

CLISH-CLASH



The e-newsletter of the Scottish Local History Forum

Scottish Charity SCO15850

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ANNIVERSARIES

A Happy New Year to everyone...

It is a truism to say that each year has its anniversaries, but 2015 seems to have more than most! From Magna Carta (15 June 1215) to Waterloo (18 June 1815) to Gallipoli (19 February-19 December 1915) to VE Day (8 May 1945) someone somewhere is planning a commemoration.

Some anniversaries of particular significance in Scotland are:

■ **1315: Edward Bruce 700** commemorates shared Ulster-Scottish history, with Edward Bruce's campaign in Ireland (1315-18), when, fresh from Bannockburn, the brother of Robert the Bruce sailed from Ayr to Larne. With complex family connections in Ulster, this enterprise by the Bruces to bring Ireland under one ruler and open a second front against the English initially succeeded, but ultimately failed.

Supported by the Ulster Historical Foundation, the Ministerial Advisory Group – Ulster-Scots Academy and the Ulster Scots Agency events are being planned for 2015 and a free booklet and map have been produced, covering 10 sites in Scotland and 10 in Ireland:

Edward Bruce 700: Heritage Trail booklet and map, by Eric Graham, William Roulston and Mark Thompson. 2014.

<http://www.booksireland.org.uk/store/all-departments/edward-bruce-700-heritage-trail-booklet>
<http://www.booksireland.org.uk/store/all-departments/edward-bruce-700-heritage-trail-map>

■ **1765: Grantown250**

Grantown Sestercentennial Festival runs from 21-28 June, with varied activities, including an historical conference on planned settlements, plus cycling, food, flowers, fashion show, historic pub crawl, music hub, and much more. Many people will be dressed in period Georgian costumes to give a flavour of the age when the town was founded by James Grant of Grant.

www.grantown250.org

■ **1765: Thomas Muir of Huntershill** “father of Scottish democracy”. The Friends of Thomas Muir are organising several events to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the birth of this Scottish political reformer (25 August 1765). The full programme has not yet been announced so keep an eye on their website: <http://thomasmuir.co.uk/>

SLHF NEWS

Following the success of the visit to Leith last year, the SLHF committee is planning two events in the Summer in conjunction with the organisers of two of these anniversaries. This will give opportunities in the east and west of the country for interesting and informative days out.

Further details will be available in the March *Clish-Clash*, but meanwhile here are the dates for your diaries:

4 June. Talk and walk in Edinburgh - visit sites relating to Thomas Muir and the radical movement.

11 June. Talk and walk in Ayr, relating to Edward Bruce 700.

Places will be limited so please register your interest at events enquiry <https://www.slhf.org/contact-slhf>

■ And don't forget...

... **Mary Slessor's** death in Nigeria (13 January 1915)

... the **Gretna rail disaster** at Quintinshill (22 May 1915) which involved five trains, when a troop train collided with carriages from a local train left on the line, then a passenger train ploughed into the crash, and the subsequent fire spread to two freight trains. 226 people were killed and 246 injured. Many were soldiers heading for Gallipoli.

... the **Glasgow rent strike** (1915) when the Glasgow Women's Housing Association organised tenants, mostly women, to resist landlords' attempts to increase rents, exploiting the housing shortage in World War 1.

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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UNIVERSITY NEWS

■ Linguists from Aberdeen University have spent six years studying the speech of fisherfolk along the east coast for the Fisherspeak Project. These fishing communities have developed highly localised dialects, where special names for items are unique to a particular area, and reveal cultural identity. For example a seagull in Wick is a 'scorie', in Fraserburgh a 'myave', in Lossiemouth a 'gow', in Gamrie a 'pewl' or 'pewlie'.

<http://fisherspeak.net/>

■ **ReINVENT** was a project in 2013-14 led by the **National Museums of Scotland** and the **University of Glasgow** to encourage multidisciplinary research on 19th century textile manufacturing in Scotland.

A second phase, **ReCREATE**, started in March 2014 and continues until September 2015. This is assessing museum, archive and heritage collections of tools, equipment, textiles and documents and examines historical processes involved with textile production, through experiment, bringing together academics and practitioners.

Find out more at www.gla.ac.uk/reinvent and www.gla.ac.uk/recreate

■ **Glasgow University**, supported by the **Royal Society of Edinburgh**, has established a network, **Knitting in the round: hand-knitted textiles and the economies of craft in Scotland**, to collaborate in researching this field. This project runs from 2014-16.

http://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/humanities/research/historyresearch/historyresearchcentres/centreforgenderhistory/projectsandpublications/headline_348560_en.html

EXHIBITIONS

■ **The Tapestry of Scotland**, which is on tour around Scotland, will be displayed at Stirling Castle in the Great Hall from 31 January to 8 March. Over 1000 volunteers contributed to this 143 metre embroidery which highlights events in Scotland's history.

<http://scotlandstapestry.com/index.php>

NEW PUBLICATIONS

■ **Scottish women: a documentary history, 1780-1914**, by Esther Breitenbach *et al.* Edinburgh University Press, 2013. 340 pp. Hbk (ISBN 978-074864064)

■ **Scotland and the sea: the Scottish dimension in maritime history**, by Nick Robins. Pen and sword Books, 2014. vi, 282 pp. Pbk. £19.99. (ISBN 978-18487501)

■ In 2014 **Amberley Publishing** produced more than 40 books relating to Scottish local history. Although some have already been reviewed in *Scottish Local*

History, it may be useful to list them here. Full details are available at:

<http://amberleybooks.com/>

The **Through Time** series compares old and new photographs and views, in black & white and colour. Most books are 96 pages, paperback, and cost about £14.99. They may also be available in Kindle, Kobo and ibook formats.

Dundee through time, by Brian King.

Leith through time, by Jack Gillon and Fraser Parkinson.

Central Glasgow through time, by Etta Dunn.

Glasgow's East End through time, by Gordon Adams.

Newton Mearns through time, by Graeme Smith and Anne Robertson.

Hawick through time, by Alistair Redpath.

Linlithgow through time, by Bruce Jamieson.

Montrose the postcard collection, by Tom Valentine.

Nairn through time, by Alan Barron.

The fishing industry through time: The Solway Firth to Hartland Point, by Mike Smyllie.

Amberley also specialises in publishing transport history:

West Highland steamers, by the West Highland Steamer Club.

The Caledonian Steam Packet Company: an illustrated history, by Alistair Deayton. 128pp.

Waverley Steam Navigation Company, by Alistair Deayton & Iain Quinn. 192pp.

The Waverley Route through time, by Roy Perkins with Iain MacIntosh.

Kyle of Lochalsh line: Great railway journeys through time, by Ewan Crawford.

The Glasgow, Cowal & Bute route through time, by Chris Hogg and Lynn Patrick.

Locomotives of the Highland Railway, by John Christopher & Campbell McCutcheon.

Locomotives of the North Eastern Railway, by J S Maclean. 128pp.

Edinburgh Waverley Station through time, by Michael Meighan.

The Forth Bridges through time, by Michael Meighan.

The West Highland Railway 120 years, by John McGregor. 128pp.

Glasgow Underground: the Glasgow District Subway, by Keith Anderson.

Starlight specials: the overnight Anglo-Scottish Express, by Dave Peel. 128pp.

Bradshaw's guide to Scotland's railways, reissued, annotated by Campbell McCutcheon & John Christopher.

West coast – Carlisle to Inverness.

East Coast – Berwick to Aberdeen and beyond.

West Coast Main Line – Manchester to Glasgow.

East Coast Main Line – York to Edinburgh.

Ayrshire buses, by David Devoy.
Strathclyde buses, by David Devoy.
Midland Scottish buses, by Walter Burt.
Dundee's trams and buses, by Walter Burt.
Buses of Skye and the Western Isles, by John Sinclair.
Buses of Clydeside Scottish and Clydeside 2000, by David Devoy.
Edinburgh trams through time, by Keith Anderson.

Edinburgh in the 1950s: ten years that changed a city, by Jack Gillon, David McLean & Fraser Parkinson.

Lost Edinburgh in colour, by Liz Hanson.
Hearts at war 1914-1919, by Tom Purdie. 160pp.
Dunfermline & district from old photographs, by Kate Park.

The British witch: the biography, by P.G. Maxwell-Stuart. 464pp.

- **History Scotland**, 14(6), Nov/Dec 2014. North Kessock and District Local History Society are the featured society. Local history related articles include:
 'The Battle of Cromarty, 26 October 1914', by M.W. Williams, pp 14-19.
 'The Glasgow House of Refuge', by Andrew G. Ralston, pp. 46-51.

Scottish Local History, 90, Winter 2014-15.

'Times past along the Molendinar', by Brian S. Skillen, pp. 3-8.
 'The Paisley radical trials of 1820', by T.J. Dowds, pp. 9-16.
 'Last train to Aberfoyle: myth and mystery', by Don Martin, pp. 16-19.
 'Rita the muse: the origins of Japanese whisky', by Peter McCormack, pp. 20-21.
 'Letters from the Bell brothers: Scottish surgeons in the slave trade', by Eric J. Graham, pp. 22-28.
 'National industry, local business: the work of the Scottish Printing Archive Trust', by Helen Williams, pp. 29-31.
 'John Wilson: an emigrant from Dumfriesshire to Illinois in 1844', by John Wilson, pp. 32-33.
 'Bonawe iron furnace', by Ian Maclellan, pp. 34-37.
 'Rapid prototyping on Wikipedia: writing local history articles', by Ray McAleese, pp. 38-39.

Plus news features and book reviews.

WHAT'S ON

▪ **Scottish Genealogy Society** talks are on Mondays at 7.30pm in the Augustine United Church Centre, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh.

19 January.

Louise Williams, Archivist, NHS Lothian: **The Bicentenary of the Royal Edinburgh Hospital.**

16 February.

AGM & Richard Torrance: **Edinburgh from above.**

16 March

Helen Foster, SCRAN: **Explore your family history on-line.**

<http://www.scotsgenealogy.com/Home/Calendar.aspx>

▪ **Who do you think you are? Live!** The 2015 event will be in Birmingham NEC, 16-18 April.

<http://www.whodoyouthinkyouarelive.com/>

▪ The **Dundee Afternoon Lectures** are open to all and are held in the D'Arcy Thompson Lecture Theatre, Dundee University, 2.15-3.30. £2.00. The varied programme is organised by six local societies (Royal Scottish Geographical Society, Friends of Dundee City Archives, Dundee Naturalists' Society, RSPB, Friends of the University of Dundee Botanic Gardens, and Abertay Historical Society). The next talk of historical interest is on Wednesday 11 February when Chris Whatley will talk about **Local Heroes? The Kirk and the struggle for hearts and minds in Angus during the Jacobite Risings.**

<https://www.list.co.uk/event/430962-dundee-afternoon-lecture-christopher-whatley/>

▪ **Stirling Local History Society** meets at Raploch Community Campus at 7.30pm.

29 January. Stuart Campbell:

Walking the Stirling marches.

26 February. Eleanor Muir:

Renaissance rags and riches at the Royal Court in Stirling: a presentation by the costumed interpreters at Stirling Castle.

<http://www.stirling-lhs.org/>

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>