



CLACKMANNANSHIRE FIELD STUDIES SOCIETY

The CFSS was formed in October 1970 after attempting to revive the Alloa Society of Natural Science and Archaeology established in 1863. The society's aims are "to promote interest in the environment and heritage of the local area" and it has some 130 members.

In winter there are fortnightly lectures or members nights, from September to April, beginning with a coffee morning and concluding with our AGM. In summer, from April to September, there are four Saturday outings, a weekend event and Wednesday Evening Walks fortnightly from April to August.

CFSS has run and participated in various events on David Allan and at Alloa Tower, is associated with the Forth Naturalist and Historian in publishing, and with the annual Man and the Landscape symposium, which is reported on in the Spring Newsletter.

Research projects have included- Linn Mill, Mining, and Alloa Harbour; these have been published as booklets *Linn Mill, Mines and Minerals of the Ochils*, and *Alloa Port, Ships and Shipbuilding*. A recent project is *Old Alloa Kirkyard, Archaeological Survey 1996 – 2000* further work is in progress. Other publications include *David Allan, The Ochil Hills – landscape, wildlife, heritage walks*; *Alloa Tower and the Erskines of Mar*; and the twice yearly Newsletter – April 2005 will be no. 73, and there are 5 yearly contents/indices.

Three local walks have been published – "Memento Mori" - a guide to Alloa Old Kirkyard, "Alloa West Walk" – 19th C development, Alloa East Walk – from Alloa Tower includes part of former Mar & Kellie Estate and Alloa Harbour.

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in, or desire to support the aims of the society in this field of Local Studies.

The society has a study / council room in Marshall House, Alloa. This has a small collection of books, maps etc. which members are encouraged to use for reference or study.

Contacts:- CFSS Chair Mrs. EK Roy, R Snaddon, E. Stewart
(tel: (01259) 213954, 214840, 216878 respectively).

ISSN 0262-2211
Scottish Charity SCO 08738

Clackmannanshire
Field Studies
Society

Newsletter

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Vol. 33
Part II
April 2005

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EDITORIAL

The Spring Equinox having already passed, we can now look forward to the Summer Walks and Outings. What about the weather? – that is in the “Lap of the Gods”!! I hope you will be able to attend as many of the events as possible. Members of Council do put in a great deal of preparation to make these successful and your support is appreciated

First on the Agenda is the Field Trip to Portpatrick on the Rhinns of Galloway – 13th/16th May. This event is very popular and as soon as announced it becomes fully booked.

Again this year a Bus Trip has been arranged the venue being The Scottish Parliament and the Cannongate, taking place on Saturday the 28th May. There are a few places available – a full bus means the costs can be kept down.

Unfortunately in spite of booking early, we are again unable to obtain the Tommy Downs Room for the Members Night in December as well as the first meeting in January. As last winter, these two meetings will be held in the Alloa West Bowling Club, Ludgate, Alloa. The Bowling Club has excellent facilities and we were not unduly inconvenienced by having to switch accommodation.

The Speirs Centre, Primrose Street, is also unavailable for the Coffee Morning on Saturday, 10th September 05. This event will now be held in the Moncreiff Church Hall, Drysdale Street, Alloa – 10am - 12 noon. This venue is only a short distance from the Speirs Centre, park in Co-op car park as usual, at the end of Primrose Street, turn right -- the Moncreiff Church is reached, after a few yards, on the right. I hope this new venue will prove favourable. The Coffee Morning is our only fund raising venture, and, I thank members in advance for their continued support. The money raised helps to keep the subs down.

BETTY ROY

CFSS SUMMER PROGRAMME 2005

Meet at Alloa Health Centre car park – Wednesday 7 pm, Saturday 9.30 am
(except where otherwise stated**)

Wednesdays

- May 18 Overton Church & Peffermill Dam (Bill Wolsey, Kincardine Soc. EKR)
Contact: 01259 213954
- June 1 Sherrifmuir battlefield and Stevens' garden (bring midge repellent)(MS)
Contact 01786 832248 (pm)
- 22 Loss Dam from Red Yetts (EKR) Contact 01259 213954
- July 6 Doune Castle & environs (EKR, MS) Contact: 01259 213953
- 20 Dunfermline Guided tour (George Robertson) (ES)
Contact 01259 216878
- Aug 3 TBA provisionally Meadowhill opencast restored (SM)
Contact 01259 216913
- ** 17 Preston Island (Fife Ranger Service) (ES) Contact 01259 216878
*** **meet 6.30 pm Alloa Health Centre**
7pm at Preston Island for minibus

Saturdays

- May 28 Scottish Parliament & Environs £1.60 concessions, 45 min tour.
Cannongate Kirk and Museums (EKR) Contact: 01259 213954
- June 25 Sir John de Graham of Dundaff / Carron Reservoir (ES)
Contact 01259 216878
- July 30 Dunning / Perth gardens (J&SA) Contact 01259 215873
- Aug 27 Vane Farm / Kinross House gardens / Castle Island Loch Leven (BS)
Contact 01259 214840
- Sept 10 Coffee Morning, Moncreiff Church, Drysdale St. Alloa 10am-12noon

Weekend Field Trip:

Portpatrick – 13th to 16th May 2005

PROGRAMME – STIRLING FIELD & ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

Weekend Outings Meet at the Smith Museum, Dumbarton Road at 9.30 am (* = 9 am). Bring packed lunch, weatherproof gear and stout footwear.

Saturday, 21st May. Inchcolm & Blackness Castle. A sail to Inchcolm Abbey & visit of the ruins. Return to Blackness Castle followed by site visit. Leader Henry Robb (01786 473618)

Saturday, 18th June. Perthshire Perambulations. An archaeological outing visiting the excavations at the Ben Lawers Historic Landscape Project, remains at Milton of Lawers & Camserney long house. Stout footwear & suitable warm/waterproof clothing is advisable. Leader: Pat Wilson (01877 330151)

Sunday, 3rd July. *9 am Forrie in the Corrie. A field trip to Corrie Fee in Glendoll to observe the flora and fauna of Caenlochan NNR. Stout footwear must be worn & waterproof clothing is essential. Leader: Pat Wilson (01877 330151)

Saturday 17th September. Dalgarnen Mill & Dean Castle. *Joint Meeting with Hamilton Society.* Leader Rita Barth (01786 850271)

Evening Outings -- Meet at the Smith Museum at 6.30 pm (*=6pm).

Tuesday 19th April. Mugdock Country Park & Castle. A country walk to view the grounds of the Mugdock Country Park & the exterior of the partly ruined castle. Fine views of the Campsies & pleasant countryside. Leader: Henry Robb (01786 473618).

Tuesday 10th May. Forts & Funerals, Callander. A field walk from Callander to Kilmahog visiting Little Leny Graveyard & Bochastle Roman Fort. Stout footwear and suitable warm/waterproof clothing is advisable. Leader: Pat Wilson (01877 330151).

Tuesday 14th June. Kinneil House & Village. Visit to see where James Watt developed the steam engine. Leader: Paul Sorowka (01786 464578).

Tuesday 12th July. Rumbling Bridge & Caldron Linn. A walk overlooking the gorge of the river Devon. Leader: Ken McKay (01786 461539).

Tuesday 13th September. Stirling Archives. An opportunity to see the new building housing Stirling Archives. Leader Michael Green (01786 472152).

DOLLAR CIVIC TRUST- WALKS PROGRAMME 2005

As usual, all walks will take place on Sunday afternoons, leaving from the Burnside Car Park at 1:30.

3rd April: 'TillieTrek'

A gentle walk on tracks and quiet backroads to Tillicoultry and back.

FAMILY FRIENDLY(Approx 5miles) Andrew Black / Bill Bedborough

1st May:- 'Forestmill Fling'

A circular walk on good, level track and minor roads around Forestmill

FAMILY FRIENDLY / MODERATE (Approx 5 miles) Andrew Smith

5th June:- 'Around Glensherrup'

From Glensherrup Car Park, a beautiful walk with spectacular panoramic views, over rough paths to Ben Shee, Tarmangie Hill Cairnmorris Hill, Whitewisp and Innerdownie, before returning to CP

STRENUOUS (Approx 10miles) Mick Rice

3rd July:- 'Arndean Amble'

A walk round the Arndean estate, takikng in the old quarry.

MODERATE (approx 5 miles) Arthur Colman

7th AUG:- 'Lomonds Loup'

A walk in the Lomond Hills on good tracks, with some ascent to the marvellous panoramic views from the summits

MODERATE (Approx 6 miles) Paul Boyce

14th Aug- 'Town Trail'

In collaboration with the Museum, this guided walk will encompass various points of interest round the town, starting and finishing at the Museum. It is hoped three long-standing local residents will be on hand around the walk to add personal reminiscences.

FAMILY FRIENDLY

4TH Sept •- 'High Hills Hike'

From CP in Ochils Woodland Park, using track through Silver Glen, the walk rises to Ben Ever, then to Ben Cleuch. A gentle stroll to the top of The Law is followed by a steep descent into Tillicoultry Glen, thence to CP.

STRENUOUS (Approx 5.5 miles) Alison Sangster

6th Oct :- 'Devon Daunder'

A steady walk along the Fisherman's Path From Rack Mill Bridge to Vicar's Bridge. Rough in places but well worth the effort!

MODERATE (Approx 4 miles) John Farn

Further information about any walk can be obtained from 01259 742491

FNH is an informal charitable organisation set up in in 1975 for environment and heritage promotion. Its hon secretary Lindsay Corbett is an active CFSS member (sometime chair / sec).

The 30th annual 'Man and the landscape' symposium on 13th November 2004 attended by some 130, was themed 'Landscapes of the Mines' - the rise and fall of coal mining and its impact on the landscapes of central Scotland', run with the collaboration of the Scottish Industrial Heritage Society (SIRS), and with the usual help given by some CFSS members . The widely announced programme of six authoritative presentations-geological . historical, environmental -were by Mike Brown of the Geological.Survey, G. Hutton writer, I Crompton SIDS, M Oglethorpe RCAHMS, and Dalgleish Associates's Karen and Elaine. We also had a useful panel discussion -deep mining is not perhaps dead !!, displays- including RSPB's 'centenary', and mining paintings by artist Morag Knight. We had the usual bookstall but very unfortunately the non-delivery of our FNH annual Journal volume. 27, 2004, severely restricted its 'launch'. Hutton's paper will be published -we hope others!!

Publication of the Journal in 2004 was quite a struggle. We are so greatly indebted to our FNH authors, who have so favoured us over the last 30 years. We do hope that some of the prospective and intended papers for 2005 volume 28 are going to make it by the summer.

FNH journal vol 27 has been distributed since Dec and its 134p of content papers and book notes is made known fairly widely-price £8. The Bridge of Allan paper by George Dixon in this vol 27 has been produced in our pamphlets series with the title ' A Handsome Little Town - the founding decade of modern Bridge of Allan 1836 - 1845' and priced £1.50.

FNH is in process of reorganising itself, as I at over 80 seek 'retiral', and we concentrate on two main activities (a) running the annual 'Man and the Landscape' symposium, and (b) publishing the annual journal *Forth Naturalist & Historian*, both of which have been going since 1975.

As of this year FNH funds can cover these activities, but sponsorship is now essential for their continuation.

Recent books of interest include –

Raploch Lives Stirling Libraries. 72pp. ISBN 1 870 542 53 3. free.
Senior citizens interviewed by primary schools P6 /7 pupils

The Battle of Sheriffmuir. Bill Inglis. Stirling Libraries. 60pp. ISBN 1 870 542 50 9. £3.95.
Contemporary accounts of the battle-two within the evening by commanders of the Earl of Mar, and by the Duke of Argyle within 48 hours.

Christian Maclagan, - Stirling's formidable lady antiquary. Sheila Elation. Pinkfoot Press, Balgavies, Angus. 115pp ISBN 1 874012 43 1 £7.99.
This important 19th century archaeologist, feminist, artist and philanthropist, of the mansion 'Ravenscroft', and still active in her 90s at her death in 1901, has been rather neglected, perhaps because of an abrasive and assertive personality. Well read and widely travelled, she had seen and measured (cynics say with her umbrella) all the monuments she described. Thanks to much by the author and some Stirling people, we have here much more than the formal DNB information about this neglected but fascinating Stirling character.

REPORTS FROM WINTER TALKS.

MONDAY 11TH OCTOBER – THE BATTLE OF INVERKEITHING

Clackmannanshire Field Studies Society held the first of its 2004 / 05 Winter Programme, which took place on October 11th , with a good attendance of members.

The Society welcomed Mr George Robertson of Dunfermline Historical Group our guest speaker for the evening. The talk was on the Battle of Inverkeithing, July 21st 1651, and the Cause and Effect. The talk started with James VI & I, then through the reign of Charles I. 1625 to 1649, and Charles execution, by the English Parliamentarians. Then the Battle of Dunbar, September 3rd , 1650, and its aftermath. Where Charles II and the Scots Royalists retired to Stirling where they entrenched at Torwood, west of Larbert, and checked Cromwell's advance north. Cromwell subsequently boarded ship and sailed over the Forth from Blackness Castle to St Margaret's Hope Bay, under Lt General Lambert where they entrenched on Ferry Hill. The Scots under the command of Lt General Holburne, which swiftly marched from Stirling Castle, thus the Battle of Inverkeithing, the Scots were defeated. There were two battles fought that day, the other took place at Pittrevie Castle with McLeans of Duart also Buchanan's Foot the latter was mainly raised from Clackmannanshire, against Cromwell. The McLean's and Buchanan's Foot lost nearly every man. Then Charles II and the Scots under General Leslie marched south from Stirling where another battle was fought on September 3rd 1651. The Battle of Worcester, where Charles II and the Scots were defeated again. Britain then came under the Protectorate of Cromwell until 1659. And subsequently Charles was restored to the crown May 20th 1660.

The talk was illustrated and supported with a great number of slides. The end of the evening a good number of questions and answers were exchanged. The evening ended with a vote of thanks, with members responding.

EDDIE STEWART.

MONDAY 25TH OCTOBER – RECENT DISCOVERIES ON THE ANTONINE WALL

Geoff Bailey of Falkirk Local History Society and Archaeologist at Callendar House Museum gave an excellent talk on recent excavations on the Antonine Wall on Monday, 25th October 2004.

The Antonine Wall from Carriden in the East to Old Kirkpatrick in the West is 70 Km long, of which one third is in the Falkirk district. Excavations in the Falkirk area have produced a wealth of finds, amounting to three quarters of the finds found along its length.

Recently the Antonine Wall has been granted World Heritage Status, meaning no development can take place. In these days of intensive housing development, it is important this historic site be protected.

With the use of slides the speaker illustrated how excavations of hitherto undisturbed sites had been carried out. Information on earlier habitation in the area has been unearthed, from the Shell Middens of the Mesolithic Hunter Gatherers, Bronze Age artefacts and a Cup marked stone, as well as evidence relating to the indigenous early Iron age people who were displaced to make way for the wall. The Bridgeness Tablet depicts a Roman horseman slaying the native population, at the bottom of the tablet a headless corpse is illustrated.

Excavations have shown the work carried out by the Romans to ensure the wall would not suffer from rot due to water seepage. Slides showed excellently constructed stone culverts built to divert watercourses underneath the wall. In the grounds of a private house, a Roman fort cesspit was uncovered; its construction suggested that the Romans had concern over pollution of the natural streams and rivers. Solid waste was diverted into a separate tank whereby liquids would not unduly contaminate the local water supply.

This was a full and fascinating talk by an accomplished speaker. The next meeting is on the 8th November in the Tommy Downs Room, Alloa Town Hall at 7.30pm. The Stirling Camera Club will present their members' slides. Visitors are welcome.

BETTY ROY

MONDAY 8TH NOVEMBER – STIRLING CAMERA CLUB PRESENTATION

A full house of CFSS members and their guests enjoyed a thoroughly delightful evening entertained by fascinating photographic displays by members of the Stirling and District Camera Club led by Maurice Dobson. The photographs were presented in a most delightful manner accompanied by music to complement the theme. The presentation ranged from Bannockburn to Turkey and many other areas where Camera Club members ventured. A colourful display to show how the U.S.A. approached conservation was presented by Club member David Leslie on the restored colonial town of Williamsburg. The town was all decked out with inhabitants in period costume and horse drawn transport. David also indicated how he saw New York, which contrasted from the quiet and simple life in colonial Williamsburg. Shona Smith produced a colourful insight of Turkey, which was matched with Reta Macrae's vision of Rome and its environment.

It was evident from the presentation why the Camera Club has been invited on many occasions to entertain the CFSS with their interpretation of countryside both at home and abroad. But not only views were on display – a light-hearted theme presented by Maurice and Ellen Dobson was entitled 'A sign of the Times'. This showed adverts from the past and signs, which did not exactly mean what was indicated, and must have taken years to be put together. Each member of the Camera Club has their own view on how photographs should be presented and the CFSS members are looking forward to the next visit by the Stirling and District Camera Club.

FRASER MACINTOSH

MONDAY 10TH JANUARY 2005 – SECRET LIVES OF OUR NATIVE ORCHIDS

The first meeting of 2005 was held in the Alloa Bowling Club, Ludgate, on the 10th January.

We were treated to an in depth talk by Dr Roy Sexton on “The Secret Lives of our Native Orchids”. With help of slides he showed us a variety of orchids from the very rare to the quite common. “The Golden Slipper”, supposedly the only one in Scotland, grown in a garden at Sheffimuir, and “The Common Spotted”, can be seen in great numbers on a road side bank between Bridge of Allan and Dunblane. Orchids, we were told, are a highly developed plant with various methods of pollination. Mostly pollinated by insects such as wasps, bees, flies, butterflies and moths, there is a more unusual one, which is pollinated by a beetle and also a self- pollinating orchid. The different colours of the orchid, which are very vibrant, attract certain insects. Maroon attracts wasps, white and pink – moths, yellow, pink, red and purple – bees, green and brown – flies. “The Twae Blade”, gets its name from the two leaf formation, and the name is used through the British Isles. “Greater and Lesser Butterfly Orchids” are pollinated by butterflies and moths.

During the 19th century, Charles Darwin, of *The Origin of The Species* fame, was one of the first scientists to research the orchid. His findings are still to the fore today.

We were very thankful to Dr Sexton for coming along to give this informative talk on a very interesting subject.

JACK ARCHIBALD

MONDAY 14TH MARCH – THE STEWARDSHIP OF FALKLAND ESTATE: PAST PRESENT AND FUTURE

Speaker – Ninian Crichton – Stuart.

The estate is managed by the Falkland Heritage Trust and the theme of the talk was how the ‘stewardship’ – meaning holding something in trust for another – can be applied to the benefit of the present and future generations. In particular what parts from the past should be restored, how the present should be cherished and mindfully managed, and what should be considered as a legacy for those who follow.

The first slide was a 17th Century painting of Falkland palace (one of the earliest Scottish landscapes) by Dutch painter Alexander Keirincx (1600-1652).

This was followed by an excellent set of slides illustrating the three elements, which have shaped Falkland’s history and present: stone, wood and water. The Maspie burn runs through the estate, crossed with bridges of stone and wood, all restored using local materials and craftsman. Most of the bridges are associated with a waterfall so that each has its own ‘sound’. After the rebuilding of the 18th Century stone ‘Quarry Bridge’ (using the same type of materials and tools as were used 200 years ago) a ‘pontification’ ceremony was held involving some 50 people. ‘Lime Avenue’ a line of 100+ year old lime trees posed a problem for the Trust in that they were liable to shed branches. At a public meeting it was decided to ‘pollard’ rather than replace them and this looks to have been a success. Another problem is what to do with neglected buildings such as the ‘Temple of Decision’. This was built in 1849 but is now a ruin: should it be rebuilt? Falkland House is in urgent need of repair, initially to make the roof watertight, but much more expensive maintenance is required.

The estate’s source of wealth in the 19th Century, for example, Tyndall Bruce’s interests in the East India Company and the Marquess of Bute ‘s ownership of coal mines and docks in the Cardiff area – of course no longer exists and the upkeep and maintenance of the estate now relies on charitable trusts and donations, assisted by Historic Scotland.

ERIC HOWMAN.

STEWARDS

To supplement Eric's account of Ninian Crichton Stuart's talk on the Stewardship of Falkland, I append some further information on those who have developed, looked after and preserved this estate throughout the ages.

From earliest times Falkland provided a place for people to settle, evidenced by the remains of an Iron Age fort on the summit of East Lomond. Throughout this area of Fife, Pictish symbols have been found.

The MacDuff, Earls of Fife, ruled from this strategic site in the 14th century. Foundations of their castle can be traced in the grounds of Falkland Palace. The Royal connection commenced when James 1 "acquired" the estate from the Earl of Fife in the 15th century. From then the royal visitor list is impressive, all the visiting royalty hunted in Falkland's Forest. Within the grounds of the House of Falkland, there still exist "trench" features thought to be a rare example of medieval hunting. These can be viewed when following walks from Falkland Palace through the 19th century landscape of the estate.

Dominating the grounds is the 1839 - 44 House of Falkland (architect William Burn) now a school and not open to the public. The exterior is interesting, in English Jacobean style with some Scottish features, look for the mullioned parapeted main block, square pepper pot angle turrets and the twist – shafted chimneys. Those who visited the house two years ago marvelled at the impressive plaster and inlaid woodwork within the building.

The Falkland Estate was bought in 1820 by Professor John Bruce, whose niece, Margaret Bruce, managed the estate for 43 years. This lady was the wife of Onesiphorus Tyndal-Bruce – the builders of the original house. A statue to Onesiphorus stands within the grounds of the church.

Next on the scene was John Patrick Crichton Stuart, 3rd Marquess of Bute, he was responsible for much of the late Victorian interior of the house.

The wealth, vision and patronage of the Bruces and the Crichton Stuarts left Falkland's landscape well endowed for future generations.

An Endowment Trust Fund, created by Michael Crichton Stuart has enabled the Royal Hunting Palace, The House of Falkland and the surrounding estate to be preserved for future generations.

The next generation of Crichton Stuarts is upholding the family tradition in caring for Falkland's remarkable landscape.

BETTY ROY.

TUESDAY 22ND MARCH – INDUSTRIAL VISIT – TULLIALLAN POLICE COLLEGE

The Winter Session culminated with the Industrial Visit to the Police College, Tulliallan. Twenty- three members attended.

On arrival a cordial welcome was extended. First of all we were escorted to a very comfortable lounge where refreshments were served and our guide gave a talk on the training given to the young recruits who attended the college. Tulliallan is the principal training college in Scotland and provides accommodation for 666 recruits. Only young people of the right calibre are selected, with the result that wastage from unsuitability or failure was more or less minimal.

After the talk, a tour of the training facilities was undertaken. We were shown a state-of –the-arts Courtroom with witness box. Here the drama of courtroom proceedings can be re-enacted. A shop, post office, bank and a pub – all realistically furnished and areas where disturbances can take place – these contributed to make awareness of what can happen and how to deal with sometimes violent incidents.

On the tour of the building, the young recruits acknowledged our presence with a greeting. Politeness is an essential part of the course and an essential factor when dealing with the public.

Personally, I would have liked more time to view the various exhibits. It would have been interesting to have had time to read the crests on the early police batons. In days gone by, each town had its own police force – a piece of social history one could follow up.

The many glass cases and wall displays could only be given a cursory glance. The Rule Book demands that visitors must leave the building by 9pm!

All in all this was a most rewarding visit.

BETTY ROY

KENNET, LOOKABOUTYE & CHAPLEHILL

Clackmannanshire Field Studies, Walk, Wednesday 21st July 2004

Extracts from Charters, Session Records, and Relating to the Descent of the Barony of Clackmannan, and the land of Kennet from the year 1330. (A selection of the collection by Mr. Justice William Downing Bruce, representative of the Garlet branch. Also extract from the following, Rev. Dr. T Crouther Gordon, A.I. Drummond and John Westwood F.S.A. Scot).

Previous to the year 1330, when the following records commence, the Barony of Clackmannan was one of the Royal residences of the Scottish King. In 1147, King David 1, by a charter of that date, granted the church, with its chapels, and forty acres of land, to Abbey of CambusKenneth. John, Earl of Mar afterwards granted these lands, to Robert Bruce of Kennet, in 1630.

King Malcolm gave the mill and the Mill lands to the monastery, excepting, at the same time, the mullers of the King, which he might require when he visited this castle, Clackmannan was, in 1231, the residence of King William the Lion, for in that year, in a charter granting the lands of Culdach, in Fife to the Abbey of Balmarino. It is said to have been the favorite residence of the Robert the Bruce, from which place many of his charters were signed. In 1369, Alloa, the adjoining estate was granted to Sir Robert de Erskine knight, a grandnephew of the king.

King Robert the Bruce directed that his bones should be deposited within sight of Clackmannan's Ancient Tower, and there forever rest beneath the High Alter of Dunfermline's venerable Abbey Church.

No 4, dated 9th December 1359, is the first charter yet known containing any grant of the Castle and Barony of Clackmannan. It was made by King David 11 to and in favour of his beloved and faithful cousin, *{“delecto et fedeli consanguineo nostro,”}*. Robert de Bruys of the Castle and Barony Clackmannan, the lands Grassmainston, Gartlove, Wester Kennet, Hillend, Carsehill, Greys, Park Meadow, Dryfield, Tullygarth, Pitfoulden and others, within the Sheriffdom of Clackmannan.

“Robert de Bruys is styled “*Consanguineo Nostro*”, and a simple Knight or lessor Baron was never styled “Consanguineos” or cousin in Royal grants unless a blood relation or very closely connected with the King by marriage.

No9, 2nd May 1389, Charter of Robert de Bruys of Clackmannan and Rait to and in favour of Thomas de Bruys, his son, whereby “for good service” he grants the said Thomas the lands of Wester Kennet and others for payment to his father of a silver penny yearly. From this time the estate of Kennet continued separate from that of Clackmannan, and although the families continued on the most intimate terms, and the heiress of Kennet, in 1568, married one of the cadets of Clackmannan, the estates have never been united.

20th July, 1533, -Charter of Protection, by King James V To Mr. Edward Bruce of Easter Kennet, (who had acquired the lands of Blairhall from Culross Abbey). (Son of David Bruce, 5th Laird of Clackmannan.) Knight. Dated at Edinburgh as above.

Jacobus die gra Rex Scotorum Omibus probus homnibus, suis ad quos pritis Ire perueniunt saluter nos delectu urm magram Edward Bruce filio David Bruce de Clackman Miliis Terras suas homines suos et Immobilia sub firma pace et protectione ura juste susipisse. Quore firmiter In hibensus ne quis eiis malu molestiam Injuria sue arava min alqued inferre presumate post a nu uri me valetunis. In cuins rie testimonia uras sibi fieri fecimus paten, Apud Edinburgh vudecima Prtectis Ino Magris Edwardo Bruce.

The year in which this charter was granted the Bishop of Aberdeen, the Abbot of Kinross, Jas Colville of Easter Wemyss, and Sir Andrew Otterburn, were dispatched to the English Court to conclude a peace, which was to last during the lives of Henry VII and James V, and to continue a year later after the death of him who was first deceased. Edward Bruce was probably also a member of this embassy.

The Right Hon. Sir Edward Bruce, Knight (son of Mr. Edward Bruce of Easter Kennet, by his wife Alison, sister of Robert Reid, Prior of Kinross, and afterwards Bishop of Orkney). Was first an advocate at the Scotch Bar Commissary of Edinburgh in 1584, 1587. Commendator of the Abbey of Kinross 1584 to 1600, Commendator of Pluscardine near Elgin. One of the Senators of the College of Justice 1598. Lord High Commissioner of the

Church of Scotland 1594 and 1596. In April 1594 Sir Edward Bruce and Sir James Colville were sent as Ambassadors to England, 1598, he was appointed one of the Convention of nobility to meet at Holyrood House. Ambassador to England again in 1598. In February 1601, The 2nd Earl of Mar and Lord Kinross (Edward Bruce) appointed to proceed to England on a special Embassy to assist the King's rights to the Crown of England. These two noblemen left England with a train of Forty persons, and arrived in London in March 1601. In February 1602 created Baron Bruce of Kinross. At this time he succeeded, after much difficulty in establishing the right of King James VI. And during his embassy prevailed upon Sir Robert Cecil and other members of the English Government to sign an engagement to assist James in obtaining the English Crown; indeed, it was owing to Edward Bruce's skill, diplomacy, and correspondence with Sir Robert Cecil, that his Majesty's quiet succession to the throne was brought about on the death of Elizabeth I. A number of the King's letters, and also Edward Bruce's, proving that fact, have been printed by the Camden Society. For his service, he was created by letter patent under the Great Seal of England, September, 1603, Baron Bruce of Kinloss and Master of the Rolls in England, one of the highest positions in the English Court of Equity, and at that time ranking next to the Lord Chancellor. He was also made a Privy Chancellor of both Kingdoms. He died in London in 1611.

Among the additional MMS, in the British Museum No 14417 is an MS relating to Funerals in then reign of James VI & I? At page 40 is an account of funeral of the Right Hon. Edward, Lord Kinloss, Master of the Rolls, which funeral it is stated took place in the Rolls Chapel on the 17th February 1611. The arms and crest of Lord Kinloss are given and also numerous drawings of his banner.

His first son Edward, who became 2nd Lord Kinloss, died without issue. He was slain in a bloody dual fought in 1613 with Sir Edward Sackville near Bergen – op – Zoom in Holland. His brother succeeded him, Thomas 3rd Lord Kinloss, whom Charles 1 created Earl of Elgin in 1633; he also died in 1663, at 65. Sir George Bruce of Culross, and afterwards of Carnock, was the third son of Edward Bruce of Easter Kennet, and younger brother of Edward, Lord Kinloss. In 1747, on the death of the last lineal descendant of Edward Lord Kinloss, without male issue, the title of Earl of Elgin and Baron Bruce of Kinloss became vested in the descendants of this Sir George the then Earl of Kincardine.

15th November, 1630 – Charter by John Earl of Mar, Lord ERSKINE AND Carioch, to Robert Bruce of Wester Kennet, of the teinds of the lands of Wester

Kennet, presently occupied by the said Robert Bruce, lying in the parish and county of Clackmannan, and which teinds formerly formed part of the patrimony of the Abbey of Cambuskenneth, and the Abbey of Dryburgh, and afterwards were annexed to the temperate Lordship Cardross, to be holden of the King and his successors for payment yearly of the sum of three shillings and fourpence money of Scotland, as the proportion of the said lands to the said Lordship; and 20 marks like money to the minister serving cure of the Parish Church of Clackmannan, and furnishing the elements in the said church. Witnesses: John Erskine of Little Sauchie; Alexander Stirling of Powhouse; and John Williamson servant of the Earl. These appear to part of the lands granted by King David 1 in 1147 to the Abbey of Cambuskenneth.

15th November, 1630 – Charter by John Earl of Mar to Robert Bruce of Wester Kennet, of the teinds of the land of Wester Kennet and others specified in the foregoing Charter, to the holden of the Earl for payment yearly of a penny money of Scotland, in the name of Blough duty at the feast of Pentecost. Witness as in the forgoing Charter.

Sir Henry Bruce inherited the Tower and estates about 1642, and 1666 he was appointed Sheriff to succeed Alexander Hope. When he died in 1687, he had left debts, amounting to £1,333 chiefly for his funeral, drugs and medicines. Sir David his son in 1693 signed a trust deed admitting insolvency. His coal mines in Sauchie and Clackmannan were turning out a dismal failure despite the fact that Dutch experts were brought over to construct waterways and water wheels.

Sir DAVID Bruce also held the office of Hereditary Sheriff, and Member of Parliament to Charles II and James VI: but by refusing to take the oaths to the government of William and Mary, he was removed in 1693. During an interregnum in the church when there was no minister, he took the session minutes “surreptitiously” from William Smith the Session Clerk and burned them, no doubt to obliterate the record of disciplinary action against him, for this act the Presbytery in 1702 had him publicly excommunicated. Sir David died in 1712, after that the estate was sold, he was allowed to reside at the Tower.

The Tower, with the lands of Clackmannan were put up for sale in 1708, and were bought by William Dalrymple, who was a colonel in the Foot Guards and second son of the Earl of Stair, was Member of Parliament for Clackmannan in the first united Parliament of 1708. He did not reside at the Tower. But lived

down in Wigtonshire, and acted as Sheriff only through deputies, although it is recorded that his wife, the Countess of Dumfries, died in Clackmannan in 1742.

Colonel Dalrymple also died in 1742 and so brought to an end the curious interruption in the Bruce ownership, for the whole property was bought by Sir Laurence Dundas of Kerse, who married the sister of Robert Bruce of Kennet, who was raised to Lord Kennet and sat in the Court of Session 1764 – 1785. Sir Laurence Dundas of Kerse and later the Earls of Zetland, who to this day still own the Tower, allowed Harry Bruce figuratively the last Laird and his wife Catherine Bruce to live in the old mansion house for as long as they required it. The mansion house was built around the sixteenth century. Which was sketched by David Allan in 1774 and again in 1788 by Joseph Farrington.

6th June 1768. – Will of this date of Harry Bruce, Esq. The last of the Bruce's to reside at the Tower of Clackmannan, recorded in the Sheriff Book at Clackmannan, 15th July 1772. Leaves his property to Cathrine Bruce his widow, and failing to the children of his brother-in-law William Bruce of Cowden. The Hon. Bruce Ogilvy representative through his mothers the heiress of Bruce of Cowden of the family of Clackmannan.

The worthy Jacobite gentleman was survived 19 years by his wife, also a Bruce by birth, who attaining a patriarchal age, formed the connecting link between old manners and modern usage, and who is still remembered as the type of ladies of that school in which her relatives and dear friend Lady Strange, wife of Sir Robert Strange, had been trained. In Billing's Baronial Antiquities of Scotland we find this characteristic notice of her: - "The venerable Lady of Clackmannan was one of those woman not infrequently met with among the Scottish gentry, who seemed to live into a new generation, to teach it a suitable respect for the physical and mental vigour of that which has departed. Though she lived to the age of 95, the universal tyrant rather surprised than subdued her, for her death was owing to an accident. She kept a hospitable board in the old Tower, had troops of friends, and was ever ready, in good-natured pride, to show the trophies of her house – the helmet and sword (of King Robert the Bruce) to the patriotic pilgrim of whatever degree. On the quest of gentle blood, she would sometimes confer the honour of knighthood with the two-handed sword; nor did she consider the ceremony entirely jocular, or barren of distinction, though conscious that it went for nothing in the Herald's College. Accordingly she conferred that honour on the Rev. Dr John Jamieson, the famous lexicographer who wrote the first Scots Dictionary. The old lady for

two reasons warmly welcomed him. For he was the great-grandson of Alexander Bruce, the first of the Garlet. For he was collecting the precious, memory-haunted words of the old Scots dialect to preserve in his grand new book. He could not have gone to a better authority, for she studiously retained the doric words of her race and hated the encroachments of the southern dialects. The same favours on Sir Robert Strange, who had married Miss Lumsden, also, a cousin of the laird of Kennet. And when Robert Burns our national bard and his friend Dr James McKitterick Adair in 1787 visited Lady Clackmannan, the venerated heirloom was called into requisition and was applied to both Burns' and Dr Adair's shoulders, with a hint that this act was no infringement on the assumed rights of "some folk". In her Jacobite parlance the reigning family were of course thus indicated, and in like spirit her daily first toast were Hookie Uncos, - the howl used by Scottish shepherds to repel an intruding flock of sheep, but her signifying "away wilt the strangers set over us". The venerated blade was in action again on Henry Dundas, afterwards Lord Melville, of Melville Castle in Midlothian, who, when a winsome youth, bent his head before the sword of Bruce, and on rising begged in a courtly phrase to kiss the hand that conferred on him so great an honour. "What ails ye at my mou man", replied the blunt holder of the royal blade; a challenge which the future statesman was too gallant to evade. The following obituary was drawn up by Andrew Quimdsen, private secretary to the Stuart Princes, for one of the journals of the period: - "Mrs Catherine Bruce, daughter of Mr Bruce of Newton, and widow of Henry Bruce of Clackmannan, Esq., died at the castle of Clackmannan on Friday the 4th November 1791, in the 95 year of her age. Long as this Lady's life was, alas; it was too short for those who had the happiness to know her. Possessed of every virtue and every amiable quality that adorns her sex, she was a pattern worthy to be imitated by all. Her conduct through life, her hospitality and dignity of character, reflected a new luster on the ancient and noble family of Bruce."

Twelve years before her death this venerable Lady was portrayed in a rare etching by David Allan, with the Bruce arms supporters.

Robert Bruce of Kennet grandson of Lord Kennet as a young subaltern carried the colours of the Grenadier Guards at the battle of Waterloo, his younger brother Laurence Dundas Bruce, was fifteen and as a midshipman on board "*Bellerophon*," witnessed Napoleon sign the articles of surrender, the 15th July 1815. Young Laurence died in 1817. Robert Bruce represented Clackmannan in Parliament 1820 – 1841. In 1864 he laid claim to the old Scottish lordship of

Parliament of Lord Balfour of Burleigh, through his great grand mother. But died in 1864 before the case was heard.

– 30th July 1714. – Extract from the Register of Marriages for the parish of Clackmannan, at this date. – This day, Alex Bruce, son of Brigadier Bruce of Kennet in this parish, and Mary Balfour, daughter of Lord Balfour of Burleigh, in the parish of Orwel, gave up their names to be proclaimed here in order to marriage, and accordingly were married at Edinburgh, 6th April, 1714. It was through this marriage that Robert Bruce of Kennet, great grandson claimed the Barony of Burleigh.

Alexander Hugh Bruce succeeded his father. And in 1868 the committee of Privileges of the House of Lords reported in favour of the claim, the act of attainder of 1715 was annulled by act of Parliament on the 19th March 1869.

Thus Alexander Hugh Bruce became Lord Balfour of Burleigh the sixth bearer of the historic name, he being the tenth in the genealogical line of succession. The title dates from 1607, when it was conferred by James VI on Michael Balfour who the previous year had served as the King's Ambassador to the Duke of Tuscany and Lorraine. Through Sir Michael's only daughter, Margaret, the barony passed to her husband, Robert Arnott, who assumed the name Balfour, and who played an important part in the affairs of Scotland during the troublous times of the Civil War. Shortly after Robert Balfour 5th Baron's succession to the title, he took a leading part in the Jacobite rising of 1715 and for this act his estates were forfeited, and he himself attained by act of Parliament. Thus the title fell in to abeyance for 150 years. Alexander Hugh Bruce, the 6th Lord Balfour of Burleigh, in 1895 became Secretary of State for Scotland with a seat in the Cabinet. In this high office Lord Balfour achieved distinguished success. He was universally recognized as one of the ablest administrators of Scottish affairs. Many qualifications combined to fit him for the discharge of the duties of this high office. Lord Balfour married Lady Catherine Hamilton-Gordon, youngest daughter of the 5th Earl of Aberdeen. They had two sons and three daughters. The elder son, the Hon. Robert Bruce, master of Burleigh, born in 1880, was an officer in the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders. He was killed at Le Cateau on the 29th August 1914. Alexander Hugh Bruce Lord Balfour of Burleigh, died in London on the 7th July 1921.

George Bruce on his brother's death became Master of Burleigh and succeeded his father as the 7th Lord Balfour of Burleigh. And was the Eighteenth Laird of Kennet. For many years a distinguished figure in politics, public service and

banking and one whose family has a long connection with the County, of which he was a Deputy Lieutenant. He served throughout the First World War with the 7th, Battalion Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders and in the Intelligence Corps (to which his linguistic talents assigned him), was a captain and brevet major, four times mentioned in dispatches, and awarded the Legion of Honour. He returned to civilian life to combine a City career an increasing and indeed crusading activity in public service. Alongside this winding range in public service there developed an accumulating business experience, especially in banking, which put Lord Balfour among the prominent City figures of his time. He died in London on the 6th July 1967.

The present Lord Balfour of Burleigh, the eighth bearer of this historic name, trained as an engineer before taking up a career in India, later followed by a number of notable appointments which have included director of the Bank of Scotland and chairman of the Scottish Arts Council. Lord Balfour divorced from his first wife, remarried in 1993 to Dr Janet Morgan, who taught politics at Oxford University, and was a special advisor to the Director General of the BBC, and has written and edited several books on politics and the media, as well as a biography of Agatha Christie.

KENNET HOUSE

Kennet House, c 1795, by Thomas Harrison. Built on a much older site in a style of elegance and simplicity that marks the taste and judgement of the owner (Alexander Bruce of Kennet who died 1808.) The façade of Kennet was of grey freestone ashler and two stories in high viewed from the entrance, but there was a sunk basement which formed the ground floor, looking over the garden at the back as the ground fell below the level of the avenue, thus viewed at the rear showed the house to have three stories. The main block covered by a low pined or hipped slated roof, measured about 68½ft by 55½ft. And there was a two storied wing, including the basement at each side, with both a narrower and wider portion, viewed from the front, owing to later additions, such as the “Burleigh Wing”, which was added in the second half of the 19th century.

The entrance hall and all the numerous apartments had carefully treated woodwork, enriched by panels, mouldings and scenes, or groups of figures, floral motifs, urns, etc. The carved wooden mantelpieces were interesting; the mantelshelves were unusually high. The designs used were inspired by the decorative work of the Adams Brothers and attributed to them.

The Home Farm was situated about 150 yards NE of the mansion house which included the Stable Block which had a severely classical revival façade and were planned to occupy the sides of a rectangular paved courtyard. The small octagonal tower, designed as a dovecote, rises from the back range and was an attractive feature, relieving the severity of plain horizontal lines. The Lodge at the entrance gateway to the main avenue is ovoid on plan and of one storey and attic, which still survives today.

Lord Balfour of Burleigh had Brucefield House restored, for their main residence, where they moved to around 1936. Kennet House was requisitioned during the Second World War, where Polish soldiers were billeted. The Balfour of Burleigh then sold Kennet to the Alloa Co-operative Society in 1946, for subdivision into flats. Sold again to J & N Turnbull, Farmer in 1957 and demolished by the army in 1968.

LOOKABOUTYE & CHAPELHILL

The Mannan Stone, that is believed to be pagan, for in its original position at the Lookaboutye Brae was probably at the edge of the waters of the Forth. This position for the stone agrees with the derivation of its name, Mannan, as coming from the sea god or sea goddess. The other fact to be noted is that at the brae there is a site called Chaplehill, where a well still exists and where traces have been found of foundations of an ancient building. It is well known that pre-Reformation Church of Clackmannan had more than one chapel attached to it, and if Kilbagie was the site of one dedicated to St Begha, Chaplehill was obviously the position of another. In addition to this, the known fact must be recalled that the earliest Christian missionaries selected spots sacred in the pagan religion as suitable places for planting the new faith, thus retaining the hallowed association, while purifying the old superstitions. Such seems to be what happened at Chaplehill. The Stone was for generations, and, indeed, still is the most jealously guarded possession of the community.

THE LOCAL LEGEND

Then, is this? “When King Robert the Bruce was residing at the Tower of Clackmannan, he went out one day to hunt, in the famous Forest of Clackmannan, and while out he lost his glove. He sent his famous knight, Sir James Douglas to look for the glove, directing him to the brae on the south side of the town, where at the stone or clach he was to “lookaboutye” for the glove or mannan. The brae is called to this day “Lookaboutye Brae”, and the town is

called Clackmannan. The stone concerned is said to be the very stone, which now surmounts the plinth at the Mercat Cross. The Mannan Stone, was erected in 1833, by the laird of Kennet and the minister who worked hand in hand, and both were determined that Clackmannan should cherish its rights and possessions. They planed to place the ancient stone in a safe position. Having chosen a suitably shaped plinth from the boulders at the Abbey Craig at Causewayhead, they got Mr Francis Horne, the famous vat builder of Clackmannan, who with twenty stout horses and many willing helpers, carted the stone from Causewayhead to Clackmannan. And set the sacred and venerable emblem of authority “ The Mannan Stone” on top of the plinth at the Mercat Cross, where it stands to day.

EDDY STEWART

Their Past Your Future Scotland

Their Past Your Future Scotland is an exciting initiative built around an Imperial War Museum exhibition which will be touring Scotland during 2005/06. The exhibition is about World War II and is being launched to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the war.

Clackmannanshire Council's Cultural and Community Service is the lead organisation in a successful bid to be one of six projects across Scotland to host the touring exhibition and deliver a related events programme. Our aim is to help people of all ages understand the lasting impact of WWII on the UK and its inhabitants, especially those living in central Scotland, via the touring activities during 2005. Both exhibitions will be shown at The Smith Art Gallery and Museum in Stirling from December 2005 until February 2006. We have obtained a grant of up to £48,000 to enable us to achieve this.

This is a partnership project - the main partners are Dollar Museum; Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Museum; Scottish Railway Preservation Society; Clackmannanshire Field Studies Society; Friends of Clackmannanshire Museum and Heritage Service; Muckhart Heritage Society; Scottish History for All and Tullibody History Group. Other groups and individuals are also be involved.

The proposed main programme of events and activities is as follows:

- Reminiscence project in Clackmannanshire and Stirling to gather memories of life during WWII from veterans on active service, people in

reserved occupations and others living on the 'Home Front' – *everyone* willing to share their experiences and memories with other people

- Programme of activities for young people which will help them to relate to the experiences of those who lived through WWII
- 14th May - events in Tullibody to mark VE Day (8th May)
- June – exhibition in Dollar Museum
- 2nd/3rd July - 1940s weekend event at the Scottish Railway Preservation Society Museum, Bo'ness
- August – activities, including launch of short series lectures/discussions focussing on aspects of WWII to complement and illuminate the exhibitions to mark VJ Day (15th August)
- 2nd/3rd/4th September - '1945' weekend event in Clackmannanshire, based in Alloa Town Hall but also taking place in other venues around the county. This will include a 'Big Band' dance, screening of wartime films, revival of Alva Glen illuminations and other events.
- November – exhibition in Muckhart and special Remembrance Day Service in Alloa
- December 2005 - launch of touring exhibition and our own regional exhibition which complements the Imperial War Museum touring exhibition and focuses specifically on the experiences and stories of people from and living in central Scotland, based on their reminiscences. The structure, content and design of the exhibition will be developed in consultation with participants and contributors to the project, to ensure that it meets learning needs and actively pursues the *Inspiring Learning for All* framework.
- During the year there will also be workshop sessions in libraries and museums to show people the resources available to them to research aspects of WWII
- Collect material to make up loans / reminiscence boxes for schools and other groups
- Produce a CD ROM as a lasting record of the project

A Project Co-ordinator will be appointed soon to ensure that all aspects of the project are delivered on time. Meanwhile, if you would like to know more about any aspect of the project and if you are interested in getting involved, we want to hear from you! Please contact **Susan Mills, Museum and Heritage Officer on 01259 216913** as soon as possible.