



# Newsletter.



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## Introduction and Welcome

School getting back to some normality and in that regard the School has kindly allowed the Trust to use the Inverleith Clubhouse for a Melville College Reunion on 4th November. I hope you can attend and look forward to welcoming you then.

The Trust continues to manage over £7m of invested funds which are used to support the School, particularly through the provision of bursaries for pupils who would otherwise not be able to come to the School.

I am pleased to represent the Trust at an unveiling of the restored

gravestone for Tom McNaughton who was Headmaster of the Edinburgh Institution from 1897 – 1902. The Trust paid for the restoration work.

Finally a thank you to all my Trust Committee members for their support particularly those on the Investment Committee. A specific mention to Alan Veitch who stepped down as the previous Chair but continues to remain involved with the Trust by producing this newsletter.

Best wishes

**Stephen L L Paterson**  
Chair, Melville College Trust

Welcome to the Melville College Trust June Newsletter, my first as the new Chair of the Trust. Having left school in 1976, I have seen many unexpected events but the last 2 years with the impact of Covid are right up there as the strangest. It is pleasing though to see the

If you are receiving our Newsletter for the 1st time, we hope you enjoy the various updates and our look back into the Melville College archives. If you missed any of the earlier editions they are on our website – there is a link to these at the end of the Newsletter. This edition is again issued in both email and printed format.

Thanks to everyone who got in touch following our last issue. Another good response of archive material has come forward. As always do keep sending us anything you have. Please do get in touch with us.

We have a lot of information and features to share with you, including:

- **Melville College Trust Update**
- **Mary Erskine FP Guild**
- **Melville College FP Reunion – Friday 4th November 2022**
- **Thomas McNaughton Gravestone Restoration**
- **Memorial Benches at Inverleith**
- **Melville College Class of 1969**
- **Photos and film from the Melville College archives**
- **How to Donate and Gift Aid**

The Melville College Trust is an Independent Trust set up in its current format in 1976 and registered as a Charity under OSCR (The Scottish Charity Regulator). Its origins lie in a number of related schemes which were set up after the two World Wars to establish and maintain a war memorial, provide bursary support for families of those FPs of the Edinburgh Institution and Melville College killed or badly injured in the wars and to provide funds to purchase land for playing fields and a house for school boarders. Over the years, additional generous funding has come from legacies left by Former Pupils.

The main purpose of the Melville College Trust is to promote the advancement of education through the provision of school bursaries and grants to perpetuate the memory of those Former Pupils who lost their lives during the two World Wars.

## How to Donate and Gift Aid

The Melville College Trust has now formally registered to use the Government Gift Aid Scheme. As a Charity all donations we receive can now be enhanced by a further 25%.

The defibrillator and the digitising of the ‘red book’ are both good examples of how donations to the Trust can be made in support of specific projects or pieces of work. Of course we are also delighted to receive non-specific or general donations to support the work of the Trust. We are all volunteers and we keep any costs to a minimum, so that all donations and legacies go directly towards the work that the Trust carries out.

Donors just need to complete the appropriate Gift Aid form when making a contribution. Do get in touch with us for further assistance.

You can make a one-off donation, a regular monthly or annual donation (via Standing Order) and can opt to choose to support defined or capital projects, bursaries, clubs and societies or simply let the Trust allocate as required.

Full details are available on our website:

**<https://melvillecollegetrust.uk/>**

including Gift Aid forms for single or multiple donations.

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# Melville Trust Update

The Annual General Meeting of the Melville College Trust was held last November.

Stephen Paterson was elected the new Chair of the Trust. Elected Governors Ken Richardson and Alan Veitch plus Ex-Officio Governor Robert Armour (Royal Company of Merchants of the City of Edinburgh) all retired having completed their term of office.

Ken Richardson and Alan Veitch were elected as Honorary Members in recognition of their services to the Trust. Janet Hamblin was nominated as replacement for Robert Armour.

## **The Trust is managed by 2 Committees –**

**Chair Committee** – Stephen Paterson (Chair), Tommy Bryson Christine Collingwood, Victor Coltherd, Malcolm MacColl, Andy Scott, Steven Newlands, Claire Cunningham and Janet Hamblin.

**Investment Committee** – Tommy Bryson (Chair), Jill Johnston, Nick Kordowski, Malcolm MacColl and Steven Newlands.

# Mary Erskine School Former Pupils' Guild



## Melville College FP Reunion 2022

We have mentioned in previous Newsletters that the Trust had been hoping to organise an informal reunion for all Melville College FPs. At long last we are getting there and delighted to say the Melville College FP Reunion will take place on **FRIDAY 4th NOVEMBER at INVERLEITH CLUBHOUSE starting at 2.00pm**.

As part of the Reunion event, we very excited to announce that the Trust have been giving the backing of the ESMS Governing Council to rename the downstairs function room as the **DOUGIE MORGAN ROOM**.

### Reunion Programme

2.00 – 3.00	<b>Socialising &amp; bar open (also teas / coffees)</b>
3.00	<b>Welcome introduction</b>
	<b>Dougie Morgan school memories</b>
	<b>Dougie Morgan rugby and cricket memories</b>
3.30	<b>Buffet</b>
4.00 – 5.00	<b>Socialising</b>
5.00	<b>Closure of formal part of day</b>
<b>5.00 onwards</b>	<b>Bar will remain for those who wish to continue socialising</b>

There will be a display of Melville College Memorabilia during the afternoon.

The invitation is extended to all Melville College FPs and for those who wish to bring their partner. The cost is £18 per person.

This Newsletter doesn't reach all Melville College FPs so please spread the word amongst your fellow year groups and friends.

For those wishing to attend please complete the application enclosed with this Newsletter.

The Melville College Trust and the Mary Erskine School FP Guild has recently entered into a new working relationship.

Following the Annual General Meeting of the MES FP's Guild at the end of last year, their members agreed to transfer some of their funds to the Melville College Trust, where they will be managed by one of the Trust's Investment Managers.

To assist with the transfer the Trust welcomes Claire Cunningham the current President of the MES FP's Guild, to the working committees of the Melville College Trust.

# Thomas McNaughton Gravestone Restoration

The restoration work of the Thomas McNaughton Gravestone in Morningside Cemetery, Edinburgh was recently completed by the Melville College Trust.

Thomas McNaughton was Headmaster of Edinburgh Institution 1897-1902. The Trust were informed of the somewhat poor state of the Gravestone following a visit to the Cemetery last year by David McLeish (School Archivist at the time) and David Clark (History teacher at Stewart's Melville College) who were researching war graves of former pupils.

The restoration work required permission from the Friends of Morningside Cemetery Group, Edinburgh City Council, who in turn provided the list of approved restorers and any relative(s) of Thomas McNaughton.

Fortunately we were able to trace the Great Grandson of Thomas McNaughton – being Lindsay Trotter and even better news he is a Melville College FP. >>



Andy Scott, Christine Collingwood, David Dunsire, Alan Veitch, Ken Richards, Lindsay Trotter, Lucy Murphy-Crabb (School Archivist), Stephen Paterson



Before restoration



Melville College Trust Plaque

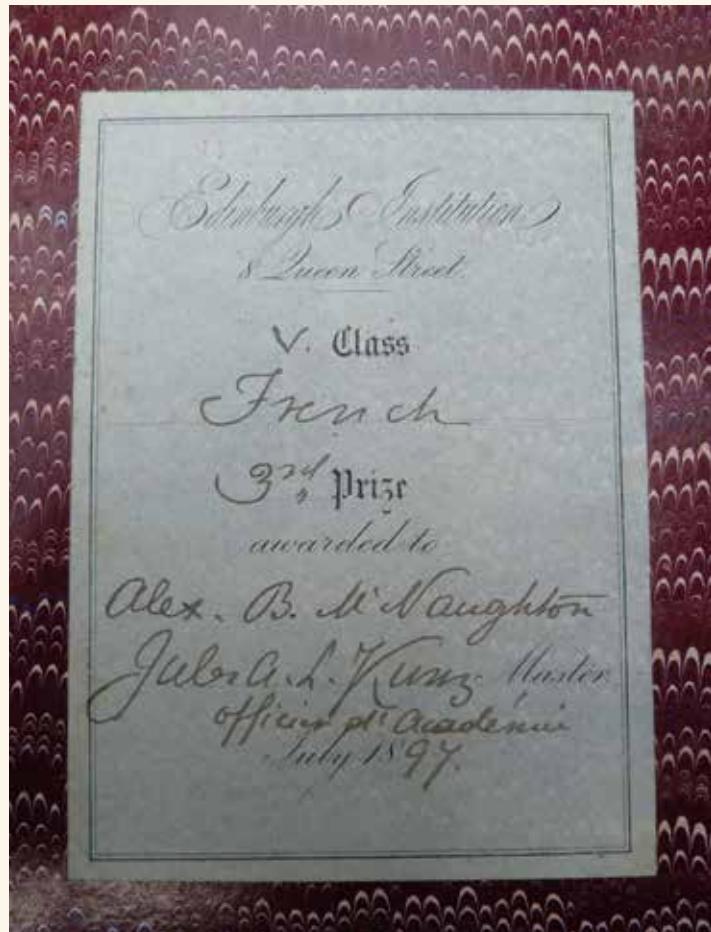
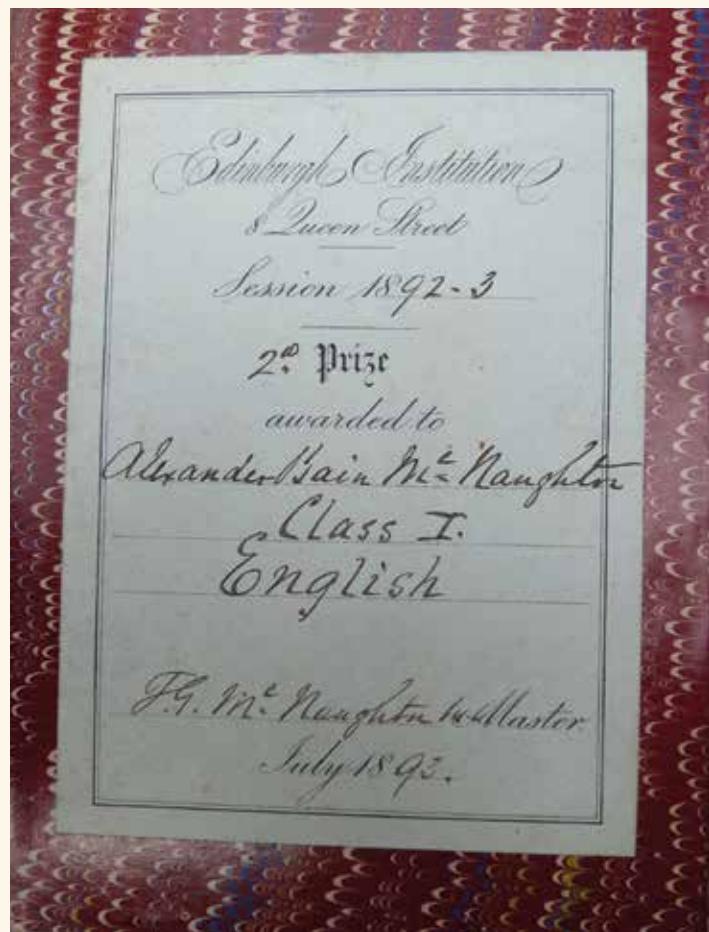


Stephen Paterson (Chair Melville College Trust) with Lindsay Trotter (Great Grandson of Thomas McNaughton)

>> After the ceremony Lindsay Trotter donated two Edinburgh Institution School prizes to the recently appointed new School Archivist Lucy Murphy-Crabb.

The prizes were awarded to Alexander McNaughton, Grandfather of Lindsay Trotter. It is known that Alexander won 6 School book prizes, but these are likely to be the only 2 which now remain in existence.

If you look closely, you will see one of the prizes received by Alexander was from his father Thomas when he was Headmaster of Edinburgh Institution.



# Memorial Benches at Inverleith

Towards the end of the Rugby season there was a gathering of families and friends for the unveiling of the memorial benches for Dougie Morgan, Gavin Calder and Fred McLeod who have all passed away in recent times. The benches are now in place at the front of the Grandstand at Inverleith looking out on the main rugby pitch where all three played regularly for many years before moving onto coaching and administrative duties for Stewart's Melville Rugby Club.



Hilary Campbell (wife of John Campbell) and Doreen Morgan enjoying a seat on the Douglas Morgan bench



The Gavin Calder bench

On Saturday 7th May a remembrance lunch was held by the Morgan family at the excellent Royal Burgess Golf Club in memory of Dougie Morgan the Melville FP rugby internationalist and British Lion who died on 4th April 2020.

Due to the Covid lockdown restrictions applying at the time only a very small number of close family were able to attend his funeral although a substantial number of people lined the streets as the cortege passed by. This was an opportunity for his friends to recognise his amazing achievements in sport despite playing for a relatively "small" and unglamorous club. Douglas captained the School rugby team, hockey team and cricket team and was also Head-boy. In addition he was a fine golfer and no doubt if he had wanted to, could have played any sport to a high level. He had that hand/eye co-ordination that we mere mortals strive for all our lives.

The family put on a terrific event attended by around 100 well-wishers including rugby internationals and ex-players from the days of Melville FP Rugby Club and Stewart's Melville Rugby Club many of whom had not seen each other for nigh on 45 years.

Grateful thanks to wife Doreen and daughters Mandy and Nicola for allowing us to pay our respects. Rumour has it that a singsong went on well into the night!

## Melville College Class of 1969

Representatives of the Melville class of 1969 recently gathered in Edinburgh post Covid restrictions to celebrate three score years and ten.



Front left: Bill Renwick, Graham Pole, Tom Kinghorn, Robert Stewart, Gavin Tomlinson, Colin Hunter, Tony Jones, Richard Weston and Hunter Walker

From the Melville College

# Archives

Once again thanks for the various archive material received since our last Newsletter - do keep sending us the archives.

Spotlight on  
**1921**

## Edinburgh Institution 1921

(Thanks to Mike Wheeler)

Continuing the School Sports theme from our last two Newsletters, Mike Wheeler has dug deep into his family archives to provide a couple of interesting photographs.



The winner of the 440 yards handicap race, open to FPs – is R.W.W.Hardie



R.W.W. Hardie was the Melville College FP Club President when the Centenary gates at Ferryfield were officially opened on 15th October 1965.



This photograph was taken in Queen Street Gardens in June 1921 with Euan Sommerville and Jim Wight-Rutherford (back row) and Milton Rodriquez, Sidney Murray, Colin Rodriquez and Graham Wark (front row).

A young Jim Wight Rutherford who latterly was to become a very recognisable spectator at School and FP matches, School Governor and who donated a major legacy to the Melville College Trust.

## EDINBURGH INSTITUTION SPORTS.

Though the weather was bright and sunny, the strong westerly breeze that prevailed had a considerable effect on Edinburgh Institution sports at Ferryfield. It aided the competitors in the short sprints, but it was a decided handicap in the longer races. There was a fair attendance, and during the proceedings the band of the 2nd Royal Scots rendered musical selections at frequent intervals. The School championship was won by A. F. Wilson with 14 points. He had firsts in the hurdles, the long jump, and the quarter, and a second in the mile. The runner-up, R. A. H. Macdonald, who won the cricket ball throw and the 100 yards race, and was second in the quarter and high jump, was only a couple of points behind. Amongst those officiating were:—Judges—Messrs A. C. Barr, D. S. Duncan, and G. Hume; starter, Mr E. A. Hunter; timekeeper, Mr T. Fraser; secretary, Mr J. R. S. Young.

### EVENTS OPEN TO SCHOOL.

Throwing the Cricket Ball—1. R. A. H. Macdonald; 2. J. G. Robertson. Distance—95 yds. 1 ft. 4½ ins. The wind helped the throwers.

Hurdle Race (100 yards)—1. A. F. Wilson; 2. L. J. Cormack; 3. R. A. H. Macdonald. Time: 15 3-5 secs. The winner did 5-5 secs. better in his heat. Won by a yard.

Long Jump—1. A. F. Wilson, 18 ft. 1 in.; 2. L. J. Cormack. Both did best with their last jumps. Won by 1 inch.

100 Yards Race—1. R. A. H. Macdonald; 2. L. J. Cormack; 3. A. F. Wilson. Time: 11 secs. Won by a yard. Inches between second and third.

440 Yards—1. A. F. Wilson; 2. R. A. H. Macdonald. Time: 63 secs. Won on the tape.

High Jump—1. C. K. Morton, 4 ft. 9¾ in.; 2. R. A. H. Macdonald.

One Mile Race—1. T. R. Nash; 2. A. F. Wilson; 3. H. B. Walker. Time, 5 mins. 36 secs. Wilson kept the lead for most of the distance, but coming into the straight Nash spurred ahead and won by five yards.

220 Yards Handicap—1. R. A. H. Macdonald (scratch); 2. L. J. Cormack (scratch); 3. F. Aitken (28). Time, 26 4-5 secs. Won by one and a half yards. Inches between second and third.

Three-Legged Race (Open to School)—1. C. K. Morton and A. K. Watson; 2. J. Wilkinson and W. Hall.

### EVENTS OPEN TO F.P.'S.

100 Yards Handicap—1st Heat—1. R. W. W. Hardie (2); 2. J. W. K. Morton (1). Time, 10 3-5 secs. I. M. Robertson was scratch, but failed to get a place. Won by two yards. 2nd Heat—1. A. Ross (2); 2. S. F. O. Morrison (1). Time, 10 3-5 secs. Won by two yards. Final—1. Ross; 2. Hardie. Time, 10 2-5 secs. Won by half a yard.

440 Yards Handicap—1. R. W. W. Hardie (8); 2. A. G. Curr (20); 3. I. M. Robertson (scratch). Time, 56 1-5 secs. Won by three yards, Robertson just failing to get second place.

300 Yards Handicap (open to members of the F.P. Football Club)—1. T. S. Curr (15); 2. A. Ross (6). Time, 40 secs. Won by three yards.

Newspaper report of the Edinburgh Institution Sports

# The 1955 Melville College Trip to Switzerland

(Thanks to Stuart Wight)

Something of an archive gem this one, a 16mm colour film taken by Stuart Wight. The run time is approximately 7 minutes.

Link - <https://melvillecollegetrust.uk/1955SwitzerlandTour.mpg> (note – the file may take time to load)

Melville College boys appearing in this film are Norman Douglas, Willie Hall, Bill Johnson, Michael McDonald, David Mackenzie, Gordon Scott, Gordon Thom, Stuart Wight, with some red blazers on show too!

The film has in order of appearance –

- The Rhine at Basle with Germany on the right, looking upstream at a Rhine barge - scenes of Lake Geneva and the Dents du Midi mountains beyond viewed from Territet - main road into Montreaux - views of the Chateaux de Chillon - Eglise de Glion
- On route to Gruyere with snow scenes around Pepey with a stop at the Col des Mosses (4,751 feet above sea level) Market place at Gruyere.
- On route to Villiers and mountain train arriving at the ski grounds - Lake Geneva and scenes of towns along the lakeside
- Over to Italy via the Simplon Tunnel - Boats on Lake Maggiore and the island of Isola Bella followed by the Borromeo Gardens and Castle
- Return to Geneva with the United Nations Building, Wilson Memorial which was constructed in Florence.
- Leaving Calais harbour on return journey.

Note – great to see Stuart has kept pace with technology with his film available on original 16mm cine, then video, DVD and USB flash drive.



**Alan Veitch,**  
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College Trust  
Newsletter

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