

CLISH-CLASH



The e-newsletter of the Scottish Local History Forum

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SLHF NEWS

A most enjoyable conference was held on 9 October in the AK Bell Library in Perth, with the theme of Scotland's defensive buildings. With excellent lively speakers, on subjects from crannogs to castles, fortifications to fuel tanks, ditches to decoys, a wide range of periods and constructions was covered.

Perhaps the most unexpected talk was on the Barnton Quarry restoration project, a 1950s bunker in Edinburgh, a herculean task currently being undertaken by volunteers (see Websites section below).



With around 65 participants attendance was slightly lower than in previous years, but, when the feedback form asked for possible reasons, one comment was 'they missed a treat'.

A full report of the conference and AGM will appear in the next issue of *Scottish Local 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.

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Some speakers and SLHF Trustees were rounded up for this photograph for the *Perth Courier*.

From left: Eric Graham (SLHF Treas.), Douglas Lockhart (Trustee), John Irvine (SLHF Chair), Finlay McKichan (Trustee), Doreen Grove (Speaker), Graeme Cruickshank (Speaker & Trustee), Nick Dixon (Speaker), Janet Brennan (Speaker), Ian Davidson (Speaker), Steve Connelly (Conference Chair).

SLHF has negotiated a discount from Edinburgh University Press for Scottish History Books

SPECIAL OFFER**

Edinburgh University Press is delighted to offer 30% off all Scottish History books – from Tom Devine's recent work *Recovering Scotland's Slavery Past* to classics such as G. W. S. Barrow's *Robert Bruce*.

To browse all of our books in the area, visit the Edinburgh University Press website
www.edinburghuniversitypress.com

How to order – save 30%

Online: visit www.edinburghuniversitypress.com, add the books you'd like to purchase to your basket, and before going to the checkout enter the discount code **HISTORYFORUM**

By phone: for card payments, you can also place your order over the phone by calling Edinburgh University Press on +44 (0)131 651 4856.

****Offer valid until the 31st December 2016; does not include postage and packaging.**

HELP WANTED

■ Inaugurated in 1947, the **Edinburgh International Film Festival** is celebrating its 70th anniversary in 2017, as the world's longest continually running film festival. We are building the complete history of the festival, and we need your memories to do so. Help us assemble the history of the festival! Tell us your stories, send us your photographs.

www.edfilmfestmemories.org.uk

LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

■ Scottish Book Trust

Book Week Scotland takes place 21-27 Nov. across Scotland and includes some local history related events, such as a house history workshop in Stirling, talk on Glasgow history in Hamilton, Lanarkshire's vanishing heritage. Search for events at

<http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/events>

■ **Span: a tale of three bridges**, exhibition in **Kirkcaldy Galleries**, War Memorial Gardens, Kirkcaldy, KY1 1YG.

As the Queensferry Crossing approaches completion in 2017, this temporary exhibition looks at the three Forth bridges at Queensferry. First shown at Deep Sea World in the summer, it moved to Kirkcaldy on 3 Sept 2016. Open until 26 Feb 2017.

<https://www.onfife.com/venues/kirkcaldy-galleries>

■ **Methil Heritage Centre** has a long term exhibition on **Levenmouth Lives** exploring the history of Methil and Buckhaven. A temporary exhibition **Schooldays: a trip down memory lane** is in the Centre from 13 Sept 2016 to 18 Feb 2017.

Old Post Office Building, 272 High Street, Lower Methil Fife KY8 3EG.

<http://www.methilheritage.org.uk/content/>

■ **MAC** is Fife's mobile museum, currently displaying a special exhibition **Moving stories: Fife's Great War**. The mobile museum is available free of charge for schools and community groups in Fife. Tel. 01592 583204; email contacts are at:

<http://www.onfife.com/fifes-great-war>

<http://www.onfife.com/moving-stories-0>

■ The **National Library of Scotland** displays a major map exhibition **You are here! a journey through maps** until 2 April 2017. This is accompanied by various events, including workshops, a monthly discussion group, and a **Map Day**, which is part of Book Week, with talks on mapping the islands on 21 Nov.

There is currently a small display of recently published books on Scotland and Scottish history upstairs, outside the Reading Rooms.

A 'treasures' exhibition highlights photographically illustrated books, starting with W H Fox Talbot's **Sun pictures** (1845), and NLS at the Kelvin Hall is now open.

Christmas shopping evening (discount 20%) is on 1 Dec. <http://www.nls.uk/events>



**Stuck for a present?
It's easy to give a
GIFT SUBSCRIPTION to SLHF!**

1. Go to <https://www.slhf.org/how-join-slhf>
2. Add Individual Membership to your shopping cart
3. Follow instructions to the Checkout.
4. At Checkout select Gift Subscription.
5. You will be asked for your recipient's name and address, and your details.
6. Then pay online.

SOCIETIES' NEWS

■ **Friends of Thomas Muir** have had a busy 2016 Festival, finishing the year with a symposium in Oct., family activities in Nov., a library display 14-18 Nov. and Dougie MacLean in concert on 25 Nov. There is a book launch for **Thomas Muir of Huntershill: Essays for the 21st Century** with Sir Tom Devine in the Kelvin Hall, 15 Dec. Find out more and apply for tickets at:

<http://thomasmuir.co.uk/thomasmuirfestival2016.html>

■ **British Society of Sports History (Scottish Network)**

and the **Scottish National Portrait Gallery**
Call for Papers

The Scottish Summer at Royal Montrose Golf Club, Montrose Golf Links, **Wednesday, 7 June 2017**.
£15 attendance fee.

This one-day conference will examine the history/histories of tourism and leisure during the summer months in Scotland. Suggested paper topics might include (but are not limited to):

- Holidays on the Scottish coast
- Literary interpretations of the Scottish summer
- Tourism from outwith Scotland
- The family during Scottish summer holidays
- Transport and Scottish tourism
- Labour and the tourist economy
- Sport and tourism during the Scottish summer
- Outdoor education/fraternalism during the summer months
- Food and drink during the holidays

Abstracts should be no longer than 200 words, and should be sent by Friday, 30 January to both Imogen Gibbon (igibbon@nationalgalleries.org) and Matthew McDowell (matthew.mcdowell@ed.ac.uk). They will also answer queries.

Next year there will be a call for papers for **The Scottish Winter**, a companion conference being held in Perth on 6 December 2017!

■ The **Queensferry Museum** has reopened, and **Queensferry History Group** WW1 exhibition **Queensferry at War** has been extended until the end of January 2017.

<http://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/Venues/Queensferry-Museum/Exhibitions/Current-Exhibitions>

■ **Markinch Heritage Group** meets at 7pm in the 252 Memorial Hall, Betson Street, Markinch. programme includes

1 Dec **From Castles to camels: the history of Scottish gold and silversmiths and their marks**, talk by George Dalgleish.

3 Dec, 2-4pm. Special event: **Medieval Christmas Fayre**.

5 Jan 2017. **Markinch and slightly beyond: a peek into Historic Environment Scotland Archives**.

WEBSITES

■ **Barnton Quarry Restoration Project**. Find out more about the project at:

http://secretscotland.org.uk/index.php/Secrets/BarntonQuarry#Barnton_Quarry_web_site

<https://www.facebook.com/BarntonQuarryRestorationProject>

■ The **British Newspaper Archive** has recently added these Scottish titles:

Alloa Advertiser, 1850-1911

Fife Free Press & Kirkcaldy Guardian, 1900-1933, 1935-38

Hawick News and Border Chronicle, various dates between 1904-1942

Kirkintilloch Gazette, 1898-1938

Single years of a few other Scottish titles have also been added, eg. **Galloway Advertiser and Wigtownshire Free Press**, 1852, 1864, 1872, 1881.

<http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>

■ **Grace Notes Scotland** is a charity, based near Comrie, dedicated to recording oral history and traditions. '**The end of the shift**' oral history project about workers' experiences in Perthshire and Fife is funded by the Heritage Lottery and Gannochy Trust.

<http://www.gracenotesScotland.org/>

A recent publication about workers in the Melville-Brodie Engineering Company in Kirkcaldy is:

We are the engineers! A history of Scottish workers, by Margaret Bennett. Grace Note Publications, 2016. 212pp.; illus. Pbk. £12.99.

(ISBN 978-1907676666)

<http://www.gracenotesScotland.org/news/35-kirkcaldy-s-industrial-heritage-they-taught-us-skills-for-life-we-are-the-engineers> Available from Amazon.

■ **Mills Archive Trust**

Based in Reading, the Trust collects archives, books and images about mills and milling from across the UK. This site has around 1000 records relating to Scotland, for example 500 Aberdeenshire watermills and EM Gardner's photographs of water mills and windmills in Shetland and Orkney.

<https://millsarchive.org/>

<https://catalogue.millsarchive.org/photographic-negatives-of-windmills-and-watermills-of-shetland-and-orkney>

BACK ISSUES OF SCOTTISH LOCAL HISTORY

Stocks of the following issues of the journal are now almost exhausted and there are only one or two copies left:

32; 39; 41; 42; 43; 50; 59; 60; 67; 69; 70 and 72.

Members interested in purchasing any of these should contact Douglas Lockhart

d.lockhart362@btinternet.com

Copies are priced at £1 [32-50] and £2 [59-72] plus p & p.

Nos 50; 60 and 70 contain indexes to articles and news features in the journal.

An index to journal article titles is at <https://www.slhf.org/journal-content-index>

PUBLICATIONS

■ **Breaking the mould: Edinburgh: researching and celebrating 100 years of women's history in social and political activities since the beginning of WW1**. Edinburgh: Workers' Educational Association, 2015. 48pp; illus. Pbk.

(ISBN 978-0-902303-82-9)

WEA, 17 Gayfield Square, Edinburgh EH1 3NX.

<http://southeast.weascotland.org.uk/home>

<https://www.facebook.com/WEABreakingthemould>

■ **Scotland: mapping the islands**, by C Fleet, M Wilkes, & C Withers. Birlinn, 2016. 256pp; col. illus. Hbk. £30. (ISBN 9781780273518)

<http://www.birlinn.co.uk/Scotland-Mapping-the-Islands.html>

■ **Scottish Lighthouses: an illustrated history**, by Michael Strachan. Amberley, Nov. 2016. 96pp; 180 illus. £14.99. (ISBN 9781445658391)

<https://www.amberley-books.com/scottish-lighthouses.html>

■ **Sixties spotting days around the Scottish Region**, by Kevin Derrick. Amberley, Sept. 2016. 96pp; 120 illus. Pbk. £14.99. (ISBN 9781445660790)

<https://www.amberley-books.com/sixties-spotting-days-around-the-scottish-region.html>

■ **Seventies spotting days around the Scottish Region**, by Kevin Derrick. Amberley, Nov. 2016. 96pp; 120 illus. Pbk. £14.99. (ISBN 9781445660813). Photographs of electric & diesel trains in the 1960s & 70s.

<https://www.amberley-books.com/seventies-spotting-days-around-the-scottish-region.html>

■ **HMS Hampshire: a century of myths and mysteries unravelled**. Orkney Heritage Society, 2016. 120pp. Casebound. £25 + p&p.

<http://www.orkneycommunities.co.uk/OHS/index.asp?pageid=649435>

■ **Stirling through time**, by Jack Gillon. Amberley, 2016. 96pp; 180 illus. Pbk. £14.99.

(ISBN 978-1-4456-5795) <https://www.amberley-books.com/stirling-through-time-8843.html>

■ **Scotland's homes fit for heroes**, by Lou Rosenberg. Edinburgh Old Town Development Trust, 2016. 256pp; col. illus. Pbk. £14.99. (ISBN 978-0993054426). Available from EOTDT, The Word Bank, 8 Jackson's Entry, Edinburgh EH8 8PJ <http://www.eotdt.org/index.php/the-word-bank>

■ **Dalkeith 3** has been published by 'Recording Angels' a Midlothian group which records memorial inscriptions and other records £10.00 plus p & p, available from Miss Victoria McCulloch, Hon Sec. 32 Featherhall Crescent North, Edinburgh, EH12 7TY, or from Recording Angels, c/o Local Studies Library, 2 Clerk Street, Loanhead. Email recang@aol.com. Previous publications include: **Carrington, Cockpen, Crichton, Fala and Soutra, Newbattle 1 and 2, Newton, Old Pentland, Rosewell (Hawthornden), Glencorse, Dalkeith 1 and 2, Roslin**. Unfortunately more information is not available as your editor's security software barred entry to their website.

■ **Lochee through time**, by Brian King. Amberley, 2016. 96pp. 180 illus. Pbk, Kindle, Kobo, iBook. £14.99. (ISBN 978-1-4456-5422-5) <https://www.amberley-books.com/lochee-through-time.html>

■ **History Scotland**, 16(6), Nov./Dec. 2016.

Articles include:

- Zeppelins over Edinburgh
- Dundee and Darien
- Chasing the deer: poaching in the early modern Highlands
- Carved stones project
- Scotland's historic gardens
- The kidnap trade in Aberdeen
- The Clearances on Rum

■ We have come across a newsletter from **Speaking lives**, a commercial oral history service based in Edinburgh, which records interviews of memories for a three-figure fee, and delivers them in various presentation gift formats. This is not a recommendation as we know nothing other than their advertisement, but it may be of interest to SLHF members. <http://www.speakinglives.com/>

■ **Fife Family History Journal**, NS.37, Summer 2016.

Articles include:

- Miller family of Newcastle... Australia
 - Pioneer emigrants of the Australian Agricultural Company
- and family histories of Lochs of Over Carnbee, Martins in Angus and Fife, Pitcairns of Kinninmont and Kinnaird, John Brown of Sheffield & Glasgow. <http://fifefhs.org/>

■ The **Scottish Council on Archives bulletin**, August-October 2016 is available online: <http://www.scottisharchives.org.uk/about/get-involved/members/bulletins/aug16-oct16>

BOOK REVIEWS

■ *Scottish Local History* has a large number of book reviews in each issue. To make space for more articles, and also not to delay the publication of reviews, in future some of the shorter reviews will be in *Clish-Clash*.

Stewart, Gregor

Secret St Andrews

Amberley Publishing, Stroud, 2016, 96pp; illus. Pbk. £14.99.

ISBN 978 1 4456 6186 5

This book is the latest addition to the Amberley series in which the lesser known areas of historic towns are explored. *Secret St Andrews* takes its readers on ten themed excursions that explore the history of the town; the influence of religion; the University and the importance of golf. Among the more remarkable places discussed in this book are the Witch Hill where burnings at the stake occurred in the sixteenth century, the search for secret tunnels under the city, a quest that became something of an obsession for William Linskill (1855-1929) and the Haunted Tower near the Cathedral. The book is illustrated with colour photographs and would interest visitors who like to explore at their own pace. *Douglas Lockhart*.

Anthony Faulkes

The Life and Works of James Easson, the Dundee People's Poet

Dundee: Thorisdal, 2016. 182pp. Pbk. £6.

ISBN 9780952745525

The sadly neglected Dundee working-class poet and journalist James Easson has at last received a biography and edition of his complete works. His contributions to the *People's Journal* comprise many sketches of life among the mills, factories, schools, churches and homes of Dundee and Edinburgh in the mid-nineteenth century: *John W. Irvine* Available from Amazon or from the author/publisher anthony.faulkes@talktalk.net

WHAT'S ON

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>

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on the SLHF Homepage**
<https://www.slhf.org/>