

Message from the President



This month's report on our activities is always interesting as the Museum gears up for another season. Our AGM is on Friday 28th April at 6.30pm followed by a lecture on the Museum's Indian Sculptures as mentioned later. It is an excellent chance to hear about our work. This year we will have a bit of cheer in our accounts because we have received some generous funding and donations. Nonetheless we still harbour our resources and continue to seek ways of making the museum sustainable.

There are physical improvements also with new lighting in some of our displays. The Log Boat is now suspended from the roof and looks great. The Dandaleith stone display is complete and fascinating. We are also upgrading our IT and computing and wifi which these days is simply essential.

There will be a full programme of events, talks, exhibitions, and continuing volunteer work throughout the summer. Please do call in and see what we are doing and read the newsletter to get more details.

We are grappling with one problem that I wish to share with you. We have an opportunity to gain access to matched funding to join what is known as the CARS project in Elgin. Basically this provides grants of about 50% to encourage repair, maintenance and enhancement of older buildings. It is designed to "smarten up" central Elgin. So what is the problem? Well money actually.

What would we like to do? Answer is to do the whole suggested CARS programme costing £250,000. And also improve our property at No 3 next door. We have lots of unused space above the splendid MUSE café. We would like to restore it and have more space for volunteer research and conservation.

Can you help us? Have you time to join me in progressing the problem? Let me know. And meanwhile do use the café. Supporting it helps us.

Once again I welcome back our wonderful volunteer corps of helpers. Without you we would not function. With your help we are a much praised place.

At the AGM we re-elect Board members. Four are retiring after stalwart support of The Moray Society and I thank Angela Monro, Marion Yool, Phil Dacre and especially our Treasurer, Ken Ferguson. I will have more to say at the AGM on the 21st April in Museum hall. Do come and listen!

Grenville Johnston
Hon President

Education and Outreach March 2017

Below is the final outreach contribution from Di Hannan. After four and a quarter years of wonderful work and having greatly helped to raise the public's awareness of Elgin Museum, Di, due to domestic commitments, has had to leave us in order to move to North Yorkshire. She will be hugely missed in the Museum for all her hard work and for absolutely boundless enthusiasm.

Bill Dalgarno



Di, with Heather and the Kids in Museum award

Well, this year has certainly had a busy start! We have hosted several schools already, with visits to the museum for a number of local schools. We have been on outreach sessions as far afield as Findochty and as close as Forbes, with a wide variety of handling boxes – these have always been very popular.

The entries for the Moray Schools Art Competition have arrived – a big thanks to Sara and Roger for displaying them in the case upstairs. This year the competition was linked to The Incorporated Trades, with entrants making their own special piece based on different Trades.

We have entries from The Glovers, The Shoemakers and The Blacksmiths. The entries will be judged shortly, a winner picked and the cup – kindly donated by John Smart – will be awarded to the winning school. The individual will win a small prize.

We have also been working hard to re-wrap the Trades Banners, which is easier said than done in some cases! Volunteers have been trained to wrap the textiles in layers of tissue and padding to better protect the delicate material and art on these wonderful banners.

There are a number of events and activities planned for this year and we are looking for as much help as possible. If you feel that you can help out with these then please get in touch with the museum – there is a sheet on the noticeboard in the office where you can sign up.



The Schools' Competition Display Case

Finally...I would like to let you all know that I am moving on, well actually I'm moving to Yorkshire! By the time you read this I will be knee deep in packing cases and tissue paper wrapping up my household items – not Trades Banners – for a move to Catterick. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone with whom I have worked over the last four years and everyone who has supported the families activities.



The Squarewrights' Banner

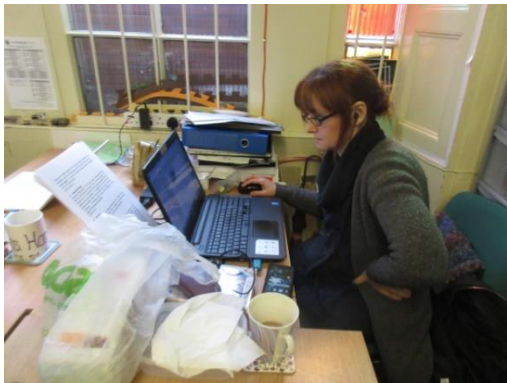
This list would be too long to mention everyone but I have had a wonderful time – dressing up has never been more fun – and learned a lot about museums and how they work. I have

some wonderful memories – flying fake legs during the ‘Sword, Fire and Stone’ event last year springs to mind – and have made some good friends. I’m pretty sure I won’t be able to get another museum post where I will have as much fun as I have had here in Elgin. I wish everyone all the best.

Di Hannan
Education and Outreach

The Museum never sleeps!!

A selection of photographs of volunteers working in the Museum during the winter months.



Morag working on Clarkly Hill artefacts



Alison working on Clashach fossil



Gayle pricing stock for the shop



Jan and Mary filing and smiling

URGENT! URGENT! URGENT!

Tues 4th April – Judging from the huge success of our opening day on Saturday with 170+ visitors, we are going to have a great season this year. It could be spoiled, however, by a huge shortage of front of house volunteers to help run the museum. We are **DESPERATELY** short on most days of the week, so if you can spare a morning or an afternoon, please get in touch with Heather Cruickshank (01542- 870203) or the museum. It would be a shame to have to close on some days because we do not have cover. You really would enjoy the experience so why not give us a few hours of your time.

As part of Visit Scotland's year of History, Heritage and Archaeology, a major project has been launched in Elgin that studies Moray's forgotten and hidden history.

With support from the Heritage Lottery Fund, 'Forgotten, Hidden and Lost: Unearthing Moray's Archaeology' will celebrate some of Moray's lesser known archaeological and historic treasures through a series of hands on activities, training events, exhibitions, talks and walks, culminating in an archaeology conference in November.

A series of events got under way when the museum reopened for the 2017 season on Saturday April 1st, with hi-jinks, japes, jests and jokes as we celebrated the history and hilarity of April Fool's Day.

Throughout the rest of this year there will be training opportunities for members, volunteers and the local community to develop skills in a wide variety of museum and archaeology based activities, including artefact identification, illustration and conservation.



There will even be the opportunity to learn excavation and survey techniques in a trailblazing project led by Lancaster University to locate and record a possible lost hillfort on Cluny Hill, Forres.

On helping to launch the new season at a reception in Elgin Museum in March, Moray's MP, Angus Robertson said: "Moray is an amazing region in terms of historical and archaeological significance. I would commend all of the museum volunteers who provide us with such a service."

Richard Lochhead MSP added: "When you enter the museum your eyes are opened to the wealth of heritage and history Moray has." Visit Scotland's regional manager, Jo Robinson said "Hearing the stories people have to tell about their local area is what excites me and what helps to draw more visitors to those places."

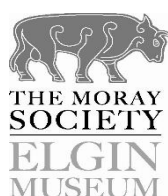


At the launch of the Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology.

During the school Easter holidays, we will be running a range of family drop in craft sessions, where you can try your hand at throwing a prehistoric pot, making your own Neolithic carved stone ball, designing your own Pictish stone, and more!

Throughout the year there will be a series of talks from specialists and experts, object handling sessions, new exhibitions in the museum, guided walks and outings to historic sites, and an archaeology themed children's walking trail through the town.

The grand finale will be an archaeology conference, 'Forgotten, Hidden, Lost: unearthing Moray's Archaeology' on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th November, with lectures and site visits, featuring presentations from, amongst others, Dr Fraser Hunter of the National Museum of Scotland, Professor Ian Armit of the University of Bradford, Dr Gordon Noble of the University of Aberdeen and Dr Leif Isaksen of Lancaster University.



LOTTERY FUNDED



Elgin Museum – Programme of events 2017

***More events will be added throughout the year - keep up to date online:
elginmuseum.org.uk***

Fri 31st March 7pm for 7.30pm

'What is Europe? The cultural landscape of its peoples'

A talk by Dr Lester Borley CBE, former Sec. Gen of Europa Nostra

Sat 1st April 11am to 3pm

2017 Season Opening – April Fool's Day

Wed 5th April 11am to 3pm

Family Drop in Activity – Prehistoric Pots: come along and make your own to take home.

Children to be accompanied by an adult

Wed 12th April 11am to 3pm

Family Drop in Activity – Prehistoric Stone Balls: come along and make your own to take home. Children to be accompanied by an adult

Fri 28th April 7.30pm

'A Taste for Indian Sculpture: India, Moray and Elgin Museum'

A talk by Prof Roger Jeffery, University of Edinburgh and Friederike Voigt, Senior Curator, Middle East and South Asia, National Museums Scotland.

Sat 6th May 11am to 3pm

Treasure Trove Drop-in Finds Day

Bring along your finds, recent or ancient, for identification from the experts at the Treasure Trove Unit and guidance on how to report your finds.

Sun 28th May 2.30pm

Guided Walking Tour of Kinloss Abbey

An insight into the fascinating history of Kinloss Abbey from Kinloss Abbey Trust. NB The site has some uneven terrain and may be unsuitable for some.

Booking required – see website

Sat 24th June

Cluny Hill, Forres – Open Day and Guided Tour

Your chance to visit an archaeological Excavation as specialists search for evidence on the past of this intriguing site – could it be a ‘lost’ hillfort?

Please note: VERY uneven terrain, and a steep walk to the excavation site

Booking required – see website

Mon 17th July 11am to 2pm

Family Drop-in Activity – The Vikings: find out more about the Vikings and make your own runic pendant. Children to be accompanied by an adult

Mon 24th July 11am to 2pm

Family Drop-in Activity – The Picts: your chance to design your own Pictish Symbol Stone. Children to be accompanied by an adult

Mon 31st July 11am to 2pm

Family Drop-in Activity – The Romans: it may be the school holidays, but how did the Romans do their homework? Learn to write like the Romans. Children to be accompanied by an adult

Mon 7th August 11am to 2pm

Family Drop-in Activity – The Victorians: take inspiration from the Victorians and create your own decoupage box to take home. Children to be accompanied by an adult

Sat 4th & Sun 5th November

Conference: Forgotten, Hidden, Lost: unearthing Moray’s Archaeology. See website and next newsletter for further details.

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Saturday 1st April – Friday 28th April, 2017

EMBROIDERING THE PAST

A textile exploration of the Pictish Stones of Moray

Ruth Black invites you to an exhibition of her recent work, all pieces taking inspiration from the Pictish Stones of Moray.

Ruth is a textile artist specialising in embroidery, felt making and weaving. Her particular interest is in Celtic & Pictish art which she translates into designs for a wide variety of wearable art and items for the home. In this exhibition she employs many different textile techniques to explore the wealth of Pictish sculpture in the area. Ruth works at her studio in Inchmore, 6 miles from Inverness, where she runs the family business “Anna Macneil” with assistance from her daughter, and also teaches feltmaking.

The Workshop, Inchmore, Kirkhill, Inverness, IV5 7PX ~~ www.ruth-black.co.uk

Please Note: Papers for the Annual General Meeting will be available to view in the Museum from Monday 24th April.

**Notice of The Moray Society Annual General Meeting
6.30 pm Friday 28th April 2017 at Elgin Museum**

Agenda:

1. Welcome from the President, Grenville Johnston (Chair)
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of AGM 2016 - for approval
4. Matters arising from above
5. President's written report on the activities of the Society (Grenville Johnston)
6. Receive the Financial Report, including Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2016 and report of the independent financial examiners, Ritsons, Chartered Accountants, Elgin (Treasurer and Company Secretary, Ken Ferguson)
7. Appointment of Ritsons, Chartered Accountants, Elgin as independent financial examiner for 2016
8. Board membership - annual election
The following existing Trustees are resigning and standing for re-election having been duly proposed by two Ordinary Members. See notes for the Agenda:
Grenville Johnston
Janet Trythall
Bill Dalgarno
Edna Cameron
Claire Herbert
Rebecca Russell
Mary Shand
Graham Robertson
And new candidate Board member, Donna Skelly
9. Special Resolution to amend Article 9 of the existing Articles of Association to say:

"The Board shall meet as soon as practicable immediately after each AGM to appoint the Office-Bearers from the Board (all or any of whom can be Co-opted Trustees), usually being the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Unless the Board of Trustees at any time resolves otherwise, each Office-Bearer shall hold office for a period of three years, provided that he or she remains a Trustee for that whole period. At the end of his or her period the Office-Bearer shall be capable of re-appointment for a further three years, but no Office-Bearer can serve more than six years in office, without at least one term out of office before being eligible for reappointment again, unless the Board of Trustees at any time resolves otherwise."

Proposed by the Moray Society Board. See notes for the Agenda

10. Fixing of annual subscriptions for the categories: Ordinary, Family, Junior, Student, Life, Corporate membership. The Board recommends the subscriptions to remain as:
Ordinary member not paid by Standing Order, £30 (otherwise £25).
Family member not paid by Standing Order, £50 (otherwise £40)
Junior (Young Marvel) - a single joining fee of £1, not an annual subscription.

11. AOCB

12. Close

The AGM will be followed by a lecture at 7.30 pm: **A Taste for Indian Sculpture: India, Moray and Elgin Museum** by Professor Richard Jeffrey, University of Edinburgh and Friederike Voigt, Senior Curator, Middle East & South Asia, National Museums Scotland. This is a follow up to the donation of Elgin Museum's Hindu sculptures to NMS at our AGM 2016. The lecture is free and open to the public, but donations are welcome.

NOTES

Notes for AGM Agenda items numbers 8. and 9.

The Moray Society's Constitution is available on our website. In summary, we are allowed up to eight Trustees elected by Ordinary members, up to three co-opted by the Board, plus the Convenor of the Museum Management Committee, making a total of twelve. Four Trustees have indicated their intentions to retire at the 2017 AGM, our retiring Treasurer, Ken Ferguson, Angela Monro, Marion Yool and Phil Dacre, and they are thanked for their contributions. We have one new candidate for election, Donna Skelly.

Agenda item 8. Board membership and election of Trustees:

All Trustees retire annually at the AGM but can be re-elected without restriction as to the number of times.

The Board has been undergoing a review of its composition, with particular regard to an appropriate range of skills and experience, and to the sustainability of The Moray Society and its Board. To that end, the Board recommends the election of the following as Trustees, all duly proposed and seconded:

Name, with date of co-option/election	Current Office Bearer/Museum position/Other "indication of suitability"	Proposer	Seconder
Grenville Johnston	President; Lord-Lieutenant of Moray Retired chartered accountant	Angela Monro	Marion Yool

Janet Trythall	Vice-president; Elgin Museum Volunteer incl. Accreditation, Recognition, Year of History Heritage and Archaeology (YHHA2017). Retired anaesthetist	Phil Dacre	Grenville Johnston
Graham Robertson	Treasurer; Elgin Museum Volunteer Retired chartered accountant	Grenville Johnston	Ken Ferguson
Bill Dalgarno	Convenor, Museum Management Committee; Elgin Museum Volunteer incl. Membership Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Line Manager Retired retail manager	John Trythall	Gordon Milne
Mary Shand	Elgin Museum Volunteer incl. Publicity, Activities Retired Primary School Teacher	Ritchie Mabon	Morag MacDonald
Edna Cameron	Elgin Museum Volunteer incl. Fundraising Retired lecturer	Frances Wardaugh	Ritchie Mabon
Rebecca Russell	Moray Society insurance rep. Land manager	Grenville Johnston	Graham Robertson
Claire Herbert	Elgin Museum Volunteer incl. web site, facebook, YHHA2017. Archaeologist with Aberdeenshire Council incl. Moray	Davie Milne	Bill Dalgarno
Donna Skelly	Solicitor & partner, Grigor & Young	Rebecca Russell	Janet Trythall

Agenda item 9. The Office Bearers:

The President, Vice-president and Secretary/Treasurer are appointed from the Trustees, by the Board, at the first Board meeting after the AGM. We are conscious that the President and Vice-president have been in office for a considerable time, which now exceeds the permitted 6 years. The Board is unable to find other candidates to stand for these offices and therefore, having taken legal advice, proposes to the members the change to the Constitution as described in the Special Resolution, agenda item 9.

**The Moray Society Annual General Meeting
6.30 pm 29th April 2016 at Elgin Museum**

1. Welcome from the President (Chair)

Grenville Johnston, President, welcomed those present.

2. Present and absent (name lists in file)

29 members present

10 apologies for absence

In attendance: Museum Assistant

3. Minutes of the AGM of 2015 – accuracy: Agreed nem com

4. Matters arising from AGM minutes 2015 – none

5. President's report

Grenville Johnston referred to the regular updates to members in the Newsletters, and said that for this reason, reports from the individual committees would not be included this AGM. He highlighted the following activities and achievements for the year:

- Moray Council – no future financial assistance will be received. This response provoked a number of substantial donations.
- Outreach/education – Di Hannan was thanked for her work with schools and groups. An innovation was a Museum takeover by two Primary Schools.
- Thanks were also given to Heather Townsend (Museum Assistant), to the members of the Management Committee who all have specific responsibilities, and to all the volunteers. A full programme of activities and lectures was arranged for 2015/16.
- In addition to our usual changing displays, including WWI/1916, we hosted “Unknown” by Alison Kinnaird, and received the Dandaleith stone.
- New volunteer activity has included the Geology and Library Groups, and with the Birds and Eggs recatalogued, a start on the Butterflies and Moths. An innovation was a coach trip for volunteers to the archaeology of Aberdeenshire.
- Opening day was a great success, thanks to Windy Miller , and Johnny and the Copycats.
- CARS funding – we still have not found the required 50% funding.

6. Financial report – see statement of income/expenditure and balance sheet to year end 31/12/2015 (Extracts from full accounts examined by Ritsons and almost ready for presentation to OSCR – full copies can be seen on request or on the OSCR and Companies House websites.) See notes prepared by Ken Ferguson, Treasurer and Company Secretary.

In summary, while our finances show a modest surplus in unrestricted funds, we still require to have some £50k annually to run the museum, and our utility and maintenance costs increase. The majority of our funds are restricted and not available for general maintenance and outgoings. Apart from the salaries of the part-time Museum Assistant and Janitor, any wages are funded from project grants. Donations have been most welcome, but they are unpredictable.

Adoption of Treasurer's report: nem com.

Ken Ferguson was thanked for his work on our behalf, particularly handling the complexities of our grant/ring-fenced funding and having our accounts up to date with OSCR, in an exemplary format.

Proposed: Mary Byatt Seconded: Bill Dalgarno.

7. Appointment of Ritsons, Chartered Accountants, Elgin as independent financial examiners for 2016 – agreed nem com.

8. Board membership

(a) Resignations: under our revised Constitution, all Trustees resign at the AGM.

(b) All the existing Trustees offered themselves for re-election and were duly re-elected:

Grenville Johnston (President)

Janet Trythall (Vice-president)

Ken Ferguson (Treasurer and Company Secretary)

Bill Dalgarno

Edna Cameron

Mary Shand

Angela Monro

Marion Yool

Rebecca Russell

Phil Dacre

Claire Herbert

Proposed: Davie Milne Seconded: Ritchie Mabon. Agreed nem com.

9. Special Resolution to consider transfer by donation of Hindu sculptures to National Museums Scotland (see supporting report.) Proposed: Grenville Johnston. Seconded: Mary Byatt. Agreed nem com.

10. Special Resolution to consider transfer by donation of Elgin Cathedral stone to Historic Environment Scotland, Elgin Cathedral (see supporting report.) Proposed Mary Byatt Seconded: Marion Yool. Agreed nem com.

11. Fixing of annual subscriptions for the categories: Ordinary, Family, Junior, Student, Life, Corporate membership. Changes proposed by the Board and agreed nem com:

Ordinary member not paid by Standing Order: £30

Family member not paid by Standing Order: £50

Junior member (Young Marvel): a single joining fee of £1, not an annual subscription.

12. AOCB: none, except the Office Bearers reiterated the benefits of not charging an admission fee, reflected in the increased number of visits/revisits and the happy atmosphere in the Museum without loss of revenue, and also their thanks to volunteers and benefactors.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 1900.

It was followed by drinks and nibbles, and at 1930 by a lecture, "Scotland's Wildcats" by David Barclay, Cat Conservation project Officer, Kincaig.

Janet Trythall

24/02/2017

The Moray Society
Form of Proxy Voting AGM 2017

I,
of.....,
being an *Ordinary Member of the Society or *one, aged 18 years or over, of a
Family Membership or *the Corporate Membership representative of
.....
hereby appoint the chairman of the Annual General Meeting
or*.....,
of,
as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of the
Society to be held on 28/4/2017 and at any adjournment thereof.

This form to be used in favour of/against the resolution(s),*

Agenda item	For	Against	Vote withheld
3. Minutes 2016 AGM			
6. Financial report 2016			
7. Independent Financial Examiner 2017			
8. Board membership – annual election	xxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxx	xxxxxxxxx
Grenville Johnston			
Janet Trythall			
Graham Robertson			
Bill Dalgarno			
Mary Shand			
Edna Cameron			
Rebecca Russell			
Claire Herbert			
Donna Skelly			
9. Special resolution to amend Article 9 of the existing Articles of Association			
10. Fix annual subscriptions (unchanged)			

** to be deleted if not required, or amended if it is required*

Signature of member appointing proxy.....dated.....

To be valid, this Form of Proxy, once signed and dated, must be lodged at
Elgin Museum at least 48 hours before the start of the General Meeting referred
to above.

Museum Assistant Report

Art Exhibitions

This year, we will have a new art exhibition every 4 weeks, whereby 25% of all sales will go towards museum funds. Please be sure to come and see Ruth Black's excellent textile exhibition 'Embroidering the Past' which opens on 1st April, an exploration of the Pictish stones of Moray, including designs based around the Dandaleith Stone and Burghead Bulls on display in Elgin Museum. James Byatt will follow with Scottish Landscape Photography in aid of Ellen McArthur Cancer Trust throughout the month of May.

Events

Stuart Campbell, Treasure Trove Unit Manager is coming up from Edinburgh on Saturday 6th May to host a Metal Detectorist finds day. An invitation will be issued to all known metal detectorists in Moray and advertised in the local press. If you have finds that need to be identified, please check the Museum Website for details. We are not sure how high the uptake will be, so if you have a large number of finds, it would be appreciated if you could bring them into the museum a week in advance so that Stuart can look at them before doors open to the public. Keep an eye on our website for additional activities.

Working with Volunteers this Winter

This winter I happily delegated many tasks to a team of willing volunteers; the flexibility and positivity of all those involved has made such a difference and has allowed me to catch up with essential accessioning and cataloguing of the collection. Thank you to all of you – you know who you are!

Some (a small proportion) of the many jobs tackled over the winter are mentioned below.



Roger Pendergast checked boxes. (The reason volunteers check boxes throughout the winter is to ensure that the condition of objects is checked, that the objects are where they say they are in our records and that they are appropriately stored.)



Graham Robertson designed and created mother and child dinosaurs for the children's corner.

Gayle Henderson, volunteer Shop Manager prepared shop stock for the new season and invoiced hall users each month.



Richard Winfield and Roger Pendergast sewed labels into costumes to identify each piece with its unique museum number and photographed textiles for inclusion in the Object History file record then.....



.....Oliver Taylor, John Barratt, and Dr Neil Kemp wrestled to dismantle the mammoth sized pop up photo booth, with some difficulty.

Di Hannan trained volunteers to handle and conserve textile banners and maps, particularly those related to the Incorporated Trades of Elgin.



Steve and Natalie Storey photographed, wrapped and sensitively stored 100 year old African tribal shields.

Last of all, we say a melancholy good bye to our friend and colleague of the last 4yrs and 3 months, Di Hannan, Education and Outreach Worker – see below after a luxury afternoon cream tea at the Mansion House Hotel. Volunteers kindly contributed towards Di's leaving present which bought a textile Burghead Bull wall hanging from our latest art exhibition (which Di had wanted to buy for herself before she left us), as a fond memory of her time with us.

Heather Townsend, Museum Assistant

Museum snippets.

Di Hannan's leaving day – afternoon tea at the Mansion House.



Engineers from Kinloss Barracks on a visit to the Museum during a familiarisation tour around Moray.

Jeanette Pearson carries out a conservation survey on the log boat prior to its return to the rear gallery above the coracle.



Michael Sharpe preparing for scanning (Reflectance Transfer Imaging) of the Dandaleith Stone.



Bill Dalgarno places the last box of the Lesmurdie archaeology assemblage, returned to Elgin, in the store.



The Spey log boat finally in place in the rear gallery above the Spey coracle



The Birnie hoard back in position after a year of research at National Museums Scotland

The International Trades Project and Di Hannan

Alongside Di Hannan our Education and Outreach Officer, I undertook a 3 month quickie of 'devising and piloting activities involving oral histories related to the trades in Moray'. Primarily this meant conducting oral history interviews with the relevant people involved with the project, the last Deacon Convenor himself, James Welsh, the Trades archivist, Dr John Barrett, and the two volunteers who designed and implemented the exhibition display, Sara Marsh and Roger Pendergast.

Initially, there were some headaches concerning grey areas of ethics and the legalities of contracts however, these were soon ironed out, contracts were signed and the interviews took place in the upstairs mezzanine floor beside the Trades exhibition. Transcribing the audio files is time-consuming and hopefully soon, they and the actual audio interviews will be available on the museum website for all to access.

This was to be Di Hannan's last Education and Outreach Project, and our last time working together. I have enjoyed worked with Di for the last few years on various projects whether we were making educational outreach boxes, delivering handling sessions to school and older people groups,



The last road trip – Findochty BALL group handling session 2017

providing family activities in the museum, or dressing up in Victorian/Medieval costumes for Festival of Museums, (or any other outreach adventure), each event has been as expertly organised and delivered with the same sense of fun as if it were the first time. We have shared many adventures and road trips, some of which have involved stinky cheese, getting lost, Star Trek, Tom Hiddleston and swords.....



Sword, Fire and Stone Castle to Cathedral to Cashmere 2016
Heather, Morag and Di....The Leprous Ladies

The morning of Di's last day on the 28th March 2017, was somewhat poignant; we spent it crawling around on our knees, unfurling, packing and re rolling one of the earliest Trade banners, keeping a close eye on woodworm holes and a long dead wood louse. By the time her leaving do in the Mansion House came around, we were more than ready for cake.



Before and after cake



The Incorporated Trades has been an amazing project to work on, so many different people have contributed so much time and effort to this and I think it has been a fitting last project for Di to have expanded her considerable energy into.

I shall miss her sage advice, Marvel chats over the desk and warm friendship, and hope that her new life in Catterick is as full of adventure and interesting people as her life here was.

Morag MacDonald

Moray Society Prize Draw

The Prize Draw has now been running for sixteen years and during that time has diverted almost £15,000 into the Moray Society current account. This total includes donations submitted through the Prize Draw fund but does not take into account any further income accrued from Gift Aid generated by eligible donations.

This has been of considerable benefit to our daily running expenses and continues to be so, given the huge inflationary price rises on all our utility bills.

Tickets for the draw are only available to Moray Society members due to current legislation. I would like to ask any member who does not have a ticket to consider the benefits derived by the Society from those sales. There is no limit to the number of tickets available.

The price of the tickets remains unchanged and at present there are 78 tickets in circulation at £10 each. These are all eligible for the 12 prizes during their lifetime (1 year/4 draws with 3 prizes each).

All income generated by the draw goes directly into Moray Society funds apart from the prize money paid to the lucky ticket holders.

Please address any questions or applications to me at the Museum (or email mabritch@keme.co.uk, or tel 01309 673597)

Moray Society Prize Draw

Please allocate me tickets in the Moray Society Prize Draw @ £10.00 each.

*I enclose my payment of £.....

*Please forward me a standing order mandate

Name.....

Address.....

Post Code..... *please delete if inappropriate

Please address any questions or applications to me at the Museum (or tel 01309 673597).

**Ritchie Mabon,
Prize Draw Co-ordinator**

Other Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 1st April – Friday 28th April, 2017

Exhibition: Embroidering the Past: a textile exploration of the Pictish Stones of Moray

Free entry – donations welcome!

Friday 28th April, 2017: 6.30pm, Elgin Museum Hall

Moray Society AGM - see separate article

Followed by a talk from Professor Roger Jeffery, University of Edinburgh and Friederike Voigt, Senior Curator, Middle East & South Asia, National Museums Scotland.

A taste for Indian sculpture: India, Moray and Elgin Museum

In this talk Roger Jeffery will provide a historical context to understand the people from Moray who went to India in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Where did they come from and what did they do in India? What kinds of effects did these people have on the land of their birth? Against the background of a wider interest in Indian sculpture at their time, Friederike Voigt will talk about the lives of two men, James William Grant and Dr James Taylor, who donated their Indian and Indonesian sculpture to Elgin Museum. She will also outline the work which has been undertaken since the transfer of these sculptures to National Museums Scotland.

Free entry – donations welcomed!

Sat 6th May 11am to 3pm

Treasure Trove Drop-in Finds Day

Bring along your finds, recent or ancient, for identification from the experts at the Treasure Trove Unit and guidance on how to report your finds.

Sun 28th May 2.30pm

Guided Walking Tour of Kinloss Abbey

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Please note: VERY uneven terrain, and a steep walk to the excavation site

Mon 17th July 11am to 2pm

Family Drop-in Activity – The Vikings: find out more about the Vikings and make your own runic pendant. Children to be accompanied by an adult

Mon 24th July 11am to 2pm

Family Drop-in Activity – The Picts: your chance to design your own Pictish Symbol Stone. Children to be accompanied by an adult

Mon 31st July 11am to 2pm

Family Drop-in Activity – The Romans: it may be the school holidays, but how did the Romans do their homework? Learn to write like the Romans. Children to be accompanied by an adult

Mon 7th August 11am to 2pm

Family Drop-in Activity – The Victorians: take inspiration from the Victorians and create your own decoupage box to take home. Children to be accompanied by an adult

Sat 4th & Sun 5th November

Conference: Forgotten, Hidden, Lost: unearthing Moray’s Archaeology. See separate advert.



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