



SLHF NEWS

■ On **Monday, 22 June 2026** join **Dr Murray Cook** in exploring **Stirling's burgh wall** built on the orders of Queen Mary de Guise to Italian design to stop Henry VIII's troops during the Rough Wooing. The wall was redesigned against Cromwell and last saw action in 1746 against Bonnie Prince Charlie. Dr Cook will explain what survives as well as discuss new research and excavations.

Meeting at 12.45, the walk will start at 13.00 and last until approximately 15.00 allowing time before for attendees to travel and have some lunch; and time afterwards to visit the Church of Holyrood and/or the Smith Museum (both of which will be pointed out en route by Dr Cook) should attendees so wish, or, of course the castle.

Meet at Nationwide, 40 Port Street, Stirling (FK8 2LF) and finish at the Youth Hostel on St John's Street (FK8 1EA). Parking (charges applicable) is available at Wellgreen Road NCP (FK8 2AX) and the Council (FK8 2DY). However, Stirling is well served by public transport (trains and buses).

The walk involves uneven ground and steps and is not suitable for people with mobility issues. Sensible walking shoes are recommended. Places are strictly limited so book now for £5 at:

www.slhf.org/event/stirling-walls-walk-talk



A section of Stirling's City Walls (© Dr Murray Cook)

■ In the last issue we asked whether any local societies were making recordings of their talks available online. Derrick Johnstone of the Old Edinburgh Club has been in touch to update us on its approach. The COVID-era practice of the OEC was to provide access to recordings post-event to members only, but this has

changed. It now has its YouTube channel properly set up. Agreement was sought from its 2023/24 and 2024/25 speakers to make these publicly available, and all bar one agreed. The YouTube channel is <https://www.youtube.com/@oldedinburghclub>. Recordings are released to members within a week of the lecture and the policy regarding public distribution is to make all of the previous season's talks available from the following September.

■ It is also worth noting that the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland has many of its talks available on YouTube. [society of antiquaries of scotland - YouTube](#)

■ **Congratulations to Ali Erginsoy, winner of the Paul Bishop Prize** for the 2025 best article in *Scottish Local History* with 'Scotland's Quiet Industrial Revolution: The Lothians, 1822-1872' which appeared in issue 122 – Autumn 2025. More details to follow in the next issue of the journal. Thanks as always to Birlinn Ltd for its sponsorship.

■ In the past few weeks the Forum has been reaching out both near and far. In April four of our trustees attended an online meeting with representatives of similar organisations from some of the other English-speaking countries. This inaugural event also had representatives from Canada, USA, Australia and the British Association for Local History. New Zealand's representative was unable to attend and, given the time differences, this was quite understandable. Some experiences were common to all, but some of the challenges were quite different, as you might imagine!

■ Closer to home the Forum's fancy new banner was proudly unfurled at a **local history day at the Wardlaw Museum in St Andrews**. It was good to meet representatives from Cupar, Kirkcaldy and Saline among others and chat to a few unsuspecting members of the public and explain what the Forum does.



SLHF Honorary Chair Steve Connelly at the Forum's stand, 23 May 2026

LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS

■ **National Records of Scotland Web Archive** – Websites are the primary means for sharing public information and delivering public services. Websites form part of the archival record and it is NRS's statutory duty to collect, preserve and make them publicly accessible on a permanent basis. This collection of archived websites has been selected for preservation by National Records of Scotland as part of their Web Continuity Service. National Records of Scotland collects, preserves and produces information about Scotland's people and history, and makes it available to inform present and future generations. [NRS Web Archive](#)

■ **“A Year in the Life of a Community Archive” to feature Deaf History Scotland** – The Scottish Council on Archives has announced that this year's initiative will focus on the work of Deaf History Scotland. The project shines a spotlight on a hugely important and unique deaf-led community archive preserving more than 200 years of material relating to Deaf history and culture across Scotland. Founded in 2008, Deaf History Scotland was established to ensure that the experiences, language and heritage of Deaf people in Scotland are recorded, protected and shared for future generations. The archive contains photographs, club records, films, memorabilia, personal collections and documents connected to Deaf communities throughout the country. This year's focus on Deaf History Scotland continues the initiative's commitment to showcasing the richness and diversity of Scotland's community archives and the vital role these groups play in protecting stories that might otherwise be lost. Link to project page:

<https://www.scottisharchives.org.uk/community-archives/a-year-in-the-life-of-a-community-archive-deaf-history-scotland/>

■ **Digital Skills for Community Archives** Training event in Edinburgh, 15 June 2026. Do you work or volunteer in a community archive? As part of SCA's Community Stories-Community Archives project, funded by the NLHF, they are offering a free in-person training day on basic digital archive skills including digital preservation, digitisation and sharing digital collections. Lunch will be provided and tea and coffee available throughout. Places are limited and offered on a first come first served basis. Although not essential, as there will be some practical demonstrations, participants are encouraged to bring a laptop or other device. This session is for non-professionals or those volunteering in a community archive. Booking link:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/digital-skills-for-community-archives-tickets-1988335048655?aff=oddtcreator&keep_tld=true

■ **University of St Andrews** photographic collection has been recognised as one of national significance by Museums and Galleries Scotland. Find out more: [University of St Andrews photography collection recognised as Nationally Significant | University of St Andrews news](#)

■ **The Small Grants Fund** supports museums to develop their work and deliver against the priority areas of Scotland's Museums and Galleries Strategy. Accredited museums can apply for up to £15,000, and non-Accredited museums can apply for up to £10,000. There is one round of the Small Grants Fund remaining in 2026/27 with the following deadlines:

- Expression of Interest period: 9 September – 7 October 2026
- Application Deadline: 21 October 2026
- Award Date: 4 December 2026

[Small Grants Fund - Museums Galleries Scotland](#)

WHAT'S ON

Links to the **Scottish Local History Forum's events page** will contain further details provided by the organisers. For events where information has not been provided by the organisers a link has been found by the editor when possible. Information about upcoming archaeological events and talks can also be found at: [Events and Digs - Dig It!](#)

■ **200 Years of Scottish Railways Mini-Exhibition** This small exhibition organised by Balfour Heritage Group is being mounted at Balfour Library, Buchanan Street, Balfour G63 0TW to mark the 200th Anniversary of the Monklands-Kirkintilloch Railway and 170th Anniversary of the Forth & Clyde Junction Railway and Balfour Station. It will be held during normal library hours from until Saturday, 27 June 2026. [200 Years of Scottish Railways Mini-Exhibition | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

■ **War, Destruction and Reform: The Early Years of Mary Queen of Scots** Exhibition at the Wardlaw Museum, University of St Andrews, 87 North Street, St Andrews KY16 9AE until 20 September 2026. [About the exhibition – War, Destruction and Reform](#)

■ **Vennels: Perth's Little Streets** Exhibition at Perth Museum, St John's Place, Perth, PH1 5SZ until 6 September 2026. [Vennels: Perth's Little Streets - Perth Museum](#)

- **Bannockburn House Guided Tours** Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday until 1 November 2026, 10:30am - 4:00pm at Bannockburn House, Stirling, FK7 8EY. [Bannockburn House Guided Tours | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Wolfe and the Fox** Talk organised by Culloden Battlefield Visitor Centre on Sunday, 7 June 2026, 1.00 - 2.00pm. [Conversations at Culloden Tickets, Multiple dates | Eventbrite](#)
- **William Sancho and the Recovery of a Black Georgian Life in the Archive** – Online talk by Oliver Ayers and Liberty Collard hosted by the National Records of Scotland, 4.30 - 5.30pm on Wednesday, 10 June 2026. [William Sancho and the Recovery of a Black Georgian Life in the Archive Tickets, Wednesday, Jun 10 from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm | Eventbrite](#)
- **North UK Mills Group** Talk by Graham Brooks, Chair of Warwick Bridge Community Benefit Society in Carlisle, as he asks, ‘Can a watermill be operated profitably?’ Online at 10.00 - 11.30am on Thursday, 11 June 2026. [North UK Mills Group - June Meeting | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Celebrating 50 Years of The Making of the Crofting Community** Two-day conference to celebrate James (Jim) Hunter’s *The Making of the Crofting Community*, one of the most significant and influential books ever published about the Highlands and Islands, 11-12 June 2026 at Dornoch Community Centre (Social Club), Community Centre, Dornoch IV25 3PF. [Centre for History - History Events - Conference: Celebrating 50 Years of The Making of the Crofting Community](#)
- **300 Years of History Day** – On Saturday, 13 June 2026 the Black Watch Museum, Balhousie Castle, Hay Street, Perth PH1 5HR will be celebrating 300 years since the formation of the independent companies with a full day of interactive fun for the whole family. [300 Years of History](#)
- **Dornoch Firth in World War 2** Talk by Susan Kruse organised by Tain & Easter Ross Civic Trust at Duthac Centre, Tain, on Tuesday, 16 June 2026 at 7:30pm.
- **Jacobite Afternoon Tea: A Journey Through Time** Organised by Culloden Battlefield Visitor Centre, Thursday, 18 June 2026 at 2.00pm. [Jacobite Afternoon Tea: A Journey Through Time Tickets, Multiple dates | Eventbrite](#)
- **Guided Walk: Stories, places and people of Kinlochewe** Organised by Gairloch Museum, Thursday, 18 June 2026, 3:30 - 5:30pm. [Guided Walk: Stories, Places and People of Kinlochewe at Kinlochewe Community Toilets event tickets from TicketSource](#)
- **Martial Fervour: The Representation of Scottish Officers and Highland Regiments During the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars, 1793–1815** The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland’s Rhind Lectures will be presented in Edinburgh and online by Vicky Coltman, Professor of Eighteenth-Century History of Art at the University of Edinburgh, 19-21 June 2026. [Rhind Lectures 2026 \(in person and online\) Tickets, Friday, June 19-Sunday, June 21 | Eventbrite](#)
- **Behind the Restoration: Meet the Conservation Team Saving Bannockburn House** Friday, 19 June 2026, 12:00am to 11:45pm, Bannockburn House, Stirling, FK7 8EY. [Behind the Restoration: Meet the Conservation Team Saving Bannockburn House | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Rain** – New exhibition at the National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh exploring Scotland’s relationship with rain, which is both practical and deeply woven into our culture, landscape and national identity, Friday, 19 June 2026 until Friday, 30 April 2027. [Rain exhibition | National Library of Scotland](#)
- **Film Screening: Herring Stories of the Minch** Organised by Gairloch Museum, Saturday, 20 June 2026, 3.00 – 5.00pm. [Film Screening: Herring Stories of the Minch at Gairloch Museum event tickets from TicketSource](#)
- **Stirling Walls - Walk & Talk** led by Dr Murray Cook, Monday, 22 June 2026 - 12:45pm to 3:00pm, start point: 40 Port Street, Stirling, FK8 2LF. [Stirling Walls - Walk & Talk | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **The Viking Great Army in Northern Britain** – Live webinar and Q&A with Tom Horne, organised by History Scotland, 6.30pm – 7.30pm on Wednesday, 24 June 2026. [The Viking Great Army in Northern Britain Tickets, Wednesday, Jun 24 from 6:30 pm to 8 pm GMT+1 | Eventbrite](#)
- **Revolution 250: America's Independence Story 1763–1783** Exhibition at the Gallery, The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, TW9 4DU from Wednesday, 24 June 2026 until 29 November 2026. [Revolution 250: America's Independence... - The National Archives](#)
- **Sustainable Island Heritage** Event celebrating and showcasing innovative heritage projects, grassroots initiatives, and collaborative efforts that are preserving, sharing and reimagining Orkney’s rich cultural story at St Magnus Centre, Kirkwall on 26th June 2026, 10:00am to 4.00pm. [Sustainable Island Heritage Tickets, Friday 26 June • 10 AM - 4 PM | Eventbrite](#)
- **Conservation of a painting of Crail Harbour** – Crail Museum and Heritage Centre talk on Friday, 26 June 2026 - 7:30pm at Crail Kirk Hall, Marketgate, Crail, KY10 3TL. [Talk: Conservation of a painting of Crail Harbour | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

- **East Neuk Fishing Disaster of 1875** Talk by Mary Henderson organised by Cupar Heritage Centre on Monday, 29 June 2026 - 7:30pm to 8:45pm at Age Concern Centre, Provost Wynd, Cupar, KY15 5HE. [East Neuk Fishing Disaster of 1875 | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Picts and Vikings, Northern Scotland AD 800-1000** Live webinar and Q&A with Dr David Griffiths, organised by History Scotland, 6.30pm – 7.30pm on Wednesday, 8 July 2026. [Picts and Vikings, Northern Scotland AD 800-1000 Tickets, Wednesday, Jul 8 from 6:30 pm to 8 pm GMT+1 | Eventbrite](#)
- **The Tay Rail Bridge Disaster, McGonagall and The Mars** Talk by Alistair Derrick organised by Crail Museum and Heritage Centre on Friday, 10 July 2026 - 7:30pm at Crail Kirk Hall, Marketgate, Crail, KY10 3TL. [Talk: The Tay Rail Bridge Disaster | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Stirling Bridges: The History of Crossing the Forth at Stirling** Talk by Dr Murray Cook, part of the Three Rivers Festival at St Ninians Old Parish Church, Stirling on 13 July 2026 at 7.00 pm. [13 JULY: STIRLING BRIDGES | THREE RIVERS FESTIVAL](#)
- **Crailers Behaving Badly** Talk by Dr Kelsey Williams organised by Crail Museum and Heritage Centre on Friday, 7 August 2026 - 7:30pm at Crail Kirk Hall, Marketgate, Crail, KY10 3TL. [Talk: Crailers Behaving Badly | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Battle of Dunkeld 1689** Guided tour with weapons display of site organised by Historic Dunkeld on Saturday, 22 August 2026 - 12:00am to 11:45pm and Sunday, 23 August 2026 - 12:00am to 11:45pm at Stanley Hill Park, Dunkeld, PH8 0AN. [Battle of Dunkeld 1689 - tour of site | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Crail's Naval Commonwealth War Graves** Talk by Commander David Hobbs organised by Crail Museum and Heritage Centre on Friday, 11 September 2026 - 7:30pm at Crail Kirk Hall, Marketgate, Crail, KY10 3TL. [Talk: Crail's Naval Commonwealth War Graves | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Scottish B'stards, A History of Illegitimacy in Scotland from the 18th to the 20th Century** Talk to Scottish Genealogy Society by Alex Wood on Monday, 14 September 2026 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL and Online. [Scottish B'stards, A History of Illegitimacy in Scotland from the 18th to the 20th Century | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **The Royal Caledonian School in London for Scottish Orphans** Talk by Lorna Kinnaird to Scottish Genealogy Society on Monday, 12 October 2026 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL and Online. [The Royal Caledonian School in London for Scottish Orphans | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **The War Graves of Seafield Cemetery, Edinburgh** Talk by Ken Nisbet to Scottish Genealogy Society on Monday, 9 November 2026 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL and Online. [The War Graves of Seafield Cemetery, Edinburgh | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Cromwell in Perth** – Rhoda Fothergill Annual Memorial Lecture by Norah Carlin at the A K Bell Library, 2-8 York Place, Perth PH2 8EP on Thursday, 19 November 2026.

PUBLICATIONS

- **War and Governance in Scotland, 1543-1559** by Amy Blakeway. Edinburgh University Press, June 2026, 272 pages, ISBN Hardback: 9781399533966, £95.00; Ebook (app): 9781399533997, £95.00; Ebook (PDF): 9781399533980, £95.00. [War and Governance in Scotland, 1543-1559](#)
- **Scotland's Theatre in the Hills – 75 Years of Pitlochry Festival Theatre, 1951-2026** by Colin Liddell. May 2026. Available to buy at the theatre: [75 years of Pitlochry Festival Theatre in rare archive pictures](#)
- **Rhynie, A Powerful Place of Pictland: The development of a landscape of Pictish royal power from the Roman to the early medieval period** edited by Gordon Noble. Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, March 2026, open access e-book, ISBN 9781908332394. [Rhynie, A Powerful Place of Pictland: The development of a landscape of Pictish royal power from the Roman to the early medieval period | Open Access E-Books](#)
- **Scottish Archives Vol 31 (2025):** 'Tracing Books and Archives from the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland: Practicalities, Pitfalls and Possibilities' Jill Dye, 'Finding the Baxters: Sources Extant for the Edinburgh Baking and Grain Trades' Aaron Allen, 'Changing Tack: investigating Land Management in lower Strathearn' Irene Hallyburton, 'Kirk Session Financial Records and the Poor of Aberdeen, 1602-1627' Grant Schreiber, '5th Duke of Buccleuch: Industrial Opportunist or Future-Proofer?' Craig Thomas, 'The People's Dispensary: A Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh Digital Resource' Daisy Cunynghame, 'An Overview of the Edinburgh and Scottish Collection at Edinburgh Central Library' Iain Duffus, 'Logjam and Appraisal Prioritisation' Abigail Hartley, 'Stirling Council Archives: Some Gems from our Royal Burgh of Stirling Collection' Pam McNicol. [Scottish Archives](#)

BLOGS

- A new blog from the **Black Watch Museum** in Perth: [An Archival Insight into the Sergeants of the 42nd Regiment](#)

WATCH & LISTEN

- [The Reunion Radio 4 on Easter Sunday](#) took us back to the 1998 World Cup. The Scots were given the honour of opening the '98 tournament in France against favourites Brazil and they will play Brazil once again this summer. Midfielder Paul Lambert, BBC Scotland sports presenter Dougie Donnelly, commentator Rob Maclean and members of the Tartan Army supporters club were among those reflecting on a dramatic day.
- If you fancy a good dose of nostalgia then catch up with a celebration of 50 years of that uniquely Scottish programme [Landward](#). Presented by no better a person than Dougie Vipond. An excellent programme. An episode marking the 50th anniversary of the 1975 fire at Inverary Castle is also well worth watching.
- [Paul Merton: Driving Amazing Trains](#) is a new series on Channel 4 presented by the comedian who begins to fulfil a childhood dream. He starts at the Isle of Wight and it features refitted London underground stock.
- [Pilgrimage : the Road to Holy Island](#) is a fascinating watch tracing a journey in the North-East of England full of historical information. Seven celebrities offer their unique perspectives with different beliefs and attitudes. Catch up on BBC iPlayer.
- **Great Lives** is an excellent listen presented by Matthew Parris. The format is simple with a guest invited to nominate a person and an additional participant to add to the richness of the engaging dialogue. It might be tempting to just scroll through for the Scottish episodes, but we can strongly recommend a range of episodes. What do you know about [H.E.Bates](#)?
- Also, on BBC radio4 is a series called [You're Dead To Me](#) which has a very engaging and humorous approach to getting to know about history. Greg Jenner is the presenter.
- The story of the Orient Express is celebrated in a Channel 4 programme. Over 4 episodes we are taken from London to Istanbul. It's called [The Orient Express: a Golden Era of Travel](#).
- A series of programmes to recognise the 100th anniversary of the birth of Queen Elizabeth II are available to view across several channels. One of the best is a repeat of [Elizabeth II: the Unseen Queen on BBC Two](#).
- The Chernobyl disaster happened some 40 years ago and one of the programmes [Chernobyl: Days That Shocked the World](#) on Channel 4 might be worth catching. Likewise on BBC One [What Happened in Chernobyl](#) which assess the legacy is very interesting.
- In a similar vein **The Documentary: The Last Dancefloor in Chernobyl** on the [BBC World Service](#) is a chilling and gripping documentary. It's set in a nightclub when things begin to unravel. It's also available on the wonderful [Archive on 4](#).
- On the same series is a recent edition which has a focus on the [General Strike](#) with recorded voices adding to an excellent series. Also a programme chaired by Kirsty Young 'In The Psychiatrist's Chair' hosted by Anthony Clare is [remembered](#).
- In November 1956 we saw a major source of upheaval and conflict. [Suez: 24 hours That Broke the British Empire](#) tells the story on an hour by hour and minute by minute basis. There are some parallels with current events....
- BBC Four included a repeat of an excellent programme [Scotland: Rome's Final Frontier](#) first shown in 2012 and is presented by archaeologist Fraser Hunter. He reflects on three centuries of interaction and conflict between the Romans and ancient Scottish tribes.
- **Sky Arts** is an interesting channel which has the occasional gem and despite being Sky this channel is available on Freeview and Freesat. <https://www.sky.com/watch/channel/sky-arts>. Sky Mix is also available on Freeview and Freesat. It mainly features repeats of documentaries and Star Trek but also has a series which gives a lookback to the main news stories from the 1970s including a focus on Nixon and the Watergate scandal. It's called [the Seventies](#).
- In CC 75 we mentioned an Archive on Four programme about [Concorde](#). BBC Four has another angle with [Concorde: a Supersonic Story](#) which was first broadcast in 2018. There is some excellent rare footage about the row between the British and French governments over the name of Concorde which threatened to derail the whole project.
- [The 1951 Festival of Britain: Brave New World](#) is a repeat of a programme first broadcast in 2011. It helped to lift the sense of despair after the war and includes unseen footage. Broadcast on BBC Four on 27 April 2026.
- [Sport is History](#) is an excellent podcast courtesy of Mark Pougatch and co-presenter Marcus Buckland. Episodes include the 1997 grand national and the comeback of Tiger Woods.

- [Children of the Blitz](#) examines the stories of the many children who didn't evacuate from towns and cities but had to face the impact of the bombings. It offers an enlightening and moving portrait of wartime Britain through children's eyes. As one survivor said, 'You carry the consequences with you for ever'.
- A welcome repeat of Antiques Roadshow: [VE Day Special](#) first shown in May 2025 – an excellent programme with the team meeting many veterans. The programme includes visits to Berlin and Bletchley Park.
- An interesting documentary [A Century in a Click-100 years of the Photobooth](#) on BBC Radio 4. Historian Alan Dein offers an intriguing portrait of the photobooth. He speaks to art historians, archivists and restorers and tells us that in the world of selfies there appears to be a revival!
- A welcome return of the gem that is [Who Do You Think You Are?](#) We're into series 23 with Zoe Ball tracing her roots including unexpected connections with Scotland, Guernsey and Cornwall as well as plenty of heartbreaking tales.
- **History's Greatest Dishes** is a [new podcast](#) for the foodies amongst our audience. For example, did you know that the average egg is bigger now than it was in the 20th century?
- Ahead of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence on 4 July Lucy Worsley examines the events that led up to the American revolution. It's called [Lucy Worsley Investigates: the American Revolution](#).

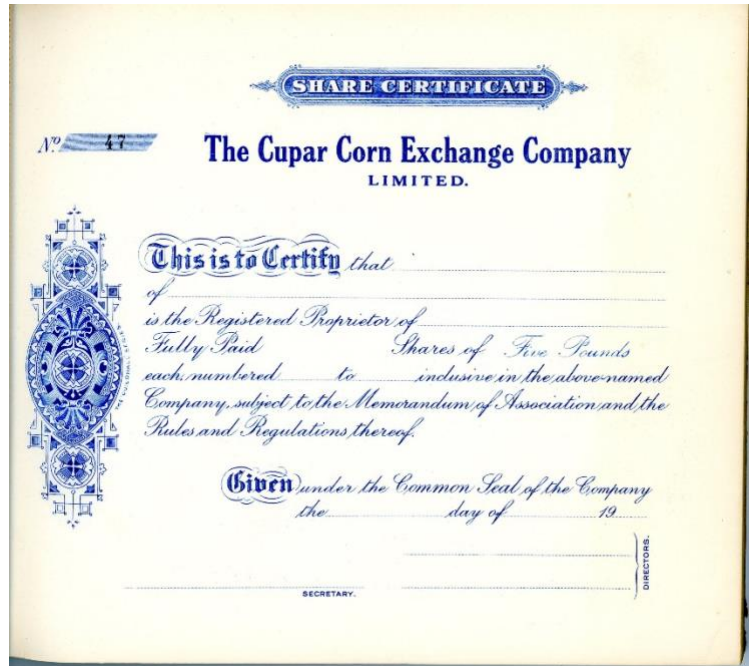
HISTORY NEWS



■ **Cupar Corn Exchange Company Ltd.** In 2016, Cupar Heritage Volunteers met with lawyers and accountants in the town to ask if they could let us know if any item of interest to our museum crossed their desks. One meeting with an accountant had almost concluded when he revealed that their firm kept the records of Scotland's second oldest limited liability company: the Cupar Corn Exchange Company Ltd. Incorporated in 1860 to set up and manage a Corn Exchange, it erected an impressive building where agricultural produce could be traded. That role had ended by 1961 when the building was sold to the town council, but the company remained

as a share trading entity. Discovering that this important part of the town's commercial history still existed fired the imagination of the Cupar Heritage Trustees. Letters were written, negotiations conducted and an offer made to now-elderly shareholders to purchase the shares for a nominal sum. It was accepted and the company became the property of Cupar Heritage along with business records, old share certificate books, a metal deed box and a certificate from Companies House verifying its historical status. The company represented an intangible piece of commercial history and so for ten years Cupar Heritage filed annual returns to keep it as a dormant entity. That was fine until recent changes at Companies House made the process of filing annual returns and confirmation statements significantly more onerous and expensive.

Faced with an increasingly difficult situation Cupar Heritage Trustees bowed to the inevitable and decided to have the company struck off. How sad, that despite the best efforts of the local history society to keep alive this important piece of commercial history, it has gone. But the legacy lives on, the Corn Exchange building is a feature of the town centre, the society still holds the records, and the story is told in the little Cupar Museum.



Illustrations courtesy of Cupar Heritage

- The original site of **Hampden Park** has been listed. Find out more: [Historic site of First Hampden scores scheduled status | HistEnvScot](#)
- SLHF's very own Don Martin was recently interviewed about Scotland's first modern railway, the Monkland-Kirkintilloch line, marking its 200th anniversary. Read the article: [Scotland's first modern railway marks 200th anniversary - BBC News](#)
- **100,000 Victorian prison records now online** – Alongside these new records from Ayr and Inveraray prisons, you can also search registers from Barlinnie in Glasgow, Edinburgh Bridewell, Edinburgh Calton, Largs, and Perth. These include over 2,000 prisoner photographs from Barlinnie and Perth. [Prison registers search tips | Scotland's People](#)

WEBSITES

- **Dingwall Museum** has a new website and new URL. Please use <https://www.dingwallmuseum.com/> from now on.
- **Perth and Kinross Archives** have now transferred from Culture Perth and Kinross back into the local council's control. The facility is still to be found at the A.K. Bell Library, but the website is now <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/archive>
- Our counterparts at the **American Association of State and Local History** are attempting to connect young Americans with their history in the lead up to the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The website <https://historymadebyus.org> may throw up some interesting tips for how we engage with a younger generation.

CAN YOU HELP?

ARCH Project: Digitising Highland Maps and Plans Archaeology for Communities in the Highlands main project for 2026 focusses on Highland maps. As readers of the ARCH newsletter have long gathered, they are great fans of the National Library of Scotland maps website, which has a wealth of old maps and easy to use viewing options. But the NLS website is notably leaner on estate maps, many of which provide details of

places, placenames and land use. Inspired by NOSAS' project in 2018 scanning the Lovat Estate maps, ARCH will hire an A0 flatbed scanner, and invites estates, museums and individuals to have their old (pre-Ordnance Survey) maps and plans scanned for free. Once scanned high resolution digital copies (with copyright) will be given to owners, with copies also sent to the National Library of Scotland for inclusion on the NLS maps website.

Scanning will take place 17 - 28 August 2026 at the Highland Archive Centre in Inverness. If you know of any collections they should contact, please get in touch. They also need volunteers to help with logging maps in and doing the scanning. A golden opportunity for map enthusiasts! If interested, please get in touch with ARCH: info@archhighland.org.uk

QUOTE OF THE MOMENT

"There is no life that does not contribute to history." Dorothy West.

Clish-Clash is edited by Steve Connelly, ably assisted by Linda Clark, James Kennedy and Andrew Jones. Thanks also to Marissa Trimble, SCA and Ian Copland and Guthrie Hutton, Cupar Heritage for contributions.

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://www.slhf.org/submit-event>

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.

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