



Morgan Academy
F.P. Association



A very warm welcome to the new look Morgan Matters.



150th Anniversary
in 2018



Our anniversary year starts off with a lunch in the school dining hall on Saturday 3rd February 2018 at 1pm. School dinners have changed a great deal since I was at school, so I know it won't be watery soup and lumpy custard. The 6th years are to be waiting tables and it's sure to be a lot of fun. Tickets are £15 and spaces are limited to the first 150. To book your space at the table, contact Rodger on 01241 858153



Class of 1961 - 1967 reunion in the Queen's Hotel





Morgan Academy F.P. Association



Chairman's Chunter



Rodger Brunton (Glamis) 1963-68



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Treasurer's "Tails"

(usually at the end !)



Andy Joss (Glamis 1954 – 1967)

In terms of money coming in and going out, things are very quiet during this part of the year. The only thing on my mind is to give a gentle reminder re annual subscriptions.

Most of the subs. come in during April, with most of them paid by Standing Order. The subs. that come in during the remainder of the year are mostly paid 'manually'; in the sense they come in by cheque, cash or on-line payment. Comparing this year's list of payments against 2016, quite a few of the 'manual' payments haven't come in this year. I'd ask each of you who **doesn't** pay by Standing Order to check your records, and if you haven't paid your sub. for 2017, please be good enough to do so.

For on-line payments, the bank details are –
Sort Code 80-05-80 and Account No. 00119888



Bill Slidders donated this framed McIntosh Patrick print of the School to the FP Association for fund raising as part of his estate. The Photo shows Bill's Grandson, Kris Thomson a Teacher at Perth High School , presenting it to Chairman Rodger Brunton on the steps of the School .





Morgan Academy F.P. Association



Down Memory Lane

You don't get many school reunions of this sort of calibre too often – it's the Morgan Academy class of 1934.

A fun and informal get-together organised by retired solicitor Norman Robertson (far right), this stalwart band have kept in touch for more than seven decades and, despite the fact they're all in their 80s, when they meet-up it's just like old times.

Happily, most still live in this immediate area so when it transpired that two were visiting from South Africa, out went the call out to get the old gang together once more.

Left to right we have Sandy Yates, May Livingston, Jessie Winton, Ford Mechan (South Africa), Catherine Gibson, Isobel Field (South Africa), Irene Beattie and Norman. Seated we have Reg Mulheron, David Paterson and Fraser Fyffe.

The reunion took place at Norman's home in Broughty Ferry – and it finished with a rousing version of the school song.



Morgan hockey Team v Old Crocks. Match at Forfar Road playing Fields in 1973



Coffee and Biscuits for some members of the Morgan F.P. Hockey team at the Woodlands Hotel.





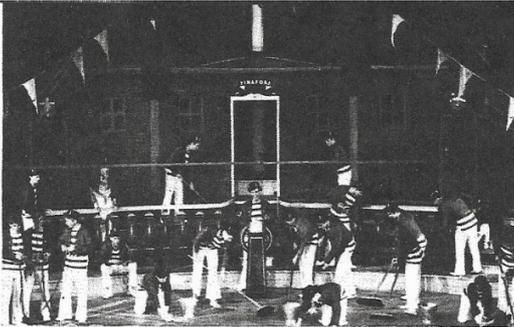
Morgan Academy F.P. Association



Happy Memories of the school show 1968



PETER GORDON



THEN GIVE THREE CHEERS for the school's "H.M.S. Pinafore"

HILTON McRAE

When the main lights went down, when the curtains parted and struggled gamely to right and left, there she was: the good ship "Pinafore", or at least her poop deck, most convincingly filling the west end of the school hall.

Purists might object that the main mast is not usually set up *behind* the poop — which after all is the after end of the ship. But anybody interested in stagecraft, prepared to accept symbolism rather than a slavish realism, could see that this set was a triumph of improvisation, brilliantly turning to advantage the very defects of the platform stage.

The tiered seats (normally the province of V. and VI.) had been railed off with nautical-looking plywood and provided a useful series of different levels.

From the first chorus by the crew (briefly swabbing the decks) it was clear that one of the merits of this production was to be crisp and expressive singing by fresh young voices. This promise was borne out throughout the two acts by the full chorus of sailors and sisters and cousins and aunts.

What of the principals? Hilton McRae had a voice to match the acid wit of Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B. (King of Comic Business?) and revealed a flair for timing, as well as a willingness to suffer in the cause of slapstick. No



matter how often he hit the deck, he came up imperturbably and precisely polite, as he was even when angry.

Marlyn Doig, a determined, uncrushable Hebe, worshipped him consistently with big-eyed adoration.

Frances Heron played Josephine with a clarity of diction that made the most of her lines — humorous or pathetic, or both. Her singing voice had purity of tone, and hit the high notes with carefree certainty. Ralph Rackstraw, the able seaman who found that all men are equal — except Sir Joseph — had in Rodger Brunton an interpreter who sang well and managed to inject a kind of jaunty soulfulness into the "hero's" rather colourless personality.



GRAEME KIDDIE



FRANCES HERON

RODGER BRUNTON

Graeme Kiddie, with the commanding presence for Captain Corcoran, accepted his ultimate demotion with great good humour; and his secure and resonant baritone was a pleasure to listen to. Little Buttercup, the Portsmouth bumboat woman, was not the usual hearty-contralto type. Agnes Boyd substituted a wistful charm which would surely endear her to every sailor in port.

The villain of the piece, Dick Deadeye, was undoubtedly triangular, yet in Charles Denovan's interpretation not *too* villainous. Scarred and deformed, yes; but not so much twisted as merely trying to help.

Peter Gordon as the boatswain, Bill Bobstay, looking like somebody out of "Moby Dick", was a thoroughly dignified pillar of the lower deck and sang his patriotic ditty in fine style. The carpenter, Bob Becket, was played by Richard Bueckardt (deep voice and high stature) with gawky, self-possessed enthusiasm, seen at its best in the closing dance. The two Marines, Christopher Thomson and Gordon Wallace, brought a touch of N.W.M.P. scarlet to the scene.

But the lowlight of the show was assuredly Grant Mackie's Tom Tucker, the Very Small Midshipman. A tiny part, no doubt, but one which was featured to provide numerous cheeky-urchin touches of fun.

The production was steered to success by Mr Bennet, musical director (with the accompanist, Mrs Grant), and the joint producers and stage

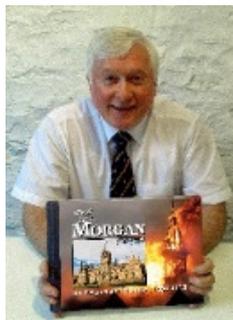


AGNES BOYD

managers Mr Loudon and Mr Beattie. Other "responsibilities": dancing, Miss Millar; wardrobe, Mrs Hardie; lighting, Mr Warnock; finance, Mr McCafferty; stage setting, the Art Staff assisted by the Technical Staff; prompter, Mr Phillips.

In the orchestra were present pupils James Hay and David Whitton, and F.P.s Andrew and Bill Joss, Rosemary Clark, Moira Davidson, Elizabeth Milne.

MARLYN DOIG



The Morgan

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Head teacher report

Welcome to the Morgan Academy update for 2017 /18 so far. The school has been exceptionally busy as always but in addition we have gone through a successful inspection by our colleagues at Education Scotland last month. This validated where the school is and encouraged us that we are on the right journey for continuous improvement for the young people in our care.

This is heavily supported by the Former Pupils Association and I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you of behalf of the young people for the opportunities you facilitate which otherwise would be difficult to continue. Once again you sponsored our Duke of Edinburgh Gold participants and they were successful in completing their expedition in the summer holidays. I had the pleasure of hearing their presentations and the challenges they overcame as a group and what they learned together as a team. Skills and experiences which will benefit them throughout their lives. Our current senior pupils have also just undertaken a leadership academy once again subsidised by the FP's allowing them to explore the tasks and challenges of leadership for them in sixth year. They have stepped up to these evident in their behaviour and attitude as senior pupils and as role models to younger pupils.

The senior pupils have made a significant contribution to the local community fund raising as part of Interact and have demonstrated enthusiasm in everything they have done so far. Already this session they are on target to exceed last year's total amount raised. They held a hugely successful Halloween disco last week, a School Ceilidh is planned for next month as well as the traditional Burns Supper in 2018. The support and camaraderie demonstrated is the culture of Morgan I know you are all familiar with.

I wish you all a wonderful festive season with family and friends and I look forward to a continued positive relationship together as we move into the 150th year Anniversary of the school in 2018.

Regards, Helen Gray

MAFPA is proud to support the Breakthrough Dundee mentoring initiative at the school. If you are interested in becoming a mentor please go to info@breakthroughdundee.co.uk



Well done to all of you who noticed that our "Deer" has had a "facelift" (or was it Botox!)





Morgan Academy F.P. Association



Music Department

Congratulations to the 13 pupils who scored an average 81% in their music instrumental exams



French Trip 2017

Sporting News

Former Pupil, Becky Ward, has made captain of the Scotland Ladies Hockey Team. Great news, Becky, well deserved.



The Sports and Recreation Group took part in *Heartstart* Training, learning how to deal with an emergency situation and valuable first aid skills.

Did you know that there is a Morgan Academy in Selma, U.S.A. Intriguing fact! They hold a "gun" raffle! All proceeds from the fundraiser benefit the general fund of the school. Pictured are the cheerleading team.



If you know of someone who is a Morgan F.P. but isn't a member of the FP association, please feel free to forward this newsletter to them and if they join, they can receive their own quarterly newsletter. We welcome new members and it's easy to join. £10 is all it takes, **membership forms on the website**
<http://morganacademyfp.com>



Go to the website and click on this box



If you have any items for the newsletter please email them to me, Fiona Joss, (Glamis 1972 – 1978) at fiona-joss@hotmail.co.uk

