



# The e-newsletter of the Scottish Local History Forum

Scottish Charity SCO15850

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Are you interested in how the Forum is administered?

Do you perhaps feel that there are missed opportunities that the Trustees and the Advisory Committee could fruitfully explore to widen our impact?

Are there 'tricks' we are missing in supporting Scottish local history?

If such thoughts cross your mind, then please consider putting yourself forward to become a Trustee. In the first instance, contact the Chair Professor Paul Bishop to explore what it means to be a Trustee paul.bishop.3@glasgow.ac.uk

# **SLHF NEWS**

The Trustees last met on August 9 2021 and the main issues considered are outlined here.

#### ■ SLHF 2021 EVENTS

**AGM** The Forum's AGM this year will be held online via Zoom on Monday 25 October at 6pm. We encourage as many members as possible to attend (it is free of charge) in order to address good governance. For more information and to register, go to <a href="https://www.slhf.org/event/slhf-2021-agm-zoom">https://www.slhf.org/event/slhf-2021-agm-zoom</a>.

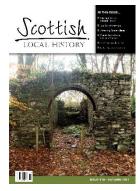
**SLHF Conference** The much-delayed SLHF annual conference **Taking Part: Aspects of Scottish Sports and Pastimes**, originally planned for last Autumn, will now take place on Zoom on the evenings of November 10 and 11, 2021. Full details including booking and payment arrangements (£5 per evening) are available using this link: <a href="https://www.slhf.org/event/slhf-2021-annual-conference-taking-part-aspects-scottish-sports-and-pastimes">https://www.slhf.org/event/slhf-2021-annual-conference-taking-part-aspects-scottish-sports-and-pastimes</a>



Boxing memorabilia collected as part of the Tales from the Ring project, University of Stirling <a href="https://boxing.stir.ac.uk/">https://boxing.stir.ac.uk/</a>
Credit University of Stirling Archives

We have reluctantly postponed until 2022 the **Annual SLHF/NLS** talk and the **Walk and Talk** event at Linlithgow.

"Scotland and Opposition to Slavery: The Local Experience" is the working title of the follow-up to our April 2021 mini-conference. We anticipate that it will be held in the early part of 2022. Recordings of the talks at the April mini-conference are on the SLHF website.



**Scottish Local History Issue 110** was published just before the end of August. A list of the main articles was in *Clish-Clash* 47. It is clear that many readers appreciate the illustrative content of the journal (especially colour photographs), so a special effort is being made to maintain and develop the quality of the picture content. Authors are asked to illustrate their articles to the highest standard that they can manage and picture selection often involves considerable correspondence. Some photographers make a special effort to provide photographs to illustrate special features in the journal – Edward Z Smith, Matt Wilson and John McKillop are especially consistent in this respect. Photographs sent by John Yellowlees, along with the information he contributes, enable us to enliven historical commentary on the interesting structures currently deserving 'Red Wheel' plaques in the National Transport Trust series. Features in Journal 110 for which photographs have been

specially provided include those on the archaeological excavation at Drumshanty Lint Mill, the Roman Centurion sculpture at Nethercroy and the 'Red Wheel' recently erected on the line of the historic Alloa Waggonway. Also providing visual impact is a set of three speedway programmes provided by Jim Henry (from the collection of Keith Corns) to illustrate his short article on the Speedway venues of Scotland. These are real 1950s 'period pieces'.

#### **TRUSTEES**

**Dr Nicola Small** has recently joined the Trustees. She is currently Local History Officer with Culture Perth and Kinross. Nicola has been a member of the Advisory Committee and will be replaced on that committee by **lain Duffus** from Edinburgh Libraries

The Forum is looking for several new **Trustees** to take office from the AGM to be held online on 25th October. Normally the Trustees meet five times a year, in recent times by Zoom teleconference. Meeting via Zoom will probably largely continue in this way, so that distance is not an issue and we'd welcome enquiries from parts of Scotland that are more distant from the Central Belt). If you have ideas on how the Forum should be run and develop its services, please take this opportunity to participate in the policy-making process. Feel free to contact the Chair, Professor Paul Bishop <a href="mailto:paul.bishop.3@glasgow.ac.uk">paul.bishop.3@glasgow.ac.uk</a>, if you have any queries about, and/or are interested in, becoming a Trustee.

Nomination forms can be downloaded from the Forum website, <a href="www.slhf.org">www.slhf.org</a>, and it would be helpful if scanned signed nominations could be sent by 20 September 2021 to <a href="scottishlocalhistoryforum@gmail.com">scottishlocalhistoryforum@gmail.com</a>. Nominations may also be made from the floor of the AGM.

Other issues discussed by the Trustees including a number of governance items as well as receiving reports on the Forum's finances, our approach to marketing and our activities in social media and the website.

# LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

■ Coronavirus update: As of August 9 2021, Scotland has moved out of the level system (0-4). The situation regarding remaining requirements and guidance can be found here: <a href="https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-safe-and-protecting-others/">https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-safe-and-protecting-others/</a>

There is still a legal requirement to wear facemasks in most indoor public spaces and public transport (Children under 12 are exempt from this).

The situation in libraries, archives and museums is ever changing so it always best to check locally before you visit.

- The **National Records of Scotland** Historical Search Room reopens to all customers from Monday September 6. For full information on advance booking and the safety measures, see: <a href="https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/about-us/service-status">https://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/about-us/service-status</a>
- Service update from NLS: When Scotland moved to Level 0 on July 19, NLS kept the 2-metre social distancing rule in their reading rooms and public spaces. NLS has increased the opening hours of its Edinburgh buildings. Access to the reading rooms will continue through the NLS's booking systems. For the current position please check <a href="https://www.nls.uk/reopening/">https://www.nls.uk/reopening/</a>
- Meanwhile, further afield at the **National Archives** in **Kew** more access restrictions have been lifted since July 20. Booking is no longer compulsory and capacity for seating has more than doubled. However, and especially if you're travelling from Scotland, it is best to pre-book to guarantee a seat and ensure that documents are available for when you arrive.



- The National Library of Scotland has announced that Amina Shah has been appointed their new Chief Executive and National Librarian. Ms Shah is known at the Library having served as Trustee, and brings a wealth of leadership experience from both public and academic libraries to the Chief Executive role. Ms Shah will take up the post as on October 4 https://tinyurl.com/txf22s5a
- Living Proof is a partnership project between the National Library of Scotland Moving Image Archive and Film Hub Scotland. The film has been chosen as the opening film of the Take One Action Film Festival 2021. Living Proof dives into Scotland's film archive to explore the country's complex relationship to the global climate crisis using archive footage and music. https://tinyurl.com/yg6wqb6y

- Alison Miller has been appointed as the Orkney Scriever. The one-year Scriever residency was created to celebrate the richness of the Orcadian dialect, acknowledging the islands as a stronghold for the Scots language. It is supported by funding from the National Lottery through Creative Scotland.
- During the period that the **Central Library in Dundee** has been out of action, the local history officer of Leisure and Culture Dundee has not been idle and has posted numerous videos. This link below will take you to Dr Erin Farley's many fascinating stories relating to Dundee's local history and characters: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ye9zlgxk">https://tinyurl.com/ye9zlgxk</a>
- Matthew Jarron of Dundee University Museum Services has curated an online exhibition showcasing some of the university's works of art showing the changes in Dundee over the decades. A must for anyone interested in the City of Discovery, Lost Dundee: the artists who captured the changing face of the city is available to view on the Art UK website: <a href="https://artuk.org/discover/curations/dundee-picturing-the-city">https://artuk.org/discover/curations/dundee-picturing-the-city</a>
- The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Museum at Stirling Castle recently reopened after a three-year multimillion-pound refurbishment. The museum tells the story of one of Scotland's most famous regiments and has had a lengthy transformation that started in September 2018 with the aim of ensuring its historic military legacy was preserved for future generations.
- The Railway Heritage Trust, a restoration group, has offered £500,000 to help repair the fire-damaged Troon railway station, following a devastating fire in July. The Victorian structure opened in 1892, designed by architect James Miller, whose work includes other west coast stations as well as Glasgow Royal Infirmary: <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-57878742">https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-57878742</a>
- Historic Environment Scotland has announced that a number of Scottish Heritage projects have been awarded funding to provide training opportunities and the restoration of historic structures which will benefit local communities and economies throughout Scotland <a href="https://tinyurl.com/yeqszfdg">https://tinyurl.com/yeqszfdg</a>
- National Museum of Scotland continues with its exhibition of the Galloway Hoard. While there, you may want to explore the history of a truly iconic machine in *The Typewriter Revolution*. See the **Events** section below.
- Climate change will be at the heart of a £12m transformation of **Dundee's Discovery Point Heritage Centre.** Five new or improved attractions are planned at the home of the famous scientific research ship 'Discovery'. These include a new visitor centre on the roof giving panoramic views of the city. Dundee Heritage Trust said more than half the funding had been raised after pledges from the Scottish government and National Lottery Heritage Fund. Other changes include a new attraction on the Discovery's connection to climate change and the ocean environment. A new gallery on polar exploration and a space for hosting large exhibitions are also to be built alongside a completely revamped entrance and reception <a href="https://tinyurl.com/58v6fiyr">https://tinyurl.com/58v6fiyr</a>

### **SOCIETIES**

- The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland has recently announced that they will continue to provide an online offering once they start to return to in-person. You might also want to view their YouTube channel <a href="https://www.youtube.com/societyofantiquariesofscotland">https://www.youtube.com/societyofantiquariesofscotland</a> for plenty of activities.
- Women's History Scotland awards the Leah Leneman Prize (£200) for an essay on any aspect of women's or gender history, focused on any time period and geographical area. The prize was established in 2002 to celebrate the work of Leah Leneman, one of the foremost historians of women in Scotland. A trailblazer for women's history

### **CONTACT DETAILS**

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

'Clish-clash' means repeated gossip, so do email your local history news & information (Word attachment or link to your website) to Contribute.

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.

**Scottish Local History Forum** 

Box 103, 12 South Bridge © SLHF 2021 Edinburgh EH1 1DD ISSN 2055-6411 in Scotland, she produced innovative studies on the women's suffrage movement, on women in medicine, and on sexuality and divorce in the early modern and modern periods. Forms of work that may be submitted include undergraduate dissertation, postgraduate work (e.g., Masters dissertation or chapter of PhD), a piece of original research by an independent scholar. Deadline December 20 2021. Further details <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ubz2cuhr">https://tinyurl.com/ubz2cuhr</a>

- Balfron Heritage Group has recently produced a set of age-specific local history walk booklets for Balfron Primary School and have gifted a set to Primary 6 who have been doing in-depth local history studies.
- The British Association for Local History has recently launched an initiative to find some great local history images from around Britain. Submissions are open from the start of January 2022, so there is plenty of time to take images through the changing seasons, of your favourite local history views and places. BALH will be asking for a few words about "why" the subject means something to you. It can simply be somewhere that fascinates you, a place that is special from your family history, or there is an interesting story to tell. Over the coming months, the BALH team will be sharing some of their favourite images The competition is open to all. You do not need to be a member of BALH to take part. The winners will be part of Local History Day in June 2022, and awarded the prestigious title Local History Photographer of the Year 2022 https://tinyurl.com/yez5kdry
- The **Killearn Heritage Group** has announced the opening of the Killearn Heritage Trail. The picturesque village of Killearn is rich in history a world-renowned mediaeval scholar, slave owners, tales of the Stone of Destiny, and even of circus elephants. Now its landmarks and stories have been brought together in an accessible, informative new attraction: the Killearn Heritage Trail bringing history to life <a href="https://www.killearnheritage.org.uk/">https://www.killearnheritage.org.uk/</a>

### **WEBSITES**

■ Boswells Village Hall launched its new website <a href="https://stboswellsvillagehall.org/">https://stboswellsvillagehall.org/</a>

The hall has been at the centre of village life since 1896, and the new site is set fair to serve as an information hub for its community and beyond. It offers copious archival material concerning the hall and its village: see especially the sections 'History' and 'Pictures & Memories'. Jonathan Nicholson, Creative Director of Scottish Borders Website Design, has skilfully assembled all the diverse items in an accessible way. An abundance of old and recent photos was collected, and PDFs made, drawing on the hall's own archive together with recent donations, particularly from the Lawrie and Oliver families. Alastair Minnis wrote the text. The site's costs were covered by a grant from The National Lottery's Community Fund. This launch marks a major moment in the hall's history: the completion of a protracted move to a new-style Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organization, replacing the trust that has managed the hall since 1896. In that year a plot of land was purchased from Benjamin Hunter, 'merchant' of St Boswells, and donated for the hall's construction by Mary Theresa Baillie of Dryburgh House, a daughter of Charles Baillie, Lord Jerviswoode (1804–1879). Theresa's original 1896 'Disposition' may be viewed as a PDF, together with an annotated transcription.

To help pay the building costs, in 1897 a fancy-dress bicycle gymkhana was held, with races during the afternoon and an illuminated parade at night. A copy of the wonderful programme has survived and is presented as a PDF. The website also has images of many celebrations, performances (particularly by the Drama Society), parties and sporting events (including curling!) throughout the years, together with striking photos of the ancient St Boswells Fair. Links to film clips also feature: villagers celebrating Edward VII's coronation and the British capture of Pretoria in 1900 during the Second Boer War; St Boswell's (now defunct) railway station in action.



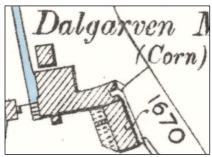
During the 2000 millennium celebration several villagers had their memories recorded and twelve transcriptions are available to view on the site. Information may be found about important historical figures, including John Younger (1785–1860), poet, polemicist and master angler, who earned a precarious living as a shoemaker; Frederick Gerard Peake (1886–1970), CMG CBE CStJ. ('Peake Pasha'), the founder and commandant of the Arab Legion Trans-Jordan; and Major William Alexander Brown MBE (1922–1984) who, during the Partition of India, led a successful coup against the

ruling Maharajah of Jammu and Kashmir which resulted in the Gilgit Agency becoming part of Pakistan-administered Kashmir. The little village of St Boswells has had, and continues to have, crucial connections with the larger world. On its website there is much of interest to historians. The management committee's secretary, contactable at secretary@stboswellsvillagehall.org, is always happy to receive further archival contributions.

Credit and thanks to Professor Alastair Minnis for content and to Allan Drummond for consent for use of the image of the hall.

- The Royal British Legion celebrate their centenary in 2021 and reflect their wide-ranging impact and work in a project called "*Telling Our Story*" https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/about-us/our-centenary/telling-our-story
- Over 100,000 historic prisoner-register records have been added to **Scotland's Criminal Database** as a free resource. The indexed records revel useful information and **Scottish Indexes** will look up and transcribe the original records at the National Records of Scotland for a £5 fee. https://tinyurl.com/yrsr2dej
- The House of Fraser Archive provides an extensive resource for anyone interested in the history of the business which originated in Scotland. It is described as follows: "The House of Fraser Archive offers a fascinating glimpse into the history of one of Britain's leading department stores. House of Fraser has a long and distinguished history. Founded in 1849 as a small drapery shop on the corner of Argyle Street and Buchanan Street in Glasgow, it expanded rapidly, acquiring some 200 different stores, and opening branches in many parts of the world. The Archive is an outstanding source for the history of British design, fashion, tastes, lifestyles, consumerism and consumption from the early nineteenth to the end of the twentieth century". https://housefraserarchive.ac.uk/
- A new resource mentioned in CC 47 was **Maps for Local History**—well worth a second mention and a visit! https://maps.nls.uk/communities/local-history/
- The Scottish Water Mills website <a href="https://tinyurl.com/vkmkk76x">https://tinyurl.com/vkmkk76x</a> has recently been launched, a collaboration between the National Library of Scotland Maps section, Joe Rose, retired engineer from Canada, the University of Glasgow School of Geographical & Earth Sciences (PhD student lara Calton and Professor Paul Bishop Chair of the Scottish Local History Forum), and Historic Environment Scotland / Canmore. The site plots all mills and mill infrastructure on the Second Edition (late 19th century) 6-inch mapping of Scotland, with links to the relevant First Edition mapping, along with those in Canmore. Mills can be selected by type (corn, flax/lint, waulk, etc).





Dalgarven Mill, Ayrshire, showing (left) the low breast-shot water wheel, and (right) the second edition 25-inch mapping of Dalgarven Mill with the representation of the water wheel by a ladder-type symbol at the southwest corner of the building. This symbolic representation of the water wheel is relatively rare in OS mapping of watermills in Scotland (Image courtesy of Wikipedia; Map courtesy of the NLS).

# RADIO, PODCASTS and STREAMING

■ In our section Using Online Sources, Dave Harvie refers to **In Our Time** which is a weekly radio programme on BBC Radio 4 broadcasting just after 09.00am every Thursday morning. It typically features an expert panel chaired by Melvyn Bragg and runs for 45 minutes. Bragg is modest about his role in the programme and says that the strength of the programme lies in its contributors. The programme was first broadcast in October 1998 and explores ideas across history, science, philosophy, culture and religion. It is the BBC's most downloaded podcast worldwide and is a massive free archive <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006gykl">https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006gykl</a>

Scottish history gets an occasional appearance but on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 **The Covenanters** was the topic under discussion. One of the advantages of the podcast version on BBC Sounds is that you are able to listen to a longer programme where the panel reflect on areas that may have not have been discussed in the shorter radio version. The entire archive of over 900 episodes is available to listen to including an episode from 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 about **The Highland Clearances** and from 19<sup>th</sup> January 2017 **Mary Queen of Scots**. It's always worth searching by key words rather than just the history theme. A programme about the life of **Robert Burns** is archived in the culture part of the archive.

- Time Travels is focused on Scotland and Susan Morrison explores the rich and sometimes murky depths of Scotland's past. Since October 2020 some 25 episodes have been recorded so you may find something of interest. https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/b094d4hl
- For fans of railways **The Great Railway Cavalcade: Rocket 150 at Rainhill** was first broadcast in 1980 and will bring back some wonderful memories. The programme is narrated by Brian Redhead and lasts for 60 minutes. <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p011vfz4">https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p011vfz4</a>

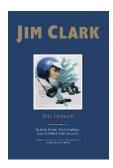
It is part of a bigger collection celebrating Britain's extraordinary **Steam Railway** legacy and includes a programme about the **West Highland Line**. https://tinyurl.com/usjz9666

### PUBLICATIONS and BLOGS

- 'Discover' is the National Library of Scotland's award-winning full-colour magazine. Issue 45, summer 2021, includes features on:
  - Two new learning resources: Sunset Song and Struggles for Liberty
  - National Librarian Dr John Scally's reflections on his time at the Library before retiring
  - Fresh Ink: emerging writers respond to 2020
  - A Gaelic youth project inspired by pioneering women.

https://www.nls.uk/about-us/publications/discover/

- CAIRT—Newsletter of the Scottish Maps Forum Issue 39 July 2021—a fabulous resource including details of a new acquisition and articles on significant people in Scotland's history of mapping such as John Givan and Alexander Adam. This edition and all previous ones are available at <a href="https://www.nls.uk/collections/maps/subject-info/cairt/">https://www.nls.uk/collections/maps/subject-info/cairt/</a>
- History Scotland 21(5) September/October 2021 includes more on the Second War of Independence and "Doll Thomas and her daughters" which is the story of a remarkable black woman, formerly enslaved, and her visit to Glasgow in 1810 <a href="https://www.historyscotland.com/">https://www.historyscotland.com/</a>
- Who Do You Think You Are? Issue181 August 2021 includes what is called a gem from the archive. Written by Wiebke McGehee, an archivist at North Lanarkshire Archives, it shares a notebook filled with stories about a Scottish walking club and the activities of its members.
- BBC History Magazine September 2021 includes "Walter Scott's genius" where Annika Bautz argues that Scotland's international image has been partly shaped by the brilliance of this 19<sup>th</sup>-century novelist.
- The Summer 2021 edition of **The Geographer**, the newsletter of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society, includes an article by Chris Fleet about transforming agricultural land with maps as well an extensive article by Kenneth MacLean and Charles Withers "The Diplomat Geographer: James Simpson (1873-1934) and the 1921 Commission of Arbitration" <a href="https://www.rsgs.org/">https://www.rsgs.org/</a>
- Building the Mallaig Railway a Photographer's Story Published November 2020 https://tinyurl.com/9zkpjay6
- The Engine Shed has recently produced a guide on the maintenance of Iron gates and Railings. It also provides a very interesting historical perspective on their development and manufacture <a href="https://tinyurl.com/yf4wkflh">https://tinyurl.com/yf4wkflh</a>
- Dissent After Disruption Church and State in Scotland, 1843-63 by Ryan Mallon Published June 2021 https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/
- Juvenile Justice in Victorian Scotland by Christine Kelly Published May 2021 https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/
- Jewish Orthodoxy in Scotland Rabbi Dr Salis Daiches and Religious Leadership by Hannah Holtschneider Published August 2021 https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/
- The History of Ochiltree by Dane Love Published May 2021: https://www.carnpublishing.com/ochiltree
- For the Safety of All: A Story of Scotland's Lighthouses by Donald S. Murray Published July 2021
- A Life of Industry: The Photography of John R Hume by Daniel Gray. Published August 2021.



■ Jim Clark 'Tribute to a Champion' celebrates the life and achievements of Jim Clark (1936-1968). In the book, Eric Dymock describes the young Clark's boyhood days on the Scottish farm and an early fascination for machinery and speed. The book is an evocative look back at the whys wherefores and background to a man who remains a hero for many, including Eric Dymock himself. It chronicles his interest in all things mechanical through to the heady days of two world championships. But shining through the meticulous Mr Dymock's prose is the thought that Jim Clark remained a farmer who drove Formula One cars on the world stage, rather than a Formula One driver who might just have been a farmer ISBN 978 0 957 4585 50 £24.95 http://vinehouseuk.co.uk/

#### **BLOGS**

- Museum Crush: In a blog called "Casting a queer eye across the collection of the National Galleries of Scotland" and to mark the end of Pride Month, Dan Vo explored the three galleries that make up the National Galleries of Scotland, casting his eye on the collections of the Scottish National Gallery, Scottish National Portrait Gallery and Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art. <a href="https://tinyurl.com/f6jbj6jh">https://tinyurl.com/f6jbj6jh</a>
- Royal Scottish Geographical Society recent blogs include Sir Richard Collinson and the search for Franklin: Writer-in-Residence Jo Woolf discovers RSGS's special connection with the captain of HMS Enterprise, who joined the hunt for a lost Arctic expedition. http://rsgs.org/blogs
- The **Engine Shed** blogs continue to offer insights into aspects of our built heritage including a look at glasshouses, fountains and sundials and a guide to Scotland's Historic High Streets <a href="https://blog.engineshed.scot/">https://blog.engineshed.scot/</a>
- British Association for Local History continue with an interesting range of blogs including the work of Commonwealth Wars Commission and the Repatriation of a Motor Company Heir. https://www.balh.org.uk/news

# **USING ONLINE SOURCES Part 2**

### **A Personal View**



Dave Harvie gave us some real gems in the last issue and here are even more!

I recently encountered two interesting and useful websites focused on **London**. <a href="https://www.derelictlondon.com/">https://www.derelictlondon.com/</a> is an archive of approx. 8,000 photographs of buildings and sites that are essentially derelict (although, as its author Paul Talling says, 'derelict' may have different interpretations). He also illustrates a considerable number of walking tours which he has devised.

The second website is an extensive blog by a graduate of the Open University (Dept. History of Science and Technology) is a fabulous and extensive history of everything and everyone

connected with the early history of London's gas industry. This is so surprisingly good and wide-ranging that you will not fail to find much to tickle your interest. <a href="http://marysgasbook.blogspot.com/">http://marysgasbook.blogspot.com/</a>

Readers of *Clish-Clash* will know the value of maps, and the great resource residing in the **National Library of Scotland**, plus the fact that a twice-yearly maps newsletter, *Cairt*, is available. Every issue is available to download here <a href="https://www.nls.uk/collections/maps/subject-info/cairt">https://www.nls.uk/collections/maps/subject-info/cairt</a> and you can arrange to have new issues e-mailed to you. One new feature which I have only recently encountered is PastMap, a collaboration between HES and the NLS. Read about it here <a href="https://tinyurl.com/s2xynkjr">https://tinyurl.com/s2xynkjr</a>

Wherever you are in Scotland, within range of Wi-Fi or 3G, you can combine modern with historical mapping and archaeological, architectural and landscape information. I haven't attempted this myself yet, but it sounds exciting. I'd like to end this contribution with a suggestion for an important but possibly overlooked resource; and two 'hot tips' for researchers on-line or in libraries or archives.

One of the most fabulous of resources is the BBC's 'In Our Time' archive. This gigantic series of 42-minute radio presentations, led by Melvyn Bragg, will by the time this appears in *Clish-Clash* have reached about 900 episodes, beginning in 1998, in which expert academics and others discuss a staggering range of subjects. You can download as many as you wish, and browse under Culture, History, Philosophy, Religion and Science, by six genres, and by an enormous list of topics. Whatever you are researching, there are many goodies for you here! <a href="https://tinyurl.com/fhezxyfr">https://tinyurl.com/fhezxyfr</a>

My first 'hot tip', whether researching on-line or in an archive is – don't take a **notebook**. Take two! Wherever you are, but very particularly if you have had to travel, and possibly book accommodation, and have limited time, you cannot allow yourself to be side-tracked. Take a notebook for your specific search (preferably with notes of sources, file-numbers etc in advance) – <u>this is your primary purpose</u>. All of us can justifiably be led astray by accidental unrelated discoveries; it can become like a journey up the sides of an inverted pyramid, as you get further away from your focus. The second notebook is for <u>brief</u> notes of such discoveries, e.g., book ref, file ref, page ref, etc, enabling you to take the matter up at a later date. I make no charge for this invaluable information, which will protect your sanity

And finally, be nice to **archivists**. It is my experience that they are usually and increasingly under-resourced. I still remember visiting one of the 'great institutions', located in Westminster for over two centuries; its home is one of the most palatial buildings in London, undoubtedly worth unimaginable millions of pounds. The archives are huge, but after negotiating the acres of marble, rare wood and sumptuous decoration around the Library, I was finally in the sub-basement, where the archivist had no 'public space' where visiting researchers could be comfortably

accommodated. The friendly service was exemplary, but I couldn't help wondering why this archive, like many others I have visited, was so poorly provided-for.

## WHAT'S ON - ONLINE EVENTS

- **SLHF online diary** A great way to publicise your forthcoming events is to submit details of events to the SLHF online diary <a href="https://www.slhf.org/submit-event">https://www.slhf.org/submit-event</a>
- The Galloway Hoard exhibition continues at the National Museum of Scotland until September 12 2021 after which it goes on tour. It will be based at Kirkcudbright Galleries from 9 October-10 July 2022 and Aberdeen Art Gallery 30 July-23 October 2022. A podcast about the Galloway Hoard is also available <a href="https://tinyurl.com/yep9hup4">https://tinyurl.com/yep9hup4</a> The history of a truly iconic machine in *The Typewriter Revolution* is also available at the museum until April 2022. <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ydqlpjz8">https://tinyurl.com/ydqlpjz8</a>
- National Library of Scotland has resumed its exhibition programme but you must pre-book for the following two exhibitions:

**Petticoats and Pinnacles: Scotland's Pioneering Mountain Women** reveals how women have overcome physical and social barriers to spend time in the mountains — not only as climbers but as writers, artists and leaders. This exhibition will run from 10 July 2021 to 28 May 2022.

The Eye of a Stranger tells the story of Henrietta Liston's travels in the Ottoman Empire. Henrietta and her husband, the Scottish diplomat Robert Liston, lived at the British Embassy in Constantinople (Istanbul) between the years 1812 and 1820. The exhibition will run from 10 July to 6 November 2021. Further details are here https://www.nls.uk/exhibitions/visit/

**The National Library of Scotland** also provides a wide range of talks and workshops, many with a strong local history theme. Before Covid-19 these were run in the Library, but were made available online at the beginning of the pandemic. Audiences are bigger, and researchers from around the world can now attend.



The main local history events are:

- Family History From Home: An Introduction
- Further Family History From Home
- Maps for Family and Local History
- Navigating the Maps Website
- Discover Your Online Library
- History of the House (e.g., see left, showing an 1891 Insurance Plan of Dundee)

The current programme is listed on the NLS website – <a href="https://www.nls.uk/events/workshops-and-tours">https://www.nls.uk/events/workshops-and-tours</a> – and each event appears between three and one weeks before it happens (this varies depending on the workshop). A link leads to Eventbrite where the talk or workshop can be booked. Please be aware that these events fill up very quickly, so it is advisable to ask Eventbrite to send an automatic reminder when an event becomes bookable.

Other NLS events include "**The Munros**: a **History**" on 21 September and "**Scotland**, **Slavery and Jamaica**" on 19 October 2021 <a href="https://www.nls.uk/events">https://www.nls.uk/events</a>

- Highland Archaeology Festival 2021 25 September to 15 October. Full details: https://tinyurl.com/h9umxj55
- Art Unlocked is a new online event series brought to you by Art UK in collaboration with Bloomberg Philanthropies. Each week, different museum and gallery curators and directors from across the UK deliver a 30-minute talk on selected works from their collection. One of the latest talks was from Imogen Gibbon, Deputy Director and Chief Curator of Portraiture at the National Galleries of Scotland, who gave an exciting exploration of some notable works from their beautiful collection. All previous events as well as this one can be viewed on this link <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ygg8zxoa">https://tinyurl.com/ygg8zxoa</a>
- Speedway in Lanarkshire 1950-1977 at the Summerlee Museum of Scottish Industrial life from 25 June-30 November 2021. Entry to the Museum is free of charge: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/45548698">https://tinyurl.com/45548698</a>
- The National Trust for Scotland has reopened the House of Dun near Montrose. This project, one of the biggest in the Trust's 90th anniversary year, tells the story of Angus, its people and landscape in a fresh and innovative way. The house, shop and cafés are open Thursday–Monday, and the gardens and estate are open daily. (The £714,000 House of Dun project was made possible thanks to the legacy of Dr Sheila Bain, members of the National Trust for Scotland's Patrons' Club, Northwood Charitable Trust, Angus Members' Centre, and other generous donors who prefer to remain anonymous.)

- The National Galleries Scotland and Edinburgh Art Festival have been working together to present the UK and European premiere of Isaac Julien's *Lessons of the Hour*. This new ten-screen film installation by celebrated British artist Isaac Julien CBE RA offers a poetic meditation on the life and times of Frederick Douglass, the visionary African American orator, philosopher, intellectual, and self-liberated freedom-fighter, born into slavery in Maryland, USA. From 1845-7, Douglass made repeated visits to Edinburgh, while campaigning across the UK and Ireland against US slavery. Admission is free but advance booking is required <a href="https://tinyurl.com/bkezyrs3">https://tinyurl.com/bkezyrs3</a>
- New Lanark 2021: a living legacy conference an anniversary conference will be held at New Lanark World Heritage village to mark the 250th anniversary of the birth of Robert Owen, the site's most famous advocate, the 20th anniversary of UNESCO World Heritage Site inscription and the anniversary of the completion of the restoration of the former millworkers' housing in the village. The event will be held from 12-14 October and further details are available from this link <a href="https://tinyurl.com/2b8kcm8n">https://tinyurl.com/2b8kcm8n</a>
- A new exhibition is set to re-tell the story of **The Declaration of Arbroath** as part of the commemorations of one of the most iconic documents in Scotland's history. The exhibition opened on 24 August at the newly refurbished visitor centre in the grounds of Arbroath Abbey, the exhibition features 50 historic artefacts, telling the story of the Abbey and its key role in Scottish history <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ydvxlrkz">https://tinyurl.com/ydvxlrkz</a>

# **MEET AN SLHF TRUSTEE**

# **Paul Bishop**



I grew up in coastal New South Wales north of Sydney and took a Bachelor's degree and PhD from the School of Earth Sciences in Macquarie University, a late 1960s institution in Sydney named after the colonial Governor Lachlan Macquarie. Macquarie is sometimes known as the Father of Australia, having got the British colony in Sydney on its feet in the early 19th century, establishing a proper civic society against the vested interests of the military (the NSW Corps) and others in the colony. The oldest historic buildings that survive in knock-'em-down, development-mad Sydney date from his time. Macquarie was born on Ulva and he is buried in the family mausoleum on the Isle of Mull.

I worked for 11 years at the University of Sydney and then for nine at Monash University in Melbourne, where I was the Director of the Graduate School of Environmental Science. My wife and I spent a year in Edinburgh, mid-1996 to mid-1997, for me to take up a one-year Leverhulme International Visiting Fellowship at the University of Edinburgh. The Chair of Physical Geography in the University of Glasgow was advertised during that time and my wife and I agreed that we'd like to move to Scotland and that I should apply. The first area we had visited in Scotland on our first trip here in the mid-1980s was Galloway, the setting of Dorothy L Sayers' *Five Red Herrings*. My wife is a Dorothy L Sayers aficionado and had joined the DLS Society while we still lived in Oz; she is now Vice-Chair of the Society.

I was appointed to the Glasgow Chair and I started in January 1998. Since then my wife has, among other things, completed an MRes and a PhD at the University of Glasgow, both degrees exploring the work of interwar women writers. She then went on to work in university administration at the University of Glasgow with some teaching, and we both retired in 2015. I was awarded a DSc by Macquarie University in 2009, and elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2004 and a Fellow of the Geological Society of America in 2011.

My professional research was in the evolution of landscapes over very long timescales of thousands to hundreds of thousands to millions of years, focusing on the ways in which the Earth's surface evolves in response to deeper tectonic processes. The move to Scotland made sense in those terms because the post-glacial isostatic rebound (uplift) of Scotland allows us to explore how rivers respond to uplift. With various research grants, PhD students and I used the different climates of Scotland (wetter in the west etc) and its different rock types to evaluate how these factors influence that response. Rivers respond to uplift by developing a steep section that moves upstream over longer time scales (like a small migrating waterfall). On human time scales that steep reach provides the perfect setting for a water mill and I then realised that many of these steep river sections were also the locations of water mills. I had always been interested in water mills (we live in The Mill House, the home of the millers for the water mill next door) and so I started to look at local water mills in detail. Moreover, our local area, Baldernock – a small rural parish between Milngavie and Torrance, to the north of Glasgow – has a rich history of agriculture, mining and lime burning, giving much scope for fascinating local history research. And I started the Baldernock Local History Group in 2011 with another local academic (now also retired).

The first Forum event that I attended was the 2011 Annual Conference in Glasgow on 'Travellers, Turnpikes & Tar: 1000 years of Scotland's Roads'. The conference impressed me and I joined the Forum in 2014. I became a Trustee

in 2017 and then Chair in 2019 when long-serving Chair, John Irvine, decided not to seek re-election. The attractions of living, working and being retired in Scotland are manifold: it is a small country but extremely diverse, with a deep and rich history. The geological and landscape histories are equally fascinating, as are the ways in which people and their histories have been influenced by, and have influenced, that landscape. There are endless things to work on, with *Scottish Local History*, the Forum's journal, providing an excellent outlet for that work. In my own local history research, I try to use the skills from my research career, including various chemical and physical techniques to date sediments and lime kilns etc, but extending those approaches using archive documents and other records, which for me are new and challenging sources and approaches.

# **MEET A LOCAL GROUP**

### Auchterarder and District Local History Association



The name "Auchterarder" derives from Scottish Gaelic roots meaning 'well-watered place on a high ridge'. The town is Strathearn's only Royal Burgh. The motto of the town is 'A city set on a hill cannot be hid' which is incorporated in our association's logo. The centrally placed town lies 14 miles from Perth.

Looking across from the steep sided glens of the Ochil Hills across the broad Strath or wide valley of the River Earn, Auchterarder is set amongst some of Scotland's most stunning scenery. It has stood in the path of a thousand years of history. As long ago as 1200 it gained the title of Royal Burgh. Today, little of the original Burgh remains and most development took place after the 18th Century. It is a well visited stop for those travelling from and to Highland Perthshire and is known for the quality of its variety and quality of it small cafes and shops.

Our local history association was founded in 1987 and promotes an interest in the history and heritage of Auchterarder and the surrounding district across South Perthshire. The Society organises a regular programme of informal talks on a variety of historical and heritage topics, occasional special events including guided tours and locally based projects/campaigns. We also support the work of other local heritage and community organisations. Most of our meetings are held in the Aytoun Hall on the Auchterarder High Street between the Autumn and Spring. The Association has produced occasional books and other publications.



In addition to the annual regular programme, we hold events ranging from public meetings with a wide range of speakers to a major heritage event for Prince William's visit to Strathearn (as Earl of Strathearn).

In its role as The Strathearn Heritage Trust, it works with public bodies and landowners to protect of the historic environment. It recently negotiated the protection of Auchterarder Castle, once owned by Robert Bruce and scene of subsequent significant occasions in Scottish history.

The Association provides substantial historical information through its website and permanent installations at public buildings, schools and railway stations.

We always welcome new members – everyone who wants to learn more about the local history and our fascinating past or just likes an interesting evening out!

# Our contact details:

Website- www.auchterarderlocalhistory.com; email - auchterarderlha@gmail.com;

Secretary's phone number: 01764 662035

# NEWS ONLINE MAPS FROM THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND

from Chris Fleet, Senior Maps Curator.

### ■ Scottish military maps, 20th century <a href="https://maps.nls.uk/military/20th-century/">https://maps.nls.uk/military/20th-century/</a>

In June, the NLS put online a small selection of military maps, dating from the 20th century, including detailed plans of defensive works in and around the Forth and Clyde estuaries, constructed before and during the First World War. These were the largest-scale plans ever surveyed of these sites, and allow the terrain and defences to be scrutinised in minute detail, with whole islands and related coastal sites remodelled for military purposes. Also included were plans relating to military training areas, and the construction of new barracks. Some of these maps were also georeferenced, to allow them to be easily compared with other maps and the present day (see over).



Viewing First World War detailed georeferenced mapping for Inchmickery (1918) in the Forth through the NLS Spy Viewer. View online at:

https://tinyurl.com/2tc2rxtc

### ■ Scottish map miscellany, 20th century

In July NLS added online a small selection of maps of Scotland, dating between 1907 and 1969. This included several interesting maps of the whole of Scotland, town plans of Aberdeen, Dundee (see below), Edinburgh, and Glasgow, and various special series maps. The special series maps

include some of the very attractive Ordnance Survey One-Inch to the mile Tourist Series, special Administrative District Maps of Glasgow, as well as geological and soil maps.

• Scottish map miscellany - further details and a table of specific additions: https://maps.nls.uk/additions.html#114

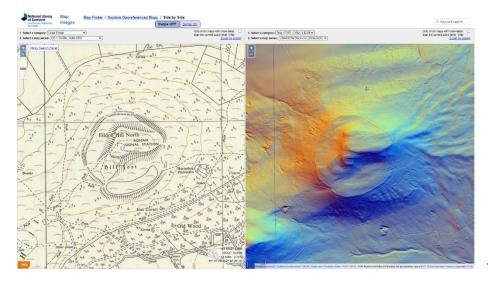


A detail from Ordnance Survey's attractively coloured town plan of Dundee (1922). View online at <a href="https://maps.nls.uk/view/224034614">https://maps.nls.uk/view/224034614</a>.

# ■ New Scottish LiDAR Digital Terrain Model (DTM) layer

In August, we were very grateful to receive assistance from an external user, to add reprocessed Scottish Government LiDAR Digital Terrain Model (DTM) data online. Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) is an airborne mapping technique, which uses a scanning laser to allow highly detailed representations of relief or terrain models to be generated. Many archaeological sites such as hillforts, Roman camps, deserted villages, or cultivation terraces can be seen much more clearly than on satellite imagery or maps. LiDAR can help to bring out the effects of glaciation on local topography, or show the effects of geomorphology on soils. Modern features like quarries, embankments or railway cuttings, as well as historic features like limekilns or canals can be seen more clearly. Although coverage is partial and still expanding, this new Scottish LiDAR layer provides good coverage of southern Scotland, and 1 metre or higher resolution LiDAR is now available for most of England and Wales.

New guide - Using LiDAR layers for landscape research: <a href="https://maps.nls.uk/guides/lidar/">https://maps.nls.uk/guides/lidar/</a>

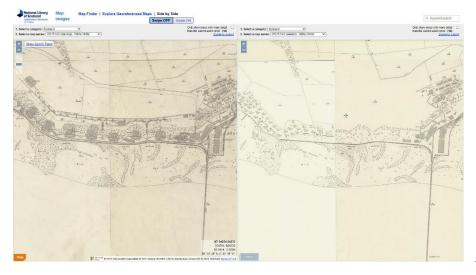


Comparing OS six-inch 1900s mapping (left) with new LiDAR DTM (right) for Eildon Hill North, near Melrose. View online at: https://tinyurl.com/375daz25

### ■ OS 25 inch 'blue-and-black' drawings, Scotland, 1890s-1940s

In August, NLS added a set of 694 Ordnance Survey 'blue-and-black' drawings, which show revision for the 25 inch to the mile maps, between the 1890s and the 1940s. This revision process drew new edition information in black ink on a printing of the previous edition in light blue. When this was photographed, the blue would not reproduce, so details not required or no longer present on the ground appear in blue. Military and related sites were added in black, but some of these were subsequently erased from the final printed maps, so the blue-and-black drawings provide good coverage of these security deletions. We have scanned all sheets which include stamps by Ordnance Survey referring to deletions where these were required, as well as all sheets in the counties of Linlithgow and Nairn.

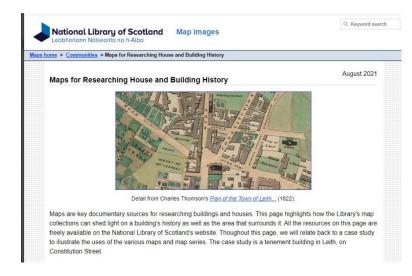
OS 25 inch 'blue-and-black' drawings, Scotland, 1890s-1940s: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/mfcb62xb">https://tinyurl.com/mfcb62xb</a>



Comparing the OS blue-and-black (left) with the standard published mapping (right) for Crombie Royal Naval Armaments Depot. near security Rosyth, showing the deletions on the standard published mapping. View online at: https://tinyurl.com/mpnz9fu8

### ■ New guide - Maps for Researching House and Building History

As part of a growing set of resources for communities, in August NLS put together a new guide on *Maps for Researching House and Building History* (see over). This highlights some of the most relevant maps to use as documentary sources for researching houses and buildings over time. The maps are arranged roughly chronologically, covering rural and urban areas, with links to the maps and further information about them on our website. Also included is information on recent buildings and map copyright, as well as further relevant resources, both online and in print.



New guide:

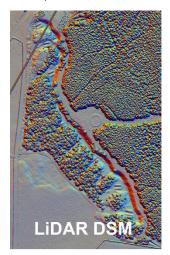
Maps for Researching House and Building History: https://maps.nls.uk/guides/houses/

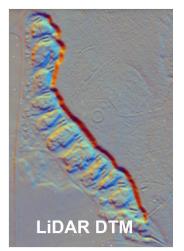
# A COMMENT ON THE NEW SCOTTISH LIDAR DIGITAL TERRAIN MODEL (DTM) LAYER

From Paul Bishop

NLS's new capability to make a side-by-side comparison of a LiDAR-derived digital terrain model (DTM) and the corresponding maps or satellite images, as outlined above by Chris Fleet, is an important advance for those who use field mapping and on-the-ground 'exploration' in local history research. An interesting example below, which you might find helpful in thinking about your own research, highlights the power of LiDAR.

LiDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) bounces laser light onto the Earth's surface from above (e.g., from a plane) and processes the time it takes for the light to return to the source to work out the form of the surface that is reflecting the laser. The great advance with LiDAR is that the equipment can collect multiple reflections and so the height of the forest canopy and the height of intermediate branches and leaves etc plus the height of the ground surface itself can all be determined. In effect, the reflection from the ground surface is the last reflected return of the laser beam to the equipment whereas the first return gives the top of the forest canopy. Using that last return, the form of the ground surface beneath forest cover (the Digital Terrain Model DTM) can therefore be determined and features under that forest cover revealed. This is an astonishing advance for those involved in field mapping etc., revealing the remains of buildings under forest, old fence lines and roads, even when they are very faint and not covered by forest, and other subtle 'built' and natural features.





Side-by-side LiDAR images of the old Whitfield East quarry near West Linton in Peebles-shire. The left-hand image is a DSM (Digital Surface Model) constructed using the first returns of the laser and hence showing the forest cover, plus the ground where the ground is not forested. Roads and stone dykes are clearly visible. The right-hand image is a DTM (Digital Terrain Model) constructed using the last returns of the laser and revealing a series of parallel-sided clamp kilns for lime burning (the pairs of rod-like features under the forest cover), plus the spoil heaps from the quarrying and lime-burning. The DTM and corresponding map are on the NLS Maps website at <a href="https://tinyurl.com/t6d7xwuh">https://tinyurl.com/t6d7xwuh</a>. Doug Mitchell and I had written up this type of unusual

clamp kiln in an adjacent unforested quarry (see p.20 at <a href="https://tinyurl.com/57jrd9f8">https://tinyurl.com/57jrd9f8</a>) but we had no idea that they were also present in this old quarry, 'hidden' by the dense tree cover. Note also the intriguing circular feature in the centre of both images. This is a Bronze Age Cremation Circle, for which there is more information on Canmore: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/6urkh9j8">https://tinyurl.com/6urkh9j8</a> (Many thanks to lan Roy and Archie McLellan for on-the-ground help with this site and to Richard Pearson for processing the LiDAR data.)

### **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, the Advisory Committee and our readers if they, or someone they know, can help.

#### ■ World War II crashed bomber

Mr. Kees Bazuine in Montfoort, The Netherlands, is seeking help to trace surviving relatives of a crew member of an RAF Short Stirling bomber (BF415) that was shot down over the hamlet of Blokland in February, 1943. Airgunner Sergeant George Chirrey Adam (27) RAF No. 1365001 was killed along with the other seven crew members. They are buried in the general cemetery in Montfoort

After more than 78 years, the Memorial Committee of Montfoort wishes to erect a memorial at the place where the bomber crashed, out of respect and honour for the killed crew members. They especially wish to make contact with descendants of the bomber crew to prepare lesson plans for schools.

In January, 1947, Sergeant Adam's mother, Mrs. J. Adam, resided at 60 Dunnekier Road, Kirkcaldy, Fife.

If you can help, please contact: Kees Bazuine at kc.bazuine@ziggo.nl

### ■ Norway/Scotland connections WWII

From George M. Bratli:

"I am contacting you on behalf of the Scottish Norwegian Connection (SNC) in Norway. We are currently writing our second book about The Norwegian Brigade in Scotland during WWII. We are planning a fact-finding trip to Scotland as soon as the pandemic has calmed down and it is safer to travel again.

We are planning on going to the North-Eastern part of Scotland (from Banff to Contin) to visit the many places the Norwegian Armed Forced were stationed during the war. We hope you can help us get in touch with local history organisations in the above-mentioned area. It would be of great help for us to get in contact with organisations/people with knowledge/information about WWII and the Norwegian Armed Forces that were stationed in Scotland during WWII.

First of all, I would like to give you a brief introduction about our work with our first book – «The Whaling Brigade». The book covers the years 1939 – 1941 and is about the Norwegians that came to the UK after Norway was invaded and how they formed the Norwegian Brigade. A vast majority of the Norwegians were whalers and came to the UK from the Antarctic when the whaling season ended in the spring of 1940. After their initial screening in London, they were sent to Dumfries for their basic training.

Our second book will cover the period from the Autumn of 1941 – May 1945. In the Autumn of 1941, the Norwegian Brigade were transferred up to the North-Eastern part Scotland and placed under Scotlish Command and became a part of the Invasion Defence of the British Isles (first under the 51st Highland Division and later under the 52nd Lowland Division).

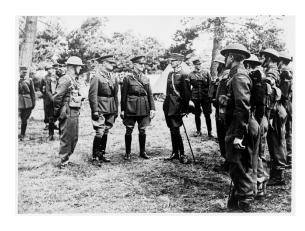
During this period the Norwegian Brigade were stationed in several places from Banff to Dornoch. The Brigade consisted of about 4,000 men in addition to the 250 men of the SOE-unit «Norwegian Independent Company No. 1 (NORIC)» in Glenmore and the Norwegians embedded with 10 Commandos (No 10 Inter-Allied) stationed near Spean Bridge.

We are hoping to get new information, pictures and stories about the Norwegian soldiers in this area during the period of 1941-45, and we hope you can assist us in spreading our enquiry to relevant recipients in that area. Our goal is to visit the North-Eastern part of Scotland as soon as possible to visit the over 50 places the Norwegians were stationed.

We have gathered and received lots of information about the Norwegian Brigade during their stay in the South-Western part of Scotland (book no. 1). We hope further/new information about their stay in the North-Eastern part of Scotland will give book no. 2 new angles and perspectives."

Contact: Mr. Bratli at <a href="mailto:georgebratli@gmail.com">georgebratli@gmail.com</a>

See over for Norwegian King Haakon 7 on one of his inspections of Norwegian Troops is Scotland.



Norwegian King Haakon 7 during one of his inspections of Norwegian Troops is Scotland

### THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN HELPED

The SLHF website generates a steady stream of enquiries. In the last six months two in particular have had interesting responses.

### ■ Stirling Racecourse

In Clish-Clash 47 we reported that retired Stirling champion jockey, Richard Quin, is seeking information on a former racecourse below the castle. That enquiry unveiled a wealth of information, notably from Amanda Monaghan, the Volunteer Co-ordinator at the Bannockburn House Trust, and from SLHF member, Dorothy Wilson. Dorothy met with Mr. Quinn who had not been previously aware of the ?18th to 19th century racecourse at Stirling until reading about it at the entrance to Kings Park.

Dorothy is preparing an article for *Scottish Local History*, so look our for that. Mr. Quinn has not yet been able to find any images of horses or the course at Stirling and he can be contacted at: trquinn@hotmail.co.uk

### ■ Canadian National Vimy Memorial, WWI, France

An enquiry from Canada seemed, at first sight, a most forlorn hope. It came from Sarah Worthman who wrote, "I am a research student with the Canadian Federal Government. Our department for Veterans Affairs is currently working on a project that seeks to tell the stories of the 11,000+ soldiers listed on the Vimy memorial. I am writing to you today because I am currently researching two brothers in the CEF [Canadian Expeditionary Force] who were from Ayrshire and are listed on the Troon war memorial, John and Robert Tait. Both brothers went missing on the exact same day and were in the same regiment. I was curious to see if your society has any anecdotes, stories, or images of the Tait Brothers? Or even of their family, they both had wives so I'm hoping there might be wedding pictures around."



Troon Family History Society members, Nancy McMahon and Mary Rennie came to the rescue. Nancy had been researching the family histories of the names on the Loans War Memorial but the Tait brothers were not listed there. As it happened, she and Mary recalled coming across them on a gravestone in Troon Cemetery. Sarah Worthman was delighted to receive extensive information on the Tait family plus details on two other Loans men who served in Canadian regiments. Mary kindly supplied images of the Troon gravestone.

Sarah Worthman may be contacted at: <a href="mailto:sarah.worthman@veterans.gc.ca">sarah.worthman@veterans.gc.ca</a>

Loans War Memorial, Troon

# **BOOK REVIEW**

### ■ The Kirkyard of Nigg

Aberdeen & North East Scotland Family History Society, Aberdeen, 2021, pp.76 (£7.50 plus £1.53 postage) ISBN 978 1 905004 60 7

Available from ANESFHS, 164 King Street, Aberdeen AB24 5BD

For many years ANESFHS has been publishing lists of graveyard inscriptions, parish by parish and graveyard by graveyard, all of them providing full details of the inscriptions on the gravestones. The stones in each graveyard-list

are numbered, and these numbers are also positioned on a folding map in each volume. This latest volume lists the inscriptions in the graveyard of the nineteenth century parish church of Nigg, the earliest of which relates to Ann Lundie (or Ferguson) who died in April 1878. The book also serves as a companion to the graveyard list of an older parish church at Nigg, that of St Fittick's, which was published by ANESFHS some years ago. *The Kirkyard of Nigg* seems to be the first in a sub-series prepared by the Guardians of Aberdeen Graveyards (GOAG), who began recording graveyards in the northeast of Scotland in the spring of 2018.

The Introduction reminds us that a searchable index to this and over 130 burial grounds in NE Scotland is available at <a href="https://tinyurl.com/2wadmxhn">https://tinyurl.com/2wadmxhn</a>. Without doubt such graveyard indexes are helpful to local historians as well as to family historians.



Edmund Gill 'Cleghorn Mill in Ruins Lanark' (1866). This mill, on Mouse Water just downstream of the Cleghorn Bridge at rear, is mapped as a flax mill on William Forrest's 1816 map 'The county of Lanark from actual survey' (<a href="https://maps.nls.uk/view/74400273">https://maps.nls.uk/view/74400273</a>). The name Cleghorn Mill is more usually associated with the Corn Mill upstream of the Cleghorn Bridge. The mill pictured is interesting in having two water wheels, as did the Waterside flax mill on the Luggie Water near Kirkintilloch (postcard below).



# **QUOTE OF THE MOMENT**

"I talk about the library as the guardian of the published and recorded memory of Scotland".

John Scally until recently National Librarian and Chief Executive of the National Library of Scotland

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

<a href="https://www.slhf.org/events">https://www.slhf.org/events</a>
<a href="https://www.slhf.org/calendar">https://www.slhf.org/calendar</a>

Submit your events at: <a href="https://www.slhf.org/submit-event">https://www.slhf.org/submit-event</a>