East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust celebrate Local History

In partnership with East Dunbartonshire’s heritage and history groups

Local History Month
March 2023
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Local History Month
March 2023

The Local History Month programme exists to engage the community with the local history of the area. It is organised by East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust in partnership with local community, history and heritage groups in East Dunbartonshire.

All members of the community are welcome to take part. Join us for a month of events, exhibitions, walks and talks across East Dunbartonshire. We look forward to engaging in local heritage together!

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BEARSDEN

Family activities and house histories

Come along to explore the local history of your area with some fun activities including a scavenger hunt and a chance to make your own mini local history booklet. Our archivist will also be available to offer a chance to explore your house history. All ages welcome.

Date: Saturday 11 March
Time: Drop-in, 10am – 1pm
Venue: Bearsden Library and Community Hub, 69 Drymen Rd, Bearsden, Glasgow G61 3QT

New Kilpatrick Parish Church Open Day

A chance to visit New Kilpatrick Parish church and look at some of the historical records on display.

Date: Saturday 25 March
Time: 10am - 1pm
Venue: New Kilpatrick Parish Church, 28 Kirk Pl, Bearsden, Glasgow G61 3RT
Memories Scotland Group

Memories Scotland groups meet across the country to use local social history images for reminiscence with the aim of improving wellbeing and connectedness. Join the group in Bearsden Library for a discussion using images from our archives and local studies collection which are displayed on the Memories Scotland website.

**Date:**
Wednesday 29 March

**Time:**
2pm – 3.30pm

**Venue:**
Bearsden Library and Community Hub, 69 Drymen Rd, Bearsden, Glasgow G61 3QT

Check out the Bearsden Art Club’s exhibition in the Lillie Art Gallery on page 16.
BISHOPBRIGGS

Back in Time:
Everyday life in East Dunbartonshire

Do you love looking at old newspapers? Curious about what your town looked like in the past? Share your memories and impressions of East Dunbartonshire in different eras. This event offers a chance to look at the books, newspapers, ephemera and photographs in our local studies collection and enjoy the insights into life in the area in the past.

Date: Friday 3 March
Time: 2pm - 4pm
Venue: Bishopbriggs Library, 170 Kirkintilloch Road, Bishopbriggs G64 2LX

Thomas Muir: A Portrait of the Reformer as a Young Man

Join the Friends of Thomas Muir group for a presentation by Jimmy Watson looking at the artists who have painted, etched, sculptured, and interpreted Thomas Muir in their work. Artists covered will include Ken Currie, Alexander Stoddart, John Kay, Roddy Buchanan, Bobby McNamara, David Martin and more.

Date: Wednesday 8 March
Time: 6.45pm
Venue: Bishopbriggs Library, 170 Kirkintilloch Road, Bishopbriggs G64 2LX
East Dunbartonshire Schools Art Exhibition

Join the Friends of Thomas Muir group for a chance to view the 2022 East Dunbartonshire Schools Art Exhibition with over 1200 entries shortlisted down to 25 finalists. Professionally mounted and framed with the assistance of East Dunbartonshire Arts Council.

Date: 1 March – 31 March
Time: 10am - 3pm, Tuesday to Saturday.
Venue: Thomas Muir Coffee Shop, 100 Crowhill Rd, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow G64 1RP

The Day War Came to Bishopbriggs

Carol Primrose shares the story of the fateful day on which Bishopbriggs was bombed during the Second World War and the effects of this experience on local people.

Date: Monday 13 March
Time: 6.45pm
Venue: Bishopbriggs Library, 170 Kirkintilloch Road, Bishopbriggs G64 2LX
KIRKINTILLOCH

Back in Time: Everyday life in East Dunbartonshire

Do you love looking at old newspapers? Curious about what your town looked like in the past? Share your memories and impressions of East Dunbartonshire in different eras. This event provides a chance to look at the books, newspapers, ephemera and photographs in our local studies collection and enjoy the insights into life in the area in the past.

Date: Thursday 2 March
Time: 5.30pm - 7.30pm
Venue: Archives and Local Studies, 1st floor of the William Patrick Library, 2 - 4 West High Street, Kirkintilloch G66 1AD

History and Creative Writing

We are delighted to have writer and researcher Flora Johnston join us during Local History Month. She was inspired by historical materials in writing her debut novel What You Call Free. This workshop offers the chance to learn how historical material can be a source of literary inspiration. There will be an opportunity to put this concept into practice through using our local history collections as creative writing prompts. Signed copies of Flora Johnston’s novel What You Call Free will be available to purchase.

Date: Monday 6 March
Time: 2pm
Venue: William Patrick Library, 2-4 West High Street, Kirkintilloch G66 1AD

Book your free ticket via Eventbrite or contact 0141 777 3142 for more details.
Beatrice Clugston

Writer James Brannigan will share his insights into the life of Beatrice Clugston, a local philanthropist in the Victorian era. There will be an opportunity to ask questions about his research into this fascinating woman ahead of the publication of his book on Remarkable Scots.

**Dates:** Wednesday 15 March
**Time:** 6.45pm
**Venue:** Archives and Local Studies, 1st floor of the William Patrick Library, 2-4 West High Street, Kirkintilloch G66 1AD

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Reflections of Trauma, Challenges and Healing: An Oral History

GRACE invites you to the launch of their oral history project which reflects on trauma and healing. This project sought to record and share histories of lived traumatic experiences. It explores the paths towards healing and the potential for recovery after experiences of trauma through sharing the stories of individuals in their own words.

**Date:** Tuesday 21 March
**Time:** 12noon - 4pm
**Venue:** GRACE Hillhead Community Centre, 169 Meiklehill Road, Kirkintilloch, Glasgow, G66 2JT
Alexander “Greek” Thompson

This talk on the life and work of Alexander “Greek” Thomson by Scott Abercrombie, Chair of the Alexander Thomson Society, has been organised by the Kirkintilloch and District Society of Antiquaries. Scott will discuss the life and work of Alexander “Greek” Thomson, from his beginnings in Balfron to becoming one of Scotland’s most significant architects. His influence is most obviously felt in Glasgow, but Thomson’s work can be found throughout the west of Scotland from Cove and Kilcreggan to Lenzie and Dullatur. He will discuss the origins of his idiosyncratic architectural style and the impact that this had on the generation of architects that followed him.

Date: Thursday 23 March
Time: 2pm - 3pm
Venue: The Park Centre, 45 Kerr Street, Kirkintilloch G66 1LF

Canal Heritage Walk

Heritage walk with the Forth and Clyde Canal Society led by Canal News Editor Paul Carter. This engaging guided walk will explore ship building, canal cargo, passenger traffic and iron founding history between Hillhead Bridge and South Bank Marina. The walk is on surfaced paths throughout and is around 3km or 2 miles long.

Date: Saturday 25 March
Time: 10.30am (approx. 2 hours)
Venue: Meet at Townhead Canal Bridge, Kirkintilloch
Mayfield: An Exhibition by Artist Laura Mahony

Archive collections can open imaginative narratives, articulating untold human experiences in our environment. Laura Mahony explores this theme in an exhibition of items found in Mayfield Cottage, Birdston, many of which were stored away behind a fireplace in the cottage before being donated to the archives in 2019. Who is the well-dressed woman in the photograph? Who owned the collection of paintbrushes? What was sent in the box by rail? In our digital age where many answers to questions can be found through a quick internet search, it is a joy to fill in the gaps and allow questions to remain open, allowing our imagination to tell the story through objects that are left behind.

Date: 1 - 31 March
Time: During museum opening hours, Tuesday – Saturday, 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm
Venue: Auld Kirk Museum, Cowgate, Kirkintilloch, G66 1HN

Living with the Past: GRACE Art Exhibition

Artworks engaging with and inspired by the past are the work of creative participants from GRACE Community Centre. GRACE will be taking part in Local History month throughout March so look out for their other activities.

Date: 1-31 March
Time: During normal library opening hours, Monday - Thursday, 10am - 8pm, Friday & Saturday, 10am - 5pm
Venue: William Patrick Library
2 -4 West High Street, Kirkintilloch, G66 1AD
Lairdsland School, Kerr Street

An exhibition celebrating the 140 years of this local school on Kerr Street, Kirkintilloch. Featuring objects from the permanent collection of the Auld Kirk Museum, as well as images and information from Archives and Local Studies.

Date: 28 February – 7 September
Time: During museum opening hours, Tuesday – Saturday, 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm
Venue: Auld Kirk Museum, Cowgate, Kirkintilloch, G66 1HN

Printing in the Woodlands: An exhibition of Botanical Printed Moments by Elisabeth Viguie-Culshaw

A desire to be more sustainable and a need for constant learning through her processes sent Viguie-Culshaw in the direction of Eco techniques. Finding supplies in her garden and the local park, she uses only botanical resources and natural fibres. This exhibition of botanical moments focuses on the artist's connection with nature, and her experience of others connecting with nature, working together to create new meaning.

Collaborative pieces are also featured where Viguie-Culshaw’s botanical paper has been used by artists Katherine Cowtan, a Scottish weaver from Fintry, and Cassandra Barron, a Scottish bookbinder from Edinburgh.

Date: 18 February – 30 March
Time: During museum opening hours, Tuesday – Saturday, 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm
Venue: Auld Kirk Museum, Cowgate, Kirkintilloch, G66 1HN
**LENNOXTOWN**

Local History and Heritage walk

A chance to revisit the Trails & Tales walking routes and hear about some of the history and heritage associated with the local area from our Museums Collection Officer. The Lennoxtown route is 6km, mainly flat footpaths or pavement. Walks will be available to book onto in February, so keep an eye on the EDLC Eventbrite page.

Walks will start from various EDLC venues and last up to 1 hour 30 minutes. Waterproof footwear and clothing recommended.

Date: Saturday 4 March
Time: 10.30am

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Back in Time: Everyday life in East Dunbartonshire

Do you love looking at old newspapers? Curious about what your town looked like in the past? Share your memories and impressions of East Dunbartonshire in different eras. This event provides a chance to look at the books, newspapers, ephemera and photographs in our local studies collection and enjoy the insights into life in the area in the past.

Date: Monday 20 March
Time: 2pm - 4pm
Venue: Lennoxtown Library, 46 Main Street, Lennoxtown, G66 7JJ
Fabric of our lives: Calico printing in Campsie

Many living in Campsie in the eighteenth century worked in calico printing, contributing to a global industry which was influenced by Britain’s engagement with the rest of the world. This display using photographs and materials from our local studies collection explores the calico printing industry in Campsie and its connections to the wider world.

Date: 1 – 31 March
Time: During normal library opening hours,
    Monday and Wednesday, 10am – 8pm
    Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 10am – 5pm
Venue: Lennoxtown Library, 46 Main Street,
       Lennoxtown, G66 7JJ

LENZIE

Community life in Lenzie

A chance to look at photographs from the local studies collection of Lenzie throughout the years.

Date: 1 – 31 March
Time: During normal opening hours,
    Monday 1pm – 4.30pm & 5pm – 8pm,
    Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10am – 12.30pm
    & 1.30pm – 5pm
Venue: Lenzie Library, 13/15 Alexandra Avenue, Lenzie, G66 5BG
**MILNGAVIE**

**A Conversation about Milngavie’s Street Names**

Local historian, Donald Shankland, will talk about the Milngavie Heritage Centre group’s exhibition in Milngavie Library on the origin of some of Milngavie’s well known street names. Come along and find out about the origin of your local street name. Audience participation welcome.

- **Date:** Thursday 16 March
- **Time:** 2 pm – 3pm
- **Venue:** Milngavie Library, Allander Road, Milngavie G62 8PN

**Family dig at Gavin’s Mill**

This event organised by Gavin's Mill is a chance for your little explorers to have a go at digging and feel the thrill of archaeological discovery!

- **Date:** Saturday 18 March
- **Time:** 11am – 3pm
- **Venue:** Gavin’s Mill, 3 Gavin’s Mill Rd, Milngavie, Glasgow G62 6NB

**Milngavie the Village**

The talk organised by the Milngavie Heritage Centre group will cover many aspects of Milngavie’s rich social and economic history and include some readings from the new edition of Nigel Orr’s popular history of Milngavie titled Milngavie the Village, which was first published in 2002. The revised edition contains 40 photographs of Milngavie. Copies of the paperback will be available for sale.

- **Date:** Tuesday 21 March
- **Time:** 2.30pm
- **Venue:** Lillie Art Gallery, Station Rd, Milngavie, Glasgow G62 8BZ
Heritage Exhibition:
Milngavie’s Streets – What’s behind a name?

Street names can tell you a lot about the history of any village, town or city. Milngavie is no exception. How is Kayston Farm/Mill commemorated in Milngavie? What evidence is there that an eighteenth-century tobacco lord had a country estate locally? Is James Watt Road named after the eighteenth-century Scottish inventor or Provost James Watt of Gavin’s or Watt’s Mill fame? Why was the town’s bypass called Woodburn Way? This exhibition by the Milngavie Heritage Centre group solves these mysteries and many more.

Date: Saturday 4 March - Saturday 22 April
Time: During normal library opening hours,
Monday - Thursday, 10am - 8pm,
Friday & Saturday, 10am - 5pm
Venue: Milngavie Library, Allander Road, Milngavie G62 8PN

Reading the Landscape

A fascinating talk from former librarian and archaeology enthusiast Carol Primrose. Carol Primrose has taken part in several archaeological surveys and co-directed two in Arran. Following her retirement she developed an interest in local history and directed a survey of Mavis Valley.

Date: Wednesday 22 March
Time: 7 - 9pm
Venue: Gavin’s Mill, 3 Gavin’s Mill Rd, Milngavie, Glasgow G62 6NB

Bearsden Art Club exhibition

An exhibition of paintings, ceramics, jewellery and textiles by local artists. This year the Bearsden Art Club celebrates its 70th year. Along with the ever popular work by the club’s members in Gallery 1, this year there will also be work created by local school pupils in Bearsden as part of an art competition organised by the club, as well as pieces from the Lillie Art Gallery permanent collection by past members. The exhibition opens on Saturday 4 March and all are welcome!

Date: 4 March – 30 March
Time: During gallery opening hours,
Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 5pm,
Wednesday 2pm - 5pm
Venue: Lillie Art Gallery, Station Rd, Milngavie, Glasgow G62 8BZ
**MILTON OF CAMPSIE**

Local History and Heritage walk

A chance to revisit the Trails & Tales walking routes, and hear about some of the history and heritage associated with the local area from our Museums Collection Officer. The Milton of Campsie route is 5.3km and mainly flat with mixed surfaces including paved and unsealed paths which can be muddy. Walks will be available to book onto from February, so keep an eye on the EDLC Eventbrite page.

Walks will start from EDLC venues and last up to 1 hour 30 minutes. Waterproof footwear and clothing recommended.

Date: Wednesday 15 March  
Time: 10.30am

Find out more about the history of one house near Milton of Campsie at our Mayfield exhibition in the Auld Kirk Museum on page 11.

**TORRANCE**

Mining and Geology in East Dunbartonshire and surrounding districts

Join Torrance and Baldernock Heritage and History Group for a talk by Brian Skillen on mining and geology in the local area.

Date: Monday 27 March  
Time: 7pm for a 7.30pm start  
Venue: Caldwell Halls, Campsie Rd, Torrance G64 4BN

**TWECHAR**

Local History and Heritage walk

A chance to revisit the Trails & Tales walking routes, and hear about some of the history and heritage associated with the local area from our Museums Collection Officer. The Twechar route is 4.5km with undulating terrain (up to 150m ascent), with mixed surfaces including paved and unsealed paths which can be muddy. Walks will be available to book onto in February, so keep an eye on the EDLC Eventbrite page.

Walks will start from EDLC venues and last up to 1 hour 30 minutes. Waterproof footwear and clothing recommended.

Date: Tuesday 28 March  
Time: 2pm
Our top recommendations for ...

**Explorers:** Local History and Heritage walks at various locations and Canal Heritage guided walk

**Storytellers:** creative writing workshop, Mayfield exhibition, Back in Time sessions

**Learners:** talks from local history groups

**Family friendly:** Family dig at Gavin's Mill, family activities at Bearsden library

We have a new online collections catalogue! Use it to search our archives and museum/gallery collections, plus 5,000 of our local studies photographs. Digital images of many of the collections are already available and more will gradually be added over time. Try it out here [https://collections.edlc.co.uk/](https://collections.edlc.co.uk/)

To explore your local history further, visit Archives and Local Studies on the first floor of the William Patrick Library.

You can also contact us with local history enquiries by email archives@eastdunbarton.gov.uk or call 0141 777 3142.

All our events are free to attend and everyone is welcome! We are committed to improving the accessibility of our events. If you need access to an event in a different format, contact archives@eastdunbarton.gov.uk.
VENUE INFORMATION

Auld Kirk Museum & Barony Chambers
Cowgate, Kirkintilloch, G66 1HN
Tel. 0141 777 3013
Email: museums@eastdunbarton.gov.uk
Open: Tuesday – Saturday, 10am -1pm & 2pm – 5pm

Bearsden Library
69 Drymen Road, Bearden, G61 3QT
Tel. 0141 777 3021
Open: Monday – Thursday, 10am – 8pm,
Friday & Saturday, 10am – 5pm

Bishopbriggs Library
170 Kirkintilloch Road, Bishopbriggs, G64 2LX
Tel. 0141 777 3155
Open: Monday – Thursday, 10am – 8pm,
Friday & Saturday, 10am – 5pm

Kirkintilloch Town Hall
Union Street, Kirkintilloch, G66 1DH
Tel. 0141 777 3143
Temporarily closed to the public

Lennoxtown Library
46 Main Street, Lennoxtown, G66 7JJ
Tel: 0141 777 3151
Open: Monday and Wednesday, 10am – 8pm
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 10am – 5pm

Milngavie Library
Allander Road, Milngavie, G62 8PN
Tel: 0141 956 2776
Open: Monday - Thursday, 10am - 8pm,
Friday & Saturday, 10am - 5pm

Lenzie Library
13/15 Alexandra Avenue, Lenzie, G66 5BG
Tel: 0141 776 3021
Open: Monday 1pm –4.30pm & 5pm –8pm,
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10am –12.30pm & 1.30pm –5pm

Lillie Art Gallery
Station Rd, Milngavie, G62 8BZ
Tel. 0141 956 5536
Open: Tuesday - Saturday, 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm

William Patrick Library
2 - 4 West High Street
Kirkintilloch, G66 1AD
Tel: 0141 777 3141/3142
Open: Monday - Thursday, 10am - 8pm,
Friday & Saturday, 10am - 5pm

www.edlc.co.uk/heritage-arts
https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/east-dunbartonshire-leisure-amp-culture-trust-cultural-services-17826695432
Further information
To find out more about Local History Month events taking place across East Dunbartonshire please contact
EDLC Archives & Local Studies at:

William Patrick Library, 2-4 West High Street,
Kirkintilloch G66 1AD Tel: 0141 777 3142
Email: archives@eastdunbarton.gov.uk
www.edlc.co.uk/heritage-arts

Other Formats
This document can be provided in large print, Braille or on audio cassette and can be translated into different community languages.
Contact the Corporate Communications team at:

East Dunbartonshire Council, 12 Strathkelvin Place, Southbank,
Kirkintilloch, G66 1TJ Tel: 0300 123 4510