

CLISH-CLASH



The e-newsletter of the Scottish Local History Forum

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SLHF NEWS

Welcome to Issue 60

■ Members should have received notice of the SLHF AGM which will be held on Zoom on Monday, 30 October at 6pm. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Up to two representatives of each member organisation may vote. There is no charge for attendance. Please go to <https://www.slhf.org/event/2023-slhf-agm-zoom-online> to register.

Nominations for trustees are sought and nomination forms are available to download from the SLHF website. Please email any nominations (by 20 September 2023) to scottishlocalhistoryforum@gmail.com. Nominations may also be made from the virtual floor. There are also vacancies on the Advisory Committee and nominations from member organisations are welcome.

■ There is also the small matter of membership renewal. Forms have also been circulated to members to remind them to renew by 1 October 2023. You can renew or join as a new member online: <https://www.slhf.org/how-join-slhf> or alternatively you can download the form and send with a cheque to Scottish Local History Forum, Box 103, 12 South Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1DD. **If you pay by standing order, please check with your bank that it is for the correct amount.**

- Individual - £28 (1 copy of journal)
- Organisation - £35 (1 copy of journal)
- Organisation - £44 (2 copies of journal)
- Student - £14 (1 copy of journal)
- Overseas - £50 (1 copy of journal)

■ **Scottish Local History** Issue 116 Autumn 2023 is now available and contains the following articles:

- *The 'Lost' Churches of Stirling: Charting Scottish Ecclesiastical History through a Single Parish* by Kenneth B. Scott
- *Coronations and Jubilees – Part 3 Bandstands and Bridges, Cairns and Clocks: Royal Commemorations in Scotland, 1887-1911* by Douglas G. Lockhart and Diana C.F. Webster
- *Whisky Distilling beside the Water of Leith at Balerno* by Lyndesay M. Brown and Allan W. Brown
- *Concrete in the Far North: The Duke of Sutherland's Use of Concrete in the 1870s* by David Scott Cowan
- *Major Thomas Hart of the Honourable East India Company* by Margaret Kennedy
- *Debosched Horneris and Contemptuous and Seditious Assemblies: The Life and Times of Charles Ferme (1566-1617)* by Andy Drummond

Articles in **Scottish Local History** Issue 117 (January 2024) will be drawn from the following:

- Andy Drummond: *Menageries and Circuses in Scotland in the Edwardian Era*.
- Les Jenkins: *The Literary and Debating Society of a Coatbridge School, 1916-1929*.
- Margaret Kennedy: *The Dumfries 'Siller Gun' and the Two Georges*.
- George Manzor: *The Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Company – its early years*.
- Stuart Nisbet: *Giffnock Sandstone*.
- Catherine Rice: *George Young and the Construction of Strelitz [Perthshire] 1763-4*.

There will also be a Notes & Queries section with an update on research into the 1820 Rising by Tom Dowds. Also, a first-hand piece by Leslie Bartlet on 'Aberdeen University Union in the Forties'. This is a third substantial 'Note' contributed by Dr Bartlet to *Scottish Local History* in recent years, all written as a nonagenarian, all Aberdeen-related and all dealing with the 1930s or 1940s, but with widely varying subject matter.

■ Attendees at our conference in Perth on 27 April will remember the talk by Roderick Stewart on his family firm of hacklemakers in Dundee and his description of the various efforts at diversification away from reliance on the jute industry. These included the manufacture of the tiny Nutshell caravans, one of which used to sit on the roof of Stewart's works while another was even taken up Ben Nevis! The good news is that since our conference Dundee Museum of Transport has managed to acquire one of these rare items.



Stewart's Hillbank Works, Dundee, with Nutshell caravan on its roof, c.1960.

■ A special thank you from Steve Connelly, Honorary Chair of SLHF and sometime contributor, to James Kennedy for three years and 19 issues as editor of *Clish-Clash*. It has been a pleasure working with you and we look forward to receiving more of your excellent contributions in future. Best wishes to Linda Clark as she takes over editing in addition to making it all look good.

LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

■ **Historic Environment Scotland** has mounted an online exhibition using spoken word and its archives to explore Scotland through the eyes of Sir Walter Scott. [Sir Walter Scott | Celebrating 250 Years \(historicenvironment.scot\)](https://www.historicenvironment.scot)

■ **Dundee Museum of Transport** has managed to secure further funding from the Northwood Charitable Trust towards its conversion of the former Maryfield Tram Depot on Forfar Road into its new home. Find out more about this project and events being held at its current location in Market Street, Dundee: [Dundee Museum of Transport \(dmoft.co.uk\)](https://www.dmoft.co.uk)

■ **Museums and Galleries Scotland** has produced a short film and published its annual review to look back at its impact over 2022/23: [Our Impact - Museums Galleries Scotland](https://www.museumsandgalleries.scot)

■ **Inverness Museum and Art Gallery, Gairloch Museum, Highlanders' Museum, Cromarty Courthouse Museum, Brora Heritage Centre and Stromness Museum** are all now live on the *Smartify* app which potentially opens up a global audience to them. Learn about the project here: [Six Museums Launch Virtual Tours on Smartify Through... | XpoNorth](https://www.xponorth.com)

■ **Association of Independent Museums** is accepting applications for the next round of AIM Pilgrim Trust grants with a closing date of 29 September. Support is being offered for small to medium sized museums to care for their collections more effectively and efficiently and meet the standards for Accreditation. Take a look at the full eligibility details: [Collections Care and Conservation Grants - AIM - Association of Independent Museums \(aim-museums.co.uk\)](https://www.aim-museums.co.uk)

■ **The Robert Burns Ellisland Trust** has been awarded accredited museum status for **Ellisland Museum and Farm** near Dumfries. This is the culmination of an intensive three-year period of changes and improvements to the site and collection care. Accreditation is awarded after a rigorous inspection procedure undertaken by Museums and Galleries Scotland, the national development body that administers the scheme on behalf of the Arts Council England.

■ **Rangers Museum** has now opened at Edmiston House. **Professor Fiona Skillen of Glasgow Caledonian University** was at the opening and shared her thoughts on LinkedIn: 'The museum focuses on the development of the club and its history including the women's game. But what I really liked was that it also draws in the wider history of Glasgow as well as highlighting the many, many events held at Ibrox over the years that were not football related - such

as concerts, athletics, boxing matches, royal visits and so on. Highly recommend a visit to anyone interested in history.’
[Rangers Museum To Open Monday 31 July! | Rangers Football Club](#)

■ The National Archives has launched a new Beta site Etna which stands for ‘Explore the nation’s archives’. An ambitious, multi-year project to reimagine the way the public accesses archives online and design a new website which reflects what a modern, accessible website should look like for TNA. ‘Betas’ are websites where new features in development are tested and where you can give feedback on how things are working. TNA staff would love for you to enjoy, explore and let them know what you think by leaving feedback on the site. [A new way to explore the nation’s archives - The National Archives blog](#)

■ The **Imperial War Museums** have announced that from 1 August 2023 the Research Room at IWM London will open Tuesday to Friday from 10am to 4:30pm. Access to objects and artworks will be on Mondays only, subject to availability. The **Scottish Council on Archives** is putting together an annual review to celebrate Scotland’s archives & records sector. The council is keen to hear about any exhibitions, accessions, anniversaries, or anything else you’d like highlighted! [Scottish Archives and Records Annual Review - Scottish Council on Archives](#)

■ **SCA** also records most of its training and CPD events and puts them on its YouTube channel. Recent webinars include Inclusive Practice, its Understanding Copyright series and Dating Photos Through Fashion: [ScottishArchivesTV - YouTube](#)

■ Congratulations to the **Scottish Jewish Archives Centre**, Glasgow, which was recently been awarded a Certificate of Special Achievement by the **Community Archives & Heritage Group** for sustained best practice. CAHG is part of the Archives & Records Association (UK and Ireland). [Community Archives and Heritage Group | Supporting and promoting community archives in the UK and Ireland](#) [SJAC – The Scottish Jewish Archives Centre](#)

■ The restoration of the 17th century **Leighton Library Dunblane** was the subject of a special event held in Dunblane Cathedral on 1 June 2023 and is available to view: [Leighton Library Restoration Story Event 1 June 2023 - YouTube](#)

■ Congratulations to the **Burrell Collection**, Glasgow, which has been named as the Art Fund Museum of the Year 2023. [The Burrell Collection is Museum of the Year 2023 — Glasgow Life](#)

■ **The National Archives** has a fascinating collection relating to NHS history, charting its foundation and development at a national level. It is marking the 75th anniversary with some new projects and fresh insights into its collections and has put the foundational document of the NHS, the Beveridge Report, on display at its Kew site. Access some of the information via this link: [NHS75 - Portals \(nationalarchives.gov.uk\)](#)

Create a listing for your library, archive or museum in the SLHF Directory of local history resources. It is easy to do and free, just go to <https://www.slhf.org/submit-listing>

SOCIETIES

■ **British Association for Local History (BALH)** Following the success of their inaugural competition in 2022, BALH now present the Local History Photographer of the Year and Young Local History Photographer of the Year competitions 2023. This year’s theme is ‘Up my street’, where they would like to see street images in your area, with a context of local history. These could include a street view, a building, some street furniture or a little detail on a wall or the pavement. Deadline for submissions is 11 September 2023. <https://tinyurl.com/yx33m8u3>

■ **Elie & Earlsferry History Society are now promoting the sale of their 2024 History Society Calanders.** They have two styles - Slimline and A4. Each month has a picture of one of the old postcards in their archive. They can deliver in Elie/Earlsferry but, if you want, they can send by post. Just order with details of address to be sent to at elieearlsferry@gmail.com. They will advise of costs and bank account details to send the remittance.

If your society would like **SLHF** to sell your publications online, contact us <https://www.slhf.org/contact-slhf>

WEBSITES

■ **History Workshop** is a digital magazine of radical history. It seeks to deepen understandings of the past, cast light on the present and agitate for change in the world we live in. <https://www.historyworkshop.org.uk/>

■ On a more local basis, Jim and Steve Leslie have been researching **hospitals in the Highlands**. Over the years they have published their findings on their [website](#) and also in nicely produced books, each covering a different area of the Highlands. The latest volume focussing on Ross and Cromarty hospitals has just been published. Cost £4 to include postage and packing. Details on how to order will appear on the website.

■ If you are interested in the history of **tweed**, check out this link to the National Geographic’s website at <https://tinyurl.com/fpcbtpc>

UNIVERSITIES

■ **Strathclyde Institute for Genealogical Studies** are accepting applications for both the modular and part-time study routes for the Postgraduate degree in Genealogical, Palaeographic and Heraldic Studies. There is currently a waiting list in operation for the full-time MSc. <https://tinyurl.com/mr42bwxs>

■ Check out the **UHI website** where you can [download](#) an interesting thesis by Dr. Jane Thomas 'From monasteries to monopolisers: the salmon fishing industry of the inner Moray Firth region, 1500 to 1800'.

■ Two new collections released on **OpenLearn** from the Open University's free learning website are worth looking at. One is a general look at the largely hidden past of women's involvement in workplace struggles here in Scotland. <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/scotland-women-struggles>

The second collection has a focus on women's role in the railways in Scotland, particularly as trade union activists. <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/scotland-women-railway>

PUBLICATIONS

■ **The Secret Life of the Scots Language** by Clive Young, Luath Press, Paperback, £16.99

ISBN: 978 1 8042 5049 [Unlocking Scots — Luath Press](#)

■ **History Scotland** Vol 23, issue 5, Sept/Oct 2023, £5.25 plus postage or £4.99 for digital edition. In-depth features in this issue: Decoding hidden messages in Mary Queen of Scots' embroidery, onerous travel restrictions in WW2, King Malcolm III: a complicated legacy. Also includes: Fascinating social history finds in criminal records; Archaeological dig to find a 'lost' medieval church; Investigating the jail conditions of Jacobite prisoners and School dinners in the pre-war years. [33 - History Scotland](#)

■ **Castles of Scotland** - souvenir guide produced by *History Scotland* magazine. £11.99 (£9.99 for subscribers), plus p&p. **History Scotland**

■ **The Dalry Raws - A History of Miners' Accommodation 1848-1955** by Marie Shevlin, Carn Publishing, paperback, 160 pp, £15.00, ISBN: 978 1 911043 18 8 [The Dalry Raws \(carnpublishing.com\)](#)

■ **A City Situated for Commerce – A Statistical Account of the Barony Parish of Glasgow with the principal transactions of the Heritors for the last forty years** by James Hopkirk MDCCCXXVI edited by John N. Moore and John R. Hume; 2023, University of Glasgow Library, hardback, £25.00 ISBN: 978 1 3999 4821 0

■ **Scottish Historical Review**, Vol. 102, No. 2 Includes: *Scottish Women's and Gender History and Women Historians in Scotland: Past, Present and Future Directions* by Katie Barclay and Rebecca Mason; *Mary of Guelders and the Architecture of Queenship in Fifteenth-Century Scotland* by Rachel M. Delman; *Coercion or Consent? Women, Property and Legal Authority in Early Modern Scotland* by Rebecca Mason; *Rediscovering the Voices of 'fanatick wives': The Cultural Authority of Covenanted Women in Restoration Scotland* by Laura Doak; *'By her own mouth speaking': Women's Authoritative Voices in Early Modern Wills and Testaments* by Cathryn Spence; *Invisibility, Presence and Absence: Scottish Businesswomen in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries* by Deborah Simonton; *Women's Voices in Digital Media: Time Travelling by Radio* by Louise Yeoman and Susan Morrison; *History, Sustainability and Communities of Practice* by Lynn Abrams and Marina Moskowitz and *Doubt and Surety: Using My Own Authoritative Voice* by Lizzie Swarbrick. Available online: <https://www.eupublishing.com/toc/shr/102/2?ai=t4&ui=e153&af=TYour>

■ **The Local Historian** – Journal of the British Association for Local History Vol. 53 No. 3, July 2023, £5.00 (free to members) and **Local History News** – Magazine of the British Association for Local History No. 148, Summer 2023, £3.00 (free to members).

■ **Scottish Highlands and the Atlantic World - Social Networks and Identities** edited by [S. Karly Kehoe](#), [Chris Dalgligh](#), [Annie Tindley](#), Edinburgh University Press, July 2023, hardback and eBook £85, 224pp, ISBN hardback: 978 1 4744 9430 4, Ebook (ePub): 978 1 4744 9433 5, eBook (PDF): 978 1 4744 9432 8 [Scottish Highlands and the Atlantic World \(edinburghuniversitypress.com\)](#)

■ **Island Brigaders** Liam Turbett is the author of *Island Brigaders*, a 36-page study of three volunteers from the Northern & Southern Hebrides who joined the International Brigade to fight in the Spanish Civil War. Copies can be obtained, price £5 +p&p from <https://islandbrigaders.bigcartel.com>.

■ **CAIRT Newsletter of the Scottish Maps Forum** Issue 43 July 2023 <https://maps.nls.uk/cairt/>

■ **Who Do You Think You Are?** Issue 206 Summer 2023 includes an article about **Scottish prison records** and details of the **Scottish Red Books** being published on Ancestry.

■ **Who Do You Think You Are?** Issue 207 August 2023 includes an excellent article by genealogist Chris Paton on searching **Scottish Census Records**.

■ **BBC History Magazine** September 2023 issue includes an article about **Robert the Bruce and Bannockburn**.

■ The **Royal Scottish Geographical Society** has made a number of its journal articles available online and these include several by or relating to our late Chairman, Professor Paul Bishop. Of particular interest is the article contributed by his wife, Geraldine Perriam: *Paul Bishop, landscape and local history: a life and a legacy*. [Latest articles from Scottish Geographical Journal \(tandfonline.com\)](#)

Blogs

■ **Meet the GlaswegAsians: Glasgow's South Asian heritage** - Historic Environment Scotland Blog <https://tinyurl.com/2bstkhs>

If your society would like **SLHF** to sell your publications online, contact us <https://www.slhf.org/contact-slhf>

WATCH, RADIO AND PODCASTS

Watch and Listen:

In this issue we are starting by having a look at some material from YouTube.

■ Are you interested in an historical perspective on **watches and clocks**? If so, you might find the **British Museum** channel of interest. Horologist Oliver Cooke delves into some remarkable timepieces!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ywD5kngMuYM>

■ A recent **Book of the Week** on BBC Radio 4 also had the theme of the history of timekeeping by the watchmaker Rebecca Struthers. It's called **Hands of Time** and has been described as a 'mesmerising almost hypnotic listen, thanks both to the spellbinding voice of its reader and the glorious detailed account from Struthers of her workshop and vocation'. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/series/m001lqm9>

■ **National Records Of Scotland** on YouTube offer an excellent range of material and is well worth subscribing to for several well researched items.

■ Similarly, a visit to the **National Library of Scotland's** channel is pure and absolute pleasure.

<https://www.youtube.com/@NLofScotland>

■ Also on YouTube is **Scotland History Tours**- videos which tell you tales from Scotland's past and give you information about key dates in Scottish history. Its informal but informed style may not be to everybody's taste but its aim is to make Scottish history accessible and that can only be for the good! <https://tinyurl.com/22p9dzfe>

■ **Exploring The Tay's Gaelic Landscape with John Murray** Recording of zoom webinar from 7 December 2020. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alp2KildAnE> This is an excellent presentation and was a collaboration between The Pitlochry Festival Theatre and Perth and Kinross Council in partnership with Comann nam Parant Obar Pheallaidh (Aberfeldy Parents) and Fèis Thatha (Festival of the Tay).

■ Meanwhile remember to keep an eye on [PBS America](https://www.pbs.org) available on Freeview 84 and Freesat 155. Even if you missed one of their excellent history programmes sooner or later, they will be repeated. If you can't wait you may find what you are looking for in their YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/@PBSAmerica>

■ Our friends at the British Association for Local History continue with their **10-minute talk series**. Further information is available here. In addition, there are some new **Local History Matters** podcasts which will help to extend your knowledge.

Create a listing for your event (including online ones) in the SLHF website diary. It is easy to do and free, just go to <https://www.slhf.org/submit-event>

WHAT'S ON

Some of these are reminders of events highlighted in CC 59 but are worth a revisit.

■ **Cairngorms museum exhibits rarely-seen Landseer art**: A new exhibition explores Victorian artist **Sir Edwin Landseer's** romanticised imagery of the Scottish Highlands. **Grantown-on-Spey's** museum has secured support to exhibit some of Landseer's rarely seen art, painted while he was in the Cairngorms. The exhibition runs until 30 September. <https://tinyurl.com/2p9b8u9v>

■ **Day Conference: 'Banffshire Fowk'**. Those with family links to historic Banffshire can look forward to a treat later this year! On Saturday 7 October, Banffshire Field Club is hosting a one-day conference on the theme of 'Banffshire Fowk'. The Banffshire diaspora is the topic to be discussed by keynote speaker Professor Marjory Harper, an acknowledged authority on Scots emigration. Mary Evans, also well known to ANESFHS members, will focus on Banffshire family history, while contributors to the programme will include speakers from Keith Local Heritage Group and other organisations representing different areas of Banffshire and its history. The venue for this event will be the recently refurbished Seafeld Arms Hotel in the charming Banffshire coastal town of Cullen. The detailed programme is now here <http://www.banffshirefieldclub.com/conference.html> and online bookings are being taken via a link on the same page.

■ **Highland Archaeology Festival 'Celebrating Highland Archaeology, History and Heritage'**. The festival is provided by the Highland Council and runs over 3 weeks each late September/October to celebrate the heritage of the Highlands from earliest settlers to modern times, below ground and above. Whether you are a seasoned archaeologist or a complete beginner, the festival will let you explore an amazing range of places and collections. There's something to suit everyone and many of the events are free! HAF 2023 - Dates for your Diary: 23 September to 13 October, with the conference on 7 & 8 October 2023. <https://www.highlandarchaeologyfestival.org/>

■ Saturday 23 Sept 2023 **Family Heritage Day**, Dingwall Academy. This event will launch the Highland Archaeology Festival, with stalls from museums and heritage organisations and projects, plus special activities for all ages.

■ **A History of Care or Control-100 years of Learning Disability Nursing**. This is an in-person exhibition at the Royal College of Nursing in Edinburgh (14 June-31 October) but can also be viewed on line using this [link](#).

■ **National Library of Scotland** opened an exhibition on 9 June in Gaelic and English on **Folktales from the Scottish Highlands** collected by John Francis Campbell of Islay (1821 to 1885). The exhibition runs until April 2024. <https://www.nls.uk/exhibitions/sgeul-story/>

■ Joint Conference organised by the **Society for Landscape Studies and the Dumfriesshire & Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society**. 30 September is lecture format, and 1 October is a field day. Venue: Burns Centre, Mill Road, Dumfries DG2 7BE. The conference will run over 2 days commencing with tea/coffee at 9.30 am on Saturday, 30 September, with the programme itself commencing at 10.00 am. The morning session of the first day will be in a lecture format consisting of a variety of speakers on topics covering the landscapes of the County with emphasis on historic and monastic landscapes. The landscapes of conflict will be further subjects featured, covering fortified/tower houses, the 2 World Wars and the Cold War; together with a case study in respect of the archaeology of the Kirkcudbright range. Art in the landscape will be featured in the afternoon session, covering Charles Jencks' Crawick Multiverse together with speakers from the Galloway Glens Partnership Landscape Assessment giving an update of the work they are currently undertaking. The second day gives participants the opportunity to visit two tower houses: Drumcoltran and Hills Tower. This will be followed by lunch at Threave Gardens with and an opportunity to see the Threave Landscape Restoration Project afterwards. The cost is £30.00 (for both days) which includes a buffet lunch on the first day only. For full details and to book your place(s) please visit the Society for Landscape Studies website, the link to which is given [here](#).

■ The **Scottish Archaeological Forum**. The committee has announced details of their 2023 conference to be held on **28 and 29 October** at the University of Aberdeen. Organised by volunteers from academic and commercial backgrounds both within and outwith Scotland, SAF aims to bring together all of those engaged with researching, curating or presenting the archaeological record on a professional or voluntary level. This year's theme is: **Whose past it is anyway? Rethinking 'insiders' and 'outsiders' in Scottish Archaeology** and you can anticipate presentations on projects which challenge pre-conceptions, spotlight marginalised voices and aim to make archaeology more accessible to the wider community. If you have questions, please get in touch at cpdservices@abdn.ac.uk.

■ **In Safe Hands: The Battle For Midwifery**. Surgeons' Hall Museums, Edinburgh. Until Easter 2024.

This exhibition explores the story of midwifery and obstetrics through the centuries. It explores how the perception of childbirth changed from being simply a life event unto something requiring medical oversight. Traditionally women naturally took on the role of safely delivering a baby, the new 'medicalised' model saw the rise of the male midwife from around the 18th century. The exhibition highlights Edinburgh's contribution to the development of the profession and how this has evolved into modern practices. <https://museum.rcsed.ac.uk/the-collection/temporary-exhibition>

■ **The Kilmartin Museum in Argyll**, has announced it is to reopen on Sunday 3 September 2023, after a major £7m refurbishment. The museum, which explores the archaeological and natural heritage of Kilmartin Glen, was closed in 2021 to begin the refurbishment, which was extended due to the pandemic. Now set to open, the museum will reveal to visitors a major extension, designed by architects Reiach and Hall. The extension has joined together its two existing buildings to create one large facility. <https://tinyurl.com/2zkb44ha>

■ **Annan Museum 'Dead and the Undead- bodysnatching, vampires and more.'** 15 July to 31 October on Monday to Saturday 11am-4pm. This exhibition explores the darker side of history – for there is no light without dark and there is, sadly, no life without death. Annan's past is rich and varied – filled with legends of ghosts, curses and witches. Death is a constant presence in its history as a result of war, murder, drowning, illness and old age.

■ **The Guild of One-Name Studies** hosts a monthly webinar which is available to non-members, though registration is required - these are free to attend. The October webinar is likely to be of interest - Women's Work: Lives in Stitches with Naomi Tarrant. The details are as follows: 'This talk looks at an overlooked source for genealogy, samplers and other embroidery worked by girls and young women, which can supply information about their family, the schools they attended and their part in society. This should help with pieces which appear to have no known link to a member's family and to rescue any information about their ancestors that maybe available. It's looking beyond the bare bones of documents and gravestone etc and trying to connect with tangible items belonging to people. The bulk of the information will be from the UK but will have relevance to other countries particularly those with UK links, and to anyone interested in embroidery. A list of relevant books, catalogues and websites will be available.' To register

<https://one-name.org/livesinstitches/>



A reminder to Member Societies please take a few minutes to make sure that you put your latest programme on the SLHF website <https://www.slhf.org/events>

SPOTLIGHT ON A SLHF TRUSTEE - LINDA RIDDELL



I'm a Shetlander and have been interested in the history of my native islands for as long as I can remember, an interest fostered by my mother, who liked to collect stories and had a fantastic memory. At Edinburgh University I studied Scottish history under Professor Gordon Donaldson, who was also proud of his Shetland ancestry.

My career was in the oil industry, at the Sullom Voe Terminal in Shetland and latterly on the UK mainland. After taking early retirement in 2005, I returned to university to do an MSc course in Scottish Studies and a PhD on 'Shetland and the Great War', which is also the title of my book on the subject published in 2015. At this time, the centenary of the First World War prompted a lot of interest and activity on the part of historians and genealogists and was a great stimulus to local history.

I have also published articles on, for example, local identity, eighteenth and early nineteenth century population, Up-Helly-Aa in fiction, Dorothea Campbell (Shetland's first published novelist), Robert Sibbald's account of Shetland, and war memorials and rolls of honour.

I have served on the committees of several organisations such as Shetland Folk Society, the Scottish Society for Northern Studies and Shetland Amenity Trust and I represent the Shetland Family History Society on the Scottish Association (SHFSA). I have been a member of the Scottish Local History Forum for many years and a trustee since 2022. I live in Edinburgh now but return to Shetland several times a year. My interest in history goes far beyond Shetland and Scotland but my research has tended to be locally-based.

MEET A LOCAL GROUP

LOCH ARD LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Loch Ard is a beautiful freshwater loch situated in the Stirling Council area and is part of the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park. The name Loch Ard originates from àird which is a Scottish Gaelic word. We believe that this means 'loch of the eminence' i.e., headland or perhaps higher ground.

The Loch Ard Local History Group serves the communities of Stronachlachar, Inversnaid, Kinlochard and Aberfoyle and was started in 1999. Its early days were influenced by a small number of community events including an exhibition and film show with a focus on local history. These proved to be very popular and as a consequence the group was established. We were fortunate that in our community were several people who had for many years been researching and writing about the area's history. They became a very important nucleus to our evolving group. Our main focus is on the annual Winter Programme usually from October through to April/May. Where possible we tie in a subject to our summer excursions which have included the Diageo Archive and the island of Inchmahome as well as several sites of historical interest in Loch Ard forest including Bruach Caoruinn (which may well be dated as far back as between 1583 and 1601). The latter visit was especially enhanced with support from Professor Paul Bishop and Professor Niall Logan. It's fair to say that one of the advantages of our SLHF membership was making contact with these 2 excellent supporters.



Bruach Caoruinn visit 2017

In its early days the group produced a very popular calendar which featured images acquired at a scanning day and exhibition held in 1999. This also proved to be a useful fundraiser as well as spreading the word about the group's existence. More recently the group has moved into the world of publishing having published, in March 2018, a book by long standing member Louis Stott called 'The Enchantment of the Trossachs'. Again, our relationship with SLHF has meant that the mail order element of sales is done using the website <https://www.slhf.org/book/enchantment-trossachs>

In October 2019 we celebrated our 20th Anniversary as well as the 160th Anniversary of the opening of the Loch Katrine Water Scheme to Glasgow by Queen Victoria with an exhibition called 'Water to Glasgow'. This was very popular on the day with over 300 visitors.

During the past few years, we have worked with the Strathard Community Trust to develop and launch a website which has as its focus the history and heritage of the area. It includes contributions from several local historians as well as a significant collection of local postcards. The site can be accessed here

<https://strathardheritage.org/>

Maintaining a programme that primarily has a focus on 'local' is always a challenge and whilst our attendance is usually between 20 and 30 people, a local item will fill all the space we have. Whilst we put a lot of effort into planning the Winter Programme, members really appreciate the opportunity to meet and socialise—in a rural community this is especially important and was greatly missed during the Covid period.



Water to Glasgow Exhibition 2019

To encourage more local research, we have a session every December for members to talk about an issue of local interest such as the 'The House I Live In'. This has been popular and encourages members to extend their areas of historical research. Our experience tells us that the more local a subject the better!

The meetings are held in the wonderful setting of Kinlochard Village Hall.

HISTORY NEWS

■ **The Burrell Collection is the winner of Art Fund's Museum Of The Year award, taking home a £120,000 prize.** The winner was announced at a ceremony at the British Museum, and presented by Grayson Perry, and on BBC One's The One Show by actors Emily Blunt and Matt Damon. The Burrell Collection in Glasgow's Pollok Country Park houses the 9,000-object collection of Sir William and Constance Burrell. Managed by the charity Glasgow Life, it was reopened last year following £68 million, six-year refurbishment with its inaugural exhibition, 'The Burrells' Legacy: A Great Gift to Glasgow'. In October 2022 it was visited, and officially opened, by King Charles.

■ **New strategy** for the future of Scotland's historic environment was launched on 28 June by Christine McKelvie, Minister for Culture, Europe and International development. '[Our Past, Our Future](#)' is the title of the of the new 5-year strategy. Trusts behind a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the Museum of Lead Mining are among the recipients of a shared £4.4m in funding for Scottish heritage. The funding has been awarded by the **National Heritage Memorial Fund** as part of the Covid-19 Respond Fund to counter the impacts of the pandemic.

■ New Lanark Trust has been awarded £2.3m to undertake maintenance and repairs across the 18th century Mill Village, which sits alongside the River Clyde. <https://tinyurl.com/2s3w28zy>

■ **Dryburgh Abbey's Romantic** notion leads to biodiversity blueprint. A Romantic notion has led to a Borders abbey leading the way in tackling the biodiversity crisis. Managers and gardeners at Dryburgh wanted to recreate an early 19th Century landscape when they published their plans six years ago. Now the flowering meadows are acting as a blueprint for other Historic Environment Scotland (HES) sites. Landscape manager Sarah Franklin said: 'The changes in such a short space of time are spectacular.' <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-south-scotland-66069154>

■ HES has announced that **Corgarff Castle** reopened on Tuesday 1 August, with visitors once again being able to see the tower house turned army base first built in the 1500s. Standing in the Cairngorms National Park, the Castle's surroundings illuminate the beauty of Scotland's heritage, while the castle itself offers two very different tales. Corgarff was originally built as a noble residence, but later became an army base for hunting down Jacobite sympathisers and, later, whisky smugglers. The Castle was used as the fortified residence of the Forbeses of Corgarff from mid-1500s to the early 1600s. In the mid-1700s, over a hundred years later, the abandoned castle was turned into a barracks and used by the army until 1831.

■ **The wreck of Europe's first commercial steamship** has been designated as a scheduled monument by Historic Environment Scotland. This follows the recent discovery of the wreck of Henry Bell's *Comet* in the fast tidal waters of the Dorus Mor, west of Crinan, Argyll and Bute.

■ An award of £5.2m from UK charity the Hamish Ogston Foundation to HES will fund a new traditional skills training programme, giving a much-needed boost to the specialist skills needed to conserve and maintain Scotland's historic built environment. Over the course of five years, Craft Your Career will support vital skills training to 100 people across

Scotland. This will include 60 pre-apprenticeship training places, focusing on introductory construction and employability skills, initially delivered in partnership with Fife Council, Fife College and The Ridge social enterprise in East Lothian.

■ **Clyde Tunnel** Unseen photos revealed on 60th anniversary A batch of unseen archive photographs have been released to mark the 60th anniversary of the opening of the Clyde Tunnel. Yet again some gems from the Scottish Roads Archive. <https://www.scottishroadsarchive.org/>

■ **BBC News - Union Chain Bridge recognised as international landmark.** A 202-year-old bridge that links England and Scotland has been recognised for its historical significance. The Union Chain Bridge, which crosses the River Tweed, has been named as an International Historic Civil Engineering Landmark. It joins the likes of the Eiffel Tower, the Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Brooklyn Bridge. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-66136723>

■ **Kilmarnock kit pays tribute to inventor of penicillin.** Kilmarnock Football Club has unveiled a new away kit inspired by the discovery of penicillin, which was made by a scientist who studied in the East Ayrshire town. The world's first antibiotic was discovered by Sir Alexander Fleming in 1928. He is one of two Nobel Prize winners educated at Kilmarnock Academy. The East Ayrshire school matches Eton College in its number of Nobel laureate graduates. The away jersey shows the chemical make-up of penicillin in bright blue on the new crimson red kit. It was designed in partnership with sportswear brand Hummel UK to inspire young people in the town to 'embrace innovation'.

■ **The British Newspaper Archive** has added to its Scotsman collection. The new material adds the years 1951-2002 so means that it now covers from 1817-2002. <https://tinyurl.com/4rcv7cwn>

■ **The National in Scotland – formerly the Scottish National Gallery** – is to open its new gallery spaces in September 2023, it has announced. The completion of the £38.62 million major project will give visitors access to a new suite of galleries focussed on Scottish art from the likes of Phoebe Anna Traquair, William McTaggart, Anne Redpath, Sir Henry Raeburn and Charles Rennie Mackintosh. The project sees ten galleries at its Gardens level, featuring around 130 works of art. The new spaces will be home to key works from Scotland's historic art collection, offering more than double the physical display space. <https://tinyurl.com/5x2t82y5>

■ **Lady Florence Dixie: The aristocrat who fought for women's football** In the context of the recent Women's World Cup held in Australia and New Zealand, many may be unaware of the debt the sport owes to an aristocrat from southern Scotland. Lady Florence Dixie was born in 1855 at Kinmount near Cummertrees in Dumfriesshire. One of twins, she was the youngest of six children of the eighth marquess of Queensberry. She would go on to become the first president of the British Ladies Football Club (BLFC) in 1895.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-south-scotland-66232240>

■ **Museums Galleries Scotland** has announced that it will distribute Scottish Government funding only to museums that can prove they pay the real **Living Wage**. From 1 July, it has adopted two elements of the Fair Work First policy, developed by the Scottish Government as a criteria for grants, funding and contracts being awarded by and across the public sector. It will require that workers receive at least the real Living Wage, currently £10.90. Organisations engaging sub-contractors to deliver activity as part of a grant will also need to be paid the real Living Wage.

■ **BBC News - Beano marks 85th birthday** with Adele, Harry Styles and Stormzy.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-66309937>

BBC News - **Lost image of Bonnie Prince Charlie** discovered by X-ray.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-66327909>

■ **The woman who blazed a trail in mountain rescue-Mollie Porter's** first experience of hillwalking was an exposed scramble in Glencoe which left her terrified and vowing she would never go up a mountain again. Read what happened next here <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-66065278>

■ **British Association for Local History (BALH)** Following the success of their inaugural competition in 2022, BALH now present the Local History Photographer of the Year and Young Local History Photographer of the Year competitions 2023. This year's theme is 'Up my street', where they would like to see street images in your area, with a context of local history. These could include a street view, a building, some street furniture or a little detail on a wall or the pavement. Deadline for submissions in 11 September 2023. <https://tinyurl.com/yx33m8u3>

■ **Lorg na Còigich** A project to create an outdoor art installation to commemorate the successful land struggles of the 1850s at Coigach in Wester Ross is underway. For more information see Coigach Heritage [website](https://www.coigachheritage.com/).

■ **Another quirk of history:** There are 513 pubs in the UK called **The Red Lion**, including at least 20 in London alone, says Food & Wine. The reason there are so many is that in 1603, when James VI of Scotland inherited the English throne and became James I of England, he ordered that 'all buildings of importance display the red lion of Scotland'. That included pubs, so that whenever an Englishman went for a pint, he would be reminded that his king was a Scot. The next most popular names are the Crown (473 pubs), the Royal Oak (401) and the White Hart (298). <https://www.foodandwine.com/>

■ **Scottish Archaeological Forum Conference**, 28-29 October 2023, 'Whose Past is it Anyway?' Aberdeen University. <https://www.scotarchforum.com/>

■ **BALH online event**, broadcast live from the National Archives in Kew, Saturday 16 September 2023, The Inter-war Years including Q & A session with Alan Crosby. <https://www.balh.org.uk/lhi2023>

■ **BALFRON720- some news from Jim Thomson and our friends in Balfon.**

This October, Balfon Heritage Group will mount its Balfon720 mini-festival celebrating the 720th anniversary of the village's first documented mention in a Charter of Inchaffray Abbey on 3 October 1303.

The actual anniversary will be marked by a Seven Centuries of Song Concert by the musical duo 'Plaidson' on Tuesday 3 October 2023 at 7.30pm in the John McLintock Hall, Balfron. Tickets will be £5 and will include a preview of the Heritage Group's local history exhibition and some complimentary medieval refreshments.

On Wednesday 4 October, Balfron High School will host 'Dig This!' – an afternoon with Stirling's Archaeologist Dr. Murray Cook in the school's theatre at 2pm. Fronted by the school's senior history students, admission will be free, the public audience will share the event with the school's history students.

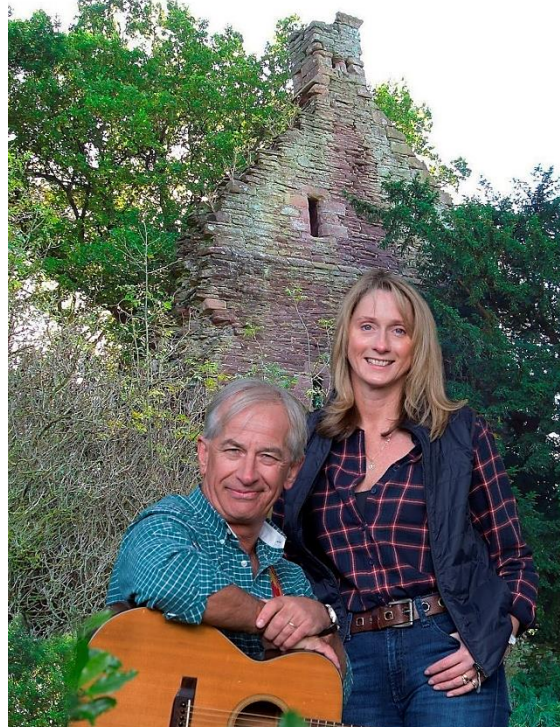
The Balfron720 history exhibition will open in Balfron Library on Thursday 5 October and will run until Saturday 28 October. Heritage souvenirs will be on sale at all events.

Friday 6 October sees an event entitled 'Dawn Burgoyne Presents'. This lady in full medieval costume will provide workshops for Balfron Primary pupils in the morning – school event only – and a medieval calligraphy session for an extremely limited number of adults in Balfron Church Rooms at 2pm.

On Saturday 7 October, Pat Thomson will lead one of her free Guided Graveyard Walks. This will start from Balfron War Memorial at The Clachan at 2pm. No ticket or booking is needed but participants should remember to wear weather-appropriate clothing and footwear.

At Balfron Heritage Group's normal monthly talk the following week the medieval theme continues. On the evening of Thursday 12 October Professor Richard Oram of University of Stirling will explain how Inchaffray Abbey and Kirk o'Balfron are linked by the 'Braveheart' Wars of Independence of the late 13th Century. Admission for guests at this event at 7.30pm in the John McLintock Lower Hall will be at the new price of £3.

Further information can be requested from balfronheritage@gmail.com.



Plaidson with Inchaffray Abbey in the background

MAPS NEWS-our thanks to Chris Fleet for this information

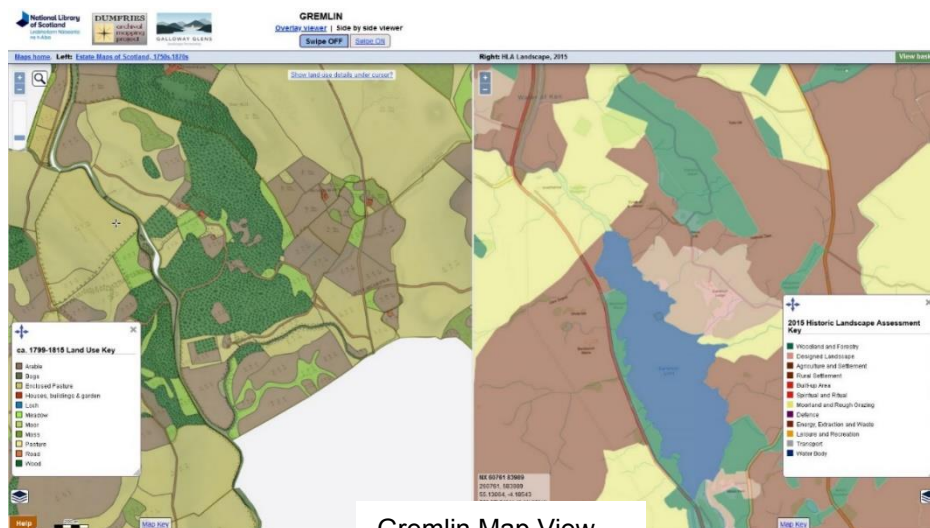
NEW GREMLIN MAP VIEWERS

The *Glenkens Rectified Estate Mapping and Land Information Network* ('GREMLIN') project has interpreted 44 estate maps from the early 19th century, using the contents to measure and classify land use in the Glenkens 200 years ago. The maps in question, primarily focused on the Forbes maps from the Earlstoun Estate, north of St John's Town of Dalry, have been georeferenced and their land-use traced – including woodland and wetland, arable and pasture. The maps can now be interrogated to reveal how this has changed over time, compared to later maps and present-day land use information. This has been a partnership project between the Dumfries Archival Mapping Project, the Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership and the National Library of Scotland. The project has been supported by a range of other partners, including the Galloway & Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere. Further details about the project, the map viewers, and land-use information is available at: <https://maps.nls.uk/projects/gremlin/>

NEW TOOLS IN THE GEOREFERENCED MAP VIEWERS

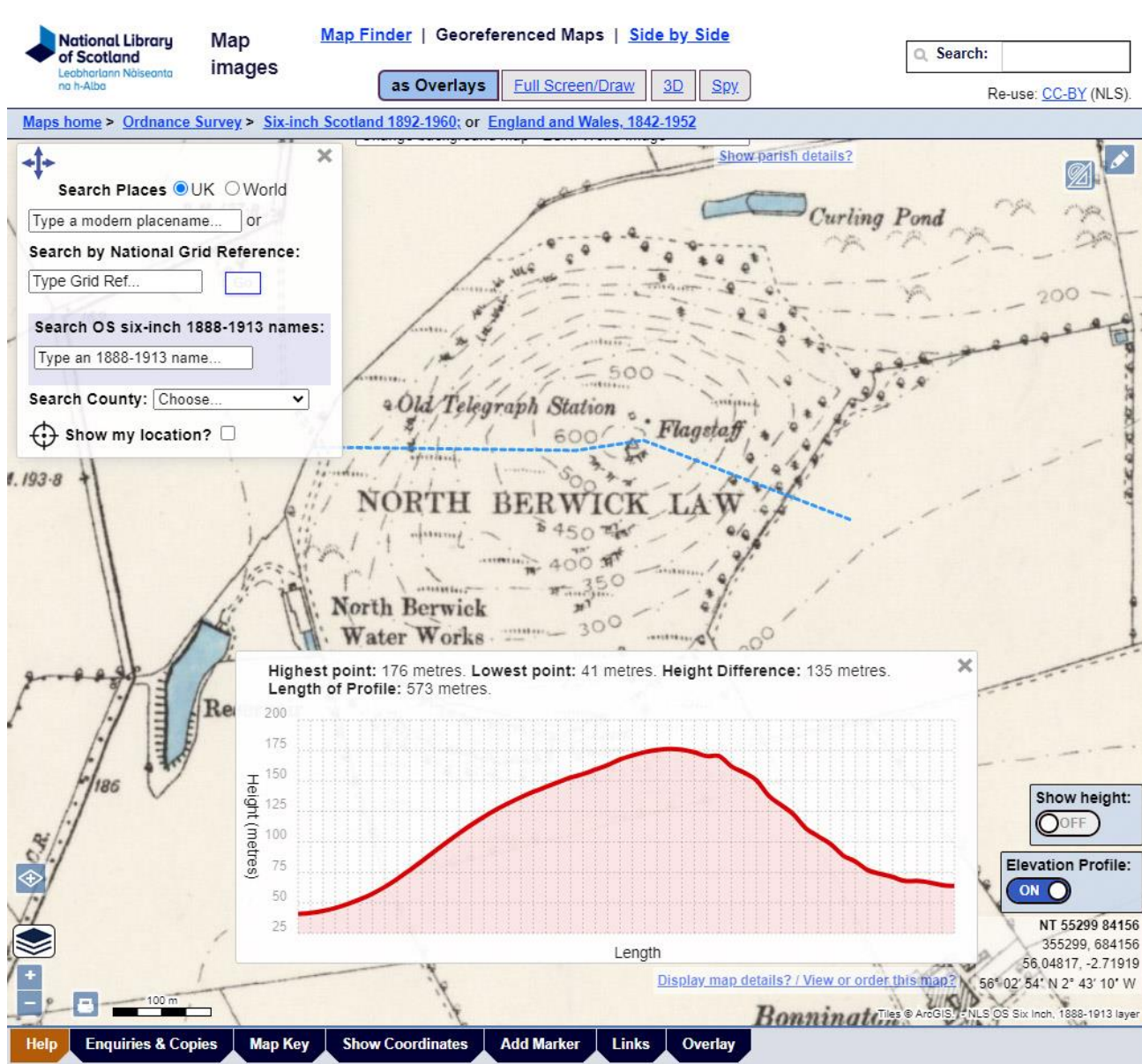
In the last few months, we have introduced three new tools:

1. A **Print / Save Image tool**, which allows you to easily save an image or print it.



Gremlin Map View

2. An **Elevation profile tool**, which allows you to click along any route of interest, and it will display an elevation profile.



Elevation Profile

3. We have also upgraded our tools for **Drawing and Tracing Features**. The new tools allow better options for customising and editing features, as well as better export options, allowing you to save the coordinates, features and styles of your drawing for onward use.

Further details about the new tools: <https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/help.html>

NEW ONLINE MAPS

With the completion of our main Scottish flat-sheet map scanning in 2022, our recent focus has been on putting online maps of England and Wales:

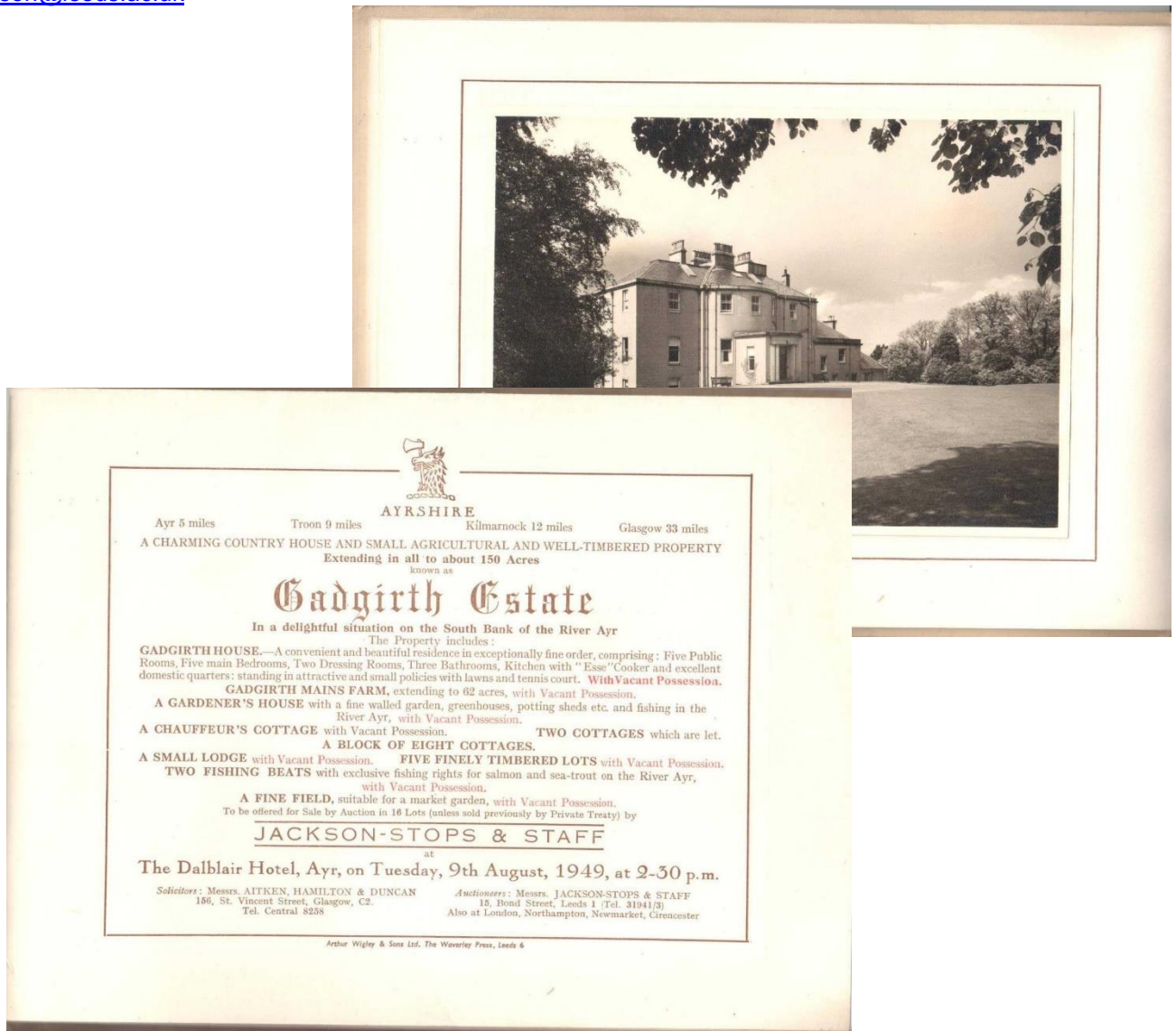
- **Ordnance Survey One-Inch Maps of England and Wales, 1870s-1950s.** 2408 maps, including all NLS flat sheet holdings of OS One-Inch mapping including: Engraved Maps, 3rd edition outline, Popular, New Popular, and GSGS 3907. <https://maps.nls.uk/additions/#135>
- **One-Inch land utilisation and agricultural maps of England and Wales.** 133 Land Utilisation Survey maps of England and Wales in the 1930s, and 84 Agricultural Land Classification maps from the 1960s covering most of England and Wales. <https://maps.nls.uk/additions/#137>
- **Geological Survey of England and Wales, One-Inch and Six-Inch to the Mile maps, 1860s-1950s.** 532 maps - all NLS flat-sheet holdings of geological maps of England and Wales at these two scales. <https://maps.nls.uk/additions/#138>
- **Ordnance Survey Half-Inch to the Mile, England and Wales, 1914-1942.** 99 maps, including the Ministry of Transport road maps, as well as layer-coloured and outline editions. <https://maps.nls.uk/additions/#139>
- **Ordnance Survey Half-Inch Administrative Area Diagrams, England and Wales, 1899-1972** 1,371 maps, showing Administrative Areas at the Half-Inch to the Mile scale (1:126,740). <https://maps.nls.uk/additions/#140>

- **Ordnance Survey, Indexes to detailed OS maps, England and Wales, 1879-1972** 1,135 maps showing sheetlines of more detailed OS maps <https://maps.nls.uk/additions/#141>
- **OS Quarter-inch to the Mile, maps of England and Wales, 1899-1958** 231 maps across 19 series, providing an overview of the landscape. <https://maps.nls.uk/additions/#142>
- **OS Six-Inch England and Wales 1st edition (1840s-1880s) georeferenced layer, 1840s-1880s.** 8,410 maps, seamed together, the most detailed OS scale covering all areas, showing most details in the landscape. <https://maps.nls.uk/additions/#145>

CAN YOU HELP?

■ The Leeds Historical Society (The Thoresby Society) recently found while reorganising our archive room a set of five Sales Particulars relating to five Scottish Estates: The Garth Estate, Glen Lyon, Perthshire; Dunkeld House, Perthshire; The Gadgirth Estate, Ayrshire; The Cairnmore Estate, Isle of Islay; and the Estate of Ardachuple, Argyllshire. They are in the form of detailed brochures each containing several photographs. They date from 1949 when these estates were put up for sale by the Leeds office of Jackson-Stops and Staff.

We would be pleased to donate these sales particulars without charge to any Scottish society with an interest in local history which agrees to conserve them. If you are interested and would like further details please contact me at a.slomson@leeds.ac.uk



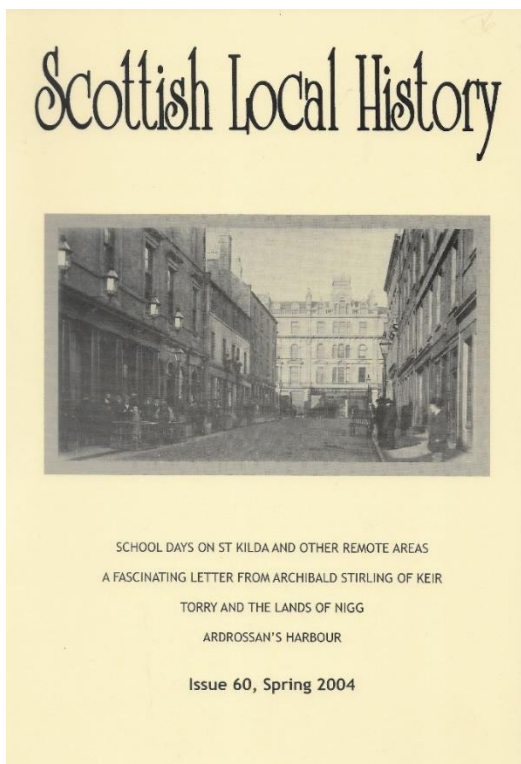
■ I'm trying to find out if anything is known about a Victorian firm of glass makers called Pratt & Thompson of Kinross (no known relation), for an almost completed book of butterflies and moths. Is anything known? Colin Pratt colin.pratt@talk21.com

AND FINALLY


ISSUE 60 OF SCOTTISH LOCAL HISTORY

As we acknowledge getting to issue 60 of *Clish-Clash* let's not forget the publication *Scottish Local History* which is a wonderful read. A look back at Issue 60 from Spring 2004 had Doris Williamson as the Production Editor and Dr. Bill Inglis as the Reviews Editor and reminds us of a different time. At that point the forthcoming events pages were a means of local societies sharing what programmes and speakers were planned. Now all societies need to do is upload the details onto the SLHF website. <https://www.slhf.org/events>

The articles covered a range of topics including School Days at St. Kilda, glimpses into 19th century Colinton- which was a major project undertaken by Colinton Local History Society (see also CC58) and news of Perthshire Archaeology Week. The feature 'A Walk round an old photograph' had George Dixon tracing the history of Boat of Garten. The Book Reviews took readers far and wide from The Jacobites and Russia (by Rebecca Wills) to the Doune Historical Notes and many interesting places in between including Historic Corstorphine and the story of some well-known people who left Cromarty for even wider skies. Back Issues are well worth a modest investment of cash and time.




Interested in Scottish heritage, family or local history?



Scottish Local History Journal is published 3 times a year and you can buy back issues of the Journal from our website:

<https://www.slhf.org/journal-back-issues>

or become a member and the Journal will be delivered to your door.



For more information and to find out how to join visit our website:

<https://www.slhf.org/>

CHANGE OF EDITORSHIP OF CLISH-CLASH

Clish-Clash (CC) and our fellow publication *Scottish Local History* are really important benefits of being a member of the Scottish Local History Forum. During the summer of 2020 and in the middle of the COVID pandemic I picked up the mantle of editorship from our first CC editor, Diana Webster. What a record of achievement from Diana—41 issues and nearly 7 years at the helm!

So, for me it's been a great privilege to have over 3 years as editor, ably assisted initially by the late Paul Bishop. Following Paul's death, Linda Clark agreed to work with me and we have had the benefit of regular contributions from Steve Connelly and Don Martin. Other Trustees have helped with proof-reading (thank you Andrew Jones) and the mailing (Jan Bateman) to members. One of my personal aims was to ensure that CC became a team effort—so thank you team! My thanks to all of the contributors over the years including those from whom I have begged, stolen or borrowed information.

Don and I have worked closely in ensuring that both publications would have a positive co-existence and interaction. Over the past 3 years we've also added some new sections to CC including 'History News', 'Meet a Trustee' and 'Meet a Local Group'. Feedback has been positive, and members have appreciated receiving news and information in a timely fashion. I have no doubt that this will continue under the new editor, Linda Clark. I look forward to waiting for CC with much anticipation! Best wishes and thank you. James Kennedy

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QUOTE OF THE MOMENT

'Both optimists and pessimists contribute to society. The optimist invents the aeroplane, the pessimist the parachute'.
George Bernard Shaw.

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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>

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.

Anyone can download copies of Clish-Clash from our website. Members who have provided a valid email address are automatically sent a copy on publication (unless they have requested otherwise).

To be removed from the email mailing list, go to the above email address and choose category Newsletter.

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