

CLISH-CLASH



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SLHF NEWS

• Award for *Scottish Local History* article

Congratulations to Graham Clark, whose article 'Black Isle school log books (1875-1919): a statistical approach' (*SLH*, 86, Autumn 2013, 8-15) has been selected as winner of this year's British Association of Local History Publications (short article) Awards. It is most satisfactory that the high standard of contributions to *SLH* has been recognised, and comes hard on the heels of David Ritchie's award last year for 'A very Edinburgh riot: the John Cormack phenomenon' (*SLH*, 83, Summer 2012, 22-28).

Can anyone make it three in a row? The SLHF Publications Board welcomes your articles at <http://slhf.org/contribute>.

LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

More library & archive re-furbishment musical chairs!

• **Mitchell Library, Glasgow.** Re-development work continues, with some floors closed temporarily. Levels 2 and 3 closed in March and are due to re-open in June. Levels 4 and 5 reopened in March. Archives, Special Collections, Registrar's Service and a new Family History Centre are now open on level 5. <http://www.glasgowlife.org.uk/libraries/the-mitchell-library/Pages/home.aspx>

• **Edinburgh Central Library.** After a long period of closure Edinburgh and Scottish Collections re-opened at the end of April. The Music Library is being moved into the Central Library and closed on 19 April. <http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20012/libraries/74/library-opening-hours>

• **Aberdeen Central Library.** David Main, Knowledge & Resources Librarian, writes: *The recent refurbishment of the Information Centre allows for a much more flexible use of the large space available. The main aim of the project was to make the space more flexible, giving us options for the future. The front of the floor has been left open to be the location of future displays or exhibitions, which are due to start in May. A dedicated space for Local Studies has been created offering greater access to resources such as microfilms and key family and local history items. A more prominent shelving arrangement allows users to browse the material more easily, and stock moves have enabled a wide*

range of more popular items to be shelved on the main floor. There is an increase in the number of quiet study spaces, as well as the addition of a private study booth for small groups or individual tutorials. http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/Library/local_studies/Lib_LocalStudies.asp

• **Perth and Kinross Council Archive** opening hours have changed. The Archive is now closed on Mondays but opening times have been extended on Tuesday and Thursday evenings to 20.00. The newly refurbished **Local and Family History area** is also now open, with the same hours as the Archive. Tues & Thurs: 9.30-20.00; Wed & Fri: 9.30-17.00; Sat: 9.30-13.00.

• **South Ayrshire Local History Library** (Ayr) is organising the South Ayrshire History Fair on 7 June 2014 in Walker Halls, Troon.

Speaker's topics are:

- Language and land in 12th and 13th century Ayrshire: Place Names and Charters.

-Digging for a Victory: searching for the archaeology of Bannockburn.

-Ayrshire's Great War: the local impact of the 1914-1918 Global Conflict.

-World War One enlistment of Scottish emigrants in the forces of their adopted countries, and the return of many of them to Scotland to enlist.

<http://southayrshirehistory.wordpress.com/>

CONTACT DETAILS

Clish-clash means 'repeated gossip', so do email your local history news or send general enquiries to: www.slhf.org/contact-slhf

Send information about projects to www.slhf.org/research-projects

This newsletter is available on our website for anyone to see, but if you are a member we shall also send it by email.

For 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.

www.slhf.org/contact-slhf

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• **Scottish Catholic Archives - past, present, future?** A symposium sponsored by the Scottish History Society. 17 May 2014, University of Dundee. <http://scottishhistorysociety.com/2014/04/03/symposium-on-the-scottish-catholic-archives-17-may-2014/>

• **Inhabited House Tax rolls** for 1778-1798 were released online in March by the National Records of Scotland. The tax was introduced in 1778, initially on houses with potential rental value of at least £5 p.a., and the records give the names of householders and the valuations.

Covering 64 volumes, with around 10,000 pages, the records are arranged by county; burghs are listed with the appropriate county, except for royal burghs in 1786-7 and 1789-90. They are particularly useful for identifying the better-off inhabitants of thriving towns.

The records are available in NRS Historical Search Room and Family History Centre and online at ScotlandsPlaces website:

www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk

• **Caithness Horizons** (Museum for Caithness), Thurso. For Homecoming Year the Museum is staging the **Year of Ancient Ancestors Festival**, with various activities including living history events.
15-18 May: Pictish Caithness.
5-13 July: Viking Caithness.
24-25 October: Norse harvest festival.
<http://www.caithnesshorizons.co.uk/>

• **The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: exhibition.**

Scottish Gold, 14 March-15 June.
<http://www.gla.ac.uk/hunterian/>

• **Tweeddale Museum: exhibition.**

People of Peeblesshire, 29 June-17 August.
http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/directory_record/10711/tweeddale_museum_and_gallery

• **The Wallace Monument, Stirling** re-opened in April after a major upgrading programme, with remodelled galleries and new displays. Unused stone blocks, quarried from the Abbey Craig some 150 years ago when the monument was built, have been used to construct a new plinth for the display case in the Hall of Heroes gallery for the Wallace Sword, which, according to their press release, has been 'in secret storage' during the refurbishment.
<http://nationalwallacemonument.com/news.html>

• **Creative Scotland** has awarded funding for various projects including some on history and heritage:

- A series of exhibitions about the contribution of people in the Western Isles in WWI.

- The artist-musician Johnny Gailey will work with the community to create new work based on Newhaven's fishing and seafaring heritage.

<http://www.creativescotland.com/funding/latest-information/awards-listings>

SOCIETIES

• The **Scottish Records Association** conference will be held in Linlithgow Burgh Halls on 6 Nov. 2014, with the theme *Common Lands and Common Good*. Papers for presentation at the conference or for publication in *Scottish Archives* are welcome.
www.scottishrecordsassociation.org

Planning next year's programme?

Find ideas for talks and speakers in the *Previous Events* section of the SLHF website.

<http://slhf.org/previous-events>

And don't forget to submit your programme for next year to the website <http://slhf.org/submit-event>

UNIVERSITIES

• **Aberdeen University Special Collections Centre** has revised several guides over the last year:

- Welcome to the Special Collections Centre.
 - Special collections of printed materials.
 - Manuscripts and archives.
 - Photographic resources in Special Collections.
 - Oil and gas industry resources in Special Collections.
 - Family history resources in Special Collections.
 - World War I resources in Special Collections.
- <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/historic/>

• **St Andrews University Library - Special Collections Reading Room** has relocated to a new facility in the Martyrs Kirk Research Library, after renovations to the church which the University purchased in 2012. The main sanctuary of the church is now a reading room for the use of postgraduate research students and academic staff, while Special Collections (open to the public) is in the former church hall. Requests for material need to be submitted in advance.
<http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/library/specialcollections/researchand-enquiries/bookanappointment/>

• **Glasgow University's Great War project** is collecting information about the lives and contribution of staff and alumni during World War I to add to the existing WWI Roll of Honour website.

www.universitystory.gla.ac.uk/ww1-intro
www.gla.ac.uk/events/ww1/

Email rollofhonour@glasgow.ac.uk if you have new information.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

• **Locomotives of the Highland Railway**, by John Christopher & Campbell McCutcheon. Amberley Publishing, 2014. Pbk. 96pp. 190 photos. £14.99. (ISBN 978-1-4456-3361-9).

• **Glasgow: a history**, by Michael Meighan. Amberley Publishing, 2013. Hbk, Kindle, Kobo, iBook. 208pp. 120 illus. £20. (ISBN 978-1-4456-1886-9).

• **Miscellany of the Scottish History Society, Series 6, vol. XIV, 2010.** Boydell & Brewer for Scottish History Society, 2013. Hbk. 268pp. \$70. (ISBN 9780906245354).

1. Two surveys of vernacular buildings and tree usage in the lordship of Strathavon, Banffshire, 1585-1612.

2. Henry Forrester, *The paithe way to salvatione*, 1615.

3. Diary of the Convention of Estates, 1630.

4. Sir David Home, Lord Crossrig, 'A Narrative of the Rise, Progress and Success of the Societies of Edinburgh for Reformation of Manners', 1701.

5. The Most Memorable Passages of the Life and Times of Mr J. B. written by Himself, 1706.

6. John Erskine's Letterbook, 1742-45.

<http://www.boydellandbrewer.com/store/viewItem.asp?idProduct=14210>

• **Miscellany of the Scottish History Society, Series 6, vol. XV.** Boydell & Brewer for Scottish History Society, April 2014. Hbk. 299pp. \$70. (ISBN 9780906245385).

1. The Letter-Book of John Clerk of Penicuik, 1644-1645.

2. The Minute Book of The Board Of The Green Cloth, July 1650-July 1651.

3. Records of the Anglo-Scottish Union Negotiations, 1652-1653.

<http://www.boydellandbrewer.com/store/viewItem.asp?idProduct=14508>

WEBSITES

• **Tasglann nan Eilean Siar / Hebridean Archives** has a lively and informative website in

Gaelic <http://tasglann.org.uk/gd> and

English <http://tasglann.org.uk/en>.

As well as online photographs and other documents, there is a useful map showing the locations of local historical societies:

<http://tasglann.org.uk/en/heritage-groups/map>

• The **Find My Past** website which can be consulted at a number of subscribing libraries throughout Scotland or by individual subscription has been upgraded recently. The censuses of Scotland from 1841 to 1901 (but not 1911) continue to be searchable. Reports by members on their experience of searching the new-look website would be welcome. <http://www.findmypast.co.uk/>

• **Scotland and the Flemish People.** This research project (based at St Andrews University) is exploring the impact of Flemish immigrants over 600 centuries throughout Scotland. Their blog is updated regularly. Recent posts include research in Glenshee, Upper Clydesdale and Dundee.

<http://flemish.wp.st-andrews.ac.uk/>

• **And now for something a little different.**

A leaflet titled **Scotland's songs old and new** listing online resources for Scottish music has drawn our attention to a small private publisher Gallus, based in Linlithgow. Enthusiasts Ewan and Linda MacVicar produce books and CDs and several websites.

BEWARE don't click these sites in a place which requires silence!

<http://gallus-publishing.webs.com/>

• **Scotland's Songs** is a resource for schools produced by Learning and Teaching Scotland with more than 150 Scots and Gaelic songs, available to listen to online, many with lyrics and music.

<http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/scotlandssongs/index.asp>

• **Scots songs for schools**

<http://scotssangsfurschools.webs.com/>

• **Scots riddles, rhymes and games**

<http://www.scotsriddlesrhymesandgames.webs.com/>

• **Scottish warfare songs from Bannockburn to WWI**

<http://ewanandlinda.wix.com/rae1314tae1914/>

WHAT'S ON

There is a list of events at <http://slhf.org/events>

Also see the Calendar on the SLHF website at

<http://slhf.org/calendar-node-field-date>

Please remember to submit your event to the website.

Submit information to **promote your organisation** or society on our website at

<http://www.slhf.org/submit-your-details>

Submit information on your **events** for promotion on our website and in the e-newsletter at

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

Some **Living History** events are

• The **National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh** and **National Theatre of Scotland** are collaborating in a promenade production with performances linked to portraits in the collection. **Dear Scotland** is on show 24 April-3 May.

• **17 May. Lauriston Castle, Edinburgh.**
Renaissance Extravaganza.

The history of Lauriston Castle is brought alive, in performances by Edinburgh Renaissance Band and the Living Lauriston Group. 18.00-20.00. Free.

www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk

• **25-26 May. Traquair House, Innerleithen.**
Traquair Medieval Fair.

www.traquair.co.uk

• **26 May. Scone Palace, Perth.**
Jacobite Clans Alive!

Alba Adventure Company living history presentation. Performances at 11.00, 12.00, 14.00 and 15.00.

www.scone-palace.co.uk