SLHF NEWS

The Walk & Talk in June to the tall ship Glenlee, combined with the Govan stones, was blessed by the fine weather we have had this summer and was a most interesting and varied visit. Many thanks to the guides, Alan Blackwood and Alex Anderson on board the Glenlee, and to Frazer Capie at Govan. Thanks also to Helena Koumbouzis of the Advisory Committee who suggested the Glenlee visit and opened doors for us, and to Trustee Graham Clark, events secretary, for pulling the whole day together.

The Walk and Talk events rely on local people to introduce the wider membership to places of interest in their area. Could your group host a visit? Do get in touch if you have any ideas.

SLHF Committees. Two Trustees are resigning this year, and the Trustees Committee needs fresh blood. Can you bring your enthusiasm and local history expertise to help the Forum? To become a Trustee, charity rules state that you must be an individual member, but Society members can also help by joining the Advisory Committee. It is important that there is representation from as far afield as possible: the Forum covers all Scotland.

The Trustees Committee meets about 4-5 times a year, currently in Edinburgh. The Advisory Committee meets twice a year. Please contact the Secretary Jan Bateman (contact details below) for further information and a nomination form.

CONTACT DETAILS
Email http://slhf.org/contact-slhf
‘Clich-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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■ Long-term readers of *Scottish Local History* will remember an occasional series ‘A Walk Round an Old Photograph’. We are proposing to re-introduce this series and invite members to send a jpeg photograph of local history interest (not family history) with a short description to the editor at: [http://slhf.org/contact-slhf](http://slhf.org/contact-slhf). Contribute. Photographs must be out of copyright (usually over 70 years old for unattributed photographs, but if there is a named photographer, 70 years after death).

**LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS**

■ The National Library of Scotland and the National Galleries have collaborated to acquire over 14000 early photographs dating from the mid-1800s to early 1900s, collected by Murray MacKinnon. The *MacKinnon Collection* includes scenes of farming and fishing communities, industries, and town and city views. An exhibition is planned to be shown at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, to be followed by a touring exhibition. A 3-year programme to digitise the images starts in 2018 to make them available online. [www.nls.uk/collections/photographs/mackinnon](http://www.nls.uk/collections/photographs/mackinnon)

■ The purchase and project are supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Scottish Government and the Art Fund.


■ Library cuts. Some good news from West Lothian as local protests have saved three branch libraries, but the local studies collection remains at risk from undermanning. *East Lothian* library users are now petitioning against cuts in hours.

Feedback from *National Library of Scotland* users warns that the recently revised opening hours now mean that the front door opens at 9.30 (10.00 on Wednesdays). Previously readers could enter the building before the reading rooms opened, store items in lockers and get ready for the reading rooms opening, but now you will have to wait outside!

■ It’s not just libraries facing closure. *Cupar Burial Office* has now closed. Records for cemeteries and some local churchyards are being relocated in Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline.

■ *Edinburgh World Heritage* have opened a display in the Tron Kirk. [https://ewh.org.uk/project/our-world-heritage/](https://ewh.org.uk/project/our-world-heritage/)


■ Glasgow Women’s Library was shortlisted for the Museum of the Year Award 2018, an impressive achievement, although the eventual winner was Tate St Ives. [https://womenslibrary.org.uk/2018/05/01/glasgow-womens-library-shortlisted-for-prestigious-art-fund-museum-of-the-year-2018/](https://womenslibrary.org.uk/2018/05/01/glasgow-womens-library-shortlisted-for-prestigious-art-fund-museum-of-the-year-2018/)

**HELP WANTED**

■ The Burrell Collection, Glasgow, needs your help to identify former staff at Sir William Burrell’s Hutton Castle, in the Scottish Borders. Sir William purchased Hutton Castle in 1916, but did not move in until 1927, where he lived with his art collection of some 9,000 objects until his death in 1958. As part of the Burrell Collection’s £66 million refurbishment, they are seeking the public’s help to identify former domestic staff employed at the castle from 1920’s -1940’s. The Burrell’s are understood to have employed 10 domestic servants including a butler, a cook and a liveried footman as well as gardeners, gamekeepers and chauffeurs. The task is now underway to identify staff depicted in some 15 photographs from the 1930s donated by Peter Clark, the son of Sir William’s former butler of the same name.

At various times during the Burrells’ lives at Hutton, the following staff are known to have been employed at the castle: Peter Clark (butler); Peter Freeny (cook); Jim Guthrie (maintenance, particularly of castle generator); Erich and Maria Hofer (butler and cook); Lexie Lesenger (domestic service and office worker); James Lornie (head gardener until around time of his death in 1930); Mr Phillips (chauffeur); John Pringle (estates); Duncan Rankin (chauffeur); Mary Renwick (domestic servant); Ethel Todd Shiell (secretary); Julia Turbitt (housemaid) and Jimmy Wallace (gamekeeper).

If you know of a relative or family friend who worked for the Burrell’s in the 1920’s – 1940’s or have any family anecdotes about Hutton Castle at the time, then please contact Claire Rocha at: [claire.rochada@cruhz@glasgowlife.org.uk](mailto:claire.rochada@cruhz@glasgowlife.org.uk)

**SOCIETIES**

■ The *Thomas Muir Festival* is underway. The annual symposium is on 7 November at Boclair Academy, Bearsden, 12.45-16.30. The theme is *The Great Reform Bills*, and the afternoon includes talks and music. The event is free but booking is required. For full programme of events in 2018 see: [http://www.thomasmuir.co.uk/thomas-muir-festival-2018.html](http://www.thomasmuir.co.uk/thomas-muir-festival-2018.html)

■ The *Scottish Place Name Society* and the *Scottish Records Association* have a joint conference this year, on Saturday 17 November in the Scottish Storytelling Centre (the Netherbow), High Street, Edinburgh. The theme is ‘Sources’. Find out more at: [http://spns.org.uk/day-conference-17-november-2018-edinburgh](http://spns.org.uk/day-conference-17-november-2018-edinburgh)
The Cumnock History Group was established in 2014, and has an active presence through their website.
http://www.cumnockhistorygroup.org/index.html
From 2016 they were involved with the Pennylands Camp 22 Project. Pennylands Camp 22 was a WW2 military facility in the grounds of Dunfries House, 1939-59. This project combined archaeological excavation (before the site was to be developed), archival research, and oral history. The camp was originally a training camp, then became a Prisoner of War camp. After the War, it provided accommodation for Polish troops awaiting repatriation or re-settlement, then the huts were used as council housing. A leaflet has been produced about the project:
info@cumnockhistory.org.
http://www.cumnockhistorygroup.org/pennylands-about.html

The Historic Houses Association for Scotland, which represents owners of historic houses, has rebranded itself as Historic Houses:
https://www.historichouses.org/
http://www.scotlandsheritage.org.uk/partners/historic-houses-association/

The last Hepburns of Smeaton Hepburn, display in the John Gray Centre in Haddington until December 2019. Talk on 5 September 14.00-15.15 about Lady Margareta Henrietta, Lady Buchanan-Hepburn.
http://www.johngraycentre.org/events/margareta-henrietta-lady-buchanan-hepburn/
http://www.johngraycentre.org/events/

Edinburgh University has a website Our history, which has a timeline of events and people since its foundation in 1583.
https://www.ed.ac.uk/about/our-history

St Andrews University has established a Centre for the Study of Philanthropy & Public Good. They are producing a blog which includes a monthly historical series entitled Scottish Philanthropy Snippets. They welcome suggestions for this series.
http://www.philanthropy.scot/category/scottish-philanthropy-snippets/

2,400 maps and plans from the National Records of Scotland are now on ScotlandsPeople website. Registration required to use the site.
https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/guides/maps-and-plans

The Institution of Civil Engineers is celebrating 200 years of engineering since its foundation. Their website ICE 200 describes engineering achievements around the world, from 1800 to the present. It is possible to filter by date and place, and there are a few historical Scottish features. It’s not the easiest site to navigate so here are some short cuts:
Home page: https://www.ice.org.uk/ice-200
Overview of 200 projects: https://www.ice.org.uk/ice-200#projects-1
Filter by period and location at: https://www.ice.org.uk/what-is-civil-engineering/what-do-civil-engineers-do
Some items of Scottish relevance (there are others):
https://www.ice.org.uk/what-is-civil-engineering/what-do-civil-engineers-do/kirkaldy-testing-works
https://www.ice.org.uk/what-is-civil-engineering/what-do-civil-engineers-do/edinburgh-sewers
https://www.ice.org.uk/what-is-civil-engineering/what-do-civil-engineers-do/caledonian-canal
https://www.ice.org.uk/what-is-civil-engineering/what-do-civil-engineers-do/titan-crane
https://www.ice.org.uk/what-is-civil-engineering/what-do-civil-engineers-do/hydroelectric-power-scotland

Our Linen Stories is a multifaceted international project (Scotland, Netherlands & Ireland) about linen past and present, from history to current textile artists. Already shown in Leith, there is an event in Kirkcaldy 6-9 September and Newtonmore in October. There is a travelling exhibition by Dr John Ennis and a research project based on old maps is identifying bleachfields and other sites associated with the industry.
https://ourlinenstories.com/tour-and-events/

PUBLICATIONS


https://islandsbooktrust.org/products/madame-scotia-madam-scrap


92 postcards of illustrations of Edinburgh by Reginald P. Phillimore (1855-1941).

Cairt: newsletter of the Scottish Maps Forum, 33, July 2018. Includes updates on new digital mapping and related information, eg. Ordnance Survey Books of Reference 1859-82; initial GB1900 gazetteer of place names on OS 6-inch maps 1888-1913, prepared by crowdsourced volunteers: editing continues. Articles are:
-George Campbell Smith of Banff (1804-68): surveying in Ross-shire, 1833-1851.
-Lanarkshire land-surveyors: Neil MacVicar- provost and surveyor of Rutherglen.
https://www.nls.uk/collections/maps/subject-info/cairt
Discover: the magazine of the National Library of Scotland, 38, Summer 2018.
Articles include: Frederick Douglass, David Livingstone’s Zambezi expedition, the MacKinnon photograph collection, James VI, Henriette Marchant’s travels in Turkey.

- Digging beneath the streets of Inverness (archaeological excavation)
- What I propose doing with the people? I say – nothing (Press reports about destitute Barra refugees in mainland Scotland during the potato famine)
- The jewel of 16th century Scotland (new digital reconstruction of St Andrews Cathedral)
- Scottish printer migration in the Victorian world.

Local history books often slip the net, as they are published by small local groups, or are not regular publishers. One title which your editor may have discovered too late (Amazon says ‘unavailable’) is Old Clyde pullers: the history of Inverclyde’s coastal rowing clubs, by Tom Mackay. Greenock: RWSABC, 2015. 92 pp.; illus. Pbk. £9.99 + p&p. (ISBN 978-0-99343448-0-8)
There’s a chapter on the ‘Cartsdyke Worthies’ who were apparently unofficial world champions in the 1860s!
Contact details are on their website and it may still be available:

WHAT’S ON
- Doors Open Days in September 2018: http://www.doorsopendays.org.uk/
- Black History Month, October 2018. At the time of writing the programme has not been published, but look out for it at: http://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/listings/region/scotland/
- PBFA book fairs in Scotland.
  Skye: 6-8 Sept. Aros Cultural Centre, Portree
  Edinburgh: 13 Oct. Radisson Blu hotel
  Aberdeen: 28 Oct. Hilton Treetops Hotel
http://www.pbfa.org/book-fairs/2018

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

PLEASE SEND DETAILS OF ANY LOCAL HISTORY PUBLICATION, NO MATTER HOW SMALL.

More photographs of the Glenlee Walk & Talk

Alan Blackwood (left) and Alex Anderson (right) guided the groups on the Glenlee.