

TALES OF THE RIVERMAN 45



Bennie was working down at the boatyard in Glasgow Green when he met Sarah Mulholland. A relationship developed, though the courting seems to have taken place on boats on the river. Rumour had it that Bennie had a nail on the Kings Bridge to hang his jacket on.



With the new house on Glasgow Green being built, Bennie was staying in temporary accommodation in Templeton Street.

The wedding was arranged, the Bans were read, and the date fixed for 22nd December 1933 to be held in the City of Glasgow Rowing Club as Bennie would not leave the river. A boat was tied at the rowing club steps and some of Bennie's friends hung a notice on the St Andrews Bridge saying "Don't jump today, Bennie won't be here"



EXTRACT OF AN ENTRY IN A REGISTER OF MARRIAGES, kept in the undermentioned PARISH or DISTRICT, in terms of CAP. 80, §§ 56 & 58.

No.	When, Where, and How Married.	Name in Full of Parties, with Surnames, Birth or Professions, and whether Bachelor, Spinster, Widower, or Divorced.	Age.	Class of Residence.	Name, Residence, and Rank or Profession of Father.	Name, Residence, and Rank or Profession of Mother.	When and Where Registered, Signature of Registrar.
1933	On the twenty-second day of December, at City of Glasgow Rowing Club, Glasgow Green, Glasgow.	Benjamin Parsonage, (Bachelor)	30	11 Templeton Street, Glasgow.	Benjamin Parsonage, Subt Fitting Maker	Annie Parsonage, Mrs. Monson.	1933 December 22 nd at GLASGOW.
	According to the Form of the Church of Scotland.	Sarah Mulholland, (Spinster)	21	180, Gallowgate, Glasgow.	William James Mulholland, (deceased), Elizabeth Mulholland, Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Porter.	George W. Parsonage, 513 Baltho St, Glasgow. S. Wilson, 131 Thomson Street, Glasgow.	1933 December 22 nd at GLASGOW. Registrar: J. J. Kege.

EXTRACTED FROM THE REGISTER BOOK OF MARRIAGES, for the DISTRICT of CALTON in the BURGH of GLASGOW, this 7th day of December, 1933.



CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

At Glasgow, the 17th day of December, 1933

It is hereby certified that Benjamin Parsonage, Bachelor, and Sarah Mulholland, Spinster, residing at 11 Templeton Street, Glasgow, and 180 Gallowgate, Glasgow, respectively, have been found to be lawfully married, and that no objection has been filed in relation thereto.

Witness my hand and the Seal of the City of Glasgow, this 17th day of December, 1933.

At Glasgow, the twenty-second day of December, 1933. The above parties were married by me, Registrar, James J. Kege, Minister of Glasgow Central.



No honeymoon; Bennie and Sadie (as he called her) walked home to Templeton Street across the Green and early next morning Bennie was out working on a Police incident. Sadie knew of course what she was taking on and it was not long before she was steeped in Society tradition; often being the contact between Bennie and the Police, inviting mothers and wives of persons lost in the river into her home for a cup of tea and a chat while Bennie was out searching.

The marriage might not have lasted very long as one of the many hair raising incidents that Bennie got involved in occurred on Thursday 18th January 1934. A Hemphill Steam Wagon loaded with slag was backed over the banking at the junction of McNeil Street and Adelphi Street into the River. Bennie rushed over in a boat and took the driver from the wagon. The driver was in a very dangerous position as his cabin stopped only a few feet from the water and the Steam Wagon's fire was put out by the River. They were very lucky for if the boiler had entered the River it would have exploded".

The new House on the Green was built during 1936 with the Ceremony of Unveiling Lintel-Stone over main entrance performed by the Lord Provost



For around 40 years Bennie and Sadie were to form a partnership not only as a family bringing up four children, but as a double act on Prevention, Safety, Rescue and After Care. They say that behind every great man there is a great woman. Sarah Parsonage stood behind no one; she stood side by side with Bennie come Hell or High Water.

