

DORNOCH HERITAGE SOCIETY

January 2005

AGM 2ND SEPTEMBER 2004

The co-chairpersons gave reports on the activities of the Dornoch Heritage Society. Both looked back on a successful year. Peter Wild then reported on the activities of the Historylinks Trust.

Robbie Banks resigned as Treasurer and from the Committee. She was thanked by Sylvia Park for her considerable efforts on behalf of the Society. Sylvia stood down as co-chair and was thanked by Jimmy Melville.

Sylvia, Robin Ashby and Ian Ross-Harper were re-elected and John Barnes was elected onto the Committee. Following the meeting Jean Birkett offered her services and was invited to attend committee meetings without the right to vote.

The office-bearers for 2004 - 5 are:

Co-chairpersons: **Ken Bromage and Jimmy Melville**

Secretary & Treasurer: **Robin Ashby**

Membership Secretary: **Ullabritt Ashby**

Ordinary members are: **John Barnes, Rena Oman & Ian Ross-Harper**

Honorary membership was conferred on Jessie Bell and Betty Paul in recognition of their many years' of service to the Society.

Sylvia Park unfortunately resigned at Hogmanay. The Committee would like to thank her for all her hard work during the years.

FUND-RAISING

The usual successful Coffee Morning was held on 13 November in the West Church Hall and raised over £400 despite fears that many similar events might dampen the people of Dornoch's appetite. A big thank-you to everyone who helped at the event.

FUTURE

The traditional Spring Coffee Morning will be held on 7 May in the West Church Hall. The Society will also be present at the Wemyss Fair and the County Show to attract more members and publicise Historylinks.

Tiles can still be ordered through Sylvia Park for mounting in Historylinks.

A new series of summer lectures will be held following the success of 2004.

ENTERTAINMENTS AND EXCURSIONS

A TASTE OF BURNS

Please book January 20th for a repeat of last year's event at the Royal Golf Hotel.



The first part of the entertainment will consist of ourselves with recitations and music in the spirit of the Immortal Bard. Bring along your favourite work to have recited if you do not wish to do so yourself.

The second part, for which there is a charge of £5, will be haggis, neeps and tatties and a wee dram after the traditional Address. There'll be a chance for good crack afterwards with the bar open.

SPRING SOCIAL EVENT

We would like to see all members bring along a non-member for refreshments and a tour of Historylinks, probably one evening in May. Details have yet to be finalised.

DUNBEATH

Dunbeath Heritage Centre is focused on the life and works of Neil Gunn. We are planning a visit in June to the centre together with a guided walk to local sites that were significant for Gunn's work. For details contact Robin Ashby, (01862) 821328 or kommavalla@supanet.com, but not before May.

ANNUAL LUNCH

Please reserve Saturday 9 April for the Society's annual lunch. It will be held in the Royal Golf Hotel at 12.30 for 1 pm and tickets cost £12.50 for a main course plus sweet and coffee.

To reserve your places please ring Ullabritt Ashby on (01862) 821328 and talk to her or Robin directly or leave a message on their answer phone. You can also e-mail uashby@supanet.com. Your reservation is binding unless you contact Ullabritt and cancel.

Payment is to be made on arrival at the lunch.

Please reserve your tickets by 21 March.

Raffle prizes welcome.



OPENING HOURS

10 am to 4pm

UP TO 23 MARCH Tues & Weds

GOOD FRIDAY (25/3) Every day
TO FRIDAY (1/4)

REST OF APRIL Tues & Weds

2 - 29 MAY Mondays to Fridays

30 MAY TO END OF SEPTEMBER Seven days a week

CONTACT DETAILS FOR PETER WILD

HISTORYLINKS MUSEUM

(01862) 811275 historylinks@connectfree.co.uk

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

- Winding gear from the sluices at the Mound
- Clock from the roof of Royal Dornoch Golf Club, installed 1910
- Weighing scales from Dornoch station
- Contract for water supply from 1891
- Two plates commemorating the Crimean War, sold by a tinker at Clashnagrave

NUMBER OF VISITORS 2004

5438

PROJECTS

COMPLETED

With completion of the Heritage Trail and the railway film, the museum is not resting on its laurels. A secure display cabinet has been acquired to show artefacts on loan from other collections and a new cabinet is planned for the Sutherland uniform.

WEBSITE

At present there is a very rudimentary site (one page only) at www.historylinks.org.uk. A more advanced one that will have room for all the many facets of the collection and the activities of the museum is being sketched. It will include a simple shop and be able to accept people's reminiscences and pictures. If you have any views about what the new site should contain, contact Robin Ashby (kommevalla@supanet.com) or Peter Wild.

NEW EQUIPMENT

New computers have been installed, freeing up an older computer which is to be placed in the public area so that visitors can access the museum database. The collection is being progressively scanned and photographed. Anyone interested in helping with this work should contact Peter Wild.

RECORDED LECTURES

Most recent DHS lectures have been recorded and can be borrowed. Contact Peter Wild.

DORNOCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

The museum will be running an event with the school to commemorate the end of World War II.

Volunteers to man Historylinks always welcome! Contact Peter Wild.

COMING EVENTS

2005

January 20	A Taste of Burns £5 per head	May 7	Coffee Morning
February 17	Helen Fairgrieve "Letters to Canada from Scotland "	May	Spring Social Event
March 17	Donald Goskirk "Fiddle Music of the Highlands"	June	Excursion to Dunbeath
April 9	Annual Lunch 12.30 for 1 pm	September 1	AGM
All above events at the Royal Golf Hotel		November 12	Coffee Morning