DR LACHLAN GRANT OF BALLACHULISH
His Life and Times by Dr Roderick Macleod

Brought up in Ballachulish in the late nineteenth century, Lachlan Grant went from humble origins to become a star graduate of the University of Edinburgh Medical School and could have had a glittering career in either ophthalmology or psychiatry. Instead he opted for general practice, and a return home to ‘his people’ in the West Highlands, serving them for nearly half a century until his death in 1945.

In this fascinating book, Dr Roderick Macleod – himself the former GP in Ballachulish – pays tribute to his predecessor, and gives account of his role in the 1903–4 quarries dispute, his contribution to the introduction of the Highlands and Islands Medical Service (precursor of the NHS), and his involvement in campaigns such as the Sea League and the Highlands land reform movement.

He also records Dr Grant’s passionate concern for the Gaelic language and culture, his lifelong love and support of the game of shinty, and his friendships and associations with such eminent figures as Compton Mackenzie, John Lorne Campbell, Tom Johnston and Ramsay MacDonald. This book pays sincere and respectful homage to one of the most influential figures in the West Highlands of the early twentieth century.

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