

## **PAST PUPILS FROM LOGIERAIT PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The following information was collected by Logierait Primary School Parent Council about past & present pupils that attended the school and given to Council Officers at the informal community drop-in session on 27 November 2018.

The Logierait Primary School Parent Council have advised Perth and Kinross Council have permission to publish this information.

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### **Alistair Cruickshank**

I am now living in Glasgow with my wife Karen and two children Lucy and Finley.

My Job is Head of Sales for HOP Software Ltd.

I think it's a shame there is a possibility of Logierait Primary School closing down as I have really fond memories of being there. I was taught by Mrs Hunter, Mrs Shakely and then by the Head teacher Mrs Urch at the time. I thought the start the Logierait Primary gave me was excellent and the fact it was local gave my Manu and Dad a lot more freedom on where they were able to work at the time.

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### **Zoe Clark**

I attended Logierait Primary School from 2004 to 2011, from there I went on to Breadalbane Academy, I am now in my second year at university in Essex studying veterinary physiotherapy. I enjoyed my time at Logierait PS & being in a small school gave us all great opportunities and I've been able to gain friends for life.

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### **Wilma (Davidson) Robertson**

My maiden name is Davidson and I was born and brought up at 22 Buail Bhan where our family stayed until my mother died in 1991.

My oldest sister Norma Davidson attended the school between 1952 and 1959 she became a book keeper and ended up as a P.A. to the managing director of Harry Ramsden's in Glasgow. She sadly died in 1996.

My other sister Jessie Davidson attended Logierait between 1954 and 1961. She was the dux of the school. She went to the Western Infirmary in Glasgow and trained to be a nurse. She retired as a nursing Sister and now lives in Scone.

I (Wilma Davidson) attended the school between 1960 and 1967. I joined the Police in Edinburgh where I served for 30 years am now retired and live in Edinburgh. We were all taught by Mrs Hunter and Mr Anderson who was the head teacher. We were taught discipline and respect along with all the usual stuff. My learning I received in English has never left me. It would be a devastating loss to lose this school as it is and has been for over 150 years the heart of the community. I attach a school photo of Jessie and myself taken outside the old dining centre.

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### **Neil Watson**

I completed all of my primary education at Logierait, then moved to Pitlochry and Aberfeldy leaving with 7 O-levels and 5 A-levels.

I owe these schools a debt of gratitude for an excellent grounding that has been vital to my career and I still keep in touch with the friends I made there.

I progressed to obtaining a B.Sc in Quantity Surveying at R.G.U.

Over the years further qualifications led to advancement and my working on several challenging construction projects in Scotland and gaining the experience to handle budgets in excess of £100 million pounds.

I have now set up my own consultancy and am also an external examiner at RGU.

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### **Hendrix Knight**

I started Fencing in P7. I was excited to go to Breadalbane school and meet lots of new people and try a new sport. Well I loved it! 4 years down the line and I have achieved the following Scottish titles.

Under 13 Scottish Champion

Under 14 Scottish High School Champion

British Regional Under 14 Champion Scottish Under 14 Champion

Scottish Intermediate Champion

I have fenced for Scotland as part of the squad internationally twice now. I will be going again in 2019.

I have just got silver in under 16 Scottish High School. I am still 14 years old.

Logierait Primary gave me such a good start, giving me confidence in myself to start this amazing journey. Next step is the GB cadet which will take me lots of new country.

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### **Maxine (Anderson) Chiverton**

I am a solicitor at Blackadders dealing with private client matters such as wills and estates on death. I think that the closure of the school would be a great loss to the kids and the surrounding community. As a former pupil I thought that the small classes and one to one teaching really benefited the children and provided a learning experience that moulded myself and friends into who we are today.

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### **Susan (Cameron) Moffat**

I loved my time at Logierait Primary. It was such a positive school & my childhood memories reflect that. Classes weren't too big & the teachers were all very kind & helpful & it set me on a path to where I am now. I've had a few really good jobs in hospitality throughout my life, I am now settled in Ayr working in a beautiful jewellery shop.

I think having a small school like Logierait benefits kids greatly in more one to one time with teachers, something some bigger schools lack.

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### **Nick Grant**

I attended Logierait Primary from P1-P7 my grandparents could see the school from their living room window and when the bell went would often watch us all at play. My 2 brothers and my sister also went there. We all only had a few minutes to walk to be at the school

door. The school is very much a part of village life with families often having more than one generation on the school roll.

Since leaving Logierait Primary I studied at Breadalbane and went to Ravensbourne University in London to study a degree in Sound Design hoping to pursue a career in sound for film and tv. Since then I have gone on to work on various projects one of which has been nominated for a BAFTA.

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### **John Watson**

After leaving Logierait and working my way through Pitlochry High and Breadalbane Academy I spent 7 years working in construction before joining Tayside Police where I served over 30 years retiring as the Pitlochry sergeant having spent half my career in Highland Perthshire. In 2002 I was awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for "Services to the Police in Perth and Kinross." I have spent over 30 years volunteering in hospital broadcasting, 28 of these years as chairman of Hospital Radio Perth who have been named "Best UK Station" 4 times in that period. What confidence and success I may have had in life has undoubtedly been in large part due to the values and grounding afforded me in attending smaller rural schools which offer a fine level of support and individually tailored learning.

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### **Linda Sinclair**

Our family lived in Tulliemet and while my dad who also attended the school walked, cycled or got a lift on a tractor I got a taxi to school. I attended from P1-P5 and have fond memories of Logierait PS as it brought the whole rural community together. It was a school where everyone knew your name. As a kid I preferred to be outdoors than learning so I remember the competitiveness of school sports day more than the sums and alphabet! It was a bit sad and scary to move to the big town – Pitlochry and its school.

I went to Breadalbane Academy for 5/6<sup>th</sup> years before going to college in Dundee. After a few years I went back to college then to Stirling University to study Film and Media Studies before doing a Post Graduate in Broadcast Journalism and now I'm at the BBC in Glasgow. I live in Glasgow but go home regularly.

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### **Paul Sherriffs**

Since leaving Logierait I progressed through Pitlochry High School prior to moving to Breadalbane Academy before leaving to study Forensic Sciences at Abertay University. I graduated second in my year with an upper second class BSc (Hons) degree in 2017 whilst also being awarded the Lothian family award for having the greatest impact within the school of science, engineering and technology. Subsequently, I have enrolled on as PhD student at Abertay where I research fingerprint enhancement techniques as well as the interactions between the fingerprints and complex surfaces. I have presented this work at local, national and international conferences where I have met the foremost experts in the field.

Without the underpinning education I received at Logierait Primary, none of these achievements would have been possible. It was at school that I started to build confidence in public speaking which has been invaluable in the dissemination of my research. I think the closure of yet another rural school in Highland Perthshire would be a travesty and would severely impact upon the local community.

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### **Kirsty Meldrum**

I attended Logierait Primary School between 1997 and 2004. This school gave me a solid foundation for all of my future education while allowing me to develop my creative skills and explore future career options. Without the experiences I had in primary school I doubt I would be the individual I am now.

After attending Logierait Primary, I went on to attend Pitlochry High School. Due to the interaction with the various other primary schools in the area before high school (Blair Atholl and Grandtully primaries) I felt ready to take on the challenges of high school.

After completing my Standard Grades, I moved to Breadalbane Academy where I obtained my Highers and Advanced Highers. This allowed me to then move onto Aberdeen University where I gained a degree in Immunology and Pharmacology with Biobusiness (Hons). From Aberdeen I went on to Oxford to work on my PhD, identifying potential health risks diesel exhaust particles and fuel additives have for asthmatics in a joint project with Imperial College London and Public Health England.

I am now a respiratory toxicologist working in Swansea University on a European Project worth €12.7m with partners throughout the world. This project aims to develop a lung model that can potentially replace the use of animals in nanoparticle toxicity testing.

Throughout my career I have had the opportunity to present my work all over both the UK and Europe and have had the confidence to continue to move further and further away from home! Without the foundations and skills that Logierait Primary had supplied me with there is no way I would be where I am now.

I still enjoy coming back home and driving past that school where I learned how to play “hopscotch”, “stuck in the mud” and how to finally skip properly. Where I learned my first computer skills and helped design an “eco-garden”. Where I learned how to play the recorder (and in addition how to torture my family with my “practising”); how to play netball; how to be a member of a team and a responsible member of society.

I still keep in contact with lifelong friends I made in that school and regularly see them even though there is 500miles between us now!

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### **Kerry (Meldrum) Smith**

I am an ex pupil of Logierait Primary School, between 1983 and 1990. I was a very quiet and shy girl but really shone when I used to sing and read Gaelic, at the Mod. If it wasn't for that school, and its teaching and encouragement, I would still be a shy girl. My proudest moment was when I won the reading twice, and came 4<sup>th</sup> in solo singing twice. But the choir was my favourite. Having small classes in the same classroom really helps with development, I never felt left out, and always had one on one teaching if needed, and I knew everyone because of the close knit community, so you always had a friend, and older kids looking after you. I have now just turned 40 and working as a Accounts Assistant.

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### **Margaret Ross**

I have attached two pictures, one is of my brothers and myself in a school photograph taken at Logierait School in the early nineteen fifties the other is one of a picture taken when my mother was at school (she is 5<sup>th</sup> from the right the serious girl with the large bow in her hair). She would, I think, have been about 7 when this was taken so the date would be approximately 1917. Her two brothers and her sister also went to the village school.

My family have had four generations of pupils attending this school and have all received a superb education and a good foundation to further our education at what we used to refer to as the “big school” namely the high school.

I believe my grandmother went there also though I do not have any evidence of this. My niece also attended this school and there are still members of my family attending Logierait School today.

I have happy memories of my tie there and really appreciate the care that was taken to provide me with a high standard of education.

I am a member of a local group who visit the school regularly and take part in activities with them and the standard of education the children receive is still of a very high standard today. The local school, along with the Church and the Post Office, shop etc. are at the heart of the village and without them the village dies. Ballinluig and surrounding areas are regenerating and if there is no school it is one of the things that will put off young families from settling in the area and this is of particular concern as there is a planning application for a further 15 family houses to be built in the village

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### **Susan (Watson) Mclean**

From Logierait I moved to four years at Pitlochry and one at Breadalbane then on to study an HND in Hotel, Catering and Institutional Management at Robert Gordon's in Aberdeen. Then a 6 month NHS training scheme before I become a Domestic Manager at Vale of Leven Hospital. Moved back up to Aberdeen and progressed through the ranks as a Domestic Manager to become responsible for cleaning services in a group of Psychiatric hospitals in and around the city.

After competitive tendering came in I moved to take up a post as a Divisional Admin Manager with Lothian and Borders Police; in the busy city centre division where I was responsible for the budget and all things administrative for all associated civilian and police personnel. Following a 6 year break for family and a short foray into Market Research I became a Medical Receptionist in a large, busy GP Surgery in Edinburgh where I remain 15 years later as the Assistant Manager.

I am very aware of the important part my school years played in preparing me for a varied and interesting career.

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### **Eve Kemp**

Mrs Barr (the headteacher) is always making jokes, you don't feel scared and can talk to her about anything. She makes learning so much fun.

One of my hobbies out of school is weightlifting I am the female under 11s 48kg British Champion, and I came third in the under 13's for Scotland and I am also the female under 11s Scottish Development Cup winner 2018.

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### **Craig Meldrum**

I go to Logierait Primary School. I really like learning about Maths, Science and Butterflies. We all work together in the same classroom and help each other to learn new things. Outside of school I do weightlifting in Pitlochry and I am the Scottish under 11 Male Development Cup Winner for 2018 and won the Scottish under 10s 50kg class.

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### **Shannon Laing**

My name is Shannon Laing and I am 23 years old. MY education started in a large school in Dundee and I moved to start Ballinluig and attended Logierait Primary School from the start

of primary 6. I found it to be a big positive difference to what I was used to but in a really good and positive way. You weren't just a number, the teachers actually got to really know you. They knew your strengths and your weaknesses and were able to spend time to help you get through your education and any personal issues you had. Ballinluig is a small community but you were able to be part of it, whether it was putting a play or fair on for the village, or planting flowers outside the post office, or looking out for all the village especially the elderly. Logierait Primary School has been a part of the community for a lot of years and it would be sad and unfair to close a school that offers such good education, a positive outlook and helps to shape your life for the future ahead of you.

Please save this school for the generation that is there and for the future generations to come.

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### Quotes from the Primary School Children

- Our school isn't just a school, we are like a family who all look out for each other.
- Mrs Barr (the Headteacher) is always making jokes, you don't feel scared and can talk to her about anything. She makes learning so much fun.
- (Another pupils thoughts on the school) The teachers are kind and all the other kids are like my family.
- Mrs Barr is the one that's always beautiful to me. I like butterflies on my finger. (The Butterfly Project)
- (A quote from a 4 year old due to start at Logierait in August) I am looking forward to going out in the spring or summer to use the collecting bags we have to collect the butterfly's, caterpillars and eggs so we can rear the eggs and the release the newly hatched butterfly's to help increase the butterfly population.
- (Logierait Primary) I think my school is very creative and very functional in our tasks. It's a wee friendly school.
- What I like about Logierait School is everyone is nice to each other and no one breaks the rules. Everyone gets the same amount of attention so no one feels left out.
- The school is epic and Mr Barr is the best! Logierait School is great. Don't take my school away from me, all I want to do is learn and be taught by my wonderful teachers at Logierait School
- Mrs Barr makes learning fun for us. We involve our wee community and I lovely hearing the tales from the Ballinluig Blethers.

(A reference to our wonderful older generation in our village who come to the school and play games, read stories, teach the kids how to knit and go on school trips with them. It's all about respect.)