



• DORNOCH • HERITAGE • SOCIETY

DH SCIO AGM

DORNOCH HERITAGE & HISTORYLINKS MUSEUM

THURSDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 7.30 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS (CARNEGIE BUILDING)

As a member this is your opportunity to see and hear about the many activities that we have been involved in the last 12 months and our plans for the future.

One agenda item will be a Board recommendation to increase the subscription, which has remained unchanged for many years.

Please do come along and show support to your hard working committees.



Our Film and Festive Fun night gets better and better so don't miss this year.



Our Burns Celebration DHS style was great fun with a tremendous range of entertainment and a waiting list for tickets. Heritage members get priority booking for events like this as well as the free lecture series and free museum admission.





HISTORYLINKS MUSEUM

The 2015 season started with a very successful Open Day in May. 120 people came along to look at the Museum and see this seasons temporary display on the history of the Dornoch Heritage Society. We were delighted to see Jessie and Dorrie Bell and members of Struan Robertson's family.

We also launched this years Community Project which is exploring the shops that were in Dornoch in the 1940s. More of this later.

Here the grand daughter and great grand daughter of John Kennedy have just discovered his photograph on display in the Crofting section of the Museum.



Also in May children from DIGIT, a group supporting senior pupils with learning needs, transformed our Children's Room into an Edwardian shop. They worked very hard re-creating lots of items to 'sell' and had great fun dressing up in costumes from the time.

Right is Meg Simpson with our Sutherland Volunteers uniform.



As usual we have enjoyed a number of visits from local groups including Clashmore SWRI—see right

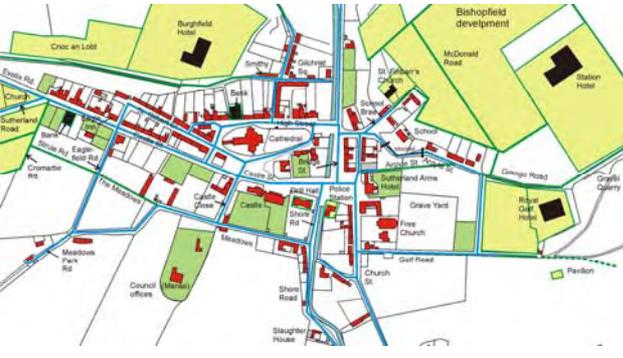
This year we have also been able to arrange a regular visit to Oversteps Care Home, every 3 weeks, where a number of old photographs from our collection gives residents the chance to chat about the past and jog their memories.



We have now put on display the desiccated cat found under the floorboards during the renovations at the Free Church in 2013.

To mark the occasion we had a competition to name the cat. There were nearly 70 entries and the winner was local lady Helen MacDonald with the name CATACH chosen by our judges, Joan Bishop, Fiona Macdonald and Graeme Muckart. Helen received a £10 book token sponsored by Archaeology North.





As mentioned before the Community Project this year is looking at the shops in Dornoch around the 1940s and it has proved to be hugely successful. So far we have had a wonderful response with many locals attending the sessions at our Open Day, Coffee Morning and for Festival Week—which saw nearly 50 people drop in for a chat, reminisce and to bring some of their own photos, thanks to which we now have a photo of Dornoch Dairy.

More sessions are planned and we will display our findings next year.



Next year we have much to look forward to. We secured funding for the purchase of two new display cabinets and so will be exhibiting the exciting new archaeological finds from Ospisdale and our collection of coins. We will also be working with the Royal Dornoch Golf Club to help celebrate their 400th anniversary with a new display.

Finally after many years of fantastic support here in the Museum we have had to say good-bye to three wonderful volunteers. Many thanks go to Christine Murray (involved in the Heritage Society since its inception in 1981); Helen Fairgrieve and Ursula Dawson—they will be much missed.

We have been delighted to welcome 5 new members to our Front of House team, our wonderful Seasonal Receptionist, Lynne Mahoney, and volunteers Fiona Macdonald, Alison Munro, Marian Barnes and Anthea Bannatyne who join Marion Madge, Jean Birkett and Elsa Cunningham. If you would like to help out in any way at the Museum please contact Sue or a Committee member.



KEEP IN TOUCH WITH WHAT THE MUSEUM IS DOING BY FOLLOWING US ON FACEBOOK AND READING OUR BLOG. NEW ACQUISITIONS AND MOST OF THE COLLECTION CAN BE SEEN VIA THE IMAGE LIBRARY ON OUR WEBSITE.

EVENTS 2015 – 16

October 15TH 'The Mound Causeway and Sluices' - Bruce Field
'It has often been said and acknowledged that Thomas Telford's development over a decade of the Highland road network was his greatest achievement, greater even than his better known works in England and Wales. Built in the early 1800's, you will hear about the planning and construction of this project as well as the maintenance work carried out in the early 1880's under his direct supervision as Maintenance Engineer for Sutherland.'

November 19th 'The Embo Fishing Fleet' - Anne Coombs
'It is amazing how quickly myths and legends can grow up around events. Follow the trail of the Embo fishing fleet through archaeology and history and hopefully unravel the truth'

December 17th Films, Mince pies and festive fun
New unseen films from Historylinks, mysteries, a chance for the audience to reminisce. Seasonal refreshments. Social Club 7.30pm

January 21st Burns Celebration DHS style
Our traditional entertainment with a full meal. Social Club 7.30pm

February 18th TBA

March 17th 'Skibo and the Great War'- Victoria Connor
'The First World War impacted all aspects of life in Britain: across the country the routine of daily life altered beyond recognition and life on the Skibo estate was no exception. While the Carnegie family returned to America following the outbreak of war, life on the estate continued. Indeed, like many of the Highland estates, Skibo played a significant role in the British war effort. Overseen by Factor James Hardie the estate increased food and timber production, all the while struggling with a dramatically reduced labour force as many of the men who lived and worked on the estate enlisted in the armed forces.'

April 21st 'Campaign for Women's Suffrage in the Highlands'
Susan Kruse of the WEA will report on a community project investigating the campaign for women's suffrage in the Highlands, and in particular what happened in Sutherland.

April 30th Coffee Morning 10.30 am West Church Hall

Unless stated otherwise all meetings are held in the Council Chambers (Carnegie Buildings) at 7.30pm and are open to all.