

# CLISH-CLASH



*The e-newsletter of the Scottish Local History Forum*

Scottish Charity SCO15850

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## WELCOME

*Welcome to the first issue of the Scottish Local History Forum e-newsletter.*

'*Clish-clash*' is Scots for repeated gossip, and we hope you see this as an opportunity to share news and information about local history. The newsletter will be circulated by email to members and will also be available to everyone on the newly redesigned SLHF website [www.slhf.org](http://www.slhf.org).

Why is a Newsletter necessary? Although *Scottish Local History* includes some news information, it is published only three times a year, so information about local history activities is often after the event. Increasingly we are asked by organisations to publicise their events, but we do not pass on members' details to a third party. Also we do not wish to bombard members by forwarding local history advertising, so an occasional newsletter may be useful to circulate your societies' news yet not fill up members' inboxes too much.

Initially we hope to issue the newsletter bi-monthly, possibly monthly, but this will depend on you and the information you supply. Some types of information might be:

- *Talks & Events*: What is your society's programme? Where & when? Are talks for members only or open to all? Is there a fee or advance booking? Please provide contact details.
- *Publications*: For example, this could include contents lists of journals produced by local history societies, newspaper or magazine articles.
- *Exhibitions*
- *Local Studies collections*: Is your library, archive or museum promoting local history? Tell us about it. Or perhaps your local collection is under threat?
- *Societies*: What is your society doing? Is there a new local history society?
- *Heritage news*

## CONTACT DETAILS:

Email (from late Nov.) <http://slhf.org/contact-slhf>

*Send 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, contact **Membership Enquiry**.*

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## NEWS

• Members will be sorry to learn of the death of Professor Charles McKean on 29 September. Immensely knowledgeable about many aspects of history, but especially architecture, Charles was well-known to local historians as a lively, popular, and enthusiastic speaker. A memorial service will be held in Dundee on 30 November.

## LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

• **Dumfries Archive Centre** has recently moved from 33 Burns Street (opposite Burns House) to the Ewart Library in Catherine Street. This brings together Dumfries burgh archives with Dumfries & Galloway archives (including counties of Wigtown, Kirkcudbright & Dumfries). Opening hours (Tuesdays-Fridays) are longer than before which should suit researchers travelling from a distance.

<http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=2300>

• **Explore Your Archive** is a new UK-wide campaign to raise public awareness of archives, supported by the Scottish Council on Archives and the National Records of Scotland. Although aimed at archive staff it may be useful for local historians to find out what is happening in your area. There will be a coordinated publicity campaign during the week of 16 November. A toolkit is available at

[www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/archives-sector/explore-your-archive-toolkit.htm](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/archives-sector/explore-your-archive-toolkit.htm)

• **Paisley Central Library** Over the summer the Reference Room has been re-organised with new furniture to become a dedicated Heritage Centre focusing on social history and genealogy of the Renfrewshire area. It is equipped with an interactive smartboard as a learning tool and at other times this has local images on display. Staff are keen to encourage reminiscence groups and they provide free family history surgeries. The web site gives information on the enhanced facilities.

[www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/webcontent/Home/Services/Libraries/Libraries+and+opening+times/Paisley+Central+Library/](http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/webcontent/Home/Services/Libraries/Libraries+and+opening+times/Paisley+Central+Library/)

• **Kirkcaldy Library, Museum and Art Gallery** re-opened in June following a £2.5m refurbishment. In addition to an impressive museum display, a range of local and family history resources are available and an excellent café should appeal to those in need of refreshment. The current exhibition is *Moments in Time* displaying Kirkcaldy's history through 24 objects.

[www.kirkcaldygalleries.org.uk/kirkcaldy-museum/](http://www.kirkcaldygalleries.org.uk/kirkcaldy-museum/)

## SOCIETIES

• **Seamus Coleman, Chairman of Croy Historical Society**, has sent this update about the difficulties the Society is facing because of ongoing problems at their venue, Croy Miners' Welfare Charitable Society Complex.

*"Croy Historical Society currently have no access to their EXTENSIVE facilities in the Community Centre areas in the above establishment, and it is not known when or if the Community Centre will be available in future. Financially the Historical Society is in a healthy state and income is still being received from the number of talks and presentations which have been given and are still forthcoming. The frequency of meetings has had to be curtailed, but we now meet twice monthly in the new Antonine Sports Hub at Croy Railway Station. Meetings are at 13.00-15.00 on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. A talk / powerpoint presentation will be given on the first Tuesdays and the third will be for general Society business and networking. Our website will shortly be updated to publicise the situation."*

## UNIVERSITIES

• **MESH (Mapping Edinburgh Social History)** Edinburgh University has received an AHRC grant to fund a 3-year project to create a digital and hard copy **Atlas of Edinburgh**, covering six periods: the early city; medieval c.1300-1550; early modern 1550-1680; Enlightenment Edinburgh 1680-1820; c.1820-1914; and 1914-2000. The project builds upon the previous *Visualising Urban Geographies* project and is led by Richard Rodger, Professor of Economic and Social History.

[www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/history-classics-archaeology](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/history-classics-archaeology)

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

**Reviews of local history publications will continue to be published in Scottish Local History (do send your publications to the SLHF address below) but announcements of new and future publications may be made here.**

• Two books written by members of the Scottish Local History publications team were completed in the summer. Eric Simpson's ***Wish you were here: the Scottish Seaside Holiday*** was published by Amberley Publishing, Stroud and has been very popular, featuring in a number of press reviews. Douglas Lockhart's ***Old Rosehearty, Sandhaven and New Aberdour*** produced by Stenlake Publishing, Catrine contains photographs of three Aberdeenshire communities a few miles west of Fraserburgh.

<http://amberleybooks.com/>      <http://www.stenlake.co.uk/>

• ***Mavis Valley & the 1913 pit disaster***. Illustrated leaflet (2p). East Dunbartonshire Council, 2013.

• ***The life and times of Thomas Muir: discovering the story of the Father of Scottish democracy***. (East Dunbartonshire Council & The Friends of Thomas Muir, 2013). This 8 page leaflet summarises the significance of Thomas Muir of Huntershill (1765-1799), who was a leading light in 'The Friends of the People' a political reform movement in the 1790s.

There is also a companion map of ***The Thomas Muir Heritage Trail*** an 18km walking and cycling trail through East Dunbartonshire. [www.thomasmuir.co.uk](http://www.thomasmuir.co.uk)

• Aberdeen & North East Scotland Family History Society published in September 2013 ***The Kirkyard of Kinnernie***, compiled by Graham Ewen (ISBN 978-1-905004-32-4) and ***The Kirkyard of St Devenick-on-the Hill (Parish of Banchory-Devenick)***. (ISBN 978-1-905004-33-1). £2.40 each, plus postage. [www.anesfhs.org.uk](http://www.anesfhs.org.uk) ; [enquiries@anesfhs.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@anesfhs.org.uk)

• ***West Lothian Heritage: Newsletter of West Lothian Heritage Services (Autumn 2013) 8p***. Includes information about the records of West Calder Library, the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Flodden, papermaking in Linlithgow, a plea for domestic memorabilia for loan kits for schools to give an idea of *Life on the Home Front 1914-19* and an outline of the events planned by West Lothian History & Amenity Society and West Lothian Family History Society. For more information about the newsletter, contact [sybil.cavanagh@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:sybil.cavanagh@westlothian.gov.uk).

• ***Cairt: newsletter of the Scottish Maps Forum*** issue 23 (July 2013) 8p. News and information on mapping activities.

[www.nls.uk/media/1084781/cairt23.pdf](http://www.nls.uk/media/1084781/cairt23.pdf)

• ***Retour: newsletter of the Scottish Records Association*** 20 (Autumn 2013), 20p. Extracts and subscription info at [www.scottishrecordsassociation.org](http://www.scottishrecordsassociation.org)

## NEW WEBSITES

• ***Ordnance Survey Name Books***

ScotlandsPlaces website has now added digitised pages from the OS Name Books to their website (access to images for subscribers only).

A new project where members of the public volunteer to transcribe these manuscript lists has already created almost 30,000 transcribed pages of the total 174,851. New volunteers are welcome.

ScotlandsPlaces: [www.scotlandspplaces.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandspplaces.gov.uk)

ScotlandsPlaces transcriptions project:

[www.scotlandspplaces.gov.uk/transcribe](http://www.scotlandspplaces.gov.uk/transcribe)

• ***Scotland's Oldest Bridges*** website catalogues 499 masonry bridges before 1750. This research was based on bridges found in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century Pont manuscript maps, Blaeu atlas (1654) and Roy's manuscript map (1747-55).

<http://www.scotlandsoldestbridges.co.uk/index.html>

## WHAT'S ON: November-December 2013

Visit the SLHF website <http://slhf.org/events> for a calendar which lists talks and events by date.

### CONFERENCES & SPECIAL EVENTS

- 13-30 Nov** *Previously... Scotland's Festival of History* - The 3<sup>rd</sup> year of this promotion of various historical events. Mostly in Edinburgh, but also Glasgow, Stirling & Dunfermline. [www.historyfest.co.uk](http://www.historyfest.co.uk)
- Fri 8 Nov** 9.30-16.50 - Norrie-Miller Studio, Perth Concert Hall  
**SCOTTISH RECORDS ASSOCIATION & ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ASSOCIATION (SCOTLAND)**  
Joint conference – *Et in Archiva Ego: Artists in the Archives*.  
[www.scottishrecordsassociation.org/](http://www.scottishrecordsassociation.org/)
- 13-16 Nov** *Thomas Muir Festival*, Bishopbriggs. <http://thomasmuir.co.uk/index.html>
- Wed 13 Nov** 12.30, Douglas Academy, Craigton Road, Milngavie.  
**FRIENDS OF THOMAS MUIR - Scottish Radicals and the rebellion of 1820.**  
Tom Dowds: *The radical trials of 1820*  
Mark Nixon: *The radical heritage*  
Dr Ralph McLean: *Lord Belhaven's "Vision" and Scottish liberty in 1707.*  
Free, but booking essential: Email [dwmmartindon@live.co.uk](mailto:dwmmartindon@live.co.uk) or contact: William Patrick Library, 2-4 West High St, Kirkintilloch, G66 1AD.
- Sat 16 Nov** 14.00-16.00, Teviot Lecture Theatre, University of Edinburgh, Teviot Place  
**OLD EDINBURGH CLUB - Uncovering Edinburgh's Secret History**  
Bob Morris & Joe Rock: *Capturing the original New Town plans*  
Brian Wilkinson: *The city from above: the aerial record of Edinburgh's history*  
Richard Rodger: *Making your own historical map in 20 minutes.*  
Open to general public – admission free. [www.apsedinburghclub.org.uk](http://www.apsedinburghclub.org.uk)

### SOCIETIES' MEETINGS

- ABERTAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY** [www.abertay.org.uk](http://www.abertay.org.uk) [museum@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:museum@dundee.ac.uk)  
18.30, Lecture Theatre 2, Dalhousie Building, University of Dundee
- Wed 13 Nov** Malcolm Archibald: *Ancestors in the Arctic – whaling images from the collection of Dundee Art Galleries & Museums*
- Wed 11 Dec** Bill Kenefick: *The girl in the green felt hat – strike activity and the Lochee mill girls 1911-1912.*

### BROUGHTON HISTORY SOCIETY

- 19.00, Drummond Community High School, Edinburgh:  
**Mon 11 Nov** Gillian Beattie-Smith: *Dorothy Wordsworth and Scotland.*

### CLACKMANNANSHIRE FIELD STUDIES SOCIETY <http://www.cfss.org.uk>

- 19.30 -21.30 Alloa Town Hall (Tommy Downs Room). Members of linked societies and other non-members are welcome; non-members would be expected to join for subsequent visits.  
**Mon 11 Nov** Ian Headrick: *"A way of life no more" – a year in the farming calendar*

### KIRKINTILLOCH & DISTRICT SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES

- 19.30, Riverside Church, Lammermoor Road, Kirkintilloch  
**Fri 8 Nov** John Hood: *The history of coffee & coffee houses.*  
**Fri 6 Dec** Bill Black: *Building the Great Canal.*

### OLD EDINBURGH CLUB [www.apsedinburghclub.org.uk](http://www.apsedinburghclub.org.uk)

- 19.00 Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EL. Members free, non-members £5.00.  
**Wed 13 Nov** Peter Stubbs: *The history of photography in Edinburgh.*  
**Wed 11 Dec** Dr Wendy Ugolini: *The Italians in Edinburgh during the Second World War: recovering personal narratives.*

**OLD GLASGOW CLUB** [www.oldglasgowclub.org.uk](http://www.oldglasgowclub.org.uk)

19.00 for 19.30, Adelaide's, 209 Bath Street, Glasgow. Visitors £3.00.

**Thurs 14 Nov** Bill Hicks & Jill Scott: **Glasgow's Grand Central Hotel.**

**Thurs 12 Dec** Dr Paul Maloney: **Scottish Pantomime.**

**PORTOBELLO HERITAGE TRUST**

7.30, St Mark's Episcopal Church, 287 High Street, Portobello. All Welcome. Free.

**Wed 27 Nov.** Dr David Rae & Pam Whittle. **Scotland's Horticultural Heritage.**

*If you wish your programme to be in the Calendar, please enter your events online by submitting your details at <http://slhf.org/submit-your-details>, then entering the events at <http://slhf.org/submit-event>.*

*To appear in Clish-Clash only, send your programmes, with contact details, to*

<http://slhf.org/contact-slhf>; **choose CONTRIBUTE.**

*Word document attachment or link to your website preferred.*