

# Allan Glen's School Club

# Newsletter October 2012

# In This Issue

Tony Brook at 90 - Page 2

The Allan Glen's 2012 Trust - Page 3

See Ralph Cowan's Art Page 3

Golfing News - Pages 4 and 5

2012 Scholarship Awards - Pages 5 News and Correspondence - Page 6

Obituaries - Pages 7-8

Those who fell in Word War I - Page 9

#### **Editorial**

This Newsletter is a mixture of good news and bad news. As is inevitable, there are a number of obituaries, rather more than is the norm. Unfortunately, we have had to reduce the information in these Notices in order to be able to include other articles.

On the positive side. At last, we have a conclusion to the ever on-going saga of a successor Trust to the 1968 Trust, which ensures a future for the Sports Ground at Bishopbriggs and a secure financial future for the *Allan Glen's School Club*.

A number of your Committee Members, recently spent a day filling envelopes with membership cards and other information for you. If you didn't receive the information pack or, the information that we have, no longer applies to you: employment; email address; etc., please take the time to correct this in a response to Mike McCreery; <a href="mailto:membership@allanglen.com">membership@allanglen.com</a>.

I would also like to commend the Dinner to you on 24 November, If you can attend and bring some guests, you will all have an excellent evening.

On 19 July 2013 there will be a Diamond Jubilee Celebration for those who joined in first year in 1953, "The Coronation Boys," I make no apology for publicising this, being a "Corry Boy," myself. On Friday 19 July we are proposing a Jubilee Lunch at Bishopbriggs and on the Saturday, a trip, possibly on the "Waverley," with Wives/Partners. All who are interested please reply to <a href="mailto:editor@allanglens.com">editor@allanglens.com</a>.

The Lunch on October 26 at Bishopbriggs will be a Ladies Lunch.

#### Alan McLellan

editor@allanglens.com

# **Dates for your Diary**

Second Friday of the month - Monthly Lunch - (0141 772 3756) Last Friday of the month - Bishopbriggs Lunch - (0141 357 0137)

Saturday 24th November 2012 - Annual Dinner - Trades Hall Monday 22nd April 2013 - Annual General Meeting President - Ronnie Wright 134 Boghead Road Kirkintilloch G66 4EN tel 0141 776 6394 mail@ronniewright.me.uk

Vice President - David Tanner 'Kirklea', 1 Craigmuir Road High Blantyre Glasgow G72 9UA davietanner@o2.co.uk

Secretary - Dr Ian Dale 112 Speirs Road Bearsden G61 2NU tel 0141 563 8055 secretary@allanglens.com

Treasurer - Mike McCreery 1 Duart Drive, Newton Mearns Glasgow G77 5DS treasurer@allanglens.com

#### Editor

Alan McLellan 3 First Avenue, Netherlee Glasgow G44 3UA editor@allanglens.com

**Lunch Club** - Gordon Day 34 Lomond Drive, Bishopbriggs G64 3BZ tel 0141 772 3756 and - George Smith Newhouse Farm, Barrhead Glasgow G78 2SE

Moneyspinner Draw - John Cochrane 23 Park Avenue, Bishobriggs, Glasgow, G64 2SN

**Dinner Convenor** - John Bolton 37 Fenwick Road, Kilmaurs KA3 2TE 01563 538259

Memberships - Mike McCreery 1 Duart Drive, Glasgow G77 5DS tel 0141 639 3340 membership@allanglens.com

Allan Glen Tribute Lecture Gregor Egan 15 Lowndes Street, Barrhead Glasgow G78 2QX

East of Scotland Club Ian Hogarth, 9 Blinkbonny Road, Edinburgh, EH4 3HY tel 0131 332 1503

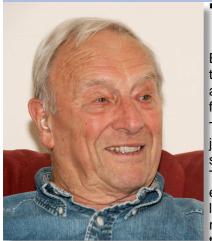
Website - Callan Dick www.allanglens.com webmaster@allanglens.com

#### Committee

A McLaren I D McLennan T Bell HR Graham J Kelly C Downie R Leckie I Valentine A Garrity

© 2012 Allan Glen's School Club

# TONY BROOKE - ART DEPARTMENT 1947-1956



om Bell, Ross Graham, Mike McCreery & I met with Tony at his home in Bearsden on a sunny afternoon in late August. He is an incredibly spritely ninety year-old. I am sure I would not have known him from some sixty years ago and, he would not have any reason to have remembered us, none of us professed to any artistic skills.

Tony studied prior to the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War at the Glasgow School of Art. He enjoyed deferred status from the Forces as a student and he joined the RAF Reserve. The day after he received his Masters Degree, he was called up. Tony's war service was in the RAF and Glider Pilot Regiment, flying Horsa Gliders. He was sent for initial training to Mesa Airfield near Phoenix, Arizona. The local native peoples were the Navajo Indians and it was common to see them riding about either "bareback" or on horse-drawn wagons. For most of his active service, he was stationed near Colchester where the gliders were towed by

Stirling Bombers built by Short Brothers. Fortunately he never saw a shot fired in anger.

Post-war, Tony was based at Bushey Park, adjacent to Hampton Court and, one day he went up to London to the Air Ministry, armed with two bits of paper, his Master's Degree and his Teaching Diploma. He presented his documents to the Reception, stating that he was a qualified teacher seeking early release from the RAF and was told to proceed to the fourth floor of the building where they would look after him, which indeed they did, furnishing him with his discharge papers. Tony returned to Bushey Park with his documents which he gave to his Commanding Officer. The next day he picked up his demob suit from Wembley Stadium en route to a train to Glasgow. He had enlisted at Lords and was demobbed at Wembley. These were the only occasions that he ever visited either ground.

On his return to Glasgow, Tony taught art briefly at Riverside School in the East End of the City, before joining Allan Glen's. Tony taught at Glen's for nine years from 1947 to 1956. Willie Hunter was Head of Art and fellowteachers were Ralph Cowan and Jim Crawford, who many will recall as the pottery teacher. Willie Hunter has several paintings in the Kelvingrove Art Gallery, some on display and others in storage. (Elsewhere in this Newsletter there is a notice of a visit to a Storage Facility, which contains a number of Ralph Cowan's paintings.) Jimmy Crawford taught Tony everything about throwing, glazing and firing pots. Jim had an additional claim to fame, he was a fanatical Scottish Nationalist and as a result spent a very uncomfortable two days and nights on a rowing boat off Largs, ferrying the Stone of Scone after it had been borrowed from Westminster Abbey. The final phase of Tony's Working Life was spent working for the Scottish Council for Development and Industry which, co-incidentally was headed up by an Allan Glen's Old Boy (see Obituary Dr William Robertson OBE.) The Committee was populated with many leading lights in Scottish Industry of the time. Tony recalled a high-level meeting called to discuss the arrangements for the last Scottish Industries Exhibition to be held in the Kelvin Hall. The meeting was being chaired by Lord Polwarth. Present, amongst others, were the Lord Provost and Lord Clydesmuir. An instruction was issued, "Brookes, phone the Palace and see if HM is free to open the Exhibition." The telephonist put Tony through to the Queen's Private Secretary and, as the Queen was opening the Forth Road Bridge the day following, it was arranged that the Royal Train would travel to Glasgow first, in order to allow the Queen to officiate at the Kelvin Hall. Tony said, "That was the way things were done."

On his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, Tony was given a birthday present from his wife of a forty-five minute trip in a Tiger Moth. He flew the plane for much of the time but declined the opportunity to land it at the end of his flight!

As I stated at the beginning of this article, for a ninety year old Tony Brooke remains extremely lively but, maybe with all the interests and actions throughout his life it's not surprising.

Alan McLellan



Mural in the main Hall by Tony Brooke



Mural in the main Hall by Ralph Cowan

# ALLAN GLEN'S 2012!! TRUST

*llan Glen's School* in a sporting sense had an itinerant existence until the *Allan Glen's Old Boy's Club*, supported by the school, obtained an initial area of some 8.4 acres and then a subsequent 1.4 acres in 1935 at Bishopbriggs, from Keir and Cawder Estates. The Old Boy's Club was founded in 1923 and that was the year of the initial acquisition. The Old Boy's Club were also instrumental in the laying out of the pitches and the construction of the Pavilion. In 1938 an appeal was sent out and the 1938 Trust was set up. This was a Benevolent Fund and the controlling Agent of the Playing Fields.

Through some forward perspicacity of the Old Boy's Club and the then-headmaster, J B Sommerville, it was decided to set up a 1968 Trust to control our assets at Bishopbriggs. This was, until recently, controlled by **Allan Glen's School Club** but the legality of this Trust had come into question and it was decided that we should pursue a "cy-pres" scheme to bring the 1968 Trust into line.

At last, after countless meetings and many consultations with members and lawyers, we have a successor Trust to the *Allan Glen's* **1968 Trust,** to control the Playing Fields at Bishopbriggs. The process was started in the year 1999 or maybe even before that by the then-President and Secretary, the late John Campbell and George Eastop.

**The Allan Glen's 2012 Trust** will be run by Trustees from the School Club: The President; The Secretary; The Past-president and a further representative from the School Club Committee, together with: a representative from the Trades House; a representative from Strathclyde University and a Representative from Glasgow University.

Under the terms of the 2012 Trust we are no longer able to enjoy the income from the Sports Club. This was used to subsidise Club Activities: the Lunches; the Dinner; the Golf Outing and any other events in which members are able to participate. So we are at an advanced stage in our negotiations to agree conditional terms for the disposal of a part of the ground at Bishopbriggs, in essence the second part obtained in 1935. The monies obtained from this can allow us to continue to support *Allan Glen's School Club*.

# **Ralph Cowan Art Collection Viewing**

a result of the following e-mail, we have arranged for a visit to Glasgow Museums Resource Centre 200 Woodhead Road Glasgow G53 7NN on **Friday 2nd November 2012.** 

The numbers are limited to 30, so allocation of places will be on a first come first served basis. Phone or e-mail me, Mike Mccreery (details on front page of the newsletter) by **Friday 19th October**.

My father Blair James, a former pupil of Allan Glen's and Ralph Cowan, noticed your article about the art teacher's collection held by Glasgow Museums in your latest newsletter and forwarded it to me.

We hold a large collection of Ralph Cowan's work, c. 200 pieces, and we are going through the lengthy process of taking these pieces into our collections.

However, I wonder if members of the *Allan Glen's Club* would like to pay a visit to the stores here in Nitshill to view some of Cowan's work and to have a tour of the facilities? We are open to the public but access must be facilitated and numbers are limited. Dates permitting, Alison Brown, Curator, European Decorative Art from 1800, would also be able to join us. We should be able to accommodate a visit with Alison late October/early November.

More information about the resource centre can be found here:

http://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/museums/our-museums/glasgow-museum-resource-centre/Pages/default.aspx

Gareth James Museum Manager

# Spotted at a recent Bishopbriggs lunch

David McLaren can still get in to his school blazer



and

Murdo keeping an eye on the proceedings.



# **Annual Golf Outing - 12th September 2012**

he annual golf outing was held at Pollok Golf Club on Wednesday 12th September and was well attended by 20 former pupils (it may be, that the fact that it was e-mailed, brought in some additional players. We will continue with this contact method next year.) Another four came for high tea and the presentation of the J.G.Kerr Trophy. The cup was won by John M Macdonald for the third time(previously in 1993 and 1999).

Competitors included M A Tonks from South Africa and J A Tetzner from Canada, and we look forward to next year's outing which will take place on the Thursday 12th Sep 2013.

If you care to google 'J.G.Kerr Trophy' you will find an article written by John Macdonald, regarding the golf section and J.G.Kerr.

Brian McAllister



The winner **John Macdonald** with Brian McAllister and President Ronnie Wright



John swings to victory



Ronnie Wright congratulates the runner up Jim Sinclair



















# **AGSC Endowment Trust Awards Ceremony 26 September**

long with other AGSC members: John Cochrane; Ian Valentine George Smith; our multi talented MembershipSecretary/ Treasurer/Photographer Mike Mc-Creery, and our Newsletter Editor Alan McLellan, I was privileged to conduct the above Ceremony in the magnificent ambience of the Glasgow City Chambers. Also in attendance were: Glasgow City Councillor Stephen Curran (Education) and George Mackie (Glasgow City Council Trustee) with his assistants Anna Tait and Emma. The two successful awardees, who will both be studying at Strathclyde University, Stuart



Christie (Electrical Engineering) and Ross Pearson (Civil Engineering) were accompanied by their families.

After a short presentation of the history of our Endowment Trust and the contribution our founder has made to the Education of 'young people from the industrial classes of our society' I presented Stuart (Rosshall Academy) and Ross (St Andrews Secondary) with a copy of the History of both Allan Glen's School and Allan Glen's School Club and, of course, their first Scholarship cheque. Before doing so I cautioned them by quoting from the book 'there is nothing more powerful than an educated Glaswegian'.

I then invited Counsellor Curran and Ian Valentine to say a few words. They both offered advice to each of the students and emphasized the objectives of our Trust and the Principles of Allan Glen.

Everyone in attendance enjoyed a pleasant social occasion with Tea & Coffee and Sandwiches & Cakes, compliments of Glasgow City Council, to whom I am most grateful for hosting this signature occasion which defines the contribution of our founder to the education of the sons of Scottish Tradesmen.

Ronnie Wright

# **Allan Glens Golf Team triumphs at Denham Golf Club**



he four man team captained by Roddy Whyte entered the London Scottish Schools Golf Society Summer meeting at Denham Golf Club on 19th June 2012, the other members being Colin McLellan, Ron Turner and John Dick. Both Roddy and John recorded excellent scores of 34 points in the morning Stableford competition - but, sadly, the other two players fared less well and the aggregate best three of four scores fell a bit short of the winning total of 101 points!

However, Ron and John won the afternoon Greensome competition with 20 points, a very good score for nine holes off 3/8ths handicap on a very demanding course.

The other teams participating were Glasgow High School, Kelvinside Academy, Glasgow Academy, St Aloysius, Fettes, Loretto, Edinburgh Academy, Perth Academy, Glenalmond, Gordonstoun, George Watson's and Morrison's Academy.

Photo: Ron Turner and John Dick

# Correspondence and News

### **Robert Winter OBE**

Robert Winter was honoured with an OBE for services to Local Government and the Local Community in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

He said "I think the honour is a reflection of the importance of Civic Leadership of a town like Glasgow. The Honour was a real surprise. Behind these honours, given by the Queen, are the people who think you have made a good contribution and that's always nice to know."

Dear Trustees of the Allan Glen Endowment Trust,

I am writing to thank you for your support during my first year at Strathclyde studying Electrical and Mechanical Engineering and to inform you of the progress I have made. I have managed to, while enjoying it, pass my first year with distinction and I feel that your financial contribution has enabled me to do this. It allowed me to spend much more time focusing on my studies and enabled to obtain the grades I am proud of. I apologise for the delay in thanking you and giving you this update, I have managed to secure a placement with Atkins this summer in the Nuclear department and this has taken up a large portion of my time.

Thanking you once again, Robert Fotheringham

#### Hi there.

As a scholarship holder going into 2nd year, I just thought I'd send a quick mail just to let you know how things are going. First year was passed with great success, passing the year with a merit, and every class passed at first sitting, with an average score of 67%. Although I am happy with this result, I am aiming for over 70% in second year.

I also aim to work even more with the Formula Student team, hoping to travel to Germany next July for a competition. Also, I am listed to be completing the 5 year MEng course at Strathclyde, rather than the 4 Year BEng. Does the scholarship cover the 5th year of the course as well?

Thanks for your time, Martin Nolan.

(Ed note The Scholarship will be extended for your 5th Year)

From: john.pearce70@tiscali.co.uk [mailto:john.pearce70@tiscali.co.uk]

Mike, how could you think that I was the "old" guy using a lap-top. I am now passed hard-drive storage and use "sky and cloud facilities" -gotcha.

Thanks for using my email in the Newsletter

A while ago in the days of Friends Reunited, I dug up another old worthie who attended **AG**. by the name of lan McCausland who now lives with his ex-Hutchy wife in Oz. Interesting life. Newspaper man, he was deputy head of Sydney's low brow The Telegraph, and ended up editor for both The Mercury and The Sunday Tasmanian. Packed it all in aged 64, bought a Winnebago motorhome with a Honda scooter on the back. He and his wife Ann were travelling around Australia, having no fixed abode. I told lan that when I published my book he would have to pay the usual £20. He promptly reminded me that as a professional journalist, his bill for the foregoing info outweighed my twenty quid demand!

Like myself, Ian attended Hillington Primary School the source of many brilliant persons. Unfortunately, **AG** did not appreciate my form of brilliancy!!!

### Tell it like it is - seen in a newspaper

THE TALE of the Tory Chief Whip allegedly calling a police officer a pleb has provoked much discussion. A reader in a Knightsbridge pub yesterday overheard a woman haughtily ask: "But was the officer a pleb? No-one has cleared this up for me."

Back in Scotland, retired polis Alan Barlow recalls: "My old sergeant in Paisley, being an ex-*Allan Glen's pupil*, would reply to those who dared to mock him, that they were nothing but `unprincipled. mountebanks'."

Andrew Gibb Charlie Docherty

Academic and author; Born: February 23, 1943; Died: May 20, 2012.

Andy Gibb, who has died aged 69, was an inspirational educator, fundraiser, and tireless worker on behalf of numerous charities and trusts and author of what is regarded as a key text on Glasgow.

He attended the City's Bellahouston Primary, leaving in 1953 as its youngest ever Dux. He moved on to *Allan Glen's*, which he, not unkindly described, as a "genteel borstal".

Mr Gibb went on to gain a first class joint Honours Degree in Geography and Archaeology, taking the medal for top student in Geography. Thereafter, Professor Ronald Miller quickly recruited him as a lecturer in the University's geography department, where he spent 24 fruitful years.

He published widely on numerous subjects. The publication which gave him most pleasure was his book "Glasgow: The Making of a City," (1983). It remains a key text, exploring themes of urban change, population growth, migration and public health..

He is sorely missed by friends, colleagues and family, most especially by Bette and their children, Stephen, David, Andrew and Douglas.

Just a short note to inform members (if you think it appropriate) that *James Dewar* who was head of Geography from around 1962 until 1968 passed away last month in his 90th year.

He was the Rector of Rothesay Academy from 1968 until his retirement in 1983. The funeral was also attended by Nicol Currie who was a member if *Glens* Geography Department during James's tenure as Head of Department. Coincidentally Nicol was a former pupil of Rothesay Academy although obviously not in James's time. Generous to the end James left a substantial sum of money with one of his executors so that the mourners could have "a bloody good drink". The mourners did not let him down !!!

Regards Andy Gilmour

lain MacIntosh Dan Young

Litho artist and scout leader; Born: March 15, 1936; Died: June 29, 2012.

lain MacIntosh, who has died aged 76, was an artist, a Scouting champion and a Glaswegian through and through although his predecessors had come from the West Highlands and he retained the very distinctive approach that was typical of that part of Scotland.

His education commenced in Mosspark Primary and progressed to Allan Glens School. Initially he served his apprentice-ship and worked for Millar and Lang, an established Glasgow printing house specialising in high quality greetings cards and calendars. He later moved to Lairds, another well-known Glasgow firm, which was eventually taken over by Fields Packaging from which he retired in 1995.

In Mosspark he started his long association with the Scout movement, with the 52nd Glasgow troop and he mopved to the 159th Sherbrook St Gilberts company enticed by the idea that he could fulfil his other passion of sailing in a Sea Scout unit. He was also an accordionist and played in the Clyde Coast Strathspey and Reel Society.

Latterly, in declining health, he was cared for in Hutton Park Care Home in Largs, and then in Seabank Care Home in Saltcoats. His wife and brother are most grateful for the excellent care and attention he received in both.

#### Charles Aitchison, 1922 - 2012

David H Tanner MBE

Charles Aitchison passed away peacefully at home with his family on 22nd August 2012. His service at Linn Crematorium was attended by family and a host of friends. Members of the school club and former colleagues from Customs and Excise were well represented.

Incredibly, having first met in 1960 at Custom House, Glasgow, we were unaware of our mutual Allan Glen's roots until meeting at the City Chambers for the 150th anniversary in 2003. I subsequently invited him to our monthly lunches but not surprisingly there were not many Old Boys who he remembered. He agreed to speak at a lunch in 2011 which, in essence, became a mini-launch of his recently published war memoirs "Making Waves - a Mariner's Tale 1939-1947." His anecdotes were so well received that he sold out the supply of books that he had brought with him! The detail of these exciting and dangerous years can be read in his book which is still available (ISBM number 978-1-85794-327-6).

Charlie was a man of many talents - actor, scriptwriter, musician, singer - at amateur and semi-professional level. He still held his Equity card and from his hospice bed regaled me with tales of his time with Scottish Opera, the Savoy Club and his television appearances which included cameos as a minister in 'Taggart', a corpse in 'Dr Finlay's Casebook' and an undertaker in Peter McDougall's play 'Just Another Saturday'. The latter tells of a bank heist during an Orange Walk in Glasgow. Only Charlie could link these nuggets with his part in Mozart's 'Magic Flute', typifying his sense of humour right to the end. His final performance from his hospice bed was a word-perfect recitation of a Tam O'Shanter parody that he had first performed in the sixties for the Glasgow Gaugers. Charles Aitchison - 'a man you don't meet everyday' - is survived by his wife Jean, son lan, daughter Marlene and four grandchildren.

#### Dr William S Robertson, CBE 19 July 2012

Willie Robertson, who attended *Allan Glen's* from 1926 to 1932, was a Founder Member of the East of Scotland Club in 1953 and one of the only two survivors of that event.

He was the longest acting Head of the Scottish Council for Development and Industry (SCDI). (See also article re Tony Brook.) He was commissioned during World War II into the RAF to research the still relatively new radar technology to enhance the UK Defences and the accuracy of our bombing.

Post-war he was working for Ferranti when he was appointed to the position of Chief Executive of SCDI a position he held from from 1956–1979. He was a man with many contacts, of whom it was said "Willie Robertson knew everyone worth knowing: in Scotland, in Westminster, in Whitehall and beyond."

#### Norman Shannon - 6 June 2012

Norrie attended *Allan Glen's* from 1947 to 1954. On leaving school he spent two years working as a teacher in Coatbridge. Norrie then entered into the vocation that changed his life, that of television broadcasting. His broadcasting career began serving with the Bill Tennant News Programme "Here and Now." After a number of years he had the foresight to envisage a requirement to train teachers in television production and he established a programme at Jordanhill College pioneering the wide variety of courses which exist at Jordanhill today.

Norrie played FP Rugby in the 2nd & 3<sup>rd</sup> fifteens at Bishopbriggs and when his playing days were over, he came out to support the teams and latterly, was a Glasgow Warrior Supporter.

In his retirement Norrie continued as a film-maker in his own right, encouraging others with an interest in film through the Action Film Society.

#### David Thomson (Tony) & Robert (Robin) Bickerton

Tony and Robin who were both "Q" Boys who attended Allan Glen's from 1938 to 1946. Unfortunately, we am currently unable to give any details of their lives a beyond the bare facts that Tony was a vet in Bishopbriggs and Robin was a farmer, also in the same Area. They died within about three months of each other. I am hopeful that by the time we publish the December Newsletter we can give more information.

## Was it a fluke?

he 1944 cohort entering *Allan Glen's* on bursaries included no fewer than ten boys from one primary School. That school was Mosspark Primary, and I was one of the ten. Looking back at it now, and having access to the records for 1944 and 1947 which fortunately have survived, I wonder if this feat was unique in the annals of *Allan Glen's*.

Mosspark School had a new Deputy Head appointed in 1942, William Paterson, and he opted to teach the last two years, P5 and P6, of the class which I had joined as four year old in 1937. He must have sensed that the boys in that class had the potential to win bursaries and with the co-operation of our parents he proceeded to coach us all, both for the Qualifying exam, and the *Glen's Bursary*. There were 15 boys in that class and to have got a result like the one mentioned, he was either very skilful as a teacher or very lucky with his material.

The top two forms 1A and 1B in 1944 contained nine of us, seven in 1A and two in 1B (including me) the one left over was in 1C. Mosspark must have dominated 1A. 1B was the Latin form and it contained some boys who did well at University and later. Alistair Munro and Ian McNeill both rose to high rank in the academic field, and several others got First Class Honours and made good careers in Science and Engineering.

In the second round of Bursaries in 1947 the Mosspark group also featured, taking three of the fifteen places available, a greater percentage even of that achieved in 1944.

It would be interesting to know more about Mr Paterson's subsequent career in teaching – did he ever do it again or was it just a fluke? It certainly hadn't happened again in the six years I was the school.

Alistair Wright (1B 1944)

# New Information on those who fell in W W 1 - Sandy Howie

great deal of information has become available to the Club about those on our WW1 Roll of Honour.

The Roll of Honour gives the ranks and Units in which our ex-pupils served and also shows those who were decorated for their actions, but it does not go behind the names to the fascinating stories of these remarkable men. Here are a few of these stories.

Lieutenant John Jackson left for France in February 1915, Fought at the Battle at Hooge,

Ypres on 5<sup>th</sup> May in which very many of the 9<sup>TH</sup> Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were eliminated. Having experienced the carnage in Belgium, he returned to Scotland on leave, later that month - only 16 weeks since leaving home. His train was one of three involved in a crash at Gretna and he died, along with 200 other soldiers in another carnage situation.

Company Sergeant Major John Skinner DCM VC. The citation for John's VC reads ... "For most conspicuous bravery and good leading. Whilst his Company was attacking, machine gun fire opened on the left flank delaying the advance. Although C.S.M.Skinner was wounded in the head, he collected six men and with great courage and determination, worked round the left flank of three blockhouses from which the machine gun fire was coming and succeeded in bombing and taking the first blockhouse single-handed. Then leading his men towards the other two blockhouses, he skilfully cleared them taking 60 prisoners, 3 machine guns and 2 trench mortars. The dash and gallantry displayed by this warrant officer enabled the objective to be reached and consolidated" He was subsequently killed by a sniper's bullet.

It was not only soldiers who died and of the 195 on our list, there were several Naval men and at least 18 listed as being in the Royal Flying Corps and Royal Air Force.

The story of one who had a distinguished flying career is to be found in an article in the Midsummer 1918 School Magazine. George Edwin Thomson left our school in 1915 - he held the School half-mile record. He also was prominent in the 1<sup>sr</sup> rugby and 1<sup>st</sup> football teams. He Joined the Royal Flying Corps in September 1916, and became one of the greatest fliers of his time. His first victory in his Sopwith Pup was in September 1917 and in the year that

of his time. His first victory in his Sopwith Pup was in September 1917 and in the year that followed he destroyed a total of 21 planes, forcing down another 15. He was awarded the DSO and bar and the MC in his short flying career which ended in a training accident in 1918.

In this group of Allan Glen Old Boys there were three sets of brothers. One pair, James and Archibald Llyall joined secondary school in 1888 and 1889 respectively. Both died on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 1916 and are buried in Bozincourt Cemetery, Somme.

One Regiment's records indicate that one of our "Fallen" in fact survived the war – worth more research.

The School Club is indebted to Mr Gordon Shaw, who undertook to research those on our Roll of Honour. His detailed work greatly enriches the memories we now have and can pass down for others in the future. Mr Shaw's information included the birth year of most of the men, allowing their names to be entered on the relevant "year of joining secondary school". Our School Club records now include all of those who died in WW 1 as previous to Mr.Shaw's information, we had only been able to find the start date of about thirty. The names of our War Dead are now to be found alongside those they spent their schooldays and their stories are available for future generations.