

CLISH-CLASH



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A suggestion that the Forum run Masterclasses on 'doing' local history has been welcomed by the Trustees and the Advisory Committee. We are seeking your views on whether such classes would be useful and what they might cover (e.g., an introduction to archives, or using maps for local history, or using old newspapers, or how to write up your research for our journal, or anything else that you might like to know about). We, of course, cannot guarantee that a Masterclass is possible on any and every topic that is suggested, but your suggestions will guide our thinking on this matter. Please email scottishlocalhistoryforum@gmail.com to let us know your thoughts

SLHF NEWS

■ Welcome to the July 2021 edition of *Clish-Clash*. Our thanks to those who offered a view on the **format** of *Clish-Clash*. The majority of those who responded prefer the single-column presentation as suggested by the Advisory Committee – so be it from this issue onwards!

The **Trustees'** meeting on August 7 2021 considered a number of issues, the most important of which feature here.

SLHF 2021 EVENTS

The Annual SLHF/NLS talk 2021 is still planned to go ahead with our speaker Tom Dowds on 'The 1820 Uprising – the view from the East', This may take place using Zoom if necessary; watch out for further information.

The Trustees have reluctantly decided to postpone the **Walk and Talk** event at Linlithgow and we hope that it will happen in 2022.

The much-delayed **SLHF Annual Conference**, originally planned for last autumn, will now take place on Zoom on November 10 and 11. After the success of our mini conference on slavery it was decided to split the conference into two manageable sessions as a way of presenting our latest offering: **Taking Part: aspects of Scottish sports and pastimes**. We are pleased to announce the speakers and their titles:

- Karl Magee (archivist at the University of Stirling): *Tales from the Ring: celebrating Scotland's boxing heritage*;
- Laura Nicolson (Loch Ard Local History Group): *Summer ice* (see image below);
- well-known broadcaster, Dr Hugh Dan MacLennan: *Tae a ba': the history of the lost art of making a shinty ball*;
- Craig Statham (National Library of Scotland): *Jimmy Curran: Scotland's greatest athletics coach*;



*Buchylvie v Gartmore summer ice match
(Image courtesy Laura Nicolson)*

- Dr Fiona Skillen (University of Strathclyde): *'Women Work Better After Cricket and Football': exploring the development of women's football during World War One in Scotland*; and
- Much-respected golf historian, Dr Eve Soulsby: *Wee Jessie: Scotland's World No. 1 golfer*.

A small registration fee of £5 will be levied for the Conference, to cover costs and to help to make up for some of the Forum's lost income over the last eighteen months. Further details and how to register for attendance will be in the next *Clish-Clash* and on the SLHF website in the near future.

'**Scotland and Opposition to Slavery: The Local Experience**' is the working title for the follow-up to our April 2021 mini conference. We anticipate that it will be held in early 2022.

Scottish Local History Issue 110

The following articles will be published in *SLH* 110 (Autumn 2021) in late August:

‘Edinburgh Prepares for an Epidemic, in 1831-2’ Dr Peter Hoad has been publishing a series of *SLH* articles on the medical history of Edinburgh during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. With more than a nod to the present pandemic, his latest article is intended as the first of a pair on the 1832 cholera epidemic and its effect on the city of Edinburgh. This article considers preparations for the epidemic and a second, in a future issue of *SLH*, will examine how it was handled in practice.

‘The Afterlife of John Bell of Antermony’ In the eighteenth-century John Bell of Antermony was a noted overseas traveller, especially in Russia and adjacent countries. His life has been researched by David McVey, who published previous articles on the subject in *SLH* 72 (April 2008) and *SLH* 86 (Autumn 2013). The ‘Afterlife’ in the title of this new article refers to Bell’s activities after he published his celebrated *Travels from St Petersburg in Russia to diverse parts of Asia* in 1763, with special focus on his interest in botany, especially ‘the hunt for the True Rhubarb’

‘Advertising Fife Keith and Dufftown, Banffshire, 1817’ Dr Douglas Lockhart now publishes articles on many different aspects of local history, but for many years his focus was on the setting-up of planned villages across Scotland. His latest article on the subject deals with the advertising of such villages at the time they were being laid out. It explains the use made of national and local newspapers (and their eventual value to the historian in accessing back-files), but also reviews other modes of advertising the villages. A bundle of letters, sent in response to the advertising of Fife Keith and Dufftown in 1817, was of special value when preparing this article.

‘Charles Rennie Cowie: East India Merchant and Book Collector’ George Manzor explains how an East India Merchant, based in Burma (now Myanmar), spent his profits in assembling a large collection of books and manuscripts, many of them on Scottish subjects, and how these came to be donated to the National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh, and the Mitchell Library, Glasgow. Other profits were applied to the development Robert Burns visitor facilities in Mauchline, Ayrshire

‘The Kames Gunpowder Works 1839-1921’ John H Harris explains how Scotland once had a considerable gunpowder industry, centred in the Lothians and in Argyll. He concentrates on one of the four Argyll mills, belonging to the Kames Gunpowder Company and based mainly in Millhouse, near Tighnabruaich. As well as providing a history of the mill, the article describes its surviving remains. It has been prepared to mark the centenary of its closure in 1921.

‘Was it due to the weather? Lady Logiealmond’s debtors’ Rosalind Pearson describes an item in the Murthly Muniments at the National Records of Scotland that lists debts owed to Lady Logiealmond in December 1696. It covers most of the Logiealmond area (Perthshire), recording the names of the tenants and their locations and details of their debts. The author provides background information on the reasons for the debts, including harvest failure.

LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

■ **National Library of Scotland (NLS)** has announced that the **2022 Elizabeth Soutar Bookbinding Competition** is now open for entries. The theme of the 2022 competition is ‘Scotland’s Stories’ and entrants are asked to submit bookbindings relating to Scottish authors, or stories and legends of Scotland. This can include entries which are translations of the work of Scottish authors into international languages. The competition’s two prize categories are Best Creative Binding and Best Craft Binding. Each category itself carries two prizes — a main prize and a student prize. The closing date for entries is Thursday 24 February 2022.

Meanwhile on the NLS **blog** are some excellent items including:

- On the 250th anniversary of its publication, a look at the sentimental novel **‘The Man of Feeling’** and its writer, Henry Mackenzie;
- The ‘Zoom into...’ series of blog posts focuses on local collections from all over Scotland and the latest post in the series highlights **Perth and Kinross** ;
- You can explore the **bookplate collections**. A bookplate is a printed label glued into the front of a book to mark ownership. What can bookplates tell us about book owners in 18th and 19th century Scotland? Find out with this link. <https://blog.nls.uk/>

A 16th Century Highland Perthshire manuscript written in Latin, Scots and Gaelic has been bought for £25,000 by the National Library of Scotland. **The Chronicle of Fortingall** was compiled between 1554 and 1579 and includes poetry, short texts, and records of contemporary events. The library said the ‘highly significant’ manuscript was of ‘great linguistic importance’.



A still of the opening shot from a 1939 20-minute film entitled 'Dundee' (courtesy of the National Library of Scotland's Moving Image Archive)

The **Moving Image Archive** is Scotland's national collection of moving image and is held at the National Library. You can **watch over 2,800 clips and full-length films** from the collection, many of these films being of local areas. You can search the online catalogue and many of the films are viewable online; others are available for viewing at the Moving Image Archive in Kelvinhall in the West End of Glasgow. Use a local area name or town name to search the catalogue at <https://movingimage.nls.uk/>. An item below (p.11) that

continues the discussion of phone boxes (kiosks) in previous issues of *Clish-Clash* arose from exploring the Moving Image Archive catalogue.

NLS is part of a consortium of libraries and museums that have come together in an 'unprecedented' effort to raise £15m and save an 'astonishingly important' set of literary manuscripts for the nation. The plans were formed after the announcement last month that the 'lost' **Honresfield library** was to be put up for auction at Sotheby's this summer. The collection, which contains more than 500 manuscripts, first editions and letters features the complete working manuscript of Sir Walter Scott's iconic novel *Rob Roy*, and an early volume of poems by Robert Burns in his own hand: <https://tinyurl.com/uy6fc9c8>

Fulbright scholarships: The NLS is continuing its collaboration with the Fulbright Commission to offer scholarships for US citizens to explore, use and promote their collections. The competition to become the Fulbright National Library of Scotland Scholar 2022-23 is now live. The successful scholar will undertake research using collections for a period of six months. Their research project must be based primarily around the unique or rare collections, and be intended for publication. The scholar will also contribute to the NLS outreach and public lecture programmes. The closing date for applications is Wednesday 15 September. For further details please see the Fulbright website <https://tinyurl.com/3hh2zpd5>

■ **National Records of Scotland** Before visiting you should check and read the National Records of Scotland Safe Visit Agreement which provides an outline of the latest arrangements for visiting <https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/about-us/safe-visit-agreement>

Some news about the **1921 census** from the Twitter account of **of Scotlands People** issued on 17 June:

'We know everyone is keen to get an update on progress around the release of the 1921 Scottish Census. We are working hard on this and will be releasing the images on <https://t.co/QREXPUCY1e> and in the ScotlandsPeople Centre in the latter half of 2022.'

■ **The Mitchell Library** has reopened offering a limited service and visitors will need to pre-book an appointment. This includes visitors to Special Collections and the Glasgow City Archives. Further details are available here <https://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/libraries/venues/the-mitchell-library>

■ **Historic Environment Scotland (HES)** has announced that prehistoric animal carvings, thought to be between 4,000 and 5,000-years-old, have been discovered for the first time in Scotland hidden inside Dunchraigaig Cairn in Kilmartin Glen <https://tinyurl.com/yzqxm4q>

■ A former RAF Caledonian Sector Operations Centre at Barnton Quarry has been recently awarded Category-A listed building status by Historic Environment Scotland (HES). The site was nominated by **The Barnton Quarry Restoration Project**, a community group involved in restoring the building as a unique piece of cold war history in the heart of Edinburgh <http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/LB52578>

■ **The Book of Kells: Some Mysteries Revealed at Groam House Museum** online and in museum exhibition, exploring how the Book of Kells has inspired craftspeople including George Bain and Thomas Keyes. <https://groamhouse.org.uk/project/book-of-kells-exhibition>

■ **Scottish Fisheries Museum** has a colourful multi-media exhibition which explores the mental and physical wellbeing and inspiration that draws from the seas, lochs and rivers. 'By the Seaside: Heritage, Healing and New Horizons' is open until August 22 2021. <https://tinyurl.com/3ahedsnu>

■ **Cromarty Courthouse Museum** used the lockdown months to explore the relationship of the area with the sea and it's called **The Sea Inside**. The sail produced as part of the display is available to see in person and a number of new audio recordings are also available <http://www.cromarty-courthouse.org.uk/index.asp>

■ **Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Archives** have continued with a project to catalogue an important collection relating to Aberdeen Harbour, a history spanning some 900 years. If you want to keep in touch with progress, this link will help <http://www.aberdeen-harbour.co.uk/about-us/history/>

■ **Recreated Iron Age crannog destroyed by fire:** A major fire has destroyed a recreated Iron Age roundhouse here in Scotland. The Scottish Crannog Centre, which houses a museum of ancient life, burned down on the night of 11 June. The main building – a crannog – was a roundhouse built on Loch Tay, Kenmore, in Perthshire in the 1990s. Its design was based on findings from an underwater excavation of a 2,500-year-old crannog found nearby on the north shore of the loch in the 1980s. <https://tinyurl.com/42mwsmmx>

■ **Savings Bank Museum:** TSB has dropped plans to close a museum at the site of the world's first savings bank and transfer its contents to Edinburgh. It said it had listened to concerns in the area about the loss of the facility in the village of Ruthwell. The company will now look to transfer the museum and its entire collection to a community organisation. Minister Henry Duncan set up his 'penny bank' for parishioners in Ruthwell in the south of Scotland in 1810 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-south-scotland-57427567>

■ **Perth Museum and Art Gallery** has an exhibition until August 28 entitled 'Going for the Messages: A History of Shopping in Perth'. They also have a rare opportunity to view several Beatrix Potter fungi studies in watercolour alongside some of her photographs taken while holidaying in Perthshire. Although best known for her children's books, Potter was also a celebrated naturalist and conservationist <https://tinyurl.com/y2zhfzvn>

■ **NatureScot has recently launched a new guide to the place-names of Inverness and the surrounding area.** The publication celebrates the cultural and natural heritage of the Highland capital by identifying and explaining the meaning behind many of the area's place-names. Building on NatureScot's successful 'Gaelic in the Landscape' series, it draws on local knowledge to gain a richer understanding of the names that connect people to the land, environment and community <https://tinyurl.com/cntk85zu>

■ The new **Cardhu** visitor experience tells the story of the distillery's founder Helen Cumming and how, in the early days of illicit distilling in Speyside over 200 years ago, she would raise a flag to warn her neighbours of approaching authorities. It also celebrates Helen's daughter-in-law Elizabeth, who took on running the distillery as it grew into a successful business throughout the 19th century until it became the first distillery to be acquired by John Walker & Sons in 1893. <https://tinyurl.com/3ums96zx>

The guide was researched and written by the award-winning local broadcaster and storyteller Roddy (Ruaraidh) Maclean, whose work centres on the connections between the Gaelic language and Scotland's environment.

■ In March 2021, the Covid-19 Archives Fund awarded grants of up to £50,000 to 25 organisations including **West Dunbartonshire Archives** and **Midlothian Archives**.

- **West Dunbartonshire** recognises the importance of its heritage collections and is focused on ensuring its historic archives are kept safe and in good condition for future generations. This grant will help in achieving this objective by enabling the purchase of remote Wi-Fi-enabled data loggers to be used to monitor the temperature and humidity of archive locations. This technology will ensure that any issues can be identified and addressed quickly, and will provide long-term data to help preserve the collections.

- In **Midlothian** this grant will enable the council to ensure the safety of its archival collection by moving it to a secure location on a temporary basis, until it can be relocated to its permanent repository. <https://tinyurl.com/n2t3v4fc>

■ **Art UK** continues to offer subjects of interest including Greg Thomas writing on Ian Hamilton Finlay's connection to Orkney 'Gods of the earth, gods of the sea: Ian Hamilton Finlay and Orkney' <https://tinyurl.com/y6e8u87j>

■ **British Newspaper Archive** has recently added some more Scottish titles to their archives including The 'Glasgow Weekly Mail' (years covered:1862-1864, 1866-1868, 1879-1880, 1883, 1886, 1888, 1890-1892), 'The Kirriemuir Free Press & Angus Advertiser' (1915-1952, 1955-1960), 'The Inverness Advertiser and Ross-shire Chronicle (1849-1885), and also the 'Daily Record' (1895-1898, 1901-1902, 1905, 1908-1910, 1914-1918, 1921, 1931-1932, 1936-1937, 1939-1946, 1950, 1952-1954). <https://tinyurl.com/ydqa83np>

SOCIETIES

■ **The 1745 Association** has recently announced that, to mark the 275th anniversary of the Declaration of Murlaggan on May 8 1746, a new version of 'John Roy's Psalm' has been published on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SfeMt-moS0> For further information contact Michael Nevin, Chair of The 1745 Association, at mike@nevinassociates.co.uk or on 0131 552 6089 or mobile 0782 4829 445.

■ **The Women's' History Network** is offering three WHN fellowships to support Early Career Researchers. Each fellowship is designed to provide financial support to those who have completed their doctorate but are yet to secure their first academic post. The network is also offering a small grant of up to £750 to support the direct costs of those researching women's history, for researchers not employed in higher education. The research should be intended to lead to a published outcome and costs that will be covered include, for example, travel and accommodation when visiting archives, conference attendance costs, or photocopying or photographic licences required for archival work. The deadline for applications for both funds is **1 August** and the result will be communicated to the successful applicants by **1 September**. Fellowships will last from 1 October 2021 – 30 September 2022. Further details from here <https://tinyurl.com/ygtqez5w>

■ **Killlearn Heritage Trust** has recently opened a heritage trail. See <https://www.killlearnheritage.org.uk/>

WEBSITES

■ **Remote & Rural Remedies** offers a new and varied perspective on life in the Highlands and Islands. Its core is a digitised and transcribed collection of surveys undertaken by the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh between 1850 and 1852. <https://tinyurl.com/rhgz3xnb>

■ **Glasgow Women's Library** works across all of Scotland delivering learning opportunities and events in a range of locations. It is the only accredited museum dedicated to women's history in the whole of the UK. Further details and how to join their mailing list are available here <https://womenslibrary.org.uk/>

■ **The Dundee Whaling Industry 1756 to 1920** is explored in a section of the Friends of Dundee City Archives http://www.fdca.org.uk/Whaling_Industry.html

■ **u3a Radical Rising Project** Helen Glassford reports on an interesting multi-group project, with some results at this website: <https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/95138>

In late 2018, our local history groups were looking for a subject that might encourage interest in 'research'. Around this time, we noted that Manchester groups were preparing to commemorate the bi-centenary of the Peterloo Massacre. Our own less well-known radical history seemed a good subject for our research and 2020 would be an opportunity to commemorate the bi-centenary of the 1820 Radical Rising in Scotland. In 2019, members of Glasgow West End, Paisley & District, Falkirk and Perth U3As worked on a 'Radical Rising' project to research these events, with a focus on our local areas.

As mostly enthusiastic amateurs, we covered a general overview of the events before, during and after 1820, with individual u3a groups or members then choosing topics of personal interest. Topics covered included: the role of women; George IV; the Unitarian Church; individual life stories; the 'Battle of Bonnymuir'; emigration; and songs and poetry of the time. We also offered '1820 Radical Rising' talks to other u3a groups across the country, discovering more about the Radical tradition in those local areas.

Our research group had planned to hold a free public event in April, 2020, '1820 – The Radical Rising: Scotland's Hidden History' but due to the pandemic were unable to do so. Some of our research findings have been posted under an '1820 Rising' tab detailed above and below. The groups even managed a short performance of local events, produced under extremely challenging lockdown conditions!

Our focus on learning about the radical rising may have started in a local context, but it threw up links across the country and abroad. By making these connections, our project became a thoroughly enjoyable experience that allowed us to pull some of the threads of the past into the present. Here again is the website:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/glasgow-west-end/page/95138>

PODCASTS and RADIO

■ Some recent material from **BBC Sounds** and all of them are available for over a year!

Recall of the Rock To mark the centenary of the all-female Pinnacle Club of mountaineers, members have recorded their memories for the British Library Sound Archive. Climber and poet Helen Mort responds to these recordings in a poetic interview with a constant witness – the rock itself. Interwoven with Helen's new poem are voices from the

new archive – women sharing stories and thoughts about challenge, fear, independence, identity and risk. The club's oral history project has recorded the ways in which women plan together, adventure together, and remember together. Recollections range from private ambitions that propelled a girl up her local cliff for the first time, to dramatic expeditions in distant mountain ranges. Social expectations in the early 20th century placed barriers between women and climbing. Among the determined pioneers were those who founded the Pinnacle Club in 1921. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000v2mr> .

Slavery and empire building shaped Liverpool's development. Can art works help give a new understanding of the city's history? In a discussion in partnership with the Liverpool Biennial, Anne McElvoy is joined by the Festival curator Manuela Moscoso, artist Xaviera Simmons, historian Dr Diana Jeater and composer Neo Muyanga. The Biennial runs from 20 March to 6 June 2021 with art works around the city. <https://tinyurl.com/4s7ca6xy>

Gagarin and the Lost Moon is another brilliant programme from **Archive on 4**. It is described as follows: 'On 12 April 1961, cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became an explorer like none other before him, going faster and further than any human in history, into what had always been the impenetrable and infinite unknown. Raised in poverty during the Second World War, the one-time foundry worker and a citizen of the Soviet Union became the first human to fly above the Earth in the vastness of space. In doing so he became an instrument in The Cold War – an ideological battle between the superpowers: East versus West, communism versus democracy. Dr Kevin Fong tells the story of how 27-year-old Yuri Gagarin came to launch a new chapter in the history of exploration and follows the cosmonaut's one hour flight around the Earth'. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000v24g>

PUBLICATIONS and BLOGS

■ **Journal of Scottish Historical Studies** Vol. 41, No. 1, May, 2021 is published by Edinburgh University Press on behalf of the Economic and Social History Society of Scotland. It includes regular research and review articles, news and book reviews, and also has occasional interviews, symposia on key books, and appreciations of incidents, sources and ideas in the writing of Scotland's history <https://tinyurl.com/czrje25f>

■ **Northern Scotland** Vol. 12, No. 1, May, 2021 is now available online. It is a cross-disciplinary publication that addresses historical, cultural, economic, political and geographical themes relating to the Highlands and Islands and the north-east of Scotland <https://www.eupublishing.com/toc/nor/12/1>

■ **History Scotland** 21(4), July/August 2021 includes a brief history of the Scottish witch hunt, an archaeology field report and an article 'The devil in early modern Scotland'. The main focus of this issue is witchcraft <https://www.historyscotland.com/>

■ **The Local Historian** Journal of the British Association for Local History April 2021 Vol.51 No.2 £5.00 to non-members and free to members. Temporary suspension of the paywall – all back issues (excluding the latest issue) are available free to view during the pandemic crisis. <https://www.balh.org.uk/>

■ **Local History News** Magazine of the British Association for Local History Number 139 Spring 2021. <https://www.balh.org.uk/>

■ A Free Publication on the history of **Bruce's Mausoleum at Dunfermline Abbey** by Mike Penman from the University of Stirling—our thanks to Advisory Committee member Dr Murray Cook for this item <https://tinyurl.com/fmn5ej29>

■ **Stirling Bridge and Bannockburn – Exploring Scotland's Two Greatest Battles** by Dr. Murray Cook <https://www.extremispublishing.com/>

■ **Crude Britannia – How Oil Shaped a Nation** by James Marriott & Terry Macalister Pluto Press <https://tinyurl.com/hw6rwjpp>

■ **Lanarkshire Folk Tales** by Allison Galbraith, The History Press Published April 2021 <https://www.thehistorypress.co.uk/>

■ **Walking North with Keats** by Carol Kyros Walker recaptures the landscapes, landmarks, poetry and letters of Keats' epic walk of 1818 in this revised edition of a 90s classic. <https://tinyurl.com/ygw4mo55>

■ **With Stirling's SAS in the Desert: When the Grass Stops Growing** by Carol Mather, Pen & Sword.

■ The latest issue of **The Historian** is out now exploring the 'legacy of war'. Issue 148 from the Historical Association. <https://tinyurl.com/2yxuc2y6>

■ **History of Ochiltree - Village and Parish** by Dane Love, Cairn Publishing <https://tinyurl.com/kmbm8faz>

- **National Trust for Scotland** May newsletter includes an article called 'Culzean Castle before Robert Adam' by Derek Alexander, Head of Archaeology <https://tinyurl.com/27f8fskj>
- **The Antonine Wall in Falkirk District** by Geoff Bailey 600 pages, fully illustrated £25.00. Falkirk Local History Society <https://falkirklocalhistory.club/>
- **Aspects of History** is a recently launched bi-monthly magazine available as a digital Kindle edition at a major discount on Amazon and on the magazines website. You can also purchase a hard copy at £5.99. It's a combination of articles and book reviews. <https://aspectsofhistory.com/about-us/>
- Latest Posts at **Women's History Network** include **The Decriminalisation of Abortion in The Maritime Provinces of Canada and Scotland** by Amy Joyce <https://tinyurl.com/aud2bdwt>

USING ONLINE SOURCES

A Personal View



Dave Harvie has researched and written books, journal and newspaper articles, dozens of talks, and been a contributor for forty years to the Mass Observation Archive. He has worked in libraries and archives the length and breadth of the country, and has inevitably learned a few tricks about researching in paper and on-line. Here, in the first of two articles, Dave shares a few website nuggets.

For those with an interest in Glasgow – especially its companies, industries and buildings – the sites selected below are invaluable and will keep your computer red-hot!

http://www.glasgowsculpture.com/pg_architects.php This is an extensive site, often referred to as 'Glasgow architects, builders and foundries', containing equally extensive biographical and other details of the work of 121 individuals and partnerships.

<http://www.glasgowwestaddress.co.uk/> is the priceless website of 'Glasgow West-end addresses and their Occupants, 1836-1915'. Each address, often with an accompanying photograph, has details of occupants and their relevant dates of occupation.

An adjunct of this website is http://www.glasgowwestaddress.co.uk/1888_Book/Index_of_firms_1888.htm which is a listing of Glasgow companies active in 1888, with invaluable biographical information for each entry.

Based at the University of Glasgow is the Glasgow's 100 oldest Companies Project, built by The Business Archives Council of Scotland: https://www.gla.ac.uk/media/Media_197311_smxx.pdf This site has over 200 pages of company histories and information sources.

For information on architects and their partnerships and buildings, perhaps nothing beats the huge and spectacularly good Dictionary of Scottish Architects, listing those known to have worked in Scotland from 1660-1980: <http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/> This site has extensive details of the principals, their partners, assistants and pupils, and equally far-reaching details of their buildings and other projects. You are guaranteed to spend many happy hours here devouring its 16,560 biographies and details of 61,016 individual buildings.

Anyone delving into the various 'wheres' of Glasgow will know that hundreds of streets in the city changed their names at various times; street numbering was also an uncertainty. This can be a real problem for researchers, but some assistance is thankfully available: <http://www.glasgowguide.co.uk/info-streetschanged1.html> which will tell you over three long pages the 'before' and 'after' names, but sadly not the dates when changes were made.

Anyone following Industry in the widest sense should be aware of Grace's Guide. This is a very extensive source of UK-wide information on industrialists, companies, processes, products, patents and sites, with numerous links to source material such as The Engineer and other journals; in all, 145,000 pages and 230,500 images are available. Spectacular! https://gracesguide.co.uk/Main_Page

It will be stating the obvious to *Clish-Clash* readers, but we are fortunate in 'Scotland's People' to have such a well-organised and inexpensive website <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>. I have used this site for years, but have only recently rediscovered the value of searching Valuation Rolls, especially the earlier ones, which included occupations.

Now for a few arcane sites to tickle your imagination, and what I consider to be a couple of hot tips!

A continuing interest of mine is a Scottish pioneer in gold and silver extraction, and this has led me to a brilliant website that charts the world prices of gold and silver on an up-to-the-minute basis. Information is easily switchable between numerous displays and charts, and all becomes bewitching as political and other events influence prices. In one of my talks, I use a pair of charts, which I can update in PowerPoint an hour before leaving home <https://goldprice.org/gold-price.html>

A similarly-useful website, 'Current value of old money' enables you to apply today's values to, for example, the cost of a ship or a building in say 1780. Beware though – this can be tricky, as there are several different possible – and widely varying – calculations dependent on a variety of fiscal factors that may or may not be either applicable or known or understood! An excellent resource however:

<http://projects.exeter.ac.uk/RDavies/arian/current/howmuch.html>

Another of my projects involved researching a real-life business scandal, not long removed from living memory, linking very significant people and serious allegations of alchemy. This inevitably led to looking into the history of that most esoteric of philosophies and the manner in which it changed and became corrupted over the centuries. Even without a particular interest, this is an area worth a look, and I suggest two websites, either of which will fill a rainy day: https://www.alchemywebsite.com/articles_proj.html and <https://www.alchemywebsite.com/index.html>

Clish-Clash readers may be familiar with the Findagrave website; this aims to be a worldwide resource of 190 million burial sites of individuals both prominent and essentially unknown, with varying degrees of information, often including photographs. Discovering the burial-place of someone whose life or activities you are researching can be an undisputed frustration, and I have occasionally used this website with success: <https://www.findagrave.com/>

In the next edition of Clish clash David will take us further afield....

WHAT'S ON – ONLINE EVENTS

■ Most of our member groups have gone into their summer recess as far as presentations and events go but many presentations are available on their YouTube channels. To find out more check recent editions of *Clish-Clash* (all online at <https://www.slhf.org/newsletter>).

■ Current exhibitions at **The Hunterian** at the University of Glasgow include **Old Ways New Roads**, comprising a series of talks, discussions, a film, a book and more <https://tinyurl.com/3y66cp4r>. The online talks include several that have direct relevance to local history. The whole thrust of the exhibition and the book are the ways in which the changing nature of communication in the Highlands changed local history.



A special event during the **Old Ways New Roads** online events was the screening of the short feature film **1745**, which explores issues surrounding two black enslaved women in the Highlands, against the backdrop of the 1745. The film, written by Morayo Akandé, stars African-Scottish sisters Morayo Akandé and Moyo Akandé. The two sisters took part in a discussion of the film after its online screening, all of which can be viewed at the link given above (scroll down for the film)



■ Maria Gundestrup-Larsen, Project Officer, **Scottish Archaeology Month** Coordinator at Archaeology Scotland writes: **Archaeology Scotland** celebrates the annual Scottish Archaeology Month in September, a bonanza of archaeology, history and heritage events throughout the month. This year will present a mix of in-person and online events, including digs, guided walks, exhibitions and open doors, online talks, digital engagement activities and resources. There will be a Big Dig in Falkirk, lots of happenings along the Antonine Wall, a football-themed Open Day at Hampden in Glasgow, coracles, maps and skeletons on display in Dumfries and Galloway, outdoor events in Stirlingshire and the established local heritage and archaeology festivals in East Lothian, Badenoch and the Highlands – among lots of other things!

Many organisations are now planning for **Archaeology Scotland**. If you are interested in adding an event to their programme or want more information, please do not hesitate to contact Maria at m.gundestrup@archaeologyscotland.org.uk. Scottish Archaeology Month is part of the European Heritage Days alongside Doors Open Days. You can find them on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

■ **60 Years of Scottish Labour History Society** and **30 Years of Scottish Workers People's History** – plus **Honouring Ian MacDougall**

On November 30 SLHS will be joining the Scottish Working People's History Trust and the National Library of Scotland in a day-long online event to mark the 60th anniversary of SLHS and the 30th anniversary of SWPHT. The day will comprise three separate elements. The first, from 11am, will feature presentations about SLHS and SWPHT, plus a Q&A session; the second, at 2pm, will be a film presentation showcasing NLS working people's and labour history collections, including the William Gallacher Archive, again with a Q&A session; the third, at 5pm, will feature a panel discussion on working people's oral history, and another Q&A session.

Meanwhile, an inaugural Ian MacDougall Memorial Lecture is being arranged for April 2022.

■ New Lanark 2021: From Robert Owen to World Heritage and Beyond



To mark the 250th anniversary of Owen's birth, the 20th anniversary of New Lanark's UNESCO World Heritage Site status, and the restoration of the millworkers' housing in the village, New Lanark Trust will host a three-day interdisciplinary conference to explore Owen's extensive legacy. Running from 12-14 October, the conference will reflect on the relevance of Owen's legacy today, exploring how heritage sites address UNESCO's sustainable development goals, the value of culture and heritage, industrial democracy, workers' rights and co-operation. Also being celebrated will be the many partnerships which have

helped develop the site, including with the hundreds of people who have supported its regeneration. More information from jane.masters@newlanark.org

■ **'The Public and Private Worlds of Sir Walter Scott'** was held on June 28 2021. This event focused on the lesser-known aspects of Sir Walter Scott – his life, career and interests, hosted by both the **Society of Antiquaries of Scotland** and the **Royal Society of Edinburgh**. <https://tinyurl.com/y3ye9yzt>

MEET AN SLHF TRUSTEE



I was born and brought up in rural Tipperary in Ireland where my parents had a small dairy farm and the village post-office. At that time, we had the only public telephone in the community which meant being available for people to access the telephone 'Silvermines 7' at all times of day or night.

My wish to be a nurse brought me in 1976 to London where I lived for 16 years and continued in nursing and various NHS management roles. During this time, I also completed an MA in Manpower Studies at the Polytechnic of Central London. My wife and I moved to Scotland in 1992 and I worked in senior roles with the NHS at Forth Valley Health Board as well as a five-year period as the Scottish Director of the Royal College of Nursing. Following a break from

work for health reasons I was employed by Waitrose when their store opened in Stirling working on the shopfloor and for a couple of years as the branch staff representative.

I have lived in the village of Kinlochard for over 26 years and this is where my interest in local history has developed. I live in a property called Mill of Chon and very quickly got drawn into researching its history and have had the bug probably ever since!

I helped to establish in 1999 the Loch Ard Local History Group (LALHG) and in 2017 we published our first book *The Enchantment of the Trossachs*.

It must have been in about 2015 when I came across a leaflet about the Scottish Local History Forum and LALHG joined. For us as a group and for me personally this opened up a much wider range of information and contacts that have provided us with a very interesting and diverse range of speakers and subjects and have helped me with my research on local history. I became a member of the Advisory Committee in 2017 and in 2018 was elected as a Trustee. In the summer of 2020, I became editor of Forum's bi-monthly e-newsletter *Clish Clash*.

Since retirement in 2017 my research has focused on the Spanish Influenza Pandemic in Scotland (see Issue 107 of *Scottish Local History*) and more recently the life of navvies working on the construction of the Loch Katrine Water Supply to Glasgow between 1857 and 1859 (see *Scottish Local History* 109). I am also a member of a small local project team that has developed a local heritage web site <https://strathardheritage.org/> which aims to capture for future generations aspects of the area's local history and heritage. I have written several short items for this website as well as in the local community magazine 'Strathard News'. In April 2021 I was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

MEET A LOCAL GROUP

■ Baldernock Local History Group

Baldernock is a small rural parish just seven miles north of the Clyde in the West of Scotland, between Milngavie and Torrance. Its Local History Group was formed only in 2013, when two now-retired academics who stay in the parish decided to convene the group. The co-convenors, Professor Niall Logan, now also the Chair of the Scottish Vernacular Buildings Working Group, and Professor Paul Bishop, now also the Chair of the Scottish Local History Forum, both have interests in the local history of the area, as well as more widely in Scotland. Since its establishment, the group has held monthly talks in the Baldernock Parish Church Hall, mostly focusing on Baldernock itself and surrounding areas, and more recently widening its remit to all of East Dunbartonshire and Greater Glasgow. During the Covid restrictions, talks have been run online via Zoom. The group also conducts

walks in the local area and in neighbouring Milngavie, led by Paul and Niall and always attracting good numbers of participants.



Fingerboard sign at Baldernock Church

The group functions as a project of the local Community Council and does not have a formal constitution nor office bearers beyond the two informal co-conveners. This loose structure, whereby a small addition to the Community Council's insurance premium enables the local history group to insure its talks and walks, means that the running of the group is flexible. The group does not have an annual subscription nor formal membership, and talk attendees are asked for a donation of £2 per talk to cover insurance, speakers' expenses and the hire of the Church Hall, and to enable the group to build up a small pot of money to purchase equipment as needed (e.g., data projector, screen, remote control slide changer, etc). This pot of money is administered by the Community Council Treasurer but kept distinct from the CC's finances. This flexible structure has worked well and the group currently sees no need for a more formal arrangement. However, the issue of succession planning will need to be addressed in due course if the group is to survive beyond the current convenorships of Niall and Paul. The longevity of other local groups in Scotland is noteworthy and it is probable that the Baldernock group will, in due course, have to consider a more formal structure to ensure its continuation.

NEW ONLINE MAPS RESOURCE AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND

Chris Fleet, Senior Maps Curator at the National Library of Scotland continues to provide us with an update on recent developments.

■ The most useful maps for local history research

A new resource on the NLS Maps website provides guidance on some of the most useful maps for local history research, with summary information about their main content. The resource is intended as an introductory overview and is easy to scan with links to more detailed, further information. It aims to illustrate how maps can reveal detailed information about a local area over time, including buildings, gardens, industries, railways, roads, woodland and agricultural land. Depending on the place, subject and time period, different maps may be more useful, and these are explained. The resource ends with a detailed list of suggestions for further reading.

Maps for Scottish Local History web resource: <https://maps.nls.uk/communities/local-history/>

We are grateful to members of the Scottish Local History Forum for very helpful feedback on an initial draft version of this guide. This resource is part of a growing series, providing guidance on using maps for particular user communities at: <https://maps.nls.uk/communities/>.

Two excellent examples of the value of such maps for local history are overleaf.



A detail from James Wells' 1769 *Plan of the Barony of Lochrutton*... <https://maps.nls.uk/view/106697333>. This map shows the pre-Improvement landscape (1774-5), an irregular patchwork of O (Outfield), P (Pasture), C (Croft), M (Meadow), and B (Bog).



A detail from *A Plan of the Loch Rutton Estate*. (1815) - <https://maps.nls.uk/view/106697339> - showing the same area. Note the broadly similar patterns of woodland, but with different land cover, with many new, smaller and geometrically rectangular fields compared to 1774-5.

CAN YOU HELP?

These queries come to us via the Forum's website. As always, we note that we cannot do research for individual queries, but we ask the Forum Trustees and the Advisory Committee if they, or someone they know, can help.

■ The Gallant Grahams folk song

A little more on the query we mentioned in the last *Clish-Clash*, with the reply in that issue courtesy of Nicky Small, a member of the Forum's Advisory Committee: the enquirer had noted: 'I'm an American with a limited knowledge of Scottish history. I'm trying to understand the context of a song recorded by The Battlefield Band, "The Gallant Grahams". In it the singer was arrested "for the killing o' an English lord". He was taken to Carrickfergus Castle and imprisoned. There he "...asked for the sight of the double derbies / And the sight of them was granted me / With them I knocked the jailer down / And I set bold Johnson at liberty." I've found many online mentions of the song but no one seems to say what the "double derbies" were and who "bold Johnson" was. Can anyone here explain this to me?' The enquirer, via the SLHF website, has already been given some information (e.g., 'double derbies' are handcuffs) but, as Nicky noted, we have not been able to identify the 'bold Johnson' mentioned in the song. If you have further information, please notify SLHF Trustee, James Brown, who will forward your response. seumas1584@gmail.com

■ Stirling Racecourse

Retired Stirling-born champion jockey, Richard Quinn, is seeking a print or painting of the 19th century Stirling Racecourse which was in the King's Park beside the castle. With the help of our contacts including Anne Monaghan of the Bannockburn House History Group we have provided Mr Quinn with possible sources including the NLS Maps Library but as yet we haven't been able to track down any images of horses, jockeys, etc. If you know of any please contact Mr Quinn direct at trquinn@hotmail.co.uk

■ Scotland's Forgotten Prize-ring History

Researcher Tony Gee is working on this topic and is seeking to engage with others sharing his interest but not in the ring! This relates to 18th and 19th century bareknuckle pugilism, with particular emphasis on the Glasgow area where the greater proportion of contests took place. It includes not only competitive fights, but also exhibitions (at theatres, circuses and particularly music halls, etc) given by pugilists who fought in this era. While the emphasis is on native-born fighters, 'foreign' pugilists (usually English, Irish or American) are also included. Tony may be contacted at tonyprhist@gmail.com

LOCAL INDOOR WAR MEMORIALS in BUCKIE and RATHVEN



Lockdown Presented a New Focus from David Lindsay Fowler.

These books are an indoor excursion from Buckie St. Peter's Church in the west to the Rathven Parish Church in the east and are the outcome of over eleven years research. This research began with the publishing of the five outdoor war memorial books for Portgordon, Buckie and Findochty during 2017, as part of the 'Banffshire's Fallen Remembered' series. There is considerable use of text and photographic record from the local 'Banffshire Advertiser' together with contributions from relatives, friends and the author's own large gravestone resource from the six local cemeteries. Within the framework of the Indoor War Memorials are many names that are not on the Outdoor War Memorials due to the fact many died at home during and after the conflicts without the correct service credentials. Also, other families just did not their want their relatives' names outside for everyday viewing.

PHONE KIOSKS ... THAT ONE LAST CALL HAS BEEN EXTENDED



Phone boxes (kiosks) are an important part of our street-scape and in the last issue of *Clish-Clash*, we noted in passing the K3 phone kiosk, a rare survivor, constructed in concrete. This kiosk is so rare that there is only one example in Scotland, the category-A listed example in Rhynd village in Perth and Kinross (photo at left courtesy of Don Martin, with thanks). This is the example that Rob Close told us at the end of his report in the last *Clish-Clash* he was off to see (and presumably photograph).

Two silent colour films about Milngavie and surrounding areas from 1946 and 1948 were viewed recently on the National Library of Scotland's Moving Image Archive website (see above p.3).

One of these shows a brief glimpse of a K3 phone kiosk in Douglas St Milngavie, that was previously unknown to this writer (below). It was located approximately where a K6 phone kiosk now sits (see p.16 of *Clish-Clash* 45). Presumably the present K6 replaced that K3 using the same phone line. We are sure that there will be many more insights into recent local history when viewing the many films on the Moving Image Archive.



A screen shot of the brief glimpse at extreme right of the K3 phone kiosk on Douglas St Milngavie from the 1948 film 'A Car Journey' (National Library of Scotland Moving Image Archive)

QUOTE OF THE MOMENT

“There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.”
Albert Einstein

CONTACT DETAILS

Email <http://slhf.org/contact-slhf>

'Clish-clash' means repeated gossip, so please use this link <http://slhf.org/contact-slhf> to send us your local history news & information (Word attachment or link to your website).

*Members only: To receive notification of the newsletter by email or to be removed from the mailing list, choose **Sign up for our newsletter** on the website contacts page.*

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

<https://www.slhf.org/events>

<https://www.slhf.org/calendar>

Submit your events at: <https://tinyurl.com/ynhm2v3e>



<https://www.slhf.org/scottish-local-history-directory>