



# Club Newsletter

## July 2006

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## EDITORIAL

This is the Sixth e-mailed edition of the ALLAN GLEN'S NEWSLETTER.

In previous Newsletters we endeavoured to locate the six Prefects from the last year of the School who had never been presented with their badges. So far we have only managed to locate one, viz. Ken Robertson. He was duly presented with his badge at the May Lunch Club Meeting at the Royal Highland Fusileers Museum.

So it's down to all you guys out there, if anyone knows of their whereabouts, the following are the due recipients :

**Vice Capt :** Alan Johnstone  
**Prefects :** Duncan A Bennet  
David Martin  
Jas M Shepherd  
David Wright

All obviously left Allan Glen's at the end of School Term 1975-1976. If you know of the locations of any of these Past-Prefects please contact me and we will arrange to have them presented with their badges.



### Diary Dates

**AGSC Golf Outing** - 7 September 2006

The Annual Golf Outing will be held once again at Pollok Golf Club, the cost will be £25.00, including sandwiches on arrival and a High Tea following the game, Those who have not played before or recently should register their interest with Brian McAllister at :  
McAllister's, 11 Woodside Terrace, GLASGOW, G3 7UL  
Brian McAllister will be writing shortly to those who have previously participated with an entry form.

**Annual Dinner** - 25 November 2006

**East of Scotland Club AGM** 9 December 2006

**AGSC AGM 2007** 23 April 2007.

**Summer BBQ** - to be advised

Alan McLellan

editor@allanglens.com

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**Committee**  
D Lindsay                      A McLaren  
D Shaw                         R Leckie  
C Downie                      G Egan

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## Membership Database

Updates to the membership database are being collected by the committee members so that we can close the gap in knowing that all addresses are functional and that we have as many correct e-mails as possible. We have discovered that some e-mail addresses are not very useful as they are not accessed on a regular basis and so it may still be preferable to post correspondence (and newsletters) to these members.

The June Committee Meeting agreed that anyone who needs to have mailing to their postal address will have this done by the Secretary without the need to send in an SAE as previously agreed. It is, of course, essential that the correct postal address is on file, this is not necessarily the case as the exercise to establish correct e-mail addresses has shown that some addresses on file are wrong.

An exercise to verify that the paid up status of members is correct on the database is also in progress as we have found instances of paid-up members not being recorded as such and vice versa.

The next general update will be in September, when the membership cards and the booking for the Annual Dinner are posted to members. The membership information on file will be sent out to each member and this will be an opportunity to update your own data. This input will prepare the way for a new version of the Membership Directory early in 2007.

**Mike McCreery**

[membership@allanglens.com](mailto:membership@allanglens.com)

## Endowment Trust - Jack McGuinness

This is a very significant year in the existence of the Trust. The first two recipients of our engineering scholarships, awarded in 2002, have successfully completed their Courses and will graduate this month.

The Trust was founded when, the hitherto unknown residue of Allan Glen's original bequest came to light in Glasgow City Council in 1998. It took three hard years in a legal jungle before, thanks to hard work by the Trust, headed by the late John Campbell who was President of the Club and fortunately was a lawyer, the funds were transferred to the Trust.

With the funds in place it was remembered that the original bequest was to create a school "for the sons of tradesmen and the industrial classes" and in this spirit the decision was made to award a scholarship to two scholars from Glasgow schools who had been accepted by a British University to study engineering. This was to be of £1000 per annum for the duration of the course, subject to satisfactory performance.

The first two awards were made in 2002 to John Paton and Colin McIlwraith and a note from each is in this newsletter. It is clear in both letters that our scholarships provided a very useful "cushion" and made a significant impact on their activities.

In 2003 we launched an appeal for funds to augment the Trust. There are now eight scholarships given each year and, it would be good to increase these in the future in size or number (or both). So far we have had 128 responses of one-off donations, monthly standing orders or yearly standing orders. The total at the moment is £21,500.

We want to continue this good work in the name of Allan Glen, our founder, and any donations would be gratefully received. The appropriate forms are included in this Newsletter to allow you to make a donation.

# My Time At University - Colin McIlwraith

The idea of going to university was first brought to me by my grandfather when I was a young boy. This thought developed as I made my way through secondary school and before I knew it, I had to make a choice of course in my fifth year of secondary school. The course I decided to choose was Aeronautical Engineering at the University of Glasgow; this was mainly because I was always interested in engineering and had a fascination for things that fly. Applying for the Allan Glen's Scholarship was the idea of my careers adviser at Eastbank Academy. Knowing little of the Trust itself I done a little research before applying and was intrigued by the history of the school. This led me to filling in the application and hoping that something would come of it. About a month before I was due to start University I received a letter informing me of the award and I was thrilled.

My first year of university was very enjoyable yet was also a bit of a learning curve. It took a while to get settled but when I did I could start to enjoy the course and also the fantastic social life being a student brings. The first year course itself like many engineering courses was basically made up of maths and physics with small amounts of design labs. The purpose of the first year design labs was to design and build a balsa wood glider for competition at the end of the year. I am happy to say that my group finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the competition. Outside of study I became a member of the Glasgow and Strathclyde University Officer Training Corps (GSUOTC), this was a great club for making lots of friends and provided a little bit of extra cash which in combination with the Scholarship meant I did not need to find a part time job so I could concentrate on my studies.

As the course continued through the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years the material got progressively more specialised and difficult. I found a preference in the design and computing elements of the course where I was naturally proficient. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> year the group design project was to come up with a concept design for an ornithopter (a mechanical bird) for surveillance purposes. This was a very interesting project that tied in elements of aeronautics, zoology, electronics and design. It still remains as the best project I took part in at university. Outside university I travelled to Normandy with the GSUOTC to take part in the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the D-Day landings, this was a fantastic experience that I would not have been able to take part in had it not been for the financial help of the Scholarship. The 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the course was very difficult, the courses themselves had specialised so much that one lecture of material would require about 2 hours of study to fully understand. This was probably the highest workload I have ever experienced during my university education. The highlight of the year was again the design project where my group was to design a commercial regional jet.

During the final year of the course I was faced with the decision of my final year project. I decided to move into the space systems branch and was given a robotics project. The title of the project was Robosports and its aim was to design and build a robot capable of playing football. This was actually a fun project that was mostly centred around creating an artificial intelligence computer program to control the robot itself. The project was thankfully a success and I was able to achieve all of the goals asked of me by my project adviser and my robot was able to play football with the best of them. In terms of academic subjects, the fourth year was very difficult. Indeed the aeroelasticity course is the most failed course at the University of Glasgow. Having just finished my last exam I am sure I have done well in my last year.

This is not the end of my university time however as I have been accepted to study a post-graduate MSc in Computer Aided Engineering Design at the University of Strathclyde starting in September. I have decided to take this course as my favourite topics during my undergraduate degree were numerical methods and design and I would like to take them further with this degree. The MSc will also allow me to eventually become a chartered engineer when I have gained sufficient work experience after university.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Allan Glen's Endowment Scholarship Trust for all the help they have given me during my time at university. Without this help I am quite sure I would have had a much harder time moving through the years during the degree and would not have had the opportunity to fulfil myself quite as much through university.

## University For Me - John Paton

I left my school at the end of my fifth year and I had been lucky enough to be accepted onto the Mechanical Engineering with Aeronautics course at Glasgow University. I was young when I started; only 17. This didn't put me off; I felt I was mature enough to cope with the pressures of University life. At this same time I found out that I had been successful in my application to the Allan Glen Scholarship Trust and was to be awarded a Scholarship of £1000 a year. I was overjoyed. At this time I was invited to meet the other successful applicant, Colin McIlwraith, and the Trustees themselves. We met at the City Chambers where we were all introduced to one another, and a good night was had.

At the start of my first year I decided to join the Glasgow and Strathclyde Universities Officer Training Corps, and to my surprise, Colin had also joined. So it was easy settling in with someone I knew. Another reassurance was that my cousin had also joined, and we all became close pretty soon.

Anyway, the course was different from what I had expected. There was no pressure from the lecturers put on the students to do their work, like in school. All the effort was from the student side. Either you wanted to pass, and showed up at all lectures, or you dozed off. The curriculum was in my opinion tedious, but these were the basics that all had to learn. From every course that year, we were expected to buy a course book. This was to prove expensive as many of the books were £30 upwards. Running into the hundreds on books alone, I was greatly relieved I had the Scholarship to back me up.

For most of the years the money I received was spent on books and travelling costs. Knowing I was financially secure was a great burden off my shoulders. It allowed me to focus on study, and not have to work to earn too often, resulting in more time to spend on the course work.

In my final year was when I would say the bursary was most important to me. This was because I moved away from home to a flat closer to the University. The money I received ensured that I wasn't working every night just so as I could live in the flat. It allowed me to have some nights off work, giving me those vital hours of study that are so important at the time.

Looking back at my time in University, I would say that I did enjoy it. Meeting new friends and progressing with my education are my main joys of this period in my life. Without the Scholarship, I know, for the reasons mentioned before, that my time would not have been so enjoyable. I am very grateful for the Allan Glen's Endowment Trust.

My plans now are to continue with my education, by taking up Archaeology as a second undergraduate degree at the University of Glasgow. I enjoyed my first degree so much; I know I will enjoy this too. It's a big change from Engineering, but one I feel will be fun.

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## **John Campbell; born August 5, 1932, died February 28, 2006.**

### **ADDRESS FOR THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE JOHN A. CAMPBELL**

Many of you may have read the Obituary in the Glasgow Herald but the following address was abstracted from the Eulogy to John A Campbell at his funeral by his friend and fellow-lawyer - Leslie Woolfson.

There was never a solicitor like John. It was always a delight to deal with him. Not only was he good humoured and intelligent, he was a man of the utmost integrity who could be relied upon and trusted completely. He was always totally fair, helpful, knowledgeable, ingenious on occasion and utterly dedicated to the interests of his client. Whenever I heard that John was on the other side I cheered.

And he had his own approach to certain problems, e.g. the client who was determined to go to court. He told me that he would advise the client first of all to lie down on the floor, close his eyes, stay there for three hours and then, when he got up, ask him if he still wanted to go to court.

I learned various things from John. I recall him telling me that every letter had three different interpretations first, the interpretation of the writer of the letter, second, the interpretation by the recipient of the letter and third, the interpretation by the judge in court. How right he was, advice worth remembering.

Together with Terry Gardner of whom he spoke often, John built an extremely busy and highly successful practice that later merged with McClure, Naismith to create one of the most respected law firms in Scotland.

The way things happened, John and I lost contact for a number of years until I had a stroke of luck. I was offering a small office in my building to let. John had by then retired from McClure's and, being interested in continuing to work part-time on his own, came to see the office. He was smarter than that however, he didn't take the office I was offering but, in fact, he bought another one for himself in the building. In this way our friendship happily was restored.

We became cycling companions. John was a great cyclist. He often cycled in fact between Glasgow and Largs on his journeys to Millport. He was the only solicitor in our building who arrived each day on his bike. We took as many days off together as we could, often with my wife Alma, who would usually paint whilst John and I were cycling.

Not only was John an expert on all aspects of bicycles and cycling but he appeared to have an encyclopaedic knowledge of Scottish Geography and its most important features, for there was always a great pub to be visited, where we would stop for a nip or a glass of wine, a light lunch and later for 40 winks before returning to the saddle and making our way back to inspect Alma's painting. Alma always found John enormously encouraging and appreciative of her efforts as of course he himself was an amateur artist.

But John was much more than an amateur artist, for example, he was a pianist who once played in a band; he was an amateur engineer of ability who was fascinated with everything mechanical, if he was not taking a motorbike apart in his remarkable shed here in Millport he was putting one together; he was an enthusiastic sailor and yachtsman possessing four canoes and sundry other vessels, usually with another being constructed...

You can understand why Millport was perfect for him. When he recovered so remarkably from his illness about a year ago he acquired an electric buggy which he drove on the island at its maximum speed of 6 miles per hour. With the help of his son Donald, he built a tricycle with the ambition ultimately of again cycling round the island. He loved cars and had a collection I believe of approximately four vehicles from vintage to modern.

For good measure he had a couple of caravans and also a tractor which was ideal for Millport. He was the most companionable of men - a bursary winner at ALLAN GLENS SCHOOL he became President of its Old Boys Association. It was sheer delight to see him at the annual dinner, resplendent in dinner suit warmly greeting his many friends, His Presidential Address delivered articulately, courteously and modestly was a joy to hear.

This vast gathering is testimony to the esteem and affection in which he was held by everyone. His loyal Friday friends are here - his regular Friday lunchtime companions who now have a gap in their ranks; the ALLAN GLENS OLD BOYS are here in force; his doctors, who became his friends, and his colleagues and associates in the legal profession. And I believe a large part of the population of Millport has turned out.

John and I often spoke about our very different backgrounds and he would tell me with pride about his late Father who was a highly respected highland police officer. John's father would have been proud of his son's achievements.

Ladies and Gentlemen, today is a celebration of John Campbell's exemplary life, replete with so much achievement and his zest for living. John requested neither sombre dress nor a sombre occasion but it is difficult not to mourn you John, for life is the poorer for all of us without you.

The memory of John Arnol Campbell will remain with us forever.



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## **Alastair Douglas Petrie; born 14 November 1924, died 17 March 2006.**

Alastair Petrie, who began with a career in surveying but changed direction entirely to become a distinguished police officer widely recognised for his great organisational skills, has died aged 81. In a career spanning 38 years, he rose to the rank of Assistant Chief Constable of Strathclyde, having been heavily involved in the creation of the new force with the local government reorganisation in the early 1970s.

Alastair was born in Pollokshields and spent the first 11 years of his life in India, returning to Scotland in 1935, he attended Mosspark Primary and completed his formal education at **Allan Glen's School**. He started a career as an apprentice quantity surveyor with the Glasgow Corps of Royal Engineers, During his own war service with the Royal Air Force, Alastair met his future wife Nora and the couple were married in 1948.

On returning to Civvy Street there were no openings in his chosen career but an advertisement for the City of Glasgow Police at the princely salary of 90/- per week, with a rise of 3/- after two years attracted his attention. Thus began a life of service to the community.

His progress through the ranks was rapid and assured. Following a term of duty in the Northern Division, he was appointed Deputy Chief Constable of Dunbartonshire in 1973. He ever afterwards referred to Dunbartonshire as the "parent force".

He became heavily involved in the planning of the merger of forces which created Strathclyde Police. In the new set-up of Strathclyde Police, Sir David McNee appointed Alastair as Assistant Chief Constable - Organisation and Development. Amongst his responsibilities were the installation of advanced communications, computerisation, Emergency Planning and the construction of police buildings in towns as far apart as Ayr and Lanark.

When Sir Patrick Hamill was in charge, Alastair became involved in personnel and training, and in the latter position he worked closely with the Scottish Police College. Before retirement he worked in traffic, and communications and was deeply involved in developing road-safety strategies with Strathclyde Regional Council. He retired in 1984 after 38 years police service. He received the Queen's Police Medal for outstanding service. In his personal life he was devoted to his wife Nora, who died 12 years ago.

Alastair was delighted to become a Freeman of the City of Glasgow and, as such became a member of the Incorporation of Tailors in Glasgow.

He thoroughly enjoyed the Trades House Dinners, which for him, as a keen Burnsian, afforded the joy of good company, good food, good speakers and friendship.

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## **The Reverend Robert Maule-Brown (1921-2006)**

Robin, as he was better known, was a son of the manse and attended **Allan Glens School** from 1933 to 1938. On the Sports Field his great love was cricket. On leaving school his MA Studies were interrupted by the outbreak of War, as he was a member of the University OTC he was immediately mobilised. He served in the Black Watch which engendered a life-long love of his regiment. He completed his MA Studies post-demobilisation and then decided to study Divinity. During this time he met his wife-to-be. They married during his time as an Assistant Minister in Glasgow. His wife decided that she also would like to study Divinity, following her ordination as a Minister they ministered jointly in Strathy and Halladale. Sadly, within a few years of their retiral she died and Robin moved to what he called "The Robin's Nest" in Haddington. He was an ever-present member of the Church in Aberlady where he officiated at many of the the weddings of the young members. He took part in the East of Scotland Club and the Lunch Club, always prominent in the kilt. It was generally thought that he didn't possess a pair of trousers. Sadly, in the last two years arthritis prevented him attending meetings as he was unable to travel any distance by car. Robin Maule-Brown died suddenly at home aged eighty-five on the sixteenth of February 2006.

Ian Hogarth

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## Robert Sibbald Walker - 1 May 1923 to 29 April 2006.

Robert Walker, a consultant physician at Law Hospital in Lanarkshire, has died aged 82. Robert Walker was born in Muirhead, Glasgow, and was educated at **Allan Glen's School** before going on to study medicine at Anderson College in Glasgow where he worked through the holidays in order to join the Royal Army Medical Corps.

Fully qualified as a junior doctor, he enlisted as a lieutenant with the Royal Army Medical Corps and spent three years in India. His first posting was a tented hospital North of Madras before he was moved on to an Italian POW camp in the foothills of the Himalayas, and from there to a tour of examining the troops on the north west frontier near Afghanistan.

Back in Scotland, Robert returned to Glasgow Royal Infirmary where he worked for a year as a clinical attachment while obtaining his London University MD in 1948. After working as a registrar for a year in Ballochmyle Hospital, in East Ayrshire, he spent five years at Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

From 1955 until his retirement in 1988, he worked in Law Hospital in South Lanarkshire, first as a senior registrar and then as a consultant. In 1961 he took his family to Boston where he spent a year as a research fellow of Harvard University.

Robert Walker's other clinical interest was diabetes and here, too, he played a major part in developing and building a diabetic service in Law Hospital, including an evening clinic for diabetic outpatients so his patients would not miss work.

He also taught undergraduates at Glasgow Royal Infirmary and examined for the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh and Glasgow. Robert was on the shadow board for Lanarkshire Health Board in 1973 and on the selection committee which appointed the first Lanarkshire Health Board. He was also president of the Scottish Society of Physicians in 1984. Colleagues at Law Hospital saw him as driven by a commitment to the NHS and someone determined to maintain high standards. He was devoted to his wife of 55 years and to his family.

Robert is survived by Catherine, five children and 10 grandchildren

## Editor's Note

**This is the last edition where we will include obituaries in full with the exception of those such as John Campbell, who have given outstanding service to our School Club.**

## Remember these? - some items photographed recently



## Coronation (1953) Boys Lunch at AGSC Bishopbriggs on Friday 30 June

Nine of the 1953 1st year boys (including our visitor Ian Dalton from South Africa) had their July lunch in the Allan Glen's School Clubhouse on 30 June. We had a fine meal in very relaxed surroundings with lots of the old school images all around. We will be doing it again on 11th August and hope to see a few more 53 boys attend. We all signed a card to be sent to Alastair Inglis who has recently suffered a stroke.

## Bishopbriggs - 1923 School magazine article

PLAYING FIELD. December 1923

Since last the Magazine was issued, School Affairs have been of special interest, and, of course, paramount and outstanding in the record is the acquisition of a School Playing Field. This is a red-letter event in the history of Glen's.

We entered upon the project with the idea that we must wholly finance our own undertaking. The first costs were estimated to be in the neighbourhood of £3,000. Our partners in the venture were the Old Boys.

It is a satisfaction to record that in 'the raising of funds they and we were equal partners; for, of the total money spent up to date (almost £5,000), the contributions from the Old Boys and the School have been almost on a level. The School's Bazaar, held last Christmas in the McLellan Galleries, was something of a social success as well as a great financial triumph. The stall-holders were obviously delighted with themselves (so were we!), and no boy in the School will deny that the tea-rooms were, as somebody put it, a "solid success." The visitors were quite sure that they were affording the boys pleasure, and the boys knew that they were entertaining the visitors and what more could anybody wish?

The playing-field Pavilion was opened by Mr. R. M. Dyer, of Hong-Kong, an Old Boy, on the afternoon of Saturday, 6th October 1923. As we write, we have the comforting news to give that we have the means in hand to liquidate all outstanding accounts. And so the venture we entered upon eighteen months ago has been pursued to a perfect end.

## Notes on the AGM - Ian Dale, Secretary

President John Macdonald welcomed 30 members to the 84th AGM which was held in the RHF Museum on 24 April. In his opening remarks he made special mention of the recent death of Past President John Campbell who had done so much excellent work for the Club, School Club Trust and the Endowment Trust.

Donald Lindsay, on behalf of Treasurer - George Smith, presented the accounts, which showed that the finances were in order and showed a surplus for the year of £1264.

Alan McLaren brought the members up-to-date with the School Club Trust. There had been some approaches made to the Trust regarding some under-utilised land at Bishopbriggs and discussions would continue. It was agreed that the Sports Club would be informed in due course but that any development would not seriously impact on the sports grounds.

Ian Hogarth presented the report of the East of Scotland Club. The various events had been well attended and some new members had joined.

Bob Leckie noted that this had not been a very successful year for the rugby club, mainly due to a number of serious injuries; however they did manage to remain in the same league. Mention was made of Alastair Kellock, who started his rugby career at Bishopbriggs and has been awarded a number of full international caps for Scotland.

Honorary Life Membership was awarded to Ian Hogarth, Sandie Howie, Bill Scott, Prof Jim Murray and Ian Lambie for exceptional service to AGSC. Ian Lambie with George Smith (inset).





**Allan Glen's Endowment Trust**

Assistance for two engineering students per year



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