

# CLISH-CLASH



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## SLHF NEWS

### ■ Book Now

Our all-day conference on the theme of **Popular Protest in a Scottish Local History Context** takes place on Saturday, 25 October 2025 at The Wynd Centre, 6 School Wynd, Paisley PA1 2DB.

Our distinguished speakers are:

Tom Dowds **The Trials of the Paisley Radicals in 1820**

Dr David Smale **The Radical War of 1820: Police Spies, Government Spies and Willing Informers**

Dr Juliette Desportes **Landscapes of Protest: Rural Resistance in the Highlands and Islands, 1750-1820**

Prof Christopher Whatley **Harvie's Dyke, Glasgow: People, Protest and Place**

Prof Iain Robertson **The Later Highland Land Wars and the Micro-geographies of Protest**

Dr Phil Back **"There's going to be an outrage and we're going to start it!"** **Protesting the M77 at Pollok in the 1990s.**



photo courtesy of Simon Yuill

£35.00 (students £15.00) including lunch. To book your place visit our website: [SLHF Annual Conference: Popular Protest | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

## ■ AGM

The annual general meeting of the Scottish Local History Forum will take place online via Zoom on Monday, 27 October 2025. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Up to two representatives of each member organisation may vote. There is no charge for attendance. Please register by visiting the website at [SLHF 2025 AGM - Zoom | Scottish Local History Forum](#) and adding the "product" to your shopping cart and checking out. The login details for the Zoom will be sent to you nearer the time of the AGM.

■ **Andrew Jones** is stepping down as a Trustee at the AGM on 27 October after over four years as SLHF Honorary Secretary. His fellow Trustees would like to pay tribute to the calm and efficient way in which he has dealt with the Forum's affairs. He took over at a most difficult time given the sudden loss of our chair, Professor Paul Bishop, and at a time when the Forum was grappling with the challenges of the pandemic. He has played a major part in seeing us through it all. Along with thanking Andrew we are also grateful to Linda Riddell for taking on the Honorary Secretary's duties for the coming year.

■ **Join us on Substack!** The Scottish Local History Forum is about to launch on Substack, a more recent type of social media that allows us to post news and information without all the annoyances associated with other social media. Substack is free to join and doesn't carry advertising. It provides us with a platform where we can post information we think will be of interest to Clish-Clash and Scottish Local History readers, as well diary dates and relevant news items. As with other social media, you can comment on the content, or share it with others you think might be interested (we'd really like you to do this!). We'll also be offering opportunities to member organisations to post information about their activities and interests, so that readers can find out more about local history activities and resources across the whole of Scotland. You can access our Substack in two ways: the easiest is to go to [SLHF | Substack](#) where you'll be invited to subscribe (i.e. sign up to read our posts). Or download the Substack app on your phone, and search for 'SLHF'. There is a short series of screens you go through, providing them with your personal contact details. One screen will invite you to pay, but please choose the free option. You can then choose to receive our regular emails – we will send no more than two a week, so we won't clog up your inbox or notification screens! You can find out more about Substack on their website, [www.substack.com](http://www.substack.com). And if you run into problems, email us at [slhfsubstack@gmail.com](mailto:slhfsubstack@gmail.com), and we'll try and help.

## ■ Bargain books for sale – in aid of SLHF!

There are still some of the bargain books left to us by George Dixon available at heavily discounted prices on our website. Grab a bargain while you can! To purchase, hurry to our website!

Author	Title	Price (inc p&p)	
Nock, O. S.	The Highland Railway	£	6.55
Aldcroft, Derek	Studies in British Transport History	£	5.62
Sinclair, Neil	The Highland Railway: People and Places	£	7.52
Paxton, Roland	100 years of the Forth Bridge	£	6.13
Highlands and Islands	Transport Timetable 1982	£	7.40
Burton, Anthony	The Railway Builders	£	5.16
Robertson, C. J. A.	The Origins of the Scottish Railway System	£	15.90
Freeman, Michael et al	Atlas of British Railway History	£	8.25
Beechings Legacy	Set of 4 DVDs and booklet	£	7.40
Beeching	The Reshaping of British Railways	£	20.58
Grieves, Robert	Scotland's motoring century	£	9.71
Lenman, Bruce	An Economic History of Modern Scotland	£	5.85
Hamilton, Henry	An economic history of Scotland in 18th century	£	6.13

Gow, Ian and Rowan, Alistair	Scottish Country Houses	£	12.50
Duncan, Jeremy	Perth and Kinross - The Big County	£	6.87
Glendening, John	The High Road	£	15.90
Third Statistical Account	Caithness	£	15.90
Third Statistical Account	Dunbarton	£	9.93
Third Statistical Account	Glasgow	£	15.90
Third Statistical Account	Banff	£	20.58
Third Statistical Account	Kincardine	£	11.65
Third Statistical Account	Aberdeen	£	16.75
Pittock, Murray	Edinburgh Companion to Scottish Romanticism	£	14.63
Moffat, Alistair	The Hidden Ways	£	9.71
Mitchison, Rosalind	Why Scottish History Matters	£	8.01
Scott	History of Johnstone	£	11.65
Hood, John	History of Clydebank	£	21.00
Edwards, Henry	Farming - sources	£	6.31

Visit [Books & CDs | Scottish Local History Forum](#) for further details and to snag yourself a bargain.

## LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS

■ Calling all Edinburgh storytellers & history lovers - help us celebrate Edinburgh's story and shape its legacy! The **William Anderson Memorial Award** for local history writing is back. Edinburgh residents aged 18 years and over are invited to submit an original essay (1,500–2,000 words) exploring the city's rich past, inspired by the themes of Edinburgh 900 — from royal connections and faith to innovation, the Enlightenment, and beyond. The list of themes can be found at [www.edinburgh.org/900/themes](http://www.edinburgh.org/900/themes)

■ Entries open: 1 October 2025. Deadline: 31 December 2025. A cash prize of £200 will be awarded to the winning project, supported by the descendants of William Anderson's family in Canada. A printed copy of the winning entry will be placed in the Edinburgh and Scottish Collection at Central Library for reference. For terms and conditions and to make submissions email [localhistory@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:localhistory@edinburgh.gov.uk) or submit by hardcopy to Edinburgh and Scottish Collection, Central Library, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EG.

■ The annual review of **Museums Galleries Scotland** is now available: [Annual Review 2024-25 - Museums Galleries Scotland](#)

■ **Scotland's People** will soon give access to two fascinating new record sets. The Napier Commission returns will arrive in early November, offering a unique window into Highland crofting life in the 1880s. In December over 1,000 maps and plans will also be added, giving new ways to explore Scottish places.

■ As part of the **National Library of Scotland** 100th birthday celebrations, selected treasures are travelling to communities around Scotland. Aberdeen Art Gallery's Cowdray Hall concert venue is also marking its centenary in 2025. To celebrate this shared milestone, the National Library's OUTWITH programme kicks off by bringing its earliest publication of Scottish secular music to the Art Gallery. John Forbes' 'Songs and Fancies', published in Aberdeen in 1682, would have been an important guide to students of music at the time. It captured some of the most beloved songs from Renaissance Scotland in print for the first time. This free display in Gallery 15, Aberdeen Art Gallery is accompanied by a series of local events including talks and live music performance: [OUTWITH in Aberdeen: 'Songs and Fancies' | National Library of Scotland](#)

■ **The Spaces, Places and Belonging: Community Hub** is a UK-wide programme supporting inclusive, community-led research across the United Kingdom's galleries, libraries, archives, and museums (GLAM)

and heritage sector. The programme is led by [The National Archives](#), in partnership with [Leeds Museums & Galleries](#), the [National Library of Wales](#), and the [Community Archives & Heritage Group](#), with funding from the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC).

■ The Community Hub provides over £550,000 to be awarded through three grant schemes – Seed Corn Grants, Skills Bursaries, and Project Grants -, alongside a programme of training, digital skills development, and network-building. The Hub will also create a digital platform to share resources, learning, and best practice, ensuring that community engagement becomes a lasting part of our cultural history. Designed to empower communities, particularly those underrepresented in heritage and build confidence across the sector, the Hub is a collaborative, flexible, and sustainable space for innovation and inclusion. [Community Hub - Portals](#)

## PUBLICATIONS

■ *Chrystal Macmillan, 1872-1937- Campaigner for Equality, Justice and Peace* by Helen Kay, Rose Pipes. Edinburgh University Press, August 2025 (Paperback), August 2024 (Hardback), 232pp, 22 black and white illustrations, ISBN Paperback: 9781399514538, £24.95; Hardback: 9781399514521, £120.00; Ebook (app): 9781399514552, £24.95 and Ebook (PDF): 9781399514545, £24.95. [Chrystal Macmillan, 1872-1937](#)

■ *Scottish Society in the Second World War - Tradition, Tension, Transformation* by Michelle Moffat. Edinburgh University Press, August 2025 (Paperback), November 2023 (Hardback), 296pp, 20 black and white illustrations, ISBN Paperback: 9781399522540, £24.99; Hardback: 9781399522533, £90.00; Ebook (app): 9781399522519, £24.99 and Ebook (PDF): 9781399522557, £24.99. [Scottish Society in the Second World War](#)

■ *Sir Alexander Ogston, 1844-1929 - A Life at Medical and Military Frontlines* by David A. Rennie. Edinburgh University Press, 168 pp, 13 black and white illustrations, Published August 2025 Paperback), Published December 2023 (Hardback), ISBN Paperback: 9781399501323, £19.99; Hardback: 9781399501316, £90.00; Ebook (app): 9781399501347, £19.99 and Ebook (PDF): 9781399501330, £19.99. [Sir Alexander Ogston, 1844-1929](#)

■ *The Country Houses, Castles and Mansions of South Ayrshire* by Alex F. Young. Stenlake Publishing, Catrine, 2025, 128pp., 152 illustrations, ISBN 9781840336313, £21.95. [Stenlake Publishing - The Country Houses, Castles and Mansions of South Ayrshire](#)

■ *Old Coupar Angus* by John Alexander. Stenlake Publishing, Catrine, 2025, 48pp., 56 illustrations, , ISBN 9781840339871, £11.95. [Stenlake Publishing - Old Coupar Angus](#)

■ *Old Ardler, Meigle and Newtyle* by John Alexander. Stenlake Publishing, Catrine, 2025, 48pp., 53 illustrations, ISBN 9781840339918, £11.95. [Stenlake Publishing - Old Ardler, Meigle and Newtyle](#)

■ *The Local Historian* contents: [The Local Historian Volume 55 Number 3 August 2025 | | Local History News | British Association For Local History](#)

■ *Local History News* contents: [Local History News Number 156 August 2025 | | Local History News | British Association For Local History](#)

■ *Scottish Archives – The Journal of the Scottish Records Association* Volume 30, 2024. Contents: [Scottish Archives](#)

## WHAT'S ON

Links to the Scottish Local History Forum's events page will contain further details provided by the organisers. For events where information has not been provided by the organisers a link has been found by the editor when possible.

■ **Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society (AANHS)** programme of lectures over winter 2025-26 will be streamed from University of the West of Scotland, University Avenue, Ayr, KA8 0SX For details about these interesting fortnightly lectures and those of many other societies see SLHF 'events' page.

■ **Black History Month Scotland** During October 2025 and beyond there are exhibitions, talks, workshops, film screenings and much more happening across Scotland. [What's On — BLACK HISTORY MONTH SCOTLAND](#)

■ **Votes for Women – Everywhere: 1866-1928** Online talk by Elizabeth Crawford, Wednesday, 8 October 2025, 7:00pm - 8:00pm. [Votes for Women – Everywhere: 1866-1928 | Forthcoming BALH Events | British Association For Local History](#)

■ **Dinna Forget: Memories of Kirkcudbright and District, 1830 – 1905** Talk by David Devereux and Donald Henry to Kirkcudbright History Society. Further stories from the memoirs of John McKie. Wednesday, 8 October 2025 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm, Parish Church Hall, St Marys St, Kirkcudbright DG6 4AQ and online. [Dinna Forget: Memories of Kirkcudbright and District, 1830 – 1905' | Scottish Local History Forum](#)



- **Making Tracks to Dundee: a short celebration of 200 years of local railway history** Talk by Dr Kenneth Baxter to Abertay Historical Society on Wednesday, 8 October 2025 – 6:30pm to 7:30pm at Lecture Theatre 2, Dalhousie Building, University of Dundee, Old Hawkhill, Dundee DD1 5EN [Events | Abertay Historical Society](#)
- **Scotland Beneath the Surface** Talk by Bruce Keith to Loch Ard History Group on Wednesday, 8 October 2025 - 7:30pm to 9:30pm at Kinlochard Village Hall, Kinlochard, FK8 3TL. [Scotland Beneath the Surface | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Post War Edinburgh** Online lecture in association with the exhibition 'Out of Chaos: Post-War Scottish Art 1945-2000' on Thursday, 9 October 2025 – 7:00pm. [Post War Edinburgh | Culture Edinburgh](#)
- **Grassroots Gatherings - Social Media & Marketing Discussion** Online event organised by Scottish Community Heritage Alliance (SCHA) on Thursday, 9 October 2025 - 7:00pm to 8:00pm. [Grassroots Gatherings - Social Media & Marketing Discussion | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Friends of Dundonald Castle, combining Community Archives and Heritage** Talk by Dr Blythe Paterson to Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society on Thursday, 9 October 2025 - 7:15pm to 8:30pm at The University of the West of Scotland, University Avenue, Ayr KA8 0SX and online. [Friends of Dundonald Castle, combining Community Archives and Heritage | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Down Memory Lane - TV Programmes We Used to Watch** Talk by Roy Johnstone to Edinburgh Members' Centre of the National Trust for Scotland on Thursday, 9 October 2025 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH11EL. [Down Memory Lane - TV Programmes We Used to Watch | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **BygoneCon** The fifth BygoneCon - South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Libraries' Heritage and Local History Convention - taking place on Saturday 11 October at Saturday, 11 October 2025 - 10:00am to 4:00pm at East Kilbride Central Library, 40 The Olympia, Town Centre, East Kilbride, G74 1PG. [BygoneCon | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Designed Landscapes of Edinburgh and the east of Scotland** Talk by Colin Wren to Stirling Field and Archaeology Society on Tuesday, 14 October 2025 – 7.30 at St Ninians Old Parish Church Hall, Kirk Wynd, St Ninians, Stirling FK7 9AJ.
- **Climate Conversation** Hosted by Keep Scotland Beautiful and Climate FORTH, providing an opportunity for community groups and individuals to learn about the relationship between heritage and climate change, considering the climate mitigation of built, natural and cultural heritage, and actions which can be taken within a local context, Tuesday, 14 October 2025 - 6:00pm to 8:30pm at Culross Stables Community Hub, Balgownie West, Culross, KY12 8JL.
- **Magic and Illusion in Edinburgh** Hybrid talk by Richard Wiseman to the Old Edinburgh Club on Wednesday, 15 October 2025 - 7:00pm to 8:30pm at Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1EL. [Magic and Illusion in Edinburgh by Richard Wiseman | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Drax of Drax Hall, researching the landed gentry in Britain and Caribbean** Online talk by Paul Lashmar, Wednesday, 15 October 2025, 7:00pm - 8:30pm. [Drax of Drax Hall, researching the landed gentry in Britain and Caribbean | Forthcoming BALH Events | British Association For Local History](#)
- **Sierre Leone's first black surgeon: the early life of William Fergusson in Jamaica, Dumfries and Freetown** Talk to Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society on Friday, 17 October 2025 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at The Bridge, Glasgow Road, Dumfries, Dumfries, DG2 9AW. [Sierre Leone's first black surgeon: the early life of William Fergusson in Jamaica, Dumfries and Freetown | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **10 Scotland Street - An Opinionated History of One House Over Two Centuries** A talk by Leslie Hills to the Scottish Genealogy Society, Monday, 20 October 2025, 7:30pm to 9:30pm, 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL and ONLINE. [10 Scotland Street - An Opinionated History of One House Over Two Centuries | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **The Life and Legacy of John Muir** Talk by Tracy Robertson to Edinburgh Members' Centre of the National Trust for Scotland on Thursday, 23 October 2025 - 2:30pm to 4:00pm at Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH11EL. [The Life and Legacy of John Muir | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Old Lady Somerset, History of Ayr United Football Ground** Talk by Duncan Carmichael to Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society on Thursday, 23 October 2025 - 7:15pm to 8:30pm at The University of the West of Scotland, University Avenue, Ayr KA8 0SX and online. [Old Lady Somerset, History of Ayr United Football ground | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **SLHF Annual Conference: Popular Protest in a Scottish Local History Context** on Saturday, 25 October 2025 - 9:45am to 4:30pm at Main Auditorium, The Wynd Centre, School Wynd, PAISLEY, PA1 2DB. [SLHF Annual Conference: Popular Protest | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Building Bridges: Connecting Scotland's Archaeological Community** Scottish Archaeological Forum conference, 25-26 October 2025 at Nicolson Square Venues, Edinburgh and online. [Conference 2025 | SAF](#)

- **SLHF 2025 AGM – Zoom** on Monday, 27 October 2025 - 6:00pm to 6:45pm. Register for attendance: [SLHF 2025 AGM - Zoom | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Grassroots Gatherings - Signposting Resources** Online discussion organised by Scottish Community Heritage Alliance (SCHA) on Tuesday, 28 October 2025 - 7:00pm to 8:00pm. [Grassroots Gatherings - Signposting Resources | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **The History of Stirling Golf Club** Talk by Elaine Whiteford to Stirling Local History Society on Thursday, 30 October 2025 at Stirling Smith Museum, Albert Place, Stirling FK8 2RQ. [Current Season](#)
- **SCAMP (Solway Coast and Marine Project) Let's dream about a thriving seascape** Talk to Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society on Friday, 31 October 2025 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at The Bridge, Glasgow Road, Dumfries, Dumfries, DG2 9AW. [SCAMP \(Solway Coast and Marine Project\) Let's dream about a thriving seascape | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Stirling Rocks - The City that Defined Scotland!** A celebration of Stirling's rich heritage on Saturday, 1 November 2025 – 10:00am to 4:30pm at the Church of the Holy Rude, Stirling. [Stirling Rocks 2025 - The City that Defined Scotland! Tickets, Sat, Nov 1, 2025 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)
- **Scotland's Opium Secrets** Talk by Professor Jim Mills on Wednesday, 5 November 2025 - 6:00pm to 7:00pm at the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, 11 Queen Street, Edinburgh, EH2 1JQ. [Scotland's Opium Secrets | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Development of the new Scottish Crannog Centre** Presentation by Maureen Kerr to Loch Ard Local History Group on Wednesday, 5 November 2025 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at Kinlochard Village Hall, Kinlochard, FK8 3TL. [Development of the new Scottish Crannog Centre | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Shifting Perspectives: Scotland's Urban Architecture Through the Lens** Conference exploring how photography has shaped and recorded the urban architectural heritage of Scotland on Wednesday, 5 November · 9:45am - 3:50pm at National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EW. [Shifting Perspectives: Scotland's Urban Architecture Through the Lens Tickets, Wed, Nov 5, 2025 at 9:45 AM | Eventbrite](#)
- **'The Evolution & Adaptation of Whales from Land to Sea Animals'** Talk by Christine Murdie to Edinburgh Members' Centre of the National Trust for Scotland on Thursday, 6 November 2025 - 2:30pm to 4:00pm at Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH11EL. [Talk: 'The Evolution & Adaptation of Whales from Land to Sea Animals' | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Grassroots Gatherings - General Discussion** Online event organised by Scottish Community Heritage Alliance (SCHA) on Thursday, 6 November 2025 - 7:00pm to 8:00pm. [Grassroots Gatherings - General Discussion | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **"The Forgotten Voices of the Accused"** Conference organised by Remembering the Accused Witches of Scotland on Saturday, 8 November 2025 - 10:00am to 4:00pm at Maryhill Burgh Halls, 24 Gairbraid Avenue, Glasgow, G20 8YB. [Conference 2025: "The Forgotten Voices of the Accused" | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Scottish Place Name Society Autumn Conference** Saturday, 8 November 2025 online, via Zoom (Visit website for call for papers). [SPNS Autumn Conference 2025 – 8 November 2025 – Online, via Zoom – Scottish Place-Name Society](#)
- **Middle Ground: The Interface of Town and Country in the Tay Valley, 1400-1700** Talk by Bess Rhodes to Abertay Historical Society on Wednesday, 12 November 2025 – 6:30pm to 7:30pm at Lecture Theatre 2, Dalhousie Building, University of Dundee, Old Hawkhill, Dundee DD1 5EN. [Events | Abertay Historical Society](#)
- **The Pre-history of Kilmartin Glen and the new Kilmartin Museum** Talk by Dr Sharon Webb to Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society on Thursday, 13 November 2025 - 7:15pm to 8:30pm at The University of the West of Scotland, University Avenue, Ayr KA8 0SX and online. [The Pre-history of Kilmartin Glen and the new Kilmartin Museum | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **The Glenkens in Covenanting Times** Talk to Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society on Friday, 14 November 2025 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at The Bridge, Glasgow Road, Dumfries, Dumfries, DG2 9AW. [The Glenkens in Covenanting Times | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Bigamy, Adultery and Murder** A talk by Stewart Stevenson to the Scottish Genealogy Society on Monday, 17 November 2025 - 7:30pm to 9:30pm, 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL and online. [Bigamy, Adultery and Murder | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Church Going: A Stonemason's Guide to the Churches of the British Isles** Online talk by Andrew Ziminski, Tuesday, 18 November 2025, 7:00pm - 8:30pm. [Church Going: A Stonemason's Guide to the Churches of the British Isles | Forthcoming BALH Events | British Association For Local History](#)
- **Scotland's Community Heritage Conversations 2025: Routes to Resilience** Hybrid conference to explore resilient futures together on Wednesday, 19 November 2025 · 9:15am - 4:15pm at The Engine Shed,

Forthside Way, Stirling FK8 1QZ and online. [Scotland's Community Heritage Conversations 2025: Routes to Resilience Tickets, Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 9:15 AM | Eventbrite](#)

■ **Chrystal Macmillan: Equal Rights for Women in Edinburgh and Beyond** A hybrid talk by Helen Kay and Rose Pipes to the Old Edinburgh Club on Wednesday, 19 November 2025 - 7:00pm to 8:30pm at Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EL. [Chrystal Macmillan: Equal Rights for Women in Edinburgh and Beyond | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

■ **Chatelherault - the 'Sad Sad Story' of the Duke's Dog Kennels** Talk by Dr Phil Back, Scottish Local History Forum, in collaboration with South Lanarkshire Libraries, on the twentieth-century history of Chatelherault and how it became a Country Park on Thursday, 20 November 2025 - 7:00pm at Hamilton Low Parks Museum, 129 Muir Street, Hamilton, ML3 6BJ. [Chatelherault - the 'Sad Sad Story' of the Duke's Dog Kennels | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

■ **Collier Laddie** Talk by Rab Wilson to Stirling Local History Society on Thursday, 27 November 2025 at Stirling Smith Museum, Albert Place, Stirling FK8 2RQ. [Current Season](#)

■ **Hidden Prehistoric Ayrshire** Talk by Lauren Welsh to Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society on Thursday, 27 November 2025 - 7:15pm to 8:30pm at The University of the West of Scotland, University Avenue, Ayr, KA8 0SX and online. [Hidden Prehistoric Ayrshire | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

■ **The archaeology of Solway salt** Talk to Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society on Friday, 28 November 2025 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at The Bridge, Glasgow Road, Dumfries, Dumfries, DG2 9AW. [The archaeology of Solway salt | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

■ **Finlaggan: archaeology versus history** Lecture by Dr David Caldwell to the anniversary meeting of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland on Saturday, 29 November 2025 – 1.30pm at Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EL and online. [Society AGM and Finlaggan: Archaeology versus History Tickets, Sat, Nov 29, 2025 at 11:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)

■ **A Closer Look at Clocks** Talk by Peter Metha to Loch Ard Local History Group on Wednesday, 3 December 2025 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at Kinlochard Village Hall, Kinlochard, FK8 3TL. [A Closer Look at Clocks | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

■ **The Souterrains of Angus: an enigma within a mystery** Talk by John Reid to Abertay Historical Society on Wednesday, 10 December 2025 – 6:30pm to 7:30pm at Lecture Theatre 2, Dalhousie Building, University of Dundee, Old Hawkhill, Dundee DD1 5EN. [Events | Abertay Historical Society](#)

■ **Carved in Stone: bringing the Picts to life** Lecture by Dr Heather Christie and Brian Tyrrell to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland on Thursday, 11 December 2025 – 6.00pm at Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EL and online. [Carved in Stone: Bringing the Picts to Life Tickets, Thu, Dec 11, 2025 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

Create a listing for your library, archive or museum in the SLHF Directory of local history resources.  
It is easy to do and free, just <https://www.slhf.org/submit-listing>

## WATCH AND LISTEN

■ [Speed of Light](#) is a documentary from BBC Radio 4 with a focus on photography and its early origins. It features 5 short case studies starting with a photograph of Abraham Lincoln taken only a few weeks before his assassination in 1865. One episode tells the story of William Notman. After emigrating from Scotland to Canada in 1856, he became one of Montreal's most prominent photographers. The programme is presented by Laura Cumming.

■ [The War Game](#) was produced by the BBC in 1965 and has recently been shown again. It's different from the podcast mentioned last time. It became a ground-breaking classic documentary by Peter Watkins. It's a chilling newsreel style dramatisation of the aftermath of an atomic assault on Britain. It's well worth catching the new introduction from narrator Michael Aspel. There is also a repeat of Mick Jackson's more dramatic, no less harrowing [Threads](#) from 1984. It might be best to keep a stiff drink to hand!

■ **Leading Labour** is a podcast which tells the story of each postwar Labour leader. Featuring insights from 60 brilliant insiders and presented and produced by Izzy Conn from the Institute of Historical Research. Explore how Labour leaders managed the greatest political developments of their day - both national and international, how they managed the tensions between the different wings of the Labour Party, and how they changed the party to try to win elections and bring Labour into government. <https://tinyurl.com/rwyvs28k>

■ A recent episode on the US Supreme Court was absolutely fascinating. You will hear about the various wrangles as well as some electrifying speeches. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m002jdqk>



- **Archive on 4: Exposing Hiroshima** tells the story of one man's determination to set the record straight. Wilfred Burchett's front-page reports from ground zero - an international sensation - were dismissed by US authorities as 'Japanese propaganda'. The archive includes Burchett interviewed in 1983 by the late John Pilger. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m002ggjv>
- Closer to home is a programme about Sir Alex Ferguson which was first broadcast in March 2022. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m0015tw6>
- Elsewhere on BBC iPlayer are several other programmes reflecting the impact of nuclear warfare. A real highlight is a drama from Radio 4 **Hersey's Hiroshima** which is a dramatisation of John Hersey's 1946 account of the bombing of Hiroshima and its aftermath, written after two weeks spent interviewing citizens in the devastated city.
- There are also several programmes marking the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VJ day including a special **Antiques Roadshow** and [VJ Day 80: the Nation's Tribute](#).
- [VJ Day: We Were There](#) was presented by Rachel Burden and listens to first-hand accounts of the last surviving veterans, many now more than 100 years old. Their stories range from the invasion of British Malaya in 1941 to the horrors of Hiroshima and Japanese surrender in August 1945, while former prisoners of war in Burma recount the brutal treatment they had to endure.
- [The Second Map](#) is a BBC History Podcast which is a 3-part documentary also with a focus on the war in Japan and its associated areas. First-hand accounts from those involved, both soldiers and civilians, make this programme riveting and revealing.
- The story of Mags Haney and her controversial life in the Raploch area of Stirling is featured in a series called [Crime next Door: the Ballad of Big Mags](#)
- A return to one of our favourites [Last Word](#) when in a recent episode the life of Sir Jamie McGrigor, the Conservative Member of the Scottish Parliament for the Highlands and Islands and who introduced a bill to protect tartan was celebrated.
- **Great Lives** is a BBC Radio 4 biography series; It is presented by Matthew Parris and has a brilliant format. A distinguished guest is asked to nominate the person they feel is truly deserving of the title "Great Life". The presenter and a recognised expert (a biographer, family member or fellow practitioner) are on hand to discuss the person's life. A recent episode featured Jock Stein. The programmes are 28 minutes long and the full back catalogue is still available. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m002h9sx>
- [Disaster at Sea: the Piper Alpha Story](#) is about the world's worst offshore oil disaster, which occurred on July 6, 1988, when a series of explosions and a massive fire killed 167 out of 226 men on the North Sea oil platform off Aberdeen. The disaster resulted from a chain of failures, including a leak from a condensate pump following maintenance and a failure to communicate crucial safety information, leading to a catastrophic explosion that quickly engulfed the platform. A 3-part series on BBC Scotland chronicles the unfolding story.
- A recent episode of **Digging for Britain** on BBC2 featured Orkney and Shetland. [BBC Two - Digging for Britain, Series 12, Island Treasures](#)
- PBS America continues to offer some excellent programmes. **Thirties in Colour-Countdown to War** does what it says on the tin. Available on Freesat 156, Freeview 84 and Amazon. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7XMJKV\\_nBpw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7XMJKV_nBpw)
- A great radio programme is [The Reunion](#) presented by our own Kirsty Wark. There are over 200 programmes to choose from.
- Likewise, Mark Stephen continues to visit various communities across Scotland in the series [Our Story](#) with over 70 episodes to choose from — a real gem!
- Listen back to **Woman's Hour** and catch the [following episode](#). Who was Scotland's first, largely forgotten, female MP? The Duchess of Atholl had campaigned against votes for women but in 1923 she stood for election herself and won. Her biographer Amy Gray joins Nuala to address the many contradictions of this pioneering politician. In her new book, *Red Duchess: A Rebel in Westminster*, Gray argues that Atholl hasn't received the credit she deserves for championing the welfare of women and children at home and abroad and for challenging the appeasement of Nazi Germany - a decision which ended her political career.
- [200 Years of the Railways](#) was one of several programmes celebrating this rich industrial heritage. Michael Portillo shows his great affection for this mode of transport.
- On BBC Radio 4 Extra [Thrilling Stories of the Railways](#) is one of several programmes under the theme Railway 200. There are many hours of listening. A favourite of this contributor was [How Trains Shrank Time and Space](#)
- Finally on this theme is Radio 3's all day celebration of the birth of the modern Railway. It's called [Train Tracks](#).
- A recurring favourite in this part of Clish-Clash is [In our Time](#) presented by Melvyn Bragg. The news is that he is stepping down after 27 years and more than 1000 episodes. Watch this space for news of his replacement.



■ A History of Northamptonshire in 100 Objects is not the most likely subject for Clish-Clash, but a recent episode features the Treaty of Edinburgh which was signed by the English King Edward III in Northampton in 1328. Alan Borthwick of the National Records of Scotland is interviewed about its significance in the context of the Wars of Independence and Anglo-Scottish relations. [A History of Northamptonshire in 100 Objects Podcast Series. Episode 41 - Treaty of Edinburgh - YouTube](#)■

## BLOGS

■ Derrick Johnstone has contributed a blog to the Old Edinburgh Club's website based on his M.Phil. dissertation: [Scots Emigrants to East Jersey, 1682–1702: Motivations and Outcomes](#) (University of Glasgow, 2025). [The voyage of the Henry and Francis to New Jersey, 1685 - The Old Edinburgh Club](#). Derrick Johnstone has contributed a blog to the Old Edinburgh Club's website based on his M.Phil. dissertation: [Scots Emigrants to East Jersey, 1682–1702: Motivations and Outcomes](#) (University of Glasgow, 2025). [The voyage of the Henry and Francis to New Jersey, 1685 - The Old Edinburgh Club](#) See also **History News** below for more information on the website Derrick has created - **East Jersey Bound**.

■ **Glasgow's journey to becoming a city** From a saint's miracle to a city's birth: discover how St Mungo and Bishop Jocelin helped shape the story of Glasgow's rise from a humble religious settlement to Scotland's largest city. [Glasgow's journey to becoming a city - Historic Environment Scotland Blog](#)

■ **Woven Together Dundee Multicultural History Project** The Abertay Historical Society is leading a project exploring local Black, Asian and minority ethnic history, working in partnership with Dundee City Council and the University of Dundee Museums and with additional funding support from the Alexander Moncur Trust. The project aims to gather together existing knowledge and material and uncover new information through further research. The website contains blogs on various areas of this research, including sport and culture. [Home | Woven Together Dundee](#)

■ Morgaro Gomis, centre, celebrates with his Dundee United teammates after winning the 2010 Scottish Cup.



"Gomis at Hampden" photo courtesy of Steve Connelly

■ The **British Newspaper Archive** is marking 200 years of the railway by adding new titles to its website, including the *Scottish Railway Gazette* 1845-1846. [The British Newspaper Archive Blog 20 Pioneering Railway Firsts | British Newspaper Archive](#)

■ **Ebenezer James MacRae: the man who transformed Edinburgh** July 2025 marked the centenary of Ebenezer MacRae's appointment as Edinburgh's City Architect. From the famous police box to the council housing programme, MacRae shaped the landscape of Edinburgh. Who was he and who were the team behind his influential work? [Ebenezer James MacRae: the man who transformed Edinburgh - Historic Environment Scotland Blog](#)

■ **Quoiting: The History of a Lost Scottish Sport** Quoiting thrived for many years with clubs all across Scotland. But by the 2000s, only 5 clubs remained. So what is the history of this lost Scottish sport? [Quoiting: The History of a Lost Scottish Sport - Historic Environment Scotland Blog](#)

## HISTORY NEWS

■ **East Jersey Bound:** a new website about the Scots who emigrated to East New Jersey in the 1680s, a little-known but successful precursor to Darien. <https://eastjerseybound.scot>. It holds a database detailing over 500 emigrants (free, indentured or transported Covenanters) and 2,000 of their kin and associates. This is linked to postgraduate research by Derrick Johnstone (Old Edinburgh Club Secretary and SLHF Advisory Committee Member) <https://theses.gla.ac.uk/85247/>



■ **Historic Environment Scotland** recently launched its new Antonine Wall website, a hub of information for anybody looking to learn more about the site or visit any of the museums, parks, and forts that run along this UNESCO World Heritage Site. You can also find fun and effective educational resources. [Antonine Wall | The Antonine Wall](#)

■ **Bannockburn House Trust** has announced that Mrs. Katharine Rubinetti has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from the St. Andrew's Society of Washington, D.C. to support a groundbreaking digital heritage project at Bannockburn House. In collaboration with Robert Gordon University, Katharine will be digitally scanning and preserving 3D surrogates of significant heritage finds from Bannockburn House and its estate. These digital models will be made accessible to the public and available for analysis by researchers around the world. [Bannockburn House Trust receives funding for digital heritage project - Heritage Network](#)



## QUOTE OF THE MOMENT

'Comment is free.... but facts are sacred'. C.P. Scott.

*Clish-Clash* is edited by Steve Connelly, assisted by Linda Clark, James Kennedy and Claire Taylor.  
Thanks also to Phil Back, Iain Duffus and Derrick Johnstone for their contributions.

**Find out about what's happening in local history around Scotland on the SLHF website:**

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## CONTACT DETAILS

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