

CLISH-CLASH



The e-newsletter of the Scottish Local History Forum

Scottish Charity SCO15850

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SLHF NEWS

The Annual Conference and AGM will be held on Friday 24 October 2014 in the AK Bell Library in Perth. The conference booking form, AGM agenda, subscription renewal letter and form were inserted with the latest issue of *Scottish Local History* which was mailed in August.

Online booking and payment is now available.

<https://www.slhf.org/event/slhf-2014-autumn-conference-and-agm-crime-and-punishment>

We need your help! The services you receive from SLHF are provided by a handful of volunteers, and we need more involvement by members, if we are to continue with the current activities, and improve them.

There are various ways you could help:

- 1) Serve as a Trustee. There are 4 vacancies. Approx 4-6 meetings a year in Edinburgh.
- 2) Join one of the Committees
Advisory Committee (2 meetings a year),
Publications Board.
- 3) Offer specific help, for example:
 - Publicise SLHF activities in your area.
 - Do other people in your local history society know about SLHF?
 - Enrol new members.
 - Write an article for SLH.
 - Contribute news from your area to the newsletter.
 - Review publications for SLH.
 - Send publications for review.
 - Help with our stall at a local & family history fair.
 - Help to organise an event in your area (conference, visit etc).
 - Provide content for the website.

We are working to expand the website to make it the central point for information about local history in Scotland, but we need information from you about your local area's heritage activities:

- Add your organisation to the website.
- Publicise your organisation's activities on the website.
- Provide a list of local history and heritage societies in your area
- Suggest ideas for SLHF activities.
- Suggest suitable venues for visits and conferences.

Do speak to us at the Conference.

SOCIETIES

Society Secretaries!

Do remember to enter your new programmes and other activities on the SLHF website:

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

■ **Portobello Heritage Trust** has been awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund Sharing Heritage grant to fund a community archaeology dig called *Dig Portobello*. The dig takes place over the weekend of Friday, 29th to Sunday, 31st August. For details of the dig and associated events please see:

<http://www.aocarchaeology.com/digportobello/>

There is an opening lecture *Exploring Portobello's Potteries* at 7.30pm on Friday, 29th August in The Wash House Community Centre, Adelphi Grove, which is the 'base camp' for the dig.

■ **Fife Family History Fair** is on Saturday 20 September 2014 at the Rothes Halls in Glenrothes and SLHF has a stall. Talks focus on World War 1 and 2 and military records.

A'Ghairm – the Call, Scotland 1914-1919

Researching Your Family's Military Past

Kirkcaldy and the First World War

Tracing Your First World War Family

Tracing POWs and Internees in the First and Second World Wars

<http://www.fifefamilyhistoryfair.org.uk/>

CONTACT DETAILS

Email <http://slhf.org/contact-slhf>

*'Clash-clash' means repeated gossip, so do email your local history news & information (Word attachment or link to your website) to **Contribute**.*

*Members only: To receive notification of the newsletter by email or to be removed from the mailing list, choose **Sign up for our newsletter** on the website contacts page.*

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▪ **Seeing our history** is a 12-month project to explore what it was like to be blind or partially sighted in Edwardian Edinburgh and Lothians. Sight loss charity **RNIB Scotland** has received £55,700 from the Heritage Lottery Fund, for the project, which aims to bring to life the stories of people with sight loss in Edinburgh and the Lothians, and will offer a unique but often grim glimpse of a time when the blind and partially sighted were consigned to the margins of society, almost wholly dependent on the good will of others.

The aim is to compile a 60-page booklet - in hard copy, braille and 'talking-book' formats - to accompany a series of six programmes to be broadcast on the charity's Insight Radio station.

The project will base its work on the 1903-10 register of 'the outdoor blind' (ie, those not resident in institutions) recently donated by RNIB Scotland to the Lothian Health Services Archive. Details include names, address, place of birth, age when sight was lost, cause of blindness; marital status; how employed; weekly earnings before losing sight and weekly income after, and date of death.

The 1,170 entries in the register will be supplemented by other materials such as census returns, poor relief records, and family papers and wills for the wealthy to enable the project to reconstruct some of the stories of blind and partially sighted people's lives across social class, gender, occupation, and locality.

<http://www.rnib.org.uk/scotland-scotland-news-and-media/what-was-it-be-blind-or-partially-sighted-edwardian-edinburgh-and>

▪ **Hugh Miller & the Cruise of the Betsey** Joyce Gilbert writes: *The Royal Scottish Geographical Society and Friends of Hugh Miller have chartered a beautiful old sailing boat **Leader**, to follow part of the journey taken by Hugh Miller on **The Betsey** in 1844. This is a modestly funded project, but has created quite a dynamic over the past year, because so many creative people and organisations have pledged their support. The journey will take place from 6th-12th September 2014, and has associated community events in Cromarty and on Eigg. We have also produced linked educational resources for primary and secondary pupils which will be piloted in September & October.*

There may still be a few places on Eigg from 7th - 11th September, based at the Glebe Barn <http://glebebarn.co.uk/>. This is being organised by Angus Miller of the Scottish Geodiversity Forum. The cost is around £250 which covers full board. We have applied for some support funding so it could be less than this. (A small amount of extra funding will allow a group of Higher dance pupils to travel to Eigg from Musselburgh, to perform a piece they have created about Hugh Miller, on the famous Singing Sands).

The programme on Eigg will be quite flexible with folks opting to join what's on offer or simply doing their own thing. I hope Team Betsey be able to join Team Eigg. For further information see the website <http://cruiseofthebetsey.wordpress.com/>

▪ **British Society of Sports History (BSSH)**

Scottish Network. The 2nd annual symposium of the group (open to all interested) will be held on Wednesday, 29 October 2014 in the Highland Archive Centre, Inverness 12.00-19.00, starting with a tour of the Highland Archive Centre collections. Talks include:

- *The National Shinty Archive.*

- *Playing by the Rules: Early-Modern Burgh Sports in the far North East of Scotland.*

- *'Gamsters at the Gowf': The category of 'golf' in a new Historical Thesaurus of Scotland.*

- *Scotland, Empire and rugby: The significance of the Waratahs tour of 1927.*

- *The Last Hurrah? Rangers and the Decline of British Unionism since the 1940s.*

- *'During the week of the Northern Meeting, the Race course at Duneacroch will be open for HACK, PONY and CART HORSE RACE, at which very considerable merriment is expected': a consideration of horse racing in the eastern Highlands, circa 1660 to 1915.*

- *Bealach na Bà: a Highland Challenge.*

- *'To retire was ignominious': class participation and masculine identity in Skye mountaineering, 1860-1901.*

- *Andrew Carnegie's 'Heaven on Earth': sport and leisure on the Skibo Estate, 1898-1919.*

- *Robert Gibson, long forgotten North Northumberland professional football player and sprinter.*

Cost £10 (plus £5 voluntary donation to Highland Archives).

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

LIBRARIES, MUSEUMS & ARCHIVES

▪ **East Lothian Archaeology & Local History Fortnight** runs from 30 August-15 September.

Events include talks, oral history, the opportunity to help with a dig, and various guided walks, including: *Trenches by Tranent* - archaeological remains from prehistoric to WW1; *Aberlady Heritage*; *Hailes Castle*; *Pinkiecleuch Battlefield*.

A number of exhibitions are also on display.

See the full programme at:

<http://www.johngraycentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/ELC-2014-Archaeology-and-History-Fortnight-EFLIER.pdf>

▪ **Angus Heritage Week** takes place from 5-12 September. It includes **Doors Open Day**, 6-7 September, and **Tayroots Family History Day** in Arbroath on 5 September.

[http://www.angusheritage.com/News-](http://www.angusheritage.com/News-Events/Events/Angus-Heritage-Week-2014.aspx)

[Events/Events/Angus-Heritage-Week-2014.aspx](http://www.angusheritage.com/News-Events/Events/Angus-Heritage-Week-2014.aspx)

▪ **The Great War Dundee** is one of a number of commemorative projects focusing on a specific area. In partnership with many heritage organisations in Dundee, together with the BBC's World War One at Home, and the Imperial War Museum First World War Centenary, there was a roadshow in Dundee City Square on 1-2 August and further events and

publications are in preparation. The project has Heritage Lottery funding.

<http://www.dundee.ac.uk/humanities/news/2013/article/official-launch-of-great-war-dundee.php>
<http://www.greatwardundee.com/>

■ **Dunfermline Carnegie Library** is closed for refurbishment until 2016 when it will reopen as part of the Museum and Art Gallery.

<http://www.fifedirect.org.uk/atoz/index.cfm?fuseaction=facility.display&facid=0C95F6FA-11D6-467F-BDE5ED42118689F4#holiday>

■ A reminder from the **National Library of Scotland** to please send Referendum publicity to the Library. There is more information on their website:

<http://www.nls.uk/collections/topics/referendum>

WEBSITES

■ **Scotland's People** has announced improvements and additions to their website:

1) A further 1861 Census enumeration book has been indexed and is now available to search. 15 pages for the Milton, Glasgow area have been made available.

2) Over 44,000 indexes for all census years have been updated. So if you believe a name may have been miss-recorded, then you can try searching the new refreshed index.

3) A new feature for viewing multi-page records (Wills & Testaments, Soldiers' Wills, and Coats of Arms) now allows you to download all pages as a PDF document. Larger documents, particularly the Wills & Testaments, which can be up to 40 pages, can be viewed, saved and printed as a single document. To download a multi-page document as a PDF, click the blue 'Download as PDF' button at the top right of the image viewer.

<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>

■ **Vintage Lundin Links**

Dora Roden, who has family connections with the area, has asked us to mention her monthly blog (starting in Oct 2013) which highlights the local history of Lundin Links, Upper and Lower Largo. She'd welcome contact from people with information to share.

<http://lundinlinks.weebly.com/>

PUBLICATIONS

■ **The kirkyards of Blairdaff, St John the Evangelist, St Ninians & the Chapel of Apollinaris**, compiled by Heather Mitchell & Doreen Florence. Aberdeen & North East Scotland Family History Society, 2014. £3.00 plus post & packing £1.17. (ISBN 978-1-905004-34-8)

Lists of the Society's own publications are at

<http://www.anesfhs.org.uk/publ.php>

As an experiment some of their memorial inscription publications have recently been issued as Kindle e-books. <http://www.anesfhs.org.uk/kindlemis.html>

List of other publications available from ANEFHS shop

<http://www.anesfhs.org.uk/downloads/publist.pdf>

■ **Glasgow YWCA** celebrates its 140th anniversary in 2014 and has produced a booklet for a heritage trail: **Y heritage trail central Glasgow: walk our route between former YWCA buildings and discover our history of supporting women in Glasgow.** 16pp.

They have also produced a video about their history and present activities. The first half is particularly relevant to Glasgow's local and social history. Their services have adapted to the needs of the different eras: providing hostels, cheap food and employment services to late Victorian women; wartime support and assistance to women and families in the two world wars; present day education and support for immigrants and new arrivals to the city.

Find the video at <http://vimeo.com/99240853>

■ **History Scotland**, 14(5), Sept/Oct 2014.

Articles with local history interest include: North Berwick witch trials in 1591; recent Treasure Trove finds in Scotland; archaeological reports from Selkirk and Leith fort; evidence for the consumption of horsemeat; restoration of Dundee Howff; a fatal avalanche at Gaick (Speyside-Atholl) in 1799, the great Polish map of Scotland, the Scottish Canals Archive. SLHF is featured on p58.

■ **Cairt: newsletter of the Scottish Maps Forum**, 25, (July 2014).

A website of images of WW1 trench maps has been launched. Many trenches were given names from home by the troops, so there could be a local history connection. A new service allows jpeg downloads of map images with online payment.

An exhibition on the 'Edinburgh Jews' is on display in the Map Library until 5 September.

<http://www.nls.uk/media/1127225/cairt25.pdf>

Recently collected leaflets (these may not be new publications but were available - free - in the Mitchell Library in August):

■ **Family history at the Mitchell.** 4pp.

<http://www.glasgowfamilyhistory.org.uk/Pages/Home.aspx?gclid=CKCDor-KtbwCFSn4wgodH3YAbA>

■ **Scottish Jewish Archives Centre.** 4pp. 129 Hill Street, Garnethill, Glasgow G3 6UB. Housed in Scotland's oldest synagogue (1879) there is an exhibition 'A new life in Scotland' with a timeline of Jewish history and life in Scotland, artistic works, displays on immigration. <http://www.sjac.org.uk/>

■ **'It wisnae us' Glasgow's built heritage, tobacco, the slave trade and abolition: trail guide.**

A walking tour, with map, of Glasgow city centre's buildings associated with the slave trade.

WHAT'S ON

see www.slhf.org/events