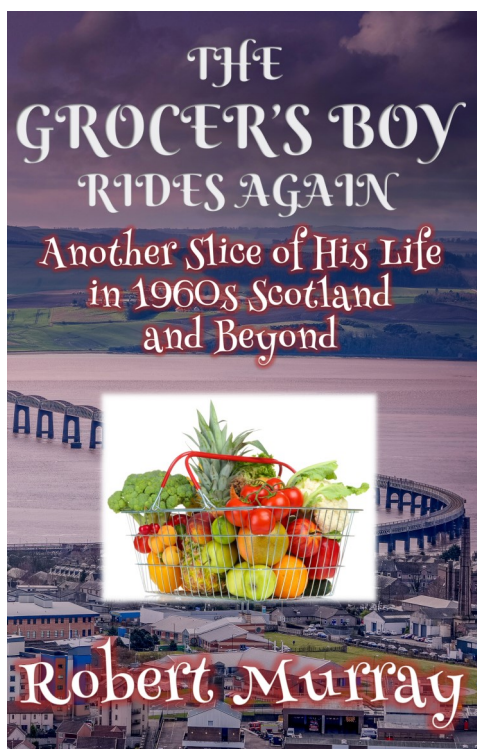


# INFORMATION SHEET



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**Author:** Robert Murray  
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## The Grocer's Boy Rides Again Another Slice of His Life in 1960s Scotland and Beyond

When the Swinging Sixties arrived in Tayside, Robert Murray had just become the youngest manager in the history of famous grocery business William Low & Co. Ltd. at only nineteen years of age. Little could he have realised that this was to be just the beginning of a decade of incredible social and cultural change for Scotland and the wider world – a revolution which would touch every life and workplace.

In this sequel to his much-loved book *The Grocer's Boy*, Robert discusses the trials and tribulations of being a traditional grocer at the dawn of the supermarket age, before moving on to new challenges later in the decade which included an eventful tenure in the fast-moving domain of college education and a step further afield into the busy corporate world.

Recounting his loving family ties and enduring friendships, marriage and parenthood, nostalgic reminiscence and thoughtful reflection, *The Grocer's Boy Rides Again* takes a fresh look at this most iconic of decades, considering a country which was in a period of rapid transition but where a helpful attitude and good customer service remained of paramount importance.

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### Author Biography

Robert Taylor Murray was born in Barry, near Carnoustie, in 1940. Growing up in Westhaven and later residing in Carnoustie itself, he attended Barry and Carnoustie Schools before becoming an apprentice grocer with William Low & Company Ltd. He qualified as a Member of The Grocers' Institute, and was appointed manager of William Low's Brantwood branch in Dundee, becoming the company's youngest ever manager at the age of 19. He later oversaw the Logie Street branch in Lochee.

Robert went on to manage a larger third branch in Dundee and then, after attending further education management courses, discovered he was sufficiently qualified to successfully apply for a post as a lecturer in distributive trades subjects at Dundee Commercial College – a position he held for five years. He later applied to join The Grocers' Institute and was appointed Training Development Officer for part of London and east England, where he advised companies and colleges on training in the retail grocery trade. After two years he returned to the Dundee area when he was appointed Training Officer for Watson & Philip, a national wholesale food distributor. He remained with that company for thirty-three years.

In retirement he has been actively involved in amateur theatre. He is a member of Tay Writers – a Dundee based writing group – and Angus Writers' Circle, and writes short stories. Robbie's book *The Grocer's Boy: A Slice of His Life in 1950s Scotland* was published by Extremis Publishing in 2018. His stage presentation *The Spirit of Robbie Burns* has been performed several times by theatre groups, and was published by Extremis Publishing in 2019.

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