



# • DORNOCH • HERITAGE • SOCIETY

**AUGUST 2012**



## DHS STYLE BURNS AGAIN!

Judging from the comments made on 19 January, we're getting better and better at this. All places were taken. The food was enjoyed to the last morsel. There were libations galore. The craic was intense but cheerful. And the music was more varied and professional than ever before.



The Haggis was borne in by our chef Raymond Bremner, with Gillian Sutherland on the pipes, and addressed by Graham Park. The Immortal Memory was given by David Maclean. And The Mouse and others were rightly celebrated by Hugh Steele and Helen Fairgrieve.

And we're going to do it all again, even better, on 24 January. Something for your diary!



## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS THURSDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 7.30 PM COUNCIL CHAMBERS (CARNEGIE BUILDING)**

The first AGM of the Dornoch Heritage SCIO will elect the Board to supervise the work of the two sub-committees (Dornoch Heritage Society and Historylinks Museum) who will be holding their AGMs prior to the SCIO AGM. All seats on the sub-committees are subject to annual election.

### **E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

Being able to contact as many members as possible by e-mail allows the Society to be more efficient and to lessen its costs. So that the membership list can be updated, please mail [femmacdonald@btinternet.com](mailto:femmacdonald@btinternet.com) if you have an e-mail address you wish DHS to use.



### **MEMBERSHIP**

**Time to pay your membership subscription for the year 2012-13.**

**If you wish to vote at the AGM or be eligible for office you must pay by 15<sup>th</sup> September**

If our records show that you have already paid cash or by cheque or that you have a standing order, we have enclosed your membership card(s) for 2012-13 with this newsletter. You do not have to do anything more for the moment. You are registered as a member of Dornoch Heritage SCIO and eligible to vote at the AGM on September 27. You can also enjoy the free benefits of being a member.

If there is no membership card enclosed, our records show that you need to pay your subscription to remain a registered member. There is also a sub renewal form enclosed. Please renew your membership as soon as is convenient. In order to guarantee that you are a current registered member and therefore eligible to vote at the AGM on September 27, we must have your subscription not later than September 15.

## COFFEE MORNING

We held a very successful Spring Coffee Morning and had a stall at the Sutherland County Show. The money we raised will be used mainly to bolster a contingency fund against the grant-funding of Historylinks being cut so far that the operation of Historylinks is no longer sustainable on grants and visitor income alone. The money has also been used to support other Historylinks projects. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

## BYE BYE, RICK & JOYCE

It is with great regret we said goodbye to Joyce and Rick Bramley who have moved to near Peterborough. Over the last few years Rick has served as Vice-Chair, membership Sec. and has organised the Coffee Mornings after Cliff Reddin. We wish the Bramleys good luck in their new endeavour and hope they will return to see us often.



Latest news can always be found on our website: [www.historylinks.org.uk](http://www.historylinks.org.uk).

### OPENING TIMES

The museum is currently open 10am to 4pm daily until 29 September, then Mondays to Fridays until 26 October. Thereafter in November and March on Wednesdays and Thursdays. In December to February, by appointment. It is best to check before visiting (01862 811275).

### NEW DVDs

Two DVDs are coming out at the end of August.

The first is based on a talk given by Rick Bramley '*Dornoch Parish Schools - a History*'. It also includes '*Archive photos of Dornoch Primary School*'.

### NEW ACQUISITIONS



Thanks to Annabel Murray for donating this wonderful picture of Dornoch pupils. The teacher is Miss Macallan and the date around 1910. They appear to be standing outside St Finbarr charity shop with library in background. Could it be that they were attending school there as that was one of the overspill buildings used before new academy built in 1913?

The 2012 seasonal exhibition 'Schools out' continues until the autumn.

### STOP PRESS

From March to May 2013 we are hosting an exhibition '100 years of Healthcare in the Highlands and Islands' to mark the centenary in 2012 of the Dewar Commission and the publication of the visionary Dewar Report which revolutionised the delivery of medical services in the Highlands and Islands.



*Achinell Gaelic School*

The second is a play '*The History & Stories of Embo*'. It was put on by Dornoch Primary 5 as part of the Historylinks outreach project 2012



**Combined AGMs 27 SEPTEMBER 7.30 PM**

# **CAN YOU HELP BE A VOLUNTEER AT HISTORYLINKS?**

The Dornoch Heritage Society (DHS) was founded in 1983, to preserve the artefacts and memories of the town and to provide a social focus for members. The museum seeks to tell the story of Dornoch and the surrounding area.

The museum relies heavily on the enthusiasm and commitment of its volunteer staff, and recognises the immeasurable value of their contribution to the existence of the organisation.

## ***Reception and Shop Attendant***

This is the principal post for which the museum recruits volunteers. This post represents the first point of contact with our customers and as such is crucial to the organisation. The job is basically about greeting and welcoming customers, recording admissions and selling shop goods. You do NOT need to be a historian as you will not be left on your own unless you are happy to do so.

## **Can you help?**

### ***Gardening and General Maintenance***

If you feel you could mow the lawn once a month, clean the trail signs or paint a window **do get in touch.**

### ***Project work***

Education, outreach, oral history and other museum activity projects can be very rewarding.

### **Why not get involved?**

### ***Collection Cataloguing***

Volunteers for this work should be computer literate and have an eye to detail. In addition to basic induction training, it is commonplace for volunteers in this post to work alongside members of the existing collection cataloguing team.

### ***Photography and document scanning***

All objects acquired for the museum collection are photographed or scanned and the cataloguing team is greatly assisted by volunteers.

### ***Marketing***

Raising the profile and marketing is vital to keep visitor numbers up. We need volunteers to drop off leaflets at the start of the season and with hotels and visitor attractions to top up on a regular basis every few weeks.

### ***Fund Raising***

A key roll of the Heritage Society that underpins many of the museums operations.

**AND FINALLY- YOUR MUSEUM IS A GREAT ASSET TO THE TOWN AND GIVES A LOT OF PEOPLE A LOT OF PLEASURE. IT IS A PROVEN SUCCESS THAT HAS ACHIEVED THE HIGHEST STANDARDS.**

**IF YOU CAN HELP IN ANY SMALL WAY PLEASE SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF STAFF.**

**We need you!!**



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## EVENTS 2012-13

|                              |                 |   |   |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---|---|
| September 20                 | Thu<br>7.30 pm  | Talk: <i>John Mackay</i><br>'Sutherland Estate Lodges'  | Council Chambers<br>(Carnegie Building) |
| September 27                 | Thu<br>7.30 pm  | AGM - Dornoch Heritage SCIO<br>including AGMs of both sub-committees:<br>Dornoch Heritage Society and Historylinks<br>Museum  | Council Chambers<br>(Carnegie Building) |
| September 29 –<br>October 14 |                 | Programme not yet published.<br>Contact Historylinks for details  |   |
| October 18                   | Thu<br>7 30 pm  | Book Launch: <i>Graham Park</i><br>'Evelix River'   | Council Chambers<br>(Carnegie Building) |
| November 10                  | Sat<br>10.30 am | Coffee Morning  | West Church Hall                        |
| November 15                  | Thu<br>7.30 pm  | Talk: <i>Pete Higgins</i><br>'Dornoch Archaeology'  | Council Chambers<br>(Carnegie Building) |
| December 13                  | Thu<br>7.00 pm  | End of year Heritage Bash:<br>New unseen films from Historylinks,<br>mysteries, a chance for the audience to<br>reminisce and seasonal refreshments.<br>Public meeting. | West Church Hall                        |

## 2013

|             |                 |  |   |
|-------------|-----------------|--|---|
| January 24  | Thu<br>7.30 pm  | Burns Celebration DHS style<br>Our traditional entertainment with a full meal. | Social Club                             |
| February 21 | Thu<br>7.30 pm  | Talk: <i>Kathrin Zickerman UHI</i><br>'Trade contacts with Germany'            | Council Chambers<br>(Carnegie Building) |
| March 21    | Thu<br>7.30 pm  | Talk: <i>Susan Kruse</i><br>'Viking Hoards and Economies'                      | Council Chambers<br>(Carnegie Building) |
| April 18    | Thu<br>7.30 pm  | Talk: <i>Mike Hook</i><br>'Dornoch Academy 100 Years'                          | Council Chambers<br>(Carnegie Building) |
| May 11      | Sat<br>10.30 am | Coffee Morning   | West Church Hall                        |
| Summer      |                 | A members' excursion<br>Details to be decided later                            |   |

With reservation for possible changes

Please supply your email address for updates

or keep an eye on the Northern Times and flyers in Dornoch.