

# CLISH-CLASH



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

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## SLHF NEWS

### ■ Bargain books for sale – in aid of SLHF!

There are still a number of bargain (but good or very good condition) Scottish local history and railway history books in our online shop, available at heavily discounted prices. Grab a bargain while you can! Prices include postage and packing!

To purchase, hurry to our website [www.slhf.org/books](http://www.slhf.org/books) - first come, first served. ***While away those long winter evenings with a good read, full of local history interest!*** The titles still remaining are:

Author	Title	Cost (incl. post and packing)	
Nock, O. S.	The Highland Railway	£	6.55
Aldcroft, Derek	Studies in British Transport History	£	5.62
Sinclair, Neil	The Highland Railway: People and Places	£	7.52
Paxton, Roland	100 years of the Forth Bridge	£	6.13
Highlands and Islands	Transport Timetable 1982	£	7.40
Burton, Anthony	The Railway Builders	£	5.16
Robertson, C. J. A.	The Origins of the Scottish Railway System	£	15.90
Moffat, Alistair	The Hidden Ways	£	9.71
Beechings Legacy	Set of 4 DVDs and booklet	£	7.40
Beeching Report	The Reshaping of British Railways	£	20.58
Grieves, Robert	Scotland's motoring century	£	9.71
Lenman, Bruce	An Economic History of Modern Scotland	£	5.85
Pittock, Murray	Edinburgh Companion to Scottish Romanticism	£	14.63
Gow, Ian and Rowan, Alistair	Scottish Country Houses	£	12.50
Duncan, Jeremy	Perth and Kinross - The Big County	£	6.87
Mitchison, Rosalind	Why Scottish History Matters	£	8.01
Third Statistical Account	Caithness	£	15.90
Third Statistical Account	Banff	£	20.58
Third Statistical Account	Kincardine	£	11.65
Third Statistical Account	Aberdeen	£	16.75

## ■ Journal

Members should have received their copies of the latest **Scottish Local History** in recent days. For others reading this email it might be helpful to know what articles are in issue 123 along with book reviews, notes and queries and the other regular features:

**'Highly sublime and somewhat horrible'** The rise and decline of a Scottish countryside tourist resort by Phil Back

**The Bazaar Age in Scotland** – Part 10 Shetland Bazaars, 1867-1914 by Douglas G Lockhart

**The Men of Millport** who took part in the first scientific visit to St Kilda in 1797 by John Parnell

**Old Wall Letter Boxes Still in Service** in North Fife by Lindesay M Brown and Allan W Brown

**The 1919 Charabanc Crash at Hawick Common Riding:** the growth of motor traffic and the police by David M Smale

Copies can be ordered from our website: [Publications | Scottish Local History Forum](#) and there are also copies of many of our back issues available to purchase. A contents list is available: [Journal Content Index | Scottish Local History Forum](#)



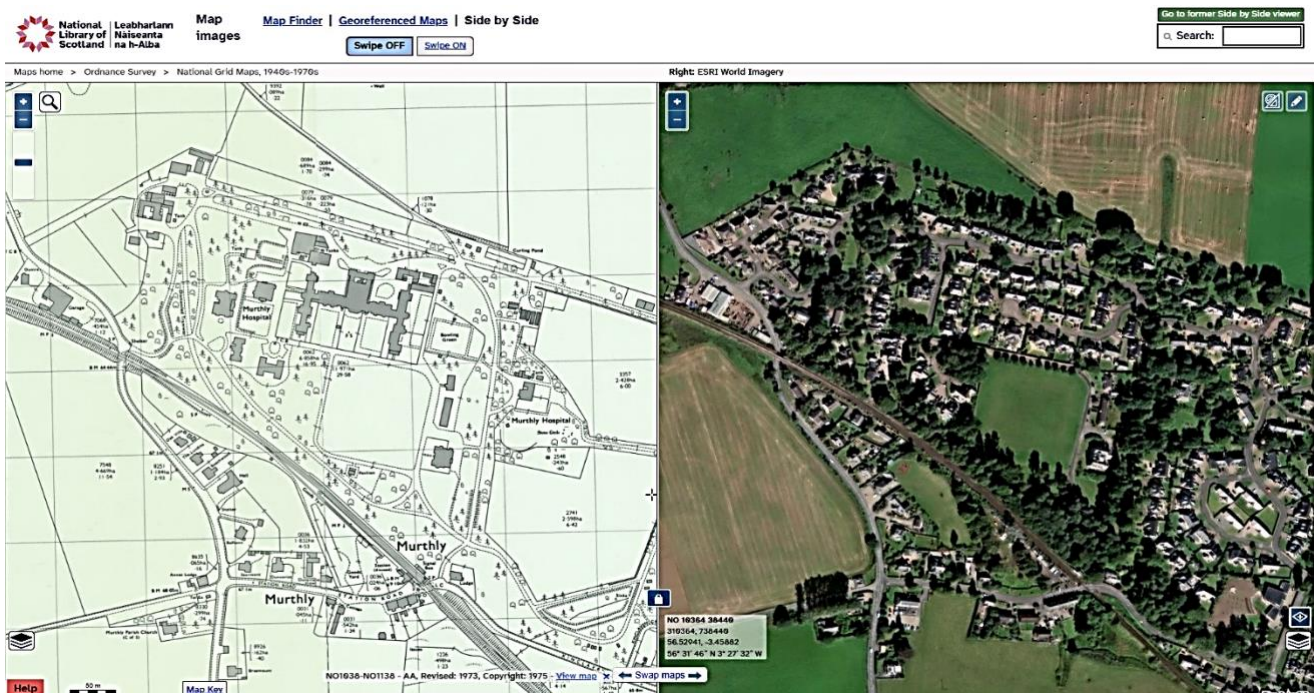
## SLHF is on Substack!

Don't forget to check out our Substack page at [slhf.substack.com](https://slhf.substack.com). We post regularly to subscribers' inboxes with news, events, and updates – and there are also some short pieces of Scottish local history that we think will be of interest.

Recently we've posted on Vogrie House near Gorebridge, Burghead's New Year, Sawney Bean's Cave at Ballantrae, and the curious Dagon Stone at Darvel – Substack lets you catch up on old posts too, so don't feel you've missed out! Just go to [slhf.substack.com](https://slhf.substack.com) and join our growing number of subscribers – completely free of charge, and no more than two e-mails a week to your inbox

***We're also interested in posting about our member organisations' activities – so if you want some free publicity for your museum, heritage centre or society, just contact [phil@philback.co.uk](mailto:phil@philback.co.uk) and we'll arrange that with you. Sorry, but this opportunity is for members only.***

## LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS



Comparing Murthly in Perthshire on the newly-released OS 1:2,500 map of 1975 (left) with modern-day satellite imagery (right)

■ The latest issue of the Scottish Maps Forum's **Cairt** newsletter was published in January 2026. This featured two larger research articles, the first by Peter Drummond, looking at mountain names on William Roy's Military Survey of the Highlands, and the significant changes to these names over the next century. A second article, by Douglas Lockhart, described the interesting life of David Walker (1793-1844) of Wester Fintray and Aberdeen, one of North-East Scotland's most prolific land-surveyors. This issue also looked at map events taking place in February and March, and recent NLS map website additions. *Cairt* is available at <https://maps.nls.uk/cairt/cairt48.pdf>

■ Online *maps.nls.uk* addition: OS maps published in 1975. The earliest website addition in 2026 was 9,851 maps at scales of 1:1,250 to 1:10,560 which were published in 1975, and which have therefore just come out-of-copyright from 1 January 2026. This includes a significant number of Scottish maps, which are often the earliest detailed post-War coverage of these places.

■ The **Scottish Council on Archives** has been working on its national project, *Made in Scotland – Business Archives Connecting with Communities*.

This initiative explores how business archives are being used across Scotland to:

- Connect with communities
- Support local identity and placemaking
- Contribute to sustainability and net zero goals
- Inspire creativity and innovation within organisations

SCA now has six case studies from business archives, both current and historic, that exemplify these points.

View case studies: <https://www.scottisharchives.org.uk/community-archives/made-in-scotland-bridging-business-and-community-to-create-new-stories/>

■ **Call for Applications for A Year in the Life of a Community Archive 2026** Would you like to be archive of the year featured on the Scottish Council on Archives website? It's an opportunity to highlight the work that you do, all your activities, the challenges you face and the opportunities you capture. Find out more and apply: <https://www.scottisharchives.org.uk/latest/call-for-applications-a-year-in-the-life-of-a-community-archive-2026/>

■ **Call for Contributions – Expressing Scotland: Holding the Intangible – Archives, Culture & Connection** Community Archives and Heritage Group Scotland are looking for groups to contribute to their upcoming annual event focusing on the theme of intangible culture. Talks, performances and workshops welcome! Find out more: <https://www.scottisharchives.org.uk/latest/call-for-contributions-expressing-scotland-holding-the-intangible-archives-culture-connection/>

■ And SCA has quite a few useful events coming up!

Turning Challenges into Opportunities for Stronger Records Management:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/turning-challenges-into-opportunities-for-stronger-records-management-tickets-1980620829217?aff=oddtcreator>

Navigating change: Embracing Records Management in Microsoft 365:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/becky-hall-navigating-change-embracing-records-management-in-microsoft-365-tickets-1978426486880?aff=oddtcreator>

Looking After the Archivist: Reducing Risks of Secondary Trauma:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/looking-after-the-archivist-reducing-risks-of-secondary-trauma-tickets-1980621724896?aff=oddtcreator>

SCA Advocacy Workshop - Metrics and Messaging: Promoting your Archive:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sca-advocacy-workshop-metrics-and-messaging-promoting-your-archive-tickets-1980881472809?aff=oddtcreator>

■ **Museums Galleries Scotland (MGS)** has been named as a Community Support Hub in the UNESCO-supported initiative of establishing a National Inventory of Living Heritage for the UK. The purpose of these support hubs is to serve as the first port-of-call for anyone interested in putting forward submissions to the National Inventory in Scotland. There is an [information session on the 17th of February](#), as well as [one-to-one support sessions](#) throughout February and March, for anyone who wishes to make a submission, or find out more information. [MGS named as hub for National Inventory of Living Heritage - Museums Galleries Scotland](#)

■ **The Last Letter and Legacy of Mary, Queen of Scots** As part of the **National Library of Scotland's** centenary celebrations, selected treasures are travelling to locations around Scotland, and the next stop for the **OUTWITH** programme is Perth. NLS is collaborating with Culture Perth and Kinross to shine a spotlight on Mary, Queen of Scots through two exhibitions and a programme of events. The last letter is on display at **Perth Museum**, a display on her legacy at **AK Bell Library**, Perth and various other events in February, March and April. [OUTWITH in Perth: The last letter and legacy of Mary, Queen of Scots | National Library of Scotland](#)



- The **OUTWITH** team are also at the AK Bell Library on 7 March. There will be free taster talks, Bookbug and family story sessions, as well as a range of drop-in games and activities for all ages. Meet NLS staff, ask questions, and find out how to make the most of your National Library. See the full timetable here: [OUTWITH: National Library Live in Perth | National Library of Scotland](#)
- **Love Letters** An exhibition is taking place at The National Archives at Kew until 12 April and will be accompanied by several online events on the same theme. [Love Letters - The National Archives](#)

## WHAT'S ON

- Links to the Scottish Local History Forum's events page will contain further details provided by the organisers. For events where information has not been provided by the organisers a link has been found by the editor when possible. Information about upcoming archaeological events and talks can also be found at: [Events and Digs - Dig It!](#)
- A powerful new exhibition exploring the stark contrast between life in harbour and out on the open sea is now on show at the **Scottish Maritime Museum (Denny Tank) in Dumbarton** until 26 June 2026. [HARBOUR & HORIZON- New exhibition shows the contrasting realities of safe harbours and dangerous seas - Scottish Maritime Museum](#)



Valentines Series 15 The Docks Dundee

- **The People's Dispensary** Talk to Scottish Genealogy Society by Dr Daisy Cunynghame, Heritage Manager & Librarian, of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh on their recently launched website on The People's Dispensary on Monday, 9 February 2026 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL and Online. [The People's Dispensary | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **The Building of the Hydro Dams in Northern Scotland** Talk by Jim Miller organised by Beaulieu History Group at 7.00pm on Tuesday, 10 February 2026 at Lovat Arms Hotel, Beaulieu. [Beaulieu History Group Dates for your diary:... - Strathglass Heritage | Facebook](#)
- **Gaelic in Dundee** Talk by Nicky MacCrimmon (Dundee City Council) to Abertay Historical Society on Wednesday, 11 February 2026 - 6:30pm to 7:30pm at Lecture Theatre 2, Dalhousie Building, University of Dundee, Old Hawkhill, Dundee, DD1 5EN. [Gaelic in Dundee | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **The History of Duntreath Castle and Estate** Talk by Eddie Edmonstone to Loch Ard Local History Group on Wednesday, 11 February 2026 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at Kinlochard Village Hall, Kinlochard, FK8 3TL. [The History of Duntreath Castle and Estate | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

- **The Diaries of Rev. Murdo MacDonald, Minister of Durness, 1726-1753** Online talk by Ellen Beard organised by Society of Highland & Island Historical Research at 7.30pm on Thursday, 12 February 2026. [33. The Diaries of Rev. Murdo MacDonald, Minister of Durness, 1726–1763 – Society of Highland & Island Historical Research](#)
- **The Railway Revolution** Talk by June Wiggins to Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society in person and streamed on Zoom on Thursday, 12 February 2026 - 7:15pm to 8:30pm at The University of the West of Scotland, University Avenue, Ayr KA7 4PQ and also online. [The Railway Revolution | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **“Sappho was right”: gravestones and afterlives** Society of Antiquaries of Scotland public lecture by Dr Keava McMillan on Thursday, 12 February 2026 at Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EL. [“Sappho Was Right”: Gravestones and Afterlives Tickets, Thu, Feb 12, 2026 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)
- **Dalnamain - its history and archaeology** Talk by Anne Coombs organised by Dornoch Heritage Society at 7.30pm on Thursday, 12 February at Royal Dornoch Golf Club.
- **The hidden history of fiddling in Dumfries and Galloway** Talk to Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society on Friday, 13 February 2026 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at The Bridge, Glasgow Road, Dumfries, Dumfries, DG2 9AW. [The hidden history of fiddling in Dumfries and Galloway | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **800 Years in an hour - a potted history of Dingwall** Talk by Jonathan McColl organised by Cromarty History Society at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 17 February 2026 at Victoria Hall, Cromarty. [Cromarty History Society | TALKS PROGRAMME](#)
- **Drones in Historic Settings** Talk by George Glaister organised by Inverness Field Club at 7.00pm on Wednesday, 18 February at Leonardo Hotel, Millburn Road, Inverness. [Inverness Field Club | Lecture meetings](#)
- **Vikings in the Hebrides** Online webinar and Q&A with Professor Niall Sharples organised by History Scotland, 6.30pm – 7.30pm on Thursday, 19 February 2026. [Vikings in the Hebrides Tickets, Thu, Feb 19, 2026 at 6:30 PM | Eventbrite](#)
- **Tales from the Highland Museum of Childhood** Talk by Morven Macdonald, curator Highland Museum of Childhood, Strathpeffer, organised by Clyne Heritage at 7.00pm on Thursday, 19 February 2026 at Old Clyne School, Brora.
- **Sugar, Slaves and High Society: The Grants of Kilgraston** Talk by Richard Blake to the Friends of Perth and Kinross Archive at 2.00pm on Thursday, 19 February 2026 at the A.K.Bell Library, 2-8 York Place, Perth PH2 8EP. [Sugar, Slaves and High Society: The Grants of Kilgraston | Perthshire Box Office](#)
- **John Vassall: victim, spy, traitor, prisoner** Online webinar by Mark Dunton as part of the **National Archives' What's Online** series at 2.00pm, Friday, 20 February 2026. [John Vassall: victim, spy, traitor, prisoner Tickets, Fri 20 Feb 2026 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)
- **'We wineed them and dined them, they ate o' oor meat'** Dr Eddie Stewart, Archaeology Scotland will explain the archaeology of the MacDonalds of Glencoe in the 17th and 18th centuries to Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society on Thursday, 26 February 2026 - 7:15pm to 8:30pm at The University of the West of Scotland, University Avenue, Ayr KA8 0SX also online. [We wineed them and dined them, they ate o' oor meat' | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **New Light on the Battle of Stirling Bridge** Talk by Dr Murray Cook at Cornton Library, 56 Johnston Avenue, Stirling FK9 5DJ on Thursday, 26 February 2026 – 11.30am to 1.00pm.
- **Dumfries Soup Kitchens** Talk to Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society on Friday, 27 February 2026 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at The Bridge, Glasgow Road, Dumfries, Dumfries, DG2 9AW. [Dumfries Soup Kitchens | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Hidden Love: LGBTQ+ relationships in the archives** Online webinar, part of the **National Archives' What's Online** series at 2.00pm, Friday, 27 February 2026. [Hidden Love: LGBTQ+ relationships in the archives Tickets, Fri 27 Feb 2026 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)
- **The Covenanters** Talk by Warwick Louth to Clydebank Local History Society on Monday, 2 March 2026 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at Dalmuir Barclay Church, Durban Avenue, Dalmuir, G81 4JH. [Talk: "The Covenanters" by Warwick Louth | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **The Early Burgh of Stirling** Talk by Professor Richard Oram to Loch Ard Local History Group on Wednesday, 4 March 2026 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at Kinlochard Village Hall, Kinlochard, FK8 3TL. [The Early Burgh of Stirling | Scottish Local History Forum](#)
- **Scotland's Museums and Galleries Strategy Symposium** organised by Museums Galleries Scotland will take place at The Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh & Online on Wednesday, 4 March 2026. [Scotland's Museums and Galleries Strategy Symposium 2026 \(in-person\) Tickets, Wed 4 Mar 2026 at 09:00](#)



[| Eventbrite](#) and [Scotland's Museums and Galleries Strategy Symposium 2026 \(Online\) Tickets, Wed 4 Mar 2026 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

■ **The History of Scots and English in 10 objects** Talk by Professor Jeremy Smith organised by the Royal Society of Edinburgh as part of its RSE Investigates series at 6.00pm – 7.30pm on Friday, 6 March 2026, in person at the Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22-26 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PQ and online. [The history of Scots and English in 10 objects | In-person Tickets, Fri 6 Mar 2026 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#) and [The history of Scots and English in 10 objects | Online Tickets, Fri 6 Mar 2026 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#)

■ **Wallis and Edward: the greatest love story of the 20th century** Online event by Anne Sebba, part of the National Archives' *What's Online* series at 2.00pm, Friday, 6 March 2026. [Wallis and Edward: the greatest love story of the 20th century Tickets, Fri 6 Mar 2026 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)

■ **Scots Emigrants to East New Jersey in the 1680s** Talk by Derrick Johnstone to Scottish Genealogy Society on Monday, 9 March 2026 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at 15 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2JL and Online. [Scots Emigrants to East New Jersey in the 1680s | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

■ **Rediscovering 'The Church by the water': Monastic Archaeology Field School excavations in 2024 and 2025** Talk by Derek Hall to Abertay Historical Society on Wednesday, 11 March 2026 - 6:30pm to 7:30pm at Lecture Theatre 2, Dalhousie Building, University of Dundee, Old Hawkhill, Dundee, DD1 5EN. [Rediscovering 'The Church by the water': Monastic Archaeology Field School excavations in 2024 and 2025 | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

■ **East Lothian at war: the human story** Talk by David Haire to Gullane and Dirleton History Society on Wednesday, 11 March 2026 - 7:30pm to 8:45pm at Gullane Village Hall, Hall Crescent, Gullane, EH31 2HA. ["East Lothian at war: the human story" | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

■ **Scotland in 100 buildings** Talk by Roger Emmerson to Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society on Thursday, 12 March 2026 - 7:15pm to 8:30pm at The University of the West of Scotland, University Avenue, Ayr KA8 0SX and also on line. [Scotland in 100 buildings | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

■ **At the far end of everything: A likely Late Upper Palaeolithic presence on the Isle of Skye** Society of Antiquaries of Scotland public lecture by Professor Karen Hardy on Thursday, 12 March 2026 at Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EL. [At the Far End of Everything: A Likely Ahrensburgian Presence on Skye Tickets, Thu, Mar 12, 2026 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

■ **Habitat management and wildlife at Castle Loch, Lochmaben** Talk to Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society on Friday, 13 March 2026 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at The Bridge, Glasgow Road, Dumfries, Dumfries, DG2 9AW. [Online](#) event

■ **Highland Heritage Day - Collaboration - Working with Others** Saturday, 14 March 2026 9.30-4pm at Dingwall Academy.

■ **85 years on: the Blitz remembered** This will comprise a video of interviews that were made with local people in later life, whose families had experienced the Clydebank Blitz. Perhaps there will be further members' stories and memories to add to the film. Hosted by Clydebank Local History Society on Monday, 16 March. 2026 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at Dalmuir Barclay Church, Durban Avenue, Dalmuir, G81 4JH. ["85 years on: the Blitz remembered" - | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

■ **The Romans in Scotland** Talk by Andrew Newton organised by Cromarty History Society at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 17 March 2026 at Victoria Hall, Cromarty. [Cromarty History Society | TALKS PROGRAMME](#)

■ **The Story of Operation Freshman** Talk by Bruce Tocher to Abertay Historical Society at 6.30pm on Tuesday, 17 March 2026 in Lecture Theatre 2, Dalhousie Building, University of Dundee, Old Hawkhill, Dundee, DD1 5EN. [The Story of Operation Freshman - talk by Bruce Tocher Tickets, Tue, 17 Mar 2026 at 18:30 | Eventbrite](#)

■ **Victoria's Secret - the Private Passion of a Queen** Online event in which Dr Fern Riddell looks into Queen Victoria's relationship with John Brown, part of the National Archives' *What's Online* series at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 18 March 2026. [Victoria's Secret - the Private Passion of a Queen Tickets, Wed 18 Mar 2026 at 19:30 | Eventbrite](#)

■ **From knocks to clocks: keeping Dumfries and Galloway on time through the years** Talk to Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society on Friday, 27 March 2026 - 7:30pm to 9:00pm at The Bridge, Glasgow Road, Dumfries, DG2 9AW. [From knocks to clocks: keeping Dumfries and Galloway on time through the years | Scottish Local History Forum](#)

■ **18<sup>th</sup> Century Herbalism in the Highlands - and Beyond** Talk by Claire Mackay organised by Cromarty History Society at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 21 April 2026 at Victoria Hall, Cromarty. [Cromarty History Society | TALKS PROGRAMME](#)

■ **The Historic Towns Trust St Andrews map** Online event run by the British Association for Local History in partnership with the Historic Towns Trust at 7.00pm - 8.00pm on Tuesday, 28 April 2026. [The Historic Towns Trust St Andrews map | Margaret Connolly | Forthcoming BALH Events | British Association For Local History](#)

## PUBLICATIONS

■ **A Beacon of Curiosity – Essays on Social and Industrial History in Honour of Enid Gauldie** edited by Catherine Rice. Abertay Historical Society, Dundee, December 2025, 159pp, 21 illustrations, ISBN9780900019678, £7.50. [A Beacon of Curiosity – Essays on Social and Industrial History in Honour of Enid Gauldie | Abertay Historical Society](#)

■ **Emotions in Scottish Protestant Public Worship, 1560-1638** by Nathan C.J. Hood. Edinburgh University Press, October 2025, 296pp, ISBN: Hardback: 9781399507394, Ebook (app): 9781399507424, Ebook (PDF): 9781399507417, all £95.00. [Emotions in Scottish Protestant Public Worship, 1560-1638](#)

**The Local Historian** £5.00. [The Local Historian Volume 55 Number 4 November 2025 | | Local History News | British Association For Local History](#)

■ **Local History News** £3.00. [Local History News Number 157 November 2025 | | Local History News | British Association For Local History](#)

## HISTORY NEWS

■ **Parliamentary Archives** In 2025, Parliament's Archive Collections were relocated to The National Archives at Kew. Parliament's Archive Collections and services (formerly the 'Parliamentary Archives') will become available at The National Archives in phases, starting in December 2025. For more details: [Accessing Parliament's Archive Collections - The National Archives](#)

■ **Dingwall** is celebrating the 800th anniversary of its royal charter in 2026. A number of special events are planned. Details will be posted on the Feis Rois website: [Dingwall 800 \(2026\) - Fèis Rois](#)



■ **Perth and Kinross Archives** and **Angus Archives** have recently received deposits from John Aitken, expert on the history of Perth Harbour and honorary archivist to the Montrose Port Authority for many years. John has since passed away and the background to his story recently appeared in the local press: [Maritime expert John gifts Montrose and Perth harbour history legacy](#)

■ **Truckell Prize** An annual prize of £500 is offered by the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society (DGNHAS) to the winning author of an original research paper on a human or natural history topic relating to Dumfriesshire and Galloway. Entries must reach the Society by 1 October each year. Full details of the terms and conditions of the prize can be found on the Society's website: <https://dgnhas.org.uk/truckell-prize>. Further information is available from:

Dr David Devereux: [devereuxdf@gmail.com](mailto:devereuxdf@gmail.com)

■ **Discovery of 12th century Coin** The earliest known coin to be minted in Scotland almost 900 years ago has been acquired for the nation after it was found by a metal detectorist. The medieval David I silver coin, discovered in a wooded area near Penicuik, Midlothian in 2023, has been dated to the second half of the 1130s. [Earliest coin minted in Scotland saved for the nation after 900 years - BBC News](#)

■ SLHF members who attended the 2016 conference *Safe as Houses: Scotland's defensive buildings through time* may remember a fascinating talk by Grant More about the work which was being done by volunteers to restore a Cold War bunker in Corstorphine Hill. Originally part of Second World War air defences it was then planned to be the central emergency hub for the Scottish Office, should UK government break down in the event of nuclear war. After decades of neglect and vandalism, a new owner in 2011 aimed to restore it as a visitor centre. Although restoration is still continues, '**Barnton Bunker**' is now available for visits - book at <https://www.barntonbunker.com/> and read about the history of the Bunker at <https://www.barntonbunker.com/barnton-bunker-history>.

■ **The Women's History Network** has issued a call for papers for its 34th Annual Conference: **Celebrating the Centenary of the Women's Library and 100 Years of Women's History (1926-2026)** on 3-4 September 2026 at the London School of Economics & Friends House (Euston Road), London. [WHN Annual Conference 2026 CfP – Women's History Network](#)

## WATCH AND LISTEN

- The **Society of Antiquaries of Scotland** recently launched its campaign to raise £1.5 million for a permanent home and heritage hub in Edinburgh at a Burns Night celebration hosted by Sally Magnusson: [An Evening of Burns & Ambition: Launching Our Fundraising Campaign - YouTube](#)
- A short video shows how publishers **D.C.Thomson** are dealing with the company's large collection of colour slides dating back to the 1980s. [Colour Slides at DC Thomson](#)
- Dr Lucy Dean's talk **Illuminating the Vale of Virtue: New Light on Perth's Lost Charterhouse** is available to view on the **Perthshire Society of Natural Science** YouTube channel: [Perth Charterhouse \(Rhoda Fothergill Memorial Lecture\)](#)
- Love letters might not be what you would expect to find in a government archive, yet **The National Archives** holds an extraordinary collection spanning over 500 years of devotion, longing, sacrifice and passion. If you are unable to visit the free exhibition at Kew then listen to this podcast: [On the Record: Love Letters - The National Archives](#)
- As referenced in recent editions of *Clish-Clash* we have been waiting for news as to the successor to Melvyn Bragg in the programme **In Our Time**. [Misha Glenny](#) became the presenter from the middle of January. He's a very experienced radio journalist so we are confident whilst being different it will retain its excellent reputation. It's well worth catching his recent interview in the Radio Times.
- **The History Podcast** offers a wide selection of material. It's mainly got an international flavour including the arrest of Pinochet, [Shadow War: China and the West](#) which looks at points of friction in recent times. A very powerful series called [D-Day: The Last Voices](#) and very many more including the Lucan Obsession and the Brighton Bomb. There are over 100 episodes to choose from.  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001z66c>
- [From Our Own Correspondent](#) has recently celebrated its 70th anniversary with a special programme in the Radio4 Archive slot. Anna Foster presented the programme with some of the BBC-known foreign correspondents. First broadcast on 25 September 1955 and has reported from almost every country in the world.
- [Apollo 1: Destination Moon](#) was screened on Channel 4 and is the story of three astronauts who were part of America's original quest to reach the moon in the 1960s. The events that occurred shook the world and left a lasting impact on all space flights ever since.
- [Upon a White Horse](#) Stretching from midwinter at Stonehenge to midsummer at the Sycamore Gap, journalist Peter Ross takes up the long human story as he visits the ancient places of the British Isles. From stones to shrines, through ritual and commemoration, what are we seeking when we connect with the past? This includes a visit to Unst where we witness the Up Helly Aa Festival.

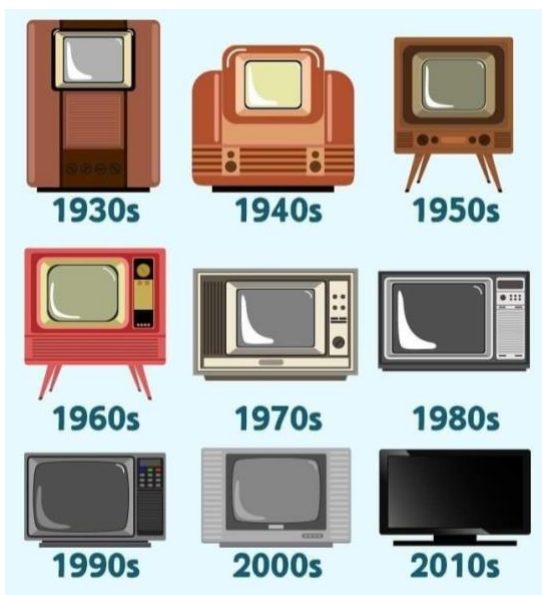
- **Witness History** on the BBC World Service continues to offer great material. One of the recent highlights was part of a toy themed show [The Creation of Jenga](#) which featured an interview with the game's British designer Leslie Scott. Also, an [episode](#) about when Laurel and Hardy spent Christmas at an English Pub is a joyful listen!



- In a similar vein a recent discovery is [Sporting Witness](#) which is an absolute treasure trove of archival material including the stories of Eric Lidell and Rose Reilly a former footballer who played as a striker from the early 1960s.
- A new series of [Lady Killers with Lucy Worsley](#) includes the story of the murder of a Glasgow servant Jessie McPherson and the debatable conviction of her good friend Jessie McLachlan. She was sentenced to life imprisonment and served 15 years behind bars.
- [Written in Scotland](#) was a radio series first broadcast in 2021 where over 4 episodes Kirsty Wark explored the relationship that some of Scotland's writers have with the country itself.
- [Lockerbie: Our Story](#) was a documentary in which families and relatives of six victims gave their very personal and painful perspectives.



- [Titanic Sinks Tonight](#) The Titanic's final 160 minutes above sea are relived in real time for this sombre but fascinating four-part series. Actors read from first-hand testimonies, letters, memoirs and telegrams to show the stories of survivors, while experts offer insight into what the voyage meant, especially for the second and third classes searching for a new life. It starts on the evening of 14 April, when ice warnings came through as the passengers partied or slept.
- **Radical with Amol Rajan** is always a good listen and the historian [Tom Holland](#) takes us on a journey to explore the history of radical ideas.
- [Culloden](#) is Peter Watkin's acclaimed docudrama from 1964 that reconstructs the 1746 Battle of Culloden. It was made as a mock TV war report. There's a follow up programme called The Making of **Culloden** introduced by Kirsty Wark—at the time of writing not available on iPlayer but hopefully that will change.
- [Digging for Britain, Series 13](#) A welcome return to our screens of **Digging for Britain**. The first episode of the new series includes a visit to Glencoe where relics from the 1692 massacre have been unearthed. A visit of a site at a Glasgow skatepark shows that recent history can be just as relevant and fascinating. A later episode includes a visit to a hill top fort in [Fife](#).
- **Britain's Favourite Railway Stations** is presented by Si King on Channel 4 and can be found on the channel's streaming system. Described by the Radio Times as being 'just the ticket'!
- [This Week in History](#) offers fascinating, surprising and eye-catching stories from the past including the 1903 announcement of a bike race called The Tour de France. Plenty fitted into a 5-minute chunk.



- [JLB : the Man Who Saw the Future](#) was recently broadcast on BBC Four 4 as it is almost 100 years since John Logie Baird demonstrated technology that would come to revolutionise leisure time across the planet. BBC Four aired two documentaries, the first featuring testimony from his son Malcolm with the JLB title and then a documentary from 1976 [The Birth of Television](#) in which Leslie Mitchell traces the origins of TV to the first outside broadcast in May 1937.

- [An American Journey](#) Presented by James Naughtie this Radio 4 series traverses the United States to examine how the inalienable rights of 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness' still bind the nation today. Rather interesting timing!
- [Archive on 4: Forged in Steel](#) offers a variety of voices up and down the country about the demise of a major industry. It includes a visit to Ravenscraig.
- Recently launched [STV Radio](#) so far doesn't feature anything history related but might be worth watching out for.
- [Flog It](#) is a very popular programme on the BBC. Not in the same league as Antiques Roadshow but they often visit some interesting places and find some intriguing items to sell. An easy 30-minute watch in these wintry afternoons.

## BLOGS AND ARTICLES

- The latest issue of **Dig It!** Has an excellent article about Edinburgh Castle. [Archaeology at Edinburgh Castle: Our Greatest and Least Understood Royal Fortress - Dig It!](#)
- **Scotland's People** has published information about its latest release of birth, marriage and death records. The article includes details of the marriage in September 1950 between Prince Georg of Denmark and Anne, Viscountess Anson. This took place on 16th September 1950 at Glamis Castle in Angus, Scotland. [Our Records: Marriage entries from 1950 released | Scotland's People](#)

■ Also available on **Scotland's People** are several articles relating to some prominent Scots and the information found among its records:

[Our Records: Arthur Smith, rugby player and investment analyst | Scotland's People](#)

[Our Records: Kay Carmichael \(1925 – 2009\) | Scotland's People](#)

[Scotland's first "Stolperstein": Jane Haining \(1897-1944\), Christian missionary | Scotland's People](#)



'**Stolperstein**', which in German means "'tumbling stone' or metaphorically 'stumbling block', is a small concrete block bearing a brass plaque embedded in pavements to commemorate the last place people freely resided before they fell victim to Nazi persecution.

### QUOTE OF THE MOMENT

'When you cannot enforce, do not command.' Sophocles.

**Clish-Clash** is edited by Steve Connelly, ably assisted by Linda Clark, James Kennedy and Andrew Jones.

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