

CLISH-CLASH



The e-newsletter of the Scottish Local History Forum

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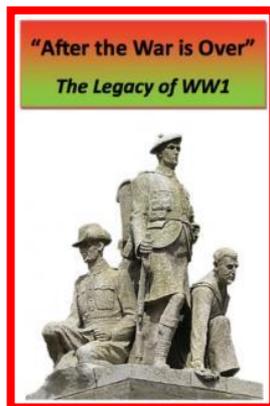
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SLHF NEWS

■ Booking is now open for the **SLHF Conference and AGM**, which will be held on Thursday 25 October in the A K Bell Library, Perth. The centenary of the 1918 Armistice provides the inspiration for the theme of this year's conference: **After the War is over - the legacy of WW1**. The Great War was destructive but it also generated many changes and advances in Scotland that continue to resonate today.

Changes in land use and ownership are covered in several talks: the break-up of landed estates; rural land settlement schemes; the impact of WW1 on the Scottish allotment movement. Topics relating to specific localities are *Reaping the hard vrocht grun: some aspects of the aftermath of WW1 in Aberdeenshire* and war trophies in Perthshire and Fife.



Limbs, Lives and Legacy: a century of Erskine Hospital considers the birth of re-constructive medicine and the rise of social care. Remembrance and memorials are another sub-theme, with talks on *The Power of the Poppy*, Scotland's rolls of honour as a source for local history and a slide show on war memorial halls.

Talks are illustrated, and members and non-members are most welcome. Find out more, and book online at <https://www.slhf.org/event/slhf-2018-annual-conference-and-agm>

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
Edinburgh EH1 1DD

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Don't forget to enter your organisation's details in the new

Scottish Local History Directory.

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

Watch the spread of local history sources on the map of Scotland

<http://www.slhf.org/slh-directory-map>

LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

■ The **National Library of Scotland** has announced major changes in **opening hours**, from 2 July.

The new opening hours in George IV Bridge will be:

- **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday:** 09.30-19.00
- **Wednesday:** 10.00-19.00
- **Friday, Saturday:** 09.30-17.00
- **Sunday:** Closed.

There is an increase in Saturday hours, with new afternoon opening, but do note that requests for items must be made before 11.00 (from offsite store), 11.15 (George IV Bridge store), with last delivery about 12.30. Evening hours are reduced, based on analysis of usage statistics, and the Library will now be closed on Sundays; formerly Exhibitions (not Reading Rooms) were open. Overall, about 6 hours have been lost from weekdays, and 4 hours added to Saturdays. Application times for fetching material for the General Reading Room from store have also changed: the last time for ordering is about 15.00 on weekdays, with last delivery 16.00 (George IV Bridge), 16.30 (from offsite). Allow 90 minutes for retrieval from offsite, 45 minutes from George IV Bridge store.

To maximise your time, it is advisable to order items in advance online before going to the library.

<https://www.nls.uk/opening-hours-changes>

■ **Edinburgh Central Library** is at the centre of a planning controversy as permission has been granted to build a multi-storey Virgin hotel on an adjacent site, joining several listed buildings and using a vacant development site, which was once ear-marked for library expansion. Lack of space threatens the Children's Library and Music annexe and the specialist local history Edinburgh Room is closed for browsing. Leading local authors and library users have protested, as the building will cut out a great deal of light, particularly ironic as the motto carved in stone above the door is 'let there be light'.

■ **Historic Environment Scotland** collaborated with BBC Scotland on a television series, *Scotland from the Sky*, three programmes which aired in May.
<https://canmore.org.uk/gallery/1037873>

A 336 page book with the same title, by the presenter James Crawford, has been published to accompany the series. £25.

<https://shop.historicenvironment.scot/scotland-from-the-sky>

■ **Scotland Street School Remembers** is a film about the Charles Rennie Mackintosh designed school, and recollections of former pupils. Made as part of the Mackintosh 150th anniversary celebrations, the film (approx 90 minutes) will be shown at the **Scotland Street School Museum**, 225 Scotland Street, Glasgow from 7 June to 30 September at 10.00**, 11.30, 13.00, 14.30. (**Museum opens 11.00-17.00 Friday & Sunday; 10.00-17.00 all other days),
<https://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/museums/venues/scotland-street-school-museum>

■ Tomintoul Museum has re-launched as **Tomintoul & Glenlivet Discovery Centre**, four years after Moray Council withdrew funding and transferred ownership to the Tomintoul and Glenlivet Development Trust. With £500,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Centre has been renovated and includes a reconstructed smiddy and crofter's kitchen, and displays on local history and wildlife. The Centre is one of the 20 projects to be organised by Tomintoul & Glenlivet Landscape Partnership by 2020, with £3.6 million from the HLF, to regenerate the area, and claims to have created two paid jobs plus volunteer opportunities.

Open every day 10.00-17.00 from April-October. Closed November-March.

<http://tgdt.org.uk/news/> <http://tgdt.org.uk/background/>
http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_627.html

■ Paisley has solved a number of problems with an imaginative new facility. **Paisley Museum** is undergoing a £42 million revamp until 2022 which means some disruption to their galleries and the need to decant collections. The collapse of in-town retail in favour of online or out-of-town shopping means there are empty shops in many high streets. So Paisley has opened the '**Secret Collection**', a new purpose-built £3.7 million storage facility in the High Street, on an accessible vacant retail site.

Free guided tours are available to the store. Book in advance at:

[https://www.renfrewshireleisure.com/thesecretcollection/](https://www.renfrewshireleisure.com/theseecretcollection/)
<https://www.renfrewshireleisure.com/paisleymuseum/>

■ These are two examples of how investment in heritage projects is being used to re-generate areas and local economies. However while visitor attractions are receiving funding, libraries are suffering closures and cuts to staff and collection development. **West Lothian Local History Library** has lost specialist staff, and although the collections are still open to the public, there is no one with in-

depth knowledge to answer queries, or to build the collection for the future. Security of the collections in an unmanned area is also an issue – many local items are unique.

■ **East Lothian Libraries** have also announced cuts particularly in hours in evenings and at weekends, and a petition has been launched.

[http://www.eastlothiancourier.com/news/16250311.Petition launched over cuts to library hours/](http://www.eastlothiancourier.com/news/16250311.Petition%20launched%20over%20cuts%20to%20library%20hours/)

SOCIETIES

■ Eric Denton, **Bothwell Historical Society** writes:

Our society has raised a petition to the Scottish parliament to try to have legislation put in place to protect all 39 Scottish battlefields listed by HES as "worthy of preservation". Local planning authorities may take this into consideration when applications are made for developments on these sites but despite the recommendations of HES, the battlefields are not protected by any legislation enacted by Parliament. We consider that these battlefields are an important part of the national heritage and should be protected by legislation for the benefit of present and future generations.

This stems from the fight we in Bothwell had to prevent a building company building several large houses on our Covenanters' Field, the only remaining area of undeveloped land commemorating the 1679 Battle of Bothwell Bridge. The field is on the HES list. We think legislation is long overdue and recent building permission given for homes to be built on part of the Culloden land is in most people's minds very wrong. See the Society's website under 'News'.

<http://bothwellhistoricalsociety.co.uk/library-petition/>

If you agree that it is vital that legislation is laid down now before any further inappropriate developments on any of the battlefields as listed on the Inventory of Historic Battlefields then please support our petition. The petition has now "gone live" on the Scottish Parliament's website and will be open for gathering signatures and comments until 25 June 2018.

<http://www.parliament.scot/GettingInvolved/Petitions/battlefieldpreservation>

UNIVERSITIES

■ **Edinburgh University** School of History, Classics and Archaeology has announced that a new interdisciplinary research group on '**Cultural Heritage and Community Engagement**' is being set up, based in the School but collaborating with colleagues in Art, Design and Architecture, Ethnography and Anthropology.

The Group also wants to reach to the wider community and community-based groups as well as to colleagues at other institutions. An inaugural workshop was held in June.

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/history-classics-archaeology/news-events/news/new-research-group-inaugural-meeting>

WEBSITES

■ Your editor happens upon useful websites by serendipity. Some may have been around for some time, so this section is not necessarily about new items. **Benarty Heritage Preservation Group** is one such site, stuffed with mini articles about places and topics in the area. <http://benarty.org.uk/>

A particular local historian's labour of love (begun in the 1990s!) is **A wee keek back** by Jim Campbell, who died in 2017, and provided much of the content of the website. His work provides a legacy for the whole community.

A wee keek back offers transcriptions of interesting news and snippets from various local newspapers, including *the Dunfermline Times*, (1873-1904), *Cowdenbeath and Kelty Echo*. For example 322 pages cover the *Cowdenbeath & Lochgelly Times & Advertiser*, starting in 1895, up to the report of the 1931 Bowhill Colliery disaster – given the importance of coal mining in the local area the website provides sources and commentary on the mining industry. In 1926 the newspaper ran a series on local reminiscences, which covers many aspects of the social history of the community.

Even if you are not from the area, these sources give a window on a past which is relevant for many parts of Scotland.

<http://www.benarty.org.uk/source/Newspapers/Lochgelly%20Times%20Articles.pdf>

■ **Historic Environment Scotland** has digitised two collections of photographs from the 1970s-80s, totalling around 50,000 images. The Scottish Countryside Commission undertook a survey of rural buildings between 1978 and 1981 to identify traditional building styles and classify regional and local characteristics, published in *Buildings of the Scottish Countryside* (1985). In June 1975 'vocational students' photographed C-listed buildings.

These are listed in the Canmore website: search collections '*Buildings of the Scottish Countryside*' and '*List C Survey*'. On-line photographs are found using the filter 'on-line digital images' (not all the photographs which are catalogued are available yet as on-line digital images). <https://canmore.org.uk/>

PUBLICATIONS

■ **1824: The world's first Foot-Ball Club**, by John Hutchinson and Andy Mitchell. On sale directly from the authors, price £11.99 post free (in the UK only).

<http://www.scottishsportshistory.com/worlds-first-football-club.html> For the rest of the world, the book is available from Amazon:

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/1986612449>

This is the story of the world's very first club dedicated to football, founded in 1824, and thriving for almost 17 years in Edinburgh. The authors have analysed the club's extraordinarily detailed archive which has survived intact, including membership lists, rules of play, accounts, letters and contracts.

Illustrations of some source material and a sound podcast of a talk given by the authors at the National Records of Scotland are available at:

<https://blog.nrscotland.gov.uk/2018/04/09/trailblazers-the-worlds-first-football-club-with-john-hutchinson-andy-mitchell/>

■ **Bell Rock lighthouse: an illustrated history**, by Michael A W Strachan. Stroud: Amberley, 2018. 96pp; 149 illus. Pbk. £14.99. (ISBN 978-1-4456-7060-7) <https://www.amberley-books.com/bell-rock-lighthouse.html>

■ **25 years of the Ayrshire Road Run**, by Bill Reid. Stroud: Amberley, 2018. 96pp; 180 illus. Pbk. £14.99. (ISBN 978-1-4456-8195-5). Photographs of vintage commercial vehicles, taking part in the annual rally. <https://www.amberley-books.com/25-years-of-the-ayrshire-road-run.html>

■ **Dundee history tour**, by Brian King. Stroud: Amberley, 2018. 96pp; 50 illus. Pbk. £7.99. (ISBN 978-1-4456-7825-2) <https://www.amberley-books.com/dundee-history-tour.html>

■ **Secret Dumfries**, by Mary Smith & Keith Kirk. Stroud: Amberley, 2018. 96pp; 100 illus. Pbk. £14.99. (ISBN 9781445674988) <https://www.amberley-books.com/secret-dumfries.html>

■ **The Scottish brick industry**, by Moses Jenkins. Catrine: Stenlake, 2018. Pbk. £9.99. (ISBN 978-1-8403-3801-0) http://stenlake.co.uk/book_publishing/?page_id=131&ref=1135§ion=

■ **Steamers to Ayrshire**, by Andrew Clark. Catrine: Stenlake, 2018. Pbk. £10.95. (ISBN 978-1-8403-3817-1) http://stenlake.co.uk/book_publishing/?page_id=131&ref=1143§ion=

■ **Steamers to the Kyles of Bute**, by Andrew Clark. Catrine: Stenlake, 2018. Pbk. £10.95. (ISBN 978-1-8403-3818-8) http://stenlake.co.uk/book_publishing/?page_id=131&ref=1144§ion=

■ **Campbeltown Picture House: a century of cinema**, by Helen Kendrick with Campbeltown Community Business Ltd. Catrine: Stenlake, 2018. Pbk. £12.95. (ISBN 978-1-8403-3809-6) http://stenlake.co.uk/book_publishing/?page_id=131&ref=1140§ion=

■ **Old Dundonald**, by Alex F Young. Catrine: Stenlake, 2018. Pbk. £10.95. (ISBN 978-1-8403-3796-9) http://stenlake.co.uk/book_publishing/?q=old+dundonald&page_id=497

■ **Old Bucksburn, Bankhead and Stoneywood**, by Patricia Newman. Catrine: Stenlake, 2018. Pbk. £10.95. (ISBN 978-1-8403-3800-3) http://stenlake.co.uk/book_publishing/?q=old+bucksburn&page_id=497

■ **Old Coll and Tiree**, by Bernard Byrom. Catrine: Stenlake, 2018. Pbk. £10.95. (ISBN 978-1-8403-3806-5)
http://stenlake.co.uk/book_publishing/?page_id=131&ref=1130§ion=

■ **Bygone Oban**, by Bernard Byrom. Catrine: Stenlake, 2018. Pbk. £10.95. (ISBN 978-1-8403-3807-2)
http://stenlake.co.uk/book_publishing/?q=bygone+oban&page_id=497

■ **Bygone Troon**, by Hugh Maxwell. Catrine: Stenlake, 2018. Pbk. £16.95. (ISBN 978-1-8403-3726-6)
http://stenlake.co.uk/book_publishing/?page_id=131&ref=1131§ion=

■ **Scottish hospitals**, by Graham Lowe. Catrine: Stenlake, 2018. Pbk. £10.95. (ISBN 978-1-8403-3804-1)
http://stenlake.co.uk/book_publishing/?page_id=131&ref=1125§ion=

■ **Scottish railways 1923-2016: a history**, by David Ross. Catrine: Stenlake, 2018. Hbk. £40.00. (ISBN 978-1-8403-3783-9)
http://stenlake.co.uk/book_publishing/?page_id=131&ref=1121§ion=

■ **Scottish Local History**, 100, Summer 2018.
To celebrate no.100, this special issue is in full colour with additional pages.

-The discovery of the Highlands: the role of the artist in the growth of tourism in the Highlands

-Richard Waitt (1664-1733): portraitist to the Clan Grant

-Rounding up Caribbean pirates in Argyllshire in 1720

-Environmental and local history: a natural partnership

-Local history from the air: an aerial photographer's experiences

-A kaleidoscope of Scottish ceramics

-The reservoirs of the Forth and Clyde canal: eighteenth century engineering and twenty-first century sculptures

-The Glassford marriage portraits

-From Banff to Beechworth, Victoria: George Campbell Smith (1804-68), land surveyor

An index to title of articles in **Scottish Local History** is at: <http://www.slhf.org/journal-content-index>

Any back issues still in print may be ordered at: <http://www.slhf.org/journal-back-issues>

WHAT'S ON

■ National Library of Scotland's events are at <https://www.nls.uk/events/workshops-and-tours>
Although free, advance booking is required.

Items of local history interest include:

Workshop: **Maps for family and local history**, 13 July, 14.00-15.30, Causewayside Building, Edinburgh.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/maps-for-family-and-local-history-workshop-tickets-46652315331>

Workshop (1 hour) on using the **Moving Image Archive**, 14 July, 14 Aug., 19 Sept. at NLS at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow. Book at:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/getting-started-with-the-moving-image-archive-tickets-46710295752>

Library Social: A programme of events for people affected by dementia

The 'Social' programme is a joint initiative between the National Library of Scotland, the National Galleries of Scotland, the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh, and the National Museums of Scotland. Visitors with dementia, plus their friends, families and supporters are welcome to attend these regular Friday morning sessions. Events at the Library take place in George IV Bridge on the second Friday of each month, with refreshments provided. Meet at Information Desk.

Bridging the Forth: the history and construction of the Forth Rail Bridge, 13 July, 10:30-12.00

Midsummer music and Lammastide lore, 10 August, 10:30-12.00

Going to the pictures: a selection of film clips from the Moving Image Archive 14 September 10:30-12.00

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/maps-for-family-and-local-history-workshop-tickets-46652315331>

■ **PBFA bookfairs** will be held in Glamis (4 August) and Ballater (5 August), Portree (6-8 September).
<http://www.pbfa.org/book-fairs/scotland-&-ireland>

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>