

# CLISH-CLASH



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

Scottish Charity SCO15850

ISSUE 3

MARCH 2014

ISSN XXXX-XXXX



LEITH HARBOUR ABOUT 1700. (From an Old Print in the Trinity House, Leith.)

## SLHF NEWS

### • SLHF Website

The new website has already attracted some new members and additional sales for the journal *Scottish Local History*.

As the website develops and is used by more people, we are refining some of the contact information. We now have the facility for people to submit news items, projects, and requests for help with their projects online, rather than via the enquiry form. This makes it easier for us!

So to contribute news please use:

<http://www.slhf.org/node/add/article>

To add a project, use:

<http://www.slhf.org/node/add/project>

The enquiry form can still be used for getting in touch with us on anything else.

Exhibitions should also be added as events.

<http://www.slhf.org/node/add/event-member-societies>

Do let us know about all the displays and activities libraries, archives, museums and heritage bodies are organising this summer. And all local history organisations can raise their profile by completing the form at <http://www.slhf.org/node/add/member-society>

### • Trinity House visit

SLHF have organised a visit to Trinity House of Leith on Friday 2 May 2014. As well as a visit to this remarkable building and a chance to see the collections, Eric Graham will give a talk on *The legendary Leith smacks*, and to put the visit in context there will be also be a local history walk around old Leith.

The Booking Form is attached to this newsletter.



## CONTACT DETAILS

'Clish-clash' means repeated gossip, so do email your local history news & information (Word attachment or link to your website) to <http://www.slhf.org/node/add/article>

General enquiries: <http://slhf.org/contact-slhf>

The newsletter is available on our website for anyone to see, but if you are a member we shall also send it by email. **For 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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ISSNXXXX-XXXXW

## CAN YOU HELP?

### • Help to collect history

The National Library of Scotland (NLS) is '**Collecting the Referendum**' and needs your help to collect local items. If you have, or know about anything produced in your area, please get in touch. These could be leaflets, posters, newsletters or flyers, and nothing is too small to be of interest. They can be in print or digital format, and information about local blogs, websites, or Facebook pages will be especially useful.

We can only collect and archive what we find out about, so your information now can make a real difference to how good our collection will be. After the Referendum much of this unique material could be thrown out or deleted, making it too late to save. If you can help, please contact Jennifer Giles (0131-623-4661 or email [j.giles@nls.uk](mailto:j.giles@nls.uk)).

Thank you for your help.

### Jennifer Giles

Curator (Scottish Communities and Organisations)  
National Library of Scotland, 159 Causewayside,  
Edinburgh EH9 1PH

### • Help with information on hutting sites.

Lesley Riddoch is researching a PhD – supervised jointly by Strathclyde and Oslo universities – which compares the hut traditions of Norway and Scotland and aims to explain why hutting communities in Scotland have struggled to survive. She is keen to hear from anyone with information about the origins and demise of Scotland's major sites and of major caravan sites like Seton Sands which were once hut sites. If you know about hutting sites in your area, or lived or spent holidays in these sites, please contact [lesleyriddoch@gmail.com](mailto:lesleyriddoch@gmail.com)

The next issue of Scottish Local History will have more information about this research.

• **MESH** (Mapping Edinburgh Social History) held a meeting for representatives of local history societies around Edinburgh on 26 February, to introduce their 3-year project and seek help on finding out more information about the city, perhaps from previous research or new research by local historians. They are keen to hear from anyone who has information and data which might contribute to the project. For more information about topics which might be of interest see

<http://www.mesh.ed.ac.uk/joomla/index.php/objectives>  
or contact [mesh@ed.ac.uk](mailto:mesh@ed.ac.uk).

## LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

• **Local History Week** runs from 1-8 March 2014. Each year libraries in Scotland focus on a common theme in local history and build events around it. This year there was an embarrassment of riches of possible themes, with the anniversary of World War 1 and the Homecoming and Commonwealth Games. For example East Dunbartonshire has a varied range

of activities – see their website for an excellent brochure detailing exhibitions, talks, and other events. <http://www.edlc.co.uk/pdf/Local%20History%20Week%202014-lo%20res.pdf>

• Sybil Cavanagh of West Lothian Libraries writes: *The Local History Library has been decanted to Linlithgow Branch Library at The Vennel, High Street, Linlithgow, EH49 7EX. The decant is expected to last till about summer 2014 while alterations are carried out on County Buildings. Some of our stock has gone into store, so it would be advisable to contact us before your visit, so that we can look out the items you want to consult and have them ready for you. West Lothian Libraries Archives and Museums are cooperating to run a history fair in May and there will also be an event on 2<sup>nd</sup> August on the First World War.*

Tel. 01506 282491.

[localhistory@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:localhistory@westlothian.gov.uk)

[http://www.linlithgow.com/local\\_history.htm](http://www.linlithgow.com/local_history.htm)

• NLS Map Library has offered workshops on **Maps for family and local history** and **Introduction to maps at NLS** for some time and is now introducing new quarterly workshops on using the **NLS map images website and modern digital map resources**. The first is on 18 March. Find out more at <http://www.nls.uk/events/readers-workshops>

## EXHIBITIONS

• **Cupar Heritage Centre** will stage two special displays this year: the impact of the **First World War** and the **125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bell Baxter School**.

Guthrie Hutton writes:

*Space in the Heritage Centre is tight, so to accommodate these displays, the semi-permanent **Story of Cupar** exhibit will be reduced, a difficult task compounded by the addition of two prison cell doors. Donated by Fife Council, the doors came from the recently demolished former Police Station. They are big and heavy, but are a good way to illustrate the importance of law to Cupar.*

*Other artefacts that will have to be shown are a time capsule and contents. Buried in 1897, the capsule was unearthed late last year, when the town's Mercat Cross was moved to make way for road improvements. These and other additions mean that the Heritage Centre, which is situated in an old staff cottage at Cupar Station, is starting to overflow. The station staff and First ScotRail have been very helpful in identifying storage space and it is hoped to get access to this shortly.*

*Although not yet fixed, this year's opening times are likely to be similar to last year when the centre opened in mid April, Wednesdays 2.00pm – 4.30pm, Saturdays 10.00am – 1.00pm and Sundays 2.00 – 4.30pm. Details will be confirmed on the website: [www.cuparheritage.org](http://www.cuparheritage.org)*

• **The Family at War**. To commemorate the anniversary of World War I, **Blair Castle** will present

a display from their collections of the contribution made by the 7<sup>th</sup> Duke and his family to the war effort. 1 April-31 October.

<http://www.atholl-estates.co.uk/WWIcentenaryyear.cfm>

- **Hunterian Museum, Glasgow.** Exhibition 14 March-15 June: **Scottish Gold.**

## WEBSITES

- **Explore geo-referenced maps viewer.** NLS have added a new side-by-side viewer for geo-referenced maps (digitised historical maps which have been linked to Ordnance Survey grid references). This enables easier comparison of those historical maps which have been geo-referenced.

<http://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/sidebyside.cfm>

The programme of georeferencing historical maps is on-going and volunteers are welcome.

<http://maps.nls.uk/projects/georeferencer/>

- The **Scottish Screen Archive** have added a new DVD shop to their website, which offers a selection of material in pre-curated DVDs. **Going to the pictures: Scotland at the cinema** is a recent addition. <https://auth.nls.uk/shop/ssa/> There are several titles in their series **Scotland in the Past: remember when...**

**Entertainment**

**Glasgow's landmarks**

**The journey of life**

**Bo'ness children's fair**

**St Kilda tapes**

**The Home Front in Scotland: World War 2.**

SSA have also improved the ways you can search and browse in their online catalogue.

<http://ssa.nls.uk/search.cfm>

- **Mapping history.** The National Library of Scotland has collaborated with Archaeology Scotland to produce a website for schools about map interpretation. Aimed at upper primary and lower secondary this includes a video, urban and rural case studies, activity sheets, game and information for teachers. <http://digital.nls.uk/mapping-history/>

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

- **Painting the Town: Scottish urban history in art,** by E. Patricia Dennison et al. Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, 2013. 512pp. Hbk. £25. (ISBN 978-1990833204-2)

400 pictures, maps etc, of 80 Scottish towns, with commentary on the towns and artists.

- **Insanitary City: Henry Littlejohn and the condition of Edinburgh,** by Paul Laxton and Richard Rodger. Carnegie Publishing, 2013. xiv, 464pp. Hbk. £25. (ISBN 978-1-85936-220-4)

Includes research on public health, the role of medical police, and urban management, with a facsimile of Littlejohn's 1865 *Report on the sanitary condition of the City of Edinburgh...*

- **Fishermen randies and fraudsters: Crime in 19th century Aberdeen and the North East,** by Malcolm Archibald. Black and White, 256pp. £9.99 (ISBN 1845027442). Date of publication: 12 March 2014. Some other books on 19<sup>th</sup> century crime by the author are:

- **Whisky Wars, Riots and Murder: Crime in the 19th Century Highlands and Islands.**

- **A Sink of Atrocity: Crime in 19th-Century Dundee.**

- **Glasgow: The Real Mean City: True Crime and Punishment in the Second City of Empire.**

The author will be speaking at the SLHF autumn conference on 19<sup>th</sup> century crime in Scotland.

- **Blood stain'd Fields: the battles of East Lothian,** by Arran Paul Johnston. Prestoungrange & Cuthill Press, 2013. xv, 208pp. Pbk. £15. (ISBN 978-0957563605).
- **The ships of Scapa Flow,** by Campbell McCutcheon. Amberley Publishing, 2013. Pbk. 96pp. 138 illus. £14.99. (ISBN 978-1-4456-3386-2).

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- **Edinburgh Airport through time,** by Peter C. Brown. Amberley Publishing, 2013. Pbk. 96pp. 180 illus. £14.99. (ISBN 978-1-4456-1537-0).

- **Islay: ships, smoke and spirit; barley, boats and barrels,** by Guthrie Hutton. Stenlake Publishing, 2013. 48pp. Pbk. £9. (ISBN 978-184033637-5).

- **Scottish Archives: the journal of the Scottish Records Association,** 18 (2012) was recently circulated. Articles aim to highlight research on Scottish history using archives. In this issue these include:

- *Family, finance and free will: marriage contracts in Scotland, c.1380-1500.*

- *Work journals as historical evidence: the Burrell journals, 1763-1820.*

- *The gardens and designed landscape of Mount Stuart, c.1716-1900.*

- *Enhancing the designed landscape of Cally: the role of archives in assisting conservation projects.*

- *Data mining the archives: the emergence of separate Books of Account in the Church of Scotland 1608-1800.*

- *A guide to the procedure of the Admiralty Court.*

- *Sexual snapshots: departmental committees and their value to the historian of sexuality.*

- **Cairt: the newsletter of the Scottish Maps Forum,** 24 (Jan 2014), appears for the first time in colour and includes news of new map websites and other map developments, plus short articles on Scottish sea charts by William Atkinson of Whitehaven and Waghenaer.

<http://www.nls.uk/media/1111572/cairt24.pdf>

## WHAT'S ON (March-May 2014)

Find information provided by member societies about many more talks and events on the SLHF website.

'Upcoming Events' lists them in date order. <http://slhf.org/events>.

The 'Calendar' gives a daily, weekly, monthly or annual indication of events. <http://slhf.org/calendar-node-field-date>.

Both link to details of the society and a location map.

The inclusion of societies' programmes in the What's On section of the newsletter is an interim arrangement as the SLHF website now enables societies and organisations to add their own events to the calendar. Many thanks to those who have already done so. These include:

**Dollar History Society**

**Drymen & District Local History Society**

**Elie & Earlsferry History Society**

**Fala, Soutra & District Heritage and History Society**

**Kinross-shire Historical Society**

**Kirkcudbright History Society**

**Milngavie & Bearsden Historical Society**

**The Tweeddale Society**

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### 1-8 March 2014 LOCAL HISTORY WEEK

#### EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE

**The Commonwealth and Beyond 1-29 Mar.** Online exhibition of images of documents and photographs of local people's links with the Commonwealth and elsewhere.

**Kirkintilloch Auld Kirk Museum - For King & Country: Stories from the Great War.**

Exhibition 15 Feb-24 Apr.

**Homecoming – the stories of emigrants from East Dunbartonshire.** Display in William Partick Library, Kirkintilloch, 1-29 Mar.

And many other events...

<http://www.edlc.co.uk/pdf/Local%20History%20Week%202014-lo%20res.pdf>

### 26 Apr 2014 SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES (SAHFS)

25<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference **A Matter of Life and Death** Carnegie Conference Centre, Dunfermline.

<http://www.sahfs.org.uk/images/2014/programme.pdf>

## LOCAL SOCIETIES

### ABERTAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY [www.abertay.org.uk](http://www.abertay.org.uk) [museum@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:museum@dundee.ac.uk)

Usually meets 18.30, Lecture Theatre 2, Dalhousie Building, University of Dundee

**Wed 12 Mar - 14.15,** D'Arcy Thompson Lecture Theatre, Tower Building, University of Dundee

Richard Oram: **The gift of God: an environmental history of Dundee from the 12<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> centuries.**

**Wed 12 Mar - 18.30,** Lecture Theatre 2, Dalhousie Building, University of Dundee

Sally Foster: **Celtic sculpture courts in Dundee, Glasgow and Aberdeen 1901-1911.**

**Wed 9 Apr - 18.30**

David Dobson: **Scottish emigration to colonial America 1707-1785.**

**Wed 14 May - 18.00 AGM**

Iain Flett: **Dundee Greyfriars – from orchard to Appian Way.**

### CROMARTY HISTORY SOCIETY <http://www.spanglefish.com/cromartyhistorysociety/>

Cromarty Church Hall - 19.30. Members free, non-members £3.

**Thurs 20 Mar**

Eric Grant: **Dr Kenneth Murchison and Sir Roderick Murchison of Tarradale : Making and losing a Highland estate.**

**Thurs 17 April - AGM**

Paul Monk: **Sutherland Murray: the Yukon gold rush to Cromarty.**

### FRIENDS OF GOVAN OLD <http://freespace.virgin.net/govanold.pc/friends.htm>

Govan Old Church, 866 Govan Road G51 GUU. Free, all welcome.

**Sat 8 Mar- 12.30** Annual service; tea & refreshments. 13.30. AGM; 14.00 Annual lecture

Prof Donald Meek: **Govan and the Gaels: Gaelic perspective on life and work in an industrial community.**

#### KIRKINTILLOCH & DISTRICT SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES

19.30, Riverside Church, Lammermoor Road, Kirkintilloch

**Tues 4 Mar** - David Forsyth: *Common cause: Commonwealth Scots in the era of the Great War.*

**Fri 14 Mar** - David McVey: *The life & times of Sir Walter Scott.*

#### OLD EDINBURGH CLUB [www.ouldedinburghclub.org.uk](http://www.ouldedinburghclub.org.uk)

19.00, Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EL. Members free, non-members £5.00.

**Wed 19 March**

Dr Tawny Paul: *Debts, debtors and the debtors' prison 1730-70.*

#### OLD GLASGOW CLUB [www.oldglasgowclub.org.uk](http://www.oldglasgowclub.org.uk)

19.00 for 19.30, Adelaide's, 209 Bath Street, Glasgow. Visitors £3.00.

**Thurs 13 Mar**

Kenny Forbes: *Memories of the Glasgow Apollo.*

**Thurs 10 Apr**

Peter Mortimer: *The Parkhead story.*

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### ADVANCE NOTICE

#### 1-31 May Local History Month

Scotland has a long-standing Local History Week, organised for many years in March or April by Libraries throughout Scotland, but a few years ago Local History Month came on the scene for the rest of the UK and is now under the auspices of the Historical Association.

[http://www.history.org.uk/resources/general\\_resource\\_1567\\_55.html](http://www.history.org.uk/resources/general_resource_1567_55.html)

**23 August 2014** - Motherwell Concert Hall & Theatre - 10.00-16.30

**Lanarkshire Local and Family History Show (Homecoming Scotland 2014)**

<http://lfhsshow2014.weebly.com/>

**24 October 2014. SCOTTISH LOCAL HISTORY FORUM.** AGM and Conference - AK Bell Library, Perth.

*On the Wrong Side of the Law: crime and punishment in Scotland.*

# Scottish Local History Forum

Scottish charity SCO15850

## Visit to TRINITY HOUSE OF LEITH and the SHORE Friday 2 May 2014

*Tucked behind a tired shopping centre at the foot of Leith Walk is a small architectural gem – Trinity House of Leith. Although the origins of the Incorporation of Masters and Mariners date back to 1380, the present building was built in 1816 and came under the care of Historic Scotland in 2001.*



Upstairs the grand Convening Room offers a spectacular plaster ceiling and a fascinating collection of artefacts, navigation instruments, paintings and maritime memorabilia donated by Trinity House members over the centuries.

As well as the opportunity to tour the building, there will also be a talk on the Leith smacks and an informal local history walk around old Leith. If you do not wish to walk, you may join the visit for the afternoon only.

Places are limited so do book early.



### TRINITY HOUSE OF LEITH & the SHORE

**Booking form** (to arrive before 24 April)

Please reserve places for

..... members @ £5 = £.....

..... non-members @ £10 = £.....

I enclose a **cheque** for £..... payable to Scottish Local History Forum  
**and stamped addressed envelope or email address** (for confirmation).

Send to: **SLHF Administrator, Box 103,  
12 South Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1DD.**

I do not wish to join the walk around Leith

## PROGRAMME

### MORNING

**10.30** As Trinity House does not have catering facilities, and has limited toilets, we shall meet for coffee and refreshments at a restaurant nearby – not included in price.

**Walking tour** for just over an hour, around old Leith, now an attractive and vibrant area, which has undergone considerable renovation over the last few years.

**Lunch break** for about an hour at the Shore beside the Water of Leith. There are many different eating places offering varied lunches from snacks to restaurant meals. Lunch is not included in the price.

### AFTERNOON

**Tour of Trinity House and collections**, led by Historic Scotland staff.

Talk by Eric Graham: ***The Legendary Leith Smacks, c.1800-1860.***

We aim to finish about **15.30 -16.00.**

This timetable is approximate – timings will depend on the number of participants. Final arrangements (including map and information about parking and buses) will be circulated with your confirmation.

However it may be useful to know, when planning your journey to Edinburgh by public transport, that buses take about 15 minutes from east end of Princes Street - near Waverley Station (22) or York Place - near Bus Station (16) and both have 6 services per hour.

For further information contact Events at  
**[www.slhf.org/contact-slhf](http://www.slhf.org/contact-slhf)**

NAME(S).....

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ORGANISATION.....

ADDRESS.....

.....Postcode.....

EMAIL .....

TEL.....