

## **9: Home and Abroad**

### **1. Elephant tusk**

This fine piece of Burmese ivory carving of human and mythological figures was originally made for the Calcutta exhibition (date unknown) but it was 'not sent forward in time and was subsequently placed in the Exchange Hall for sale'. William Anderson of Maryhill, Elgin, a retired banker in Calcutta, donated it to the museum in 1870.

ELGNM: 1870.4

### **2. Casket**

Presented to the Right Honourable James Ramsay MacDonald M.P., LL.D. (the first Labour Prime Minister of Great Britain), when he received the Freedom of the City of Elgin, 23rd August 1929. The casket was supplied by C.D. Wilson, Elgin silversmith and later donated to the museum by Elgin Town Council.

ELGNM: 1975.118

### **3. Bronze bust**

Cast bronze bust of Ramsay MacDonald by Jacob Epstein; the head was made in 1926 at Epstein's suggestion. Epstein was an American-born British sculptor who helped pioneer modern sculpture. He made his name as a sculptor of monuments and portraits and as an occasional painter and illustrator. It was gifted to the Museum in 1936 by Sir Alexander Grant of Logie.

ELGNM: 1978.229

## **In the Classroom**

### **4. Pencil sharpener**

ELGNM: 2002.14.4

## **5. Ink Bottles**

Left: Waterman's ideal ink, blue black, 'Superior for fountain pen and general use' circa 1920s.

Right: Fields rainbow range of coloured inks by Caribonum Ltd., Leyton, London, c1908-1920s.

ELGNM: 2000.82 and 1989.6

## **6. School strap**

Victorian society used corporal punishment to enforce order in the classroom. The 'Lochgelly Tawse' became very popular amongst teachers to punish the palms or posterior of pupils. This one was used at Keith Grammar School.

The use of the strap in local authority schools was phased out at varying times from 1983 onwards and was finally banned in all local authority schools from the autumn term of 1987, although its use in some private schools continued to be permitted, with parental consent, until 1998.

ELGNM: 1996.42

## **7. School blazer badges**

From left to right: Elgin Academy, Milne's High, Fochabers and Seafield Primary School, Elgin.

ELGNM: 1997.16.11 and 1997.16.8 and 1997.16.6

## **8. School Slate**

Wood framed slate, with a hole at the top for hanging.

ELGNM: 1981.2

## **9. Exercise Books**

The two exercise books belonged to Lizzie Fraser whilst a pupil at Keam School, Duffus in 1898 and 1899.

ELGNM: 1978.13 and 1978.14

## **The Achievers**

### **10. Certificate**

Moray Music Festival certificate of distinction, presented to Mosstowie School in 1974.

ELGNM: 1996.19.17

### **11. Dux Medal**

Bronze, West End school Dux medal awarded to Elsie Coral Smith. The medal was designed by Percy Portsmouth for Mr and Mrs E. S. Harrison. Elsie Smith is remembered as Coral Brown, Teacher of English at Elgin Academy.

ELGNM: 1996.43

### **12. Petition**

Letter from (Anderson's) Free School pupils, petitioning for an annual trip instead of prizes, 1887.

ELGNM: Uncatalogued

### **13. Medals**

- Elgin Burgh Schools silver Dux medal presented to Gertrude Sandison (1898-1973), session 1912-1913. Interestingly, she falsified her age to join the army in WWI.
- Bronze medal presented to Robert Cairns from Edinburgh University 1887-1888. He became a Teacher of English at Elgin Academy.
- Moray Badge, red enamel with two stars; presented to Gladys Hay of Elgin Academy. This Award, initiated in 1936 by Kurt Hahn, was run jointly by Gordonstoun and Elgin Academy. After World War II, the scheme evolved into the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

ELGNM: 1999.12.2 and 1998.23.4 and 2001.40

### **14. Book**

'A Little Gypsy Lass' given as a prize to Jessie Mustard of Cullen Higher Grade school in 1919.

ELGNM: Uncatalogued

## **Abroad**

### **15. Religious figures**

Looted from Delhi by Charles S. Thomason at the time of the murder of his fiancée during the Indian Mutiny of 1857.

From left to right:

- Krishna
- Bala Deva
- Wife of Bala Deva

ELGNM: 1859.2.1 and 1859.2.2 and 1859.2.3

### **16. Kayak and oar**

Made of walrus ivory carved by the Inuit of Ungava, Labrador; donated to the museum by Mr. Alexander Smith, employee of the Hudson Bay Company, 1932. The Hudson Bay Company was founded in 1670 and controlled the fur trade throughout much of English (later British) controlled North America for several centuries.

ELGNM: 1932.11

### **17. Spoons**

From the Upper Congo, donated in 1887 by James Brown Eddie, a missionary. The shell spoon was from the Upoto tribe, and the others are from the Balola tribe.

ELGNM: 1887.7 and 1887.8 and 1887.9 and 1887.22

### **18. Medals**

Awarded to George Geddie of The Cross, Garmouth. Born into a well-known shipbuilding family of Kingston-on-Spey in 1869, Geddie became chief engineer with Nippon Usen Kwaisha, a Japanese shipping firm. He retired to Garmouth in 1910 and lived there until his death aged 92 years.

The first three medals were awarded by the Japanese for his role in defeating the Russian Navy in 1905.

From left to right:

- Order of the Rising Sun
- Order of the Sacred Treasure
- Russo-Japanese War medal

- Special Constabulary Long Service Medal

The Japanese Order of the Rising Sun was the first national decoration awarded by the Japanese Government, established in 1875 and awarded for distinguished achievements in International relations, promotion of Japanese culture, advancements in their field, development in welfare or preservation of the environment. It features rays of sunlight radiating from the rising sun. It is the third highest order bestowed by the Japanese Government; however, it is the highest ordinarily conferred order.

The Sacred Treasure award was established in 1888 and until 2003 was awarded in eight classes, to those who have made distinguished achievements in research fields, business, industries, healthcare, social work, state/local government fields or the improvement of life for handicapped or impaired persons. It is awarded for both civil and military merit.

The Russo-Japanese war medal was awarded in recognition of those who served in the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-1905.

The Special Constabulary Long Service Medal was established in 1919 by King George V, to reward members of the Special Constabulary for their service during World War I.

ELGNM: 1963.4 and 1963.5 and 1963.6 and 1963.7

## **In the Peephole**

### **General Anderson's Watch**

This watch was given to Miss Gilzean, the daughter of the benefactor who paid for Marjory Anderson's funeral.

Marjory Anderson married against her family's advice and followed her husband overseas with The Black Watch Regiment.

She returned to Moray in 1748, penniless, her mind completely shattered, with a babe in arms and without the father. Mother and son settled in the ruins of the Sacristy of Elgin Cathedral, supported by the benevolence of local people. Her son, Andrew later ran away to London and joined the Honourable East India Company. There is no record of him contacting his mother again during her lifetime, though after 50yrs of service, he retired as a wealthy Major-General.

He is supposed to have visited Elgin in 1811 and searched in vain for his mother's grave. He died in London in 1824, leaving the residue of his estate (£70,000) for the foundation of Elgin Institution, for The Support of Old Age and the Education of Youth. He also bequeathed an annuity of £200 to Miss Jean Gilzean, having learnt of Miss Gilzean's father's goodwill gesture towards his own mother.

ELGNM: 1918.2