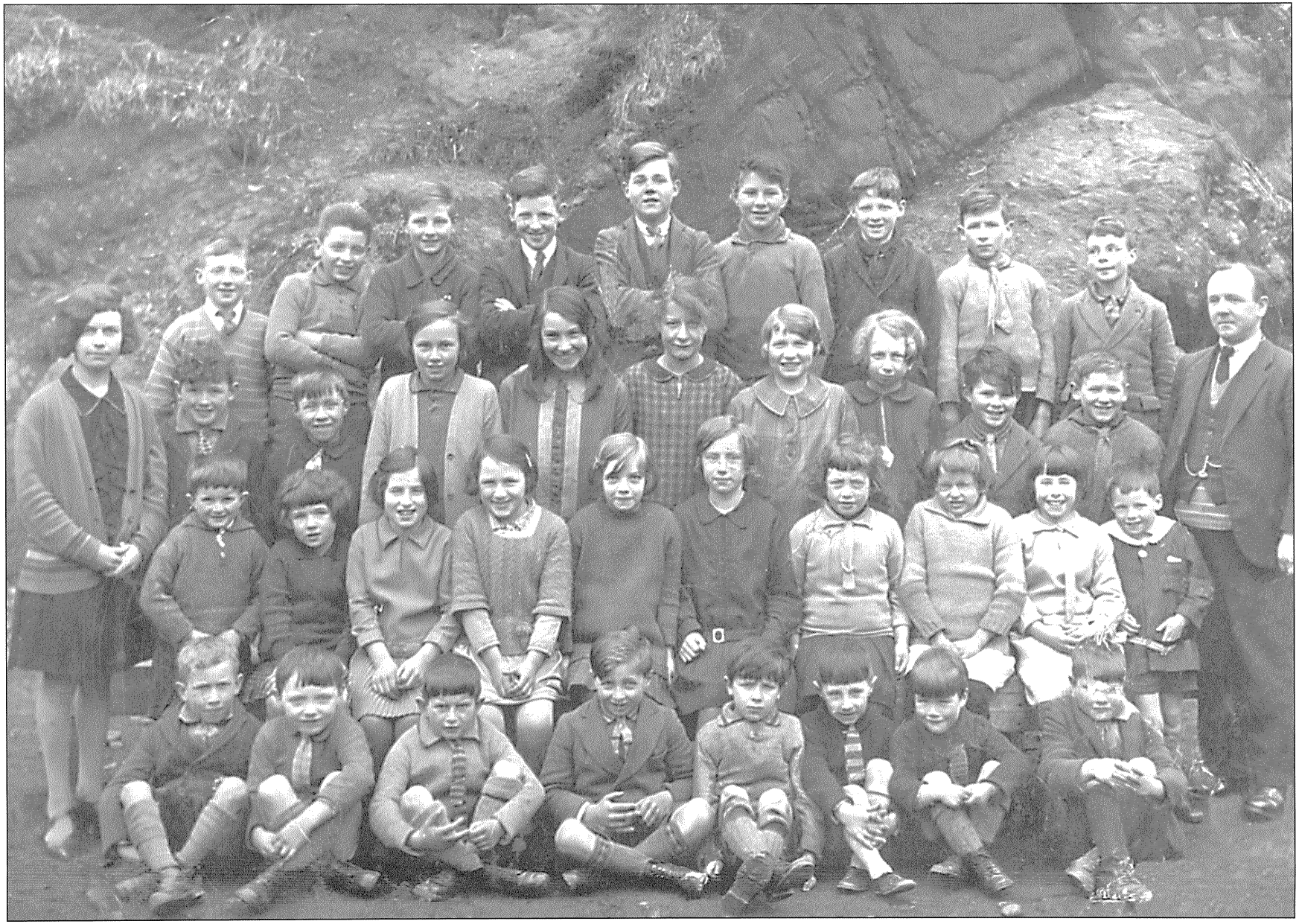
RULES

1. All persons attending Games do so at their own risk.
2. Competitors in local events must be domiciled in the Parish of Fern.
3. The Committee's decision in everything is final.
4. Only Competitors and Members of the Committee are allowed inside the Ring.
5. No third prize will be given unless there are four or more Competitors.
6. Anyone breaking bottles wilfully will be dealt with.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE.

Chairman of Committee.

An interesting set of rules during the time when Fern Games were held.



Fern School, 1928-29



A family group with Alex and Elizabeth Brown taken
at Farmerton Farmhouse in the 1900s.
He farmed there from 1904-1935 when his son,
George took over.





George, Cathy, and Sandy Brown with Sweep their dog in the garden
at Farmerton, Fern in the early 1900s.



Baby Jim Crabb born 1917,
looking very serious but rather cute!



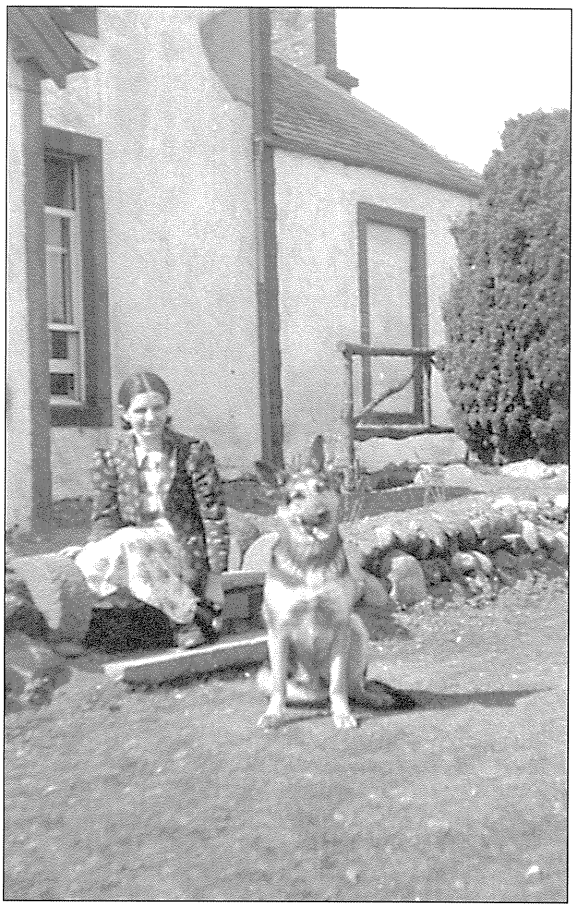
Jemima Lamont who married John Low in Fern Church on 9th February 1927. The picture was taken in front of the farmhouse at Boggie, Fern.



George Brown astride his horse at Farmerton where he farmed from 1935-1965.



Dave Murray, brother of Mrs Mary Crabb, worked at Balquharn and in 1938 left there to join the army. In 1940 he was posted to Burma.



Mrs George Brown with her dog at the front door at Farmerton, Fern.



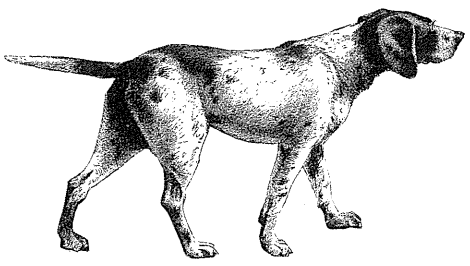
A shapshot taken in the spring of 1962 in the garden of Ledenhendrie Cottage, Afflochie, Fern. Deborah Hughes with wee brother, Douglas and the tractor man's son, Alexander Stott. In the background is Afflochie Farmhouse and steading.

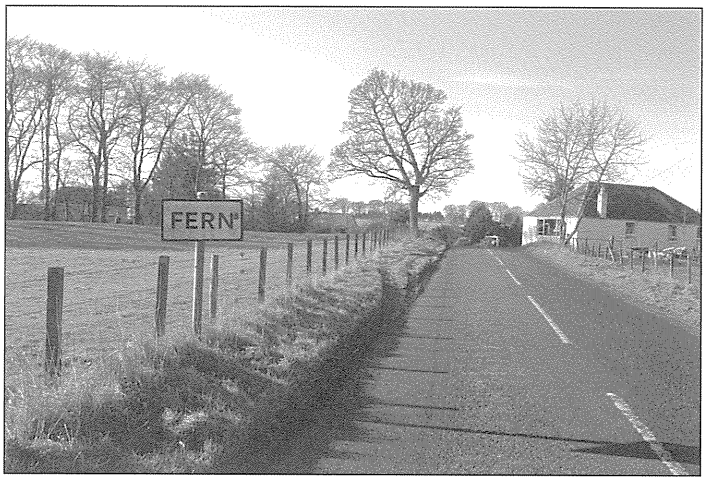


Boggie Farmhouse, Fern



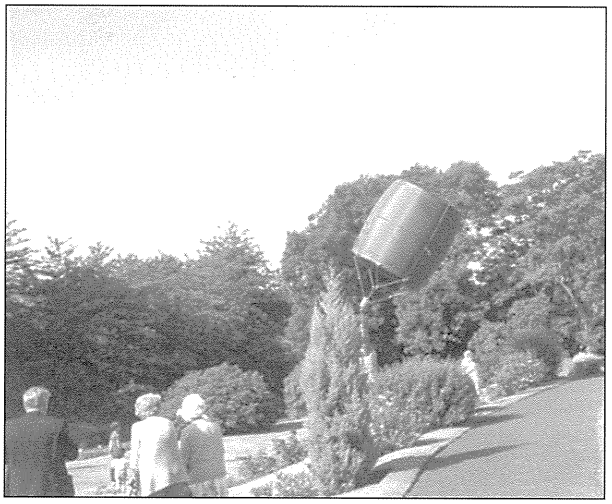
Jim Crabb and beaters at the grouse shooting on Trusto in the 1920s.









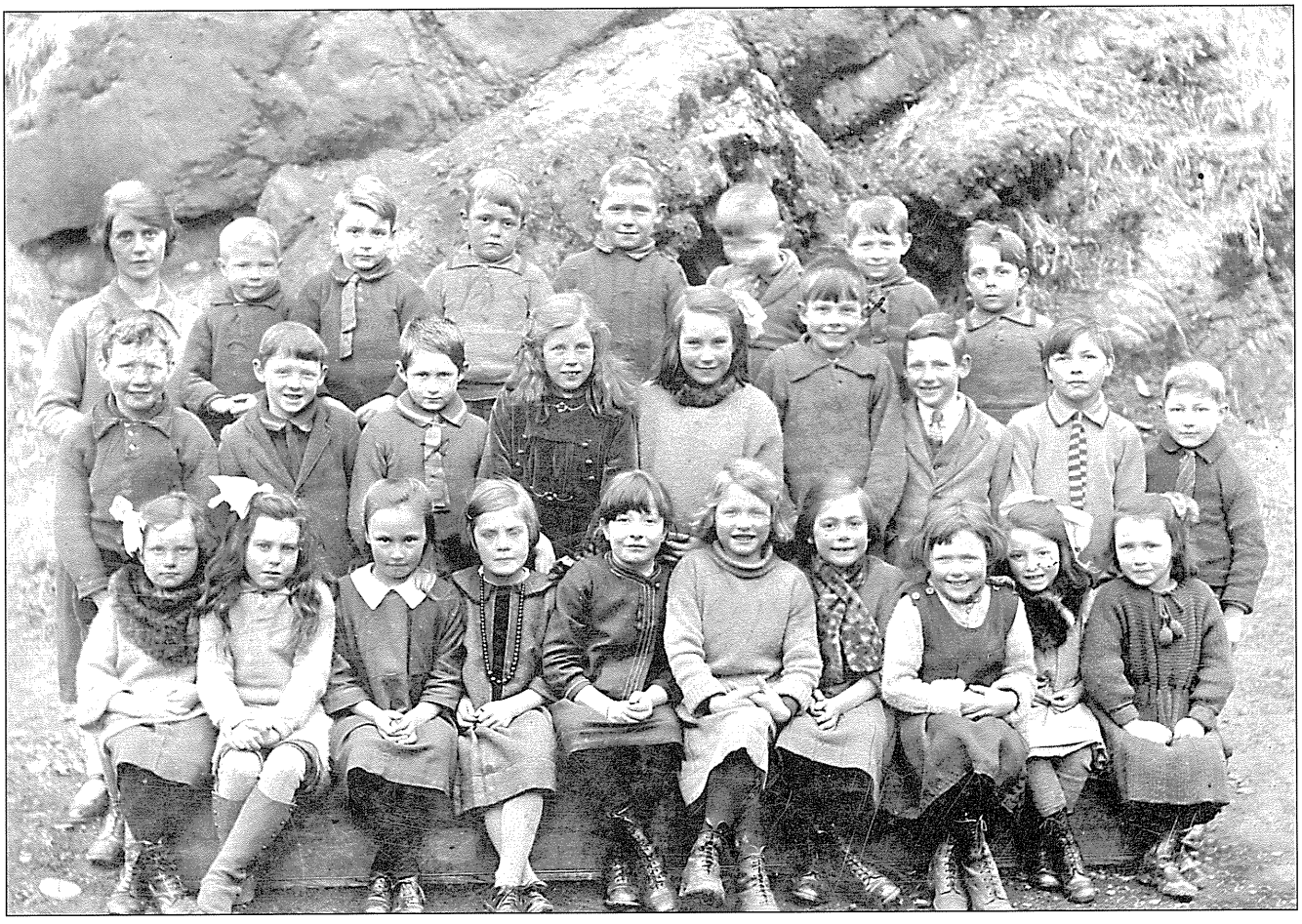


Marking the bicentenary of the first British manned flight in a home-built hot air balloon. A miniature replica of the first British manned flight in a hot air balloon, which was achieved by Scotsman James Tytler in August 1784, is seen here in the old manse garden in the hamlet of Fern.

James Tytler was born in Fern in the middle of the 18th century where his father was the church minister in 1745. He was an extremely clever man and at one time or another was a surgeon, chemist, writer, printer, aeronaut, journalist and poet. James Tytler died in the latter part of 1803 in Salem, in his adopted country of America.



Noranside Sanatorium Halloween Party, 1939.



Frank Henderson (2nd right back row) and brother Bruce (3rd left middle row) of Shandford Cottage at Fern School, in the late 1920s.



The inauguration of the Rev Andrew Jolly to Fern Church in 1989.



The staff of Noranside Prison with their governor Tom Davidson seated centre front row.



The ruins of Vayne Castle stand on the north bank of the Noran Water in Fern.



These Scots Pines on Deuchar Farm, Fern, have been around for more than 100 years. Similar trees were part of the Caledonian forests which covered much of the country at one time. Many of the trees were lost and only a tiny percentage remains. On a brighter note, a lot of research is now being done on the pines, which are the largest and longest-lived trees in the Caledonian forest. If a Scots Pine dies, and I quote, "the skeleton, while still standing, can persist for 50 or even a 100 years before falling down. The reason is that the high resin content in the sap makes the wood very slow to decay." Trees like these are surely worth preserving as they play a critical role in the lives of insects, birds, animals, plants and to the very floor of the forest itself.



Afflochie, Fern.
Afflochie haugh with the Caledonian Pines on Deuchar hill in the background.



Garden Open Day with Strawberry Teas at Little Deuchar in aid of Friends of Stracathro, August 2004. This is the home of the Honourable Mrs Ruth Leslie Melville, Founder Chairman of the Friends of Stracathro Charity.

Friends of Stracathro evolved after the campaign to save Stracathro Hospital from closure. Its function is to enhance the facilities of the hospital for the people of Angus and the Mearns. It came close to being closed but is now virtually what it was prior to the campaign beginning. It is believed the Minister of Health calls it "a jewel in the crown", and frequently uses it as an example of what can be achieved in an Ambulatory and Diagnostic Centre.





Features of the gardens at Ruth Leslie Melville's house including the enchanting Laburnum Walk.

Glen Ogil

A lovely glen full of romantic sounding names

The derivation of this name is uncertain but one thing is sure it is a lovely glen and it is full of friendly people. A few of the place-names have changed and some of the spellings are different but still recognisable.

Millton, Wester Ogle, Goind, Drumleyharie, Redheagh, Straeberay, Tiarryfegie to name but a few and all very romantic sounding. We wonder how much the spellings will change in the next 100 years.

High up Glen Ogil on Mount Sned
The Noran's waters rise.
Whaur mountain hares in heather romp
An' whaups soar in the skies.
The waters tae o' Toardy burn
An aff o' Duthriss hill,
Join up an' flow past Mochrie
The Reservoir tae fill.
Oot ower the Overflow it goes,
For here it disna' tarry –
Ye'll see it cascade doon the rocks
At the falls o' Drumly Harry.

David Monteith



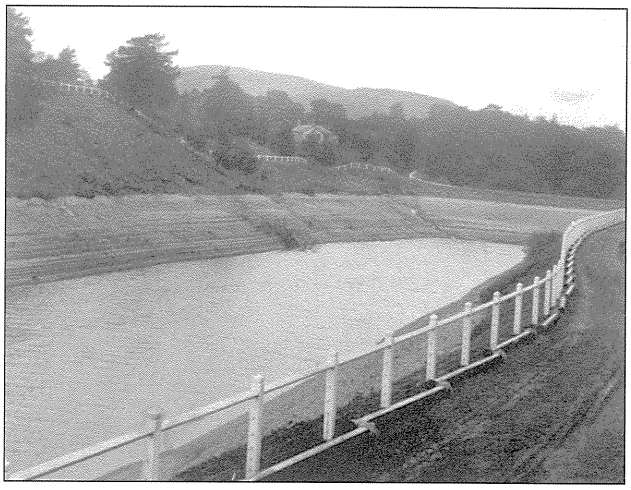
Forfar Waterworks as it is today.



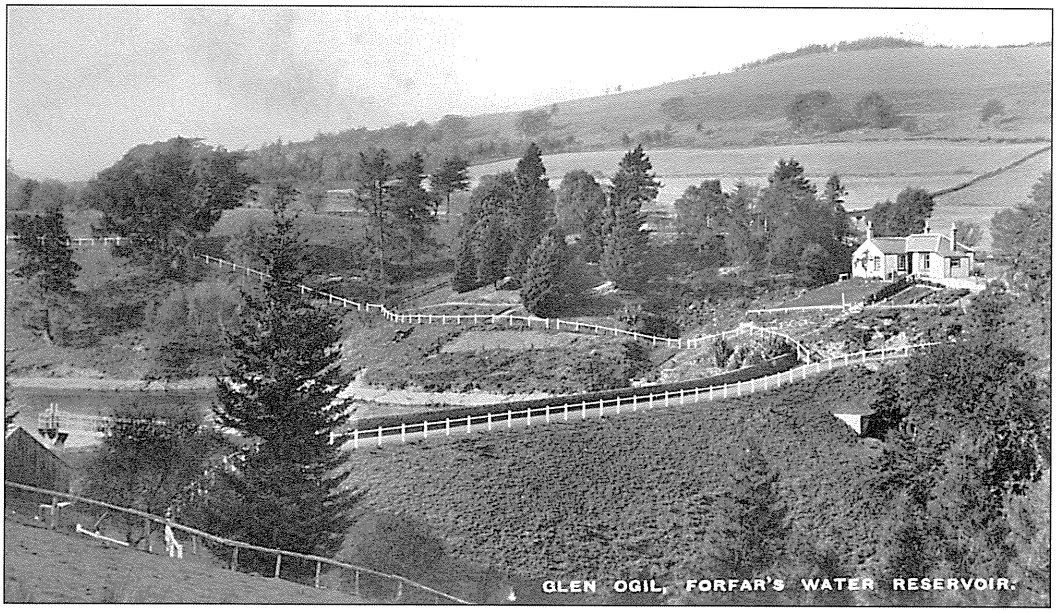
The construction of the Glen Ogil Reservoir in 1934.



Mr Lyon of Wester Ogil accompanied by his boatman, fishing on the Reservoir in 1943.



Water gathering in the Glen Ogil Reservoir in 1934.



Glen Ogil Reservoir



From Redheugh the beaters are off to the hills to drive the grouse for Lord Forres and his guests. The railway line seen in the picture was used for getting trees out when the woods were cleared to make way for the reservoir. The men in this picture are *(left to right):* David Wyllie, Stewart Milne, Tom Adam, Arnold Gibb and Chris Milne.



Beaters enjoying a rest on the braes of Glen Ogil in the 1920s after a busy day with the grouse; in the background the sturdy hill ponies, with pannier baskets slung across their backs and filled with birds, are also having a break.



Beaters having a breather between drives at the grouse shooting in Glen Ogil in the 1920s.



Denside School, Glen Ogil.
The pupils in the late 1800s are a bit differently dressed from those of today.



Denside School, Glen Ogil.



Denside School, Glen Ogil.



Denside School pupils celebrating the Silver Jubilee of George V and Queen Mary (1910-1935).



This picture was taken in 1928 of the pupils and their teacher, Miss Prophet in front of Denside School.

Back row (left to right): James Ramsay, Patrick Lyon, Helen Stewart, Minnie Stewart, James Lamond, William Stewart, Charles Lamond.

Middle row: Alex Lamond, Rosemary Lyon, Muriel Stewart, Ruby Milne, Violet Ramsay, Annie Brymer, Isobel Smith, Peter Campbell.

Front row: Joseph Smith, Robert Stewart, Robert Lamond.



Denside School headmaster and his wife Mrs Linda Dinnie setting up a delightful display for the Centenary Exhibition in 1966.



Denside School, Glen Ogil, 1973-1974.
Teacher Mrs Campbell having a break from school work.
Back row (left to right): Lorna Whyte, Fiona Ramsay, Steven McGlashan, Norman Stewart.
Front row: Hazel Mackie, Jimmy Ramsay, unknown, Athole Ferguson.



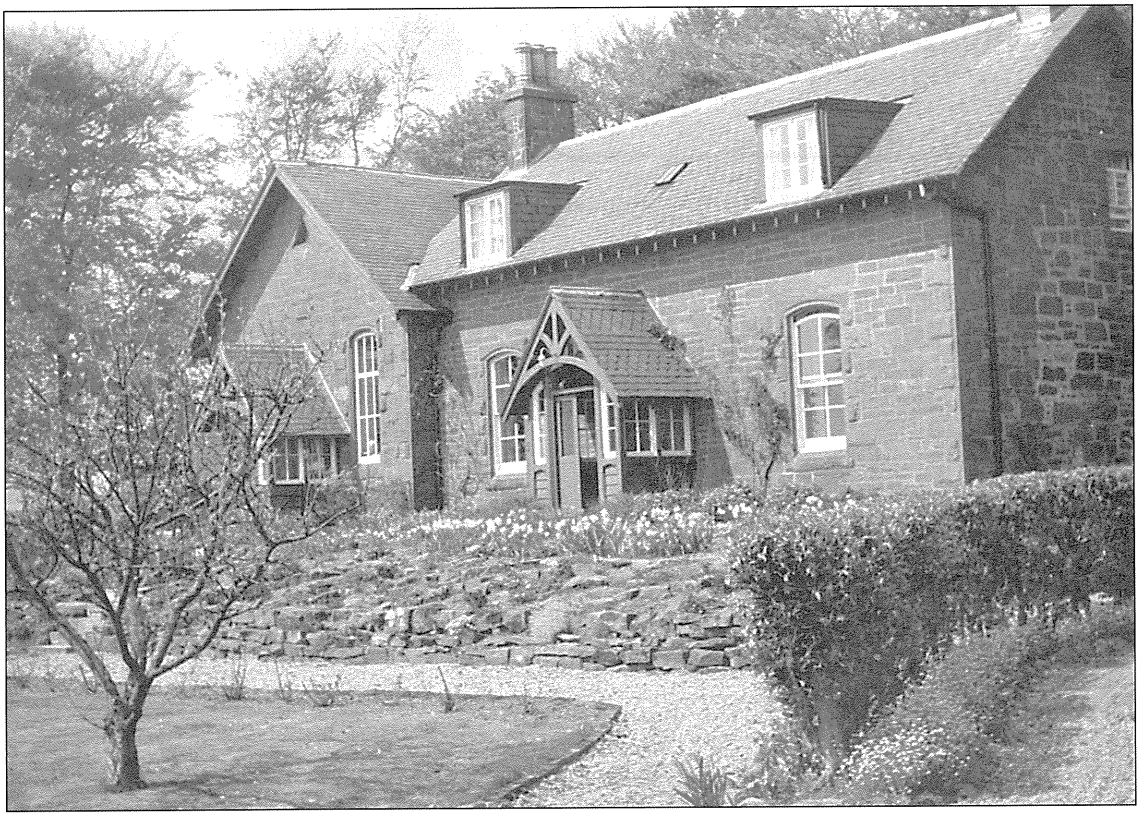
Denside School, Glen Ogil, 1971-1972.
Teacher Mrs Campbell with her pupils enjoying the sunshine.
Back row (left to right): James Ramsay, Colin Whyte, Andrew Mazur, Alan Ferguson, Norman Stewart, Stephen McGlashan, unknown, Athole Ferguson
Front row: Lorna Whyte, unknown, Fiona Ramsay, Vicky Isles, Pamela Douglas, Helen Ramsay, Hazel Mackie



Denside School pupils pictured with their teacher, Mrs Campbell.
(left to right) Scott Ogilvy, Amanda Murray, Robert Arbuckle, Stewart Ogilvy, Linda Adam, Christopher Gair, Kenneth Bond, and Hilary Mackie.



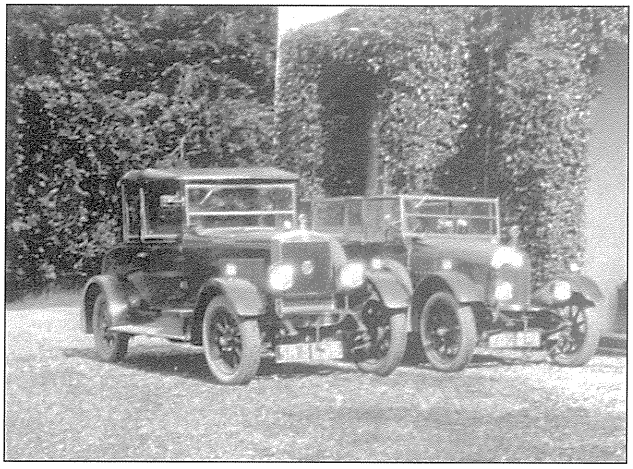
Mrs Campbell in the classroom at Denside School, Glen Ogil with her pupils, 1973-1974.
Back row (left to right): unknown, Shaun Ferguson, James Ramsay, Athole Ferguson, Stewart Mitchell, unknown.
Middle row: Sandra Horne, Jillian Louden, Caroline McGregor, Hazel Mackie, Gillian Ramsay, Jennifer Louden, Sylvia Hopkins.
Front row: Katie Arbuckle, Fiona Dunnet



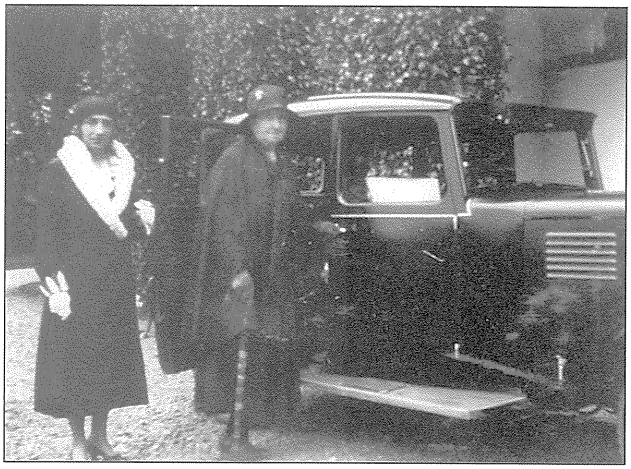
Denside School and house taken in the 1960s.



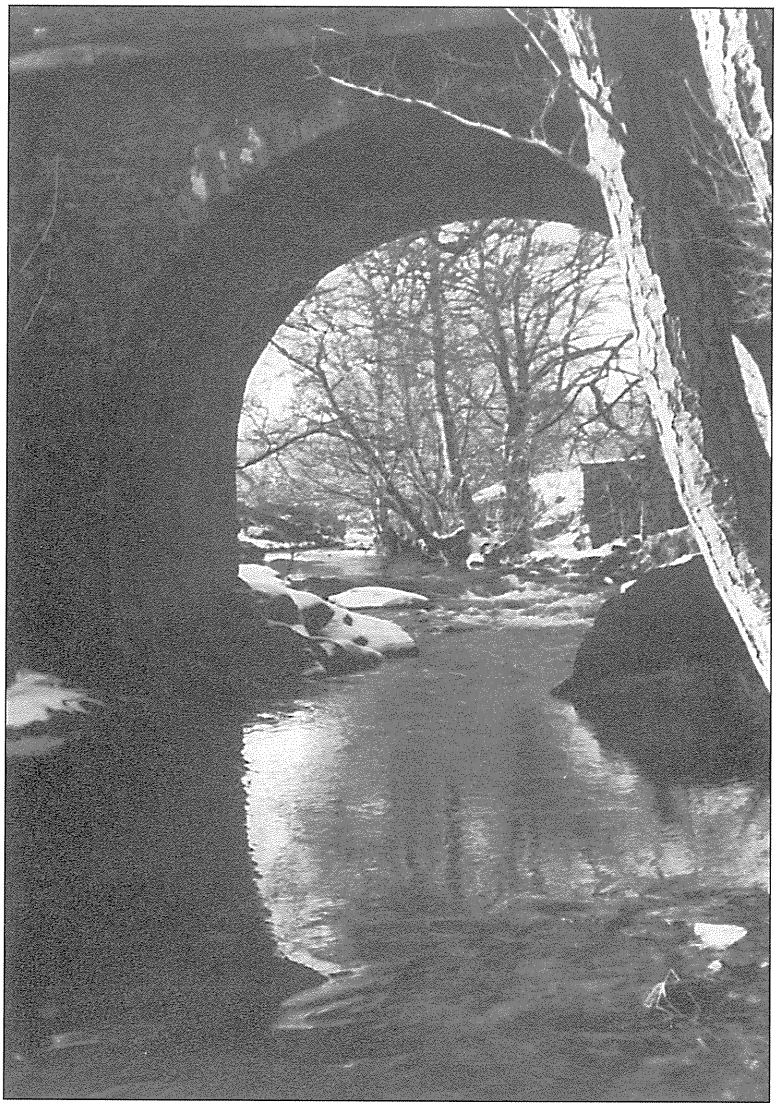
Wester Ogil House owned by the Lyon family in 1927.



Two vintage cars belonging to the Lyon family in front of their house in Glen Ogil in 1927.



Waiting for the driver at Wester Ogil House in 1932.



The Noran Water gently makes its way under the Bridge at Courtford Park, Noranside.



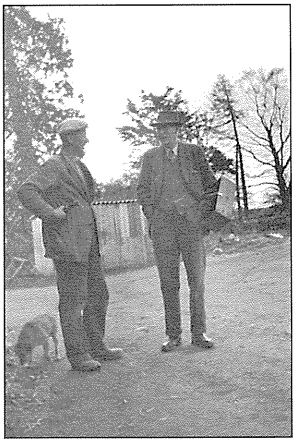
Walking in the lovely Den, Glen Ogil in 1933.

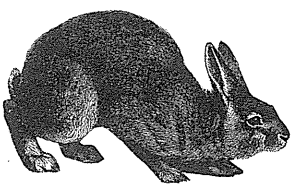


The Lyon family enjoying a picnic on the hillside in Glen Ogil, 1929.



The staff of Easter Ogil House photographed in front of the property which was owned by Mr and Mrs M Naylor, 1961.





Mr Naylor and his grieve, Tom Adam, discussing work progress in 1954.



Glen Ogil House – how it looked in 1913.



Margaret Martin (nee Bravington) meeting the great Sir Harry Lauder in August 1939 at Glen Ogil.

Sir Harry, a keen fisherman, was a regular visitor on the estate.
The inscription below the photograph was written and signed by Lady Jessica Forres.
Margaret currently lives in Monifieth with her husband Dave.

21st MARCH, 1928.
OPEN NIGHT
"As merry as the day is long, the more the merrier"
Cortachy W.R.I. to provide Programme.
Competition - - - Best toffee or tablet
Bulb Competition.

18th APRIL, 1928.
"Make good each day as you go"
Members Night.
Helpful Hints. Whistling Competition.
Hostess, Miss Grant.

16th MAY 1928.
"Business first pleasure after"
BUSINESS MEETING.
Competition, - - Best 6 white eggs (hens)
Best 6 brown eggs ,,
Hostess, Mrs Wylie.

James Norrie, Printer, Kirriemuir.

FOR HOME AND COUNTRY

Glenogil
Women's Rural Institute.

Honorary President.....Lady Forres
President.....Miss Prophet
Vice-President.....Mrs Milne
Secretary.....Mrs Prophet,
Denside Schoolhouse.
Treasurer.....Mrs Smart
Librarian.....Miss Grant

Place of Meeting A.W.W. Hall, Glenogil.
Time, 7.30 p.m., 3rd Wednesday of month

Annual Membership Fee.....2/-
Charge for Visitors.....6d

PROGRAMME
JUNE, 1929, to MAY, 1930.

19th JUNE, 1929
"Summer is a pleasant time
Flowers of every colour"
Talk on Thrift Garments, - - - Miss Elder
Songs - - - - - - Miss McIlvean
Wild Flower Competition for Children
Hostesses, - - - - - - - Members

24th JULY, 1929
"Let us be ever eager and ready to help our friends"
Demonstration—Applique Work - - Miss Black
Competition, Best Thrift Garment
Hostess - - - - - - - Mrs Smart

21st AUGUST, 1929
"The reward is in the race, not in the prize"
Hon. Mrs Naylor entertains Members at Auchnacree
Competition - - - - - Strawberry Jam
Competition - - - - - Blackcurrant Jelly
Hostess - - - - Hon. Mrs Naylor

11th SEPTEMBER, 1929
"'Tis folly not to be jolly, that's what I think"
Lady Forres to provide programme
Hostess - - - - - - Lady Forres

18th OCTOBER, 1929
"Some merry, friendly country folk, haud their Hallowe'en fu' blithe that nicht"
Open night - - - - - Hallowe'en Party
Programme by Members
Darning Competition for Gentlemen.
Hostesses - - - - - - - Members

20th NOVEMBER, 1929
"It's nae tint whit a freend gets"
Demonstration—Gingerbread - Mrs Stewart
Demonstration—Toffee - Miss M. Leighton
Competition, Best Xmas Gift to cost 1/-
Hostess - - - - - - Mrs Grant

25th DECEMBER, 1929
"A Merry Xmas. Oh happy day, rejoice! rejoice!"
Christmas Treat - - - Denside School
Hostesses - - - - - - - Members

24th JANUARY, 1930
"The proof o' the puddin' is the preein' o't"
BURNS NIGHT
Lecture - - - - - - Miss Prophet
Hostesses - - - - - - - Members

Glen Ogil WRI Syllabuses.



The Den of Ogil



The track down from Redheugh past a gnarled beech tree on a sunny September morning.
(Note the two-headed horse!)



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Glenley Dam, Glen Ogil, a tranquil scene taken by Sandy Wilkie, Kirriemuir.

Acknowledgments

Our sincere thanks go to the Heritage Lottery Fund under the Awards for All programme and Angus Council Community Grant Scheme for their generous financial aid; Ian Taylor, Sharrie Reid and members of the Angus Council Print and Design Unit for their unstinting help and patience. Kathleen Shepherd for her enthusiasm, help and guidance, and Pam Murray for her typing talents, both of the Community Learning and Development. Photographic work by Bruce Robertson, the late Jack Cowper, Sandy Wilkie and Kim Cessford have helped enhance the book. To all members of the public and committee members who responded to pleas for photographs, without which this book could not be printed; also to those who trusted us with their albums and treasured memories, and to the many outlets around Angus and further afield who promote and sell our books. Lastly we apologise for being unable to name some of the people in the photographs despite our efforts.

Lorna Bruce
Secretary, Tannadice History Group.

For the last three years it has been a privilege and a pleasure to support and work with the Tannadice History Group in their quest to record, first in stories and now in photographs the history of "Tannadice and Beyond".

Even with the experience gained from the first book, it proved to be a huge task to collect photographs, which had captured a moment in history, and then to select and annotate those to be chosen for the book.

This involved many hours of research and countless journeys around the Angus countryside but I think the finished article speaks volumes for the dedication, good humour and coffee consumption of all those involved.

Kathleen Shepherd
Community Learning & Development Worker, Forfar.

Designed and Printed in Scotland
by Angus Council Print & Design Unit
November 2006

The Tannadice History Group



The group pictured at the Finavon Hotel at the launch of the first book on Sunday 5th December 2004.

Back Left to Right:

Mabel Galloway, Linda Chisnall, David Monteith, Ethel Innes, David Beattie, Isla Monteith, Kathleen Shepherd (Community Learning and Development Worker) and Lorna Bruce.

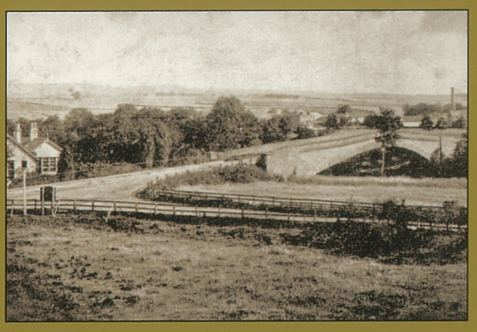
Seated Left to Right:

Dorothy Gow, Fiona Darling, Jean Wilkie and Biddy Wilkie.













Wha e'er ye be that's bocht this book
An thro' its pages ha'en a look,
Its really hoped that ye did find
Some photographs tae steer yer mind.
Maybe yer Granny in her prime
Oot in the field at tattie time.
Or even yersel' quite young an' spry
When at the schule in days gaen by.
A motor car or horse an'cairt
That's gien ye transport ilka airt.
Aye, freend ye'll find it's books like this
That mak'ye sit an' reminisce -
Though ye be teacher, laird or miller
I think ye've wisely spent yer "Siller."

David Monteith