

Helensburgh Heritage Trust

Newsletter

Number 58

October 2013

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Contributions and suggestions are urgently required and welcome

Argyll and Bute Museums and Heritage Forum

We are to host the Annual General Meeting of the Forum on Tuesday 29th October at 11 a.m. in the Heritage Centre. Recent AGM'S have been at Kilmartin, Dunollie and Dunoon, and it seemed right that people from the older establishments should see the latest addition to the scene in this area. Our Members are welcome to come and hear, in the morning, Lori Anderson – Relationships and Partnerships Manager of Museums Galleries Scotland who will speak on the new role of MGS, Carron Tobin of the Argyll&Isles Tourism Cooperative and Lorna Elliot of Leader and in the afternoon a representative from BTS the consultancy undertaking A&B Council's Culture, Heritage and Arts initiative.

We hope to serve coffee and cake at 10.30, soup and sandwiches (from the Buffet Shop) at 1pm as the Library closes its doors to the public, and tea and cakes to finish at 3.30. I do hope I can count on our members to volunteer to help with hosting this prestigious event. A call to my wife and I at 675997 would be much appreciated!

Kenneth N Crawford

Members' Notice

NOTICE is Hereby Given that the Annual General Meeting of the Helensburgh Heritage Trust will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday 30th October in the clubhouse of the Lawn Tennis Club, Suffolk Street. The Agenda Accounts and Report probably accompany this Newsletter but an explanation is needed. All clubs are looking to reduce outgoings, and a favoured way is to issue members notices, accounts etc. by e-mail or on the web-site, rather than sending printed hard copy by post. Your Directors have been advised that a substitution of a clause in the Articles of Association of the company will, with your approval, permit this in future. Any member not connected will, of course, still be entitled to receive documents by post, just ask!

We are hoping that the resolution will be passed and that administrative costs will be reduced.

There is no proposal (yet) to cease printing this Newsletter! Although it also becomes available on the trust web-site.

Heritage Centre News

The excellent display of Mauchline Ware showing Helensburgh views has recently been completely renewed. Several rare items have been kindly loaned to the Trust by East Ayrshire Council, within whose area all Mauchline Ware was originally manufactured.

On his return to Canada Professor Baird wrote to say that he had visited Helensburgh Library to see the Trust's exhibits, – he commented that these are doing an excellent job in putting the work of the Trust before local residents and visitors.

On a brief visit to Helensburgh, principally to open the refurbishments at Lomond School 'Clarendon,' our President hosted a lunch for the Directors of the Trust. On the left, Marion Gillies, Nigel Allen, Chairman Stewart Noble and Jenny Sanders. On the right Kenneth Crawford, Alastair McIntyre, Professor Malcolm Baird and Cecelia Dunlop. Donald Fullarton was on holiday and Mrs Judy Noble was also present. The Commodore Hotel was the venue.



The Great Tapestry of Scotland

"Television arrives 1950s STV, Border TV, Grampian, BBC"

With a Television Box on legs showing the 1953 Coronation of Her Majesty {possibly the first TV programme received in Helensburgh} and the Inventor credited below; then surrounded by the popular characters of the time. White Heather Club, One O'Clock Gang, Muffin the Mule, Flower Pot Men, Andy Pandy and the Interlude.



"Parliament of the Ancestors"

A glorious jumble of the famous names who have contributed to Scottish life. In the centre of the left hand group may be found Charles Rennie Mackintosh with his moustache and John Logie Baird with a T V set. Another panel, celebrating Scottish Comedy, gives our late President Jimmie Logan a mention. Unfortunately, Henry Bell, 'Comet', and the amazing West Highland Railway may not have been recorded for posterity on this occasion!



The Great Tapestry of Scotland has been created since Alexander McCall Smith first had the idea in 2010! Writing the history of 420 million years of Scottish History and outline designs for one-metre square panels came next; and then 1,000 embroidery stitchers in groups all over Scotland completed the prodigious work just in time for its display in September. The Strathendrick Embroiderers' Guild had the honour of creating the final panel 'Ceaseless Sea.' The exhibition comprised 165 panels, 149 metres long, was open in the Foyer of the Scottish Parliament for three weeks, and 30,000 residents converged upon Edinburgh to see it. The queues reached into The Royal Mile. The intention, when further funds become available, is to exhibit it in its entirety, or in sections, throughout Scotland. The Tapestry will return to the Parliament building for display in August and September 2014.

KNC

P.S. October 30 - after the AGM David Norman. Loch Goil – Noises Off.

November 27 - Mark Nixon. The 1884 Reform Act - Agitation in Helensburgh and Dunbartonshire