

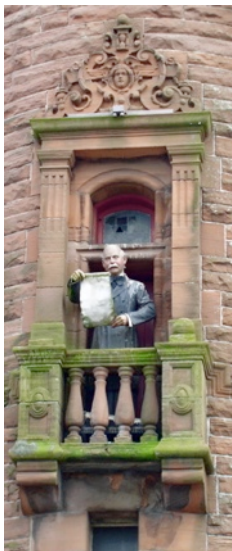
# IHBC SCOTLAND BRANCH

**Kelburn Castle**  
street art while  
awaiting re-harling

Still time to visit the  
project. Details at -

[www.thegraffitiproject.net](http://www.thegraffitiproject.net)

photo © Devon DeCelles



## Welcome to your own branch newsletter

It's Spring. As our membership blossoms, what better time to be launching our first online newsletter ?

Following a recent recruitment drive we are delighted to welcome several new members. Our branch total is now well over 100.

Geographically we are the largest UK branch. We have members spread across most of Scotland, from Dumfries to Shetland, east coast to west coast, and in every city region. Because of this, it has never been easy for all of us to get together at events, to share

news and discuss issues. The launch of an e-newsletter is intended to help remedy this.

We hope that this will be a regular newsletter. It need not be as long as this one. Your feedback would be very helpful.

While most of this first issue is made up of contributions from our branch committee members, we hope in future editions to feature news from across the whole branch. We would therefore be delighted to receive your articles, images, news items, details of projects, initiatives, publications, events and training opportunities.

Please send feedback and contributions to me at [michael.scott@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:michael.scott@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

Deadline for Summer edition is 30 May.

**Mike Scott**  
Editor

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## Survey of local authorities moves forward

By Paul Zochowski

One of the recommendations of the HEACS reports, discussed in detail by IHBC Scotland members at two workshop meetings last year, was the recommendation to commission an independent survey of current local authority policies, staffing and resource levels for the historic environment at the earliest opportunity.

This is one recommendation supported by the Minister and the task for organising the audit has been given to Historic Scotland which has in turn appointed ARUP and Geoff Peart Consulting to undertake a survey of local authority policies staffing and resources for the historic environment. The survey is due to commence April/ May 2008. Its purpose is to provide a robust evidence base of the scale and effectiveness of local historic environment management activities, with a view to shaping future policy.

**'How do you accurately measure and assess an area where quality of outcome is so important'**

At a recent workshop to explore how the survey will be undertaken the extent and complexity of the task became apparent to the consultants. Questions such as how do we capture all aspects of the historic environment and its management by local authorities? Whilst IHBC can clearly see its role, it was suggested that the survey should also include the role of countryside rangers who might look after historic landscapes. If moveable artefacts are considered to be part of the historic environment then should the role of museum, archive and gallery staff be included? Also, how do you accurately measure and assess an area where quality of outcome is so important? And although all agreed that it should be simple to complete, that has to be balanced with the need to get meaningful and robust responses.

The consultants also proposed a short non-local authority stakeholder survey of national bodies and also of local bodies, although through discussion the sheer number of potential local

bodies may prove too much to reasonably handle. Finally, the consultants requested suggestions for suitable pilot authorities. IHBC representatives at the workshop were Paul Zochowski and Mark Douglas with John Duncan representing SSDP.

For background, see [www.heacs.org.uk/documents/2006/conservation.pdf](http://www.heacs.org.uk/documents/2006/conservation.pdf)

## HEACS concluding work programme

While the Government announced its decision in January to abolish the Historic Environment Advisory Council for Scotland, in line with its pledge to reduce the number of public bodies advising Scottish Ministers, HEACS will complete its current work programme to June 2009.

Four topics currently under consideration by HEACS are:

- Mapping the infrastructure of the historic environment as it relates

to the voluntary sector, professional associations and private sector organisations, and to recommend what actions may be needed to fill gaps and optimise coverage;

- Economic Impact - identifying the economic impact of the historic environment in Scotland;
- Ecclesiastical heritage - advising how best to secure the long-term conservation of Scotland's ecclesiastical heritage in a time of demographic change; and
- Young adults - identifying strategies for attracting young adults to get engaged in protecting, conserving, understanding and enjoying the historic environment.

The infrastructure report is due this spring and the economic impact report is due this autumn. The other two reports are due for completion in 2009.

Further information on HEACS, including published reports and details of the Ministers responses can be found at [www.heacs.org.uk](http://www.heacs.org.uk)



© Mike Scott

Municipal Buildings, Greenock

## Sunshine on Dunbar and Scotland announcement of new townscape heritage initiatives

By Paul Zochowski

Burns Day saw a gathering in Dunbar, East Lothian, of practitioners in Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) and Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) projects. The meeting took place in Dunbar's 17th century Town House. Lucy Casot of the Heritage Lottery Fund announced that the new wave of THI schemes in Scotland with six stage one passes \* (Ayr, Stromness, Kelso, Cambelton, Govan, and Paisley) now account for half the total UK wide THI budget. There are 34 THIs in Scotland – in 23 Local Authority areas with a total investment of nearly £38m from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

The complexities of raising additional funding to support a THI or CARS scheme were aired and the news that HLF has raised its maximum proportion of the Common Fund to up to 75% was welcome. There will also be a greater focus on achieving early spend, self evaluation, greener projects and training and guidance initiatives.

These meetings allow everyone to discuss issues that have arisen in the delivery of these complex regeneration schemes and find out ways of resolving them. Plus a chance to find out at what stage all the other projects are and to have a detailed look at the host scheme.

The Dunbar THI follows on from earlier regeneration work in the town and is tackling two large scale projects to restore the 18th century fishermen's stores at Cromwell harbour, notably still for use by the fishermen, and the reinstatement of lime harl for the Town House. Stripped of its harl for aesthetic reasons in 1919 the soft local sandstone has decayed badly over the years. The repair and reinstatement work is now underway. The sepia photo shows the building in its pre-1919 harled glory with two luckenbooths constructed for extra income to the front of the building. These will not be replaced as part of the repair scheme. So far, there



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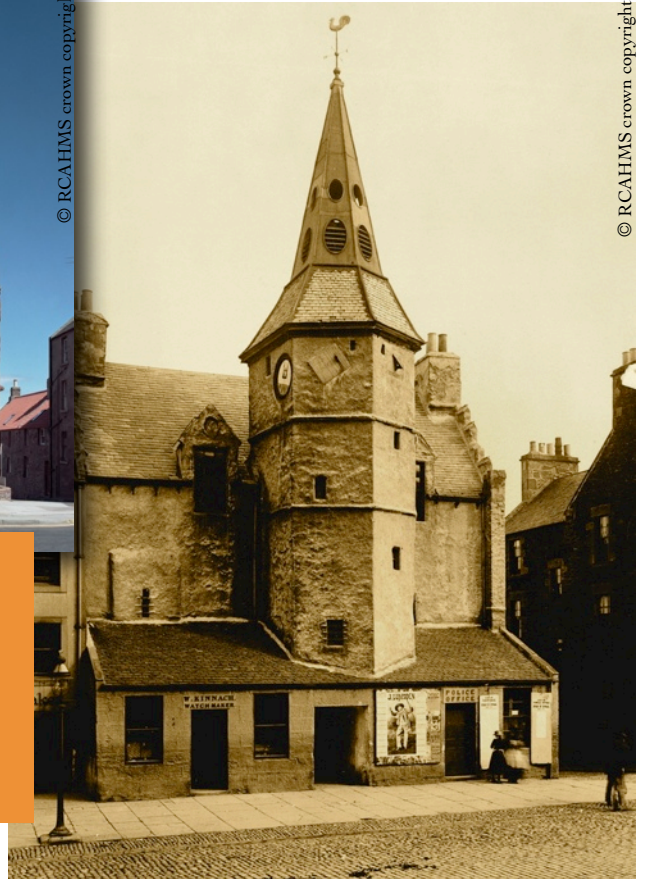
**'the new wave of THI schemes in Scotland now account for half the total UK wide Townscape Heritage Initiative budget'**

is no adverse comment about the new coat of harl, but wait until the scaffolding comes down for the local fashion experts to once more debate the look of lime.

After the meeting, Jocelyn Cunliffe, architect for the Town House project, led a trip up the scaffold for a closer inspection of the works. This was then followed by a tour of all the THI projects in the town - the completed ones; those yet to be finished and the ones that got away - in Dunbar's case the principal example of the latter is the former Abbey Church that forms an impressive piece of townscape as the end stop at the south end of the wide High Street. Vacant for many years it remains in private ownership despite offers from the Council to purchase and its future remains uncertain.

One of the principal features of the Dunbar THI is the programme of comprehensive tenement repairs where substantial Housing Grants, private owners contributions and a relatively small element of funding from both HLF and Historic Scotland secure long term repairs to tenements that form such a key part of the townscape.

The next meeting of the Pan Scotland THI and CARS group will be held in the summer - Leith or Douglas have volunteered to host it - if you wish



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to be included on the mailing list please forward your details to - [dunbarthi@btconnect.com](mailto:dunbarthi@btconnect.com)

### \*THI stage one pass\*

A 'stage one pass' means that money has been earmarked by the Heritage Lottery Fund for the project in question. Competition at this stage is tough, and while a stage one pass does not guarantee funding, it is an indication of positive support, and money for the scheme is set aside. The applicant can then progress to stage two and submit a further, fully developed application to secure the full grant. On occasion, at stage one, funding will also be awarded towards the development of the scheme.

HLF info and application details can be found at [www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/TownscapeHeritageInitiative/](http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/TownscapeHeritageInitiative/)

### Call for articles

Stromness THI is mentioned below. We would like to feature other Scottish THI's + CARS in future editions. Contributions from members involved would therefore be most welcome.



## Award winning Pier Arts Centre boost to THI Stromness northern lights shine brightly

By Mike Scott



© Ioana Marinescu

The Pier Arts Centre in Stromness re-opened last July after major transformation by Reiach and Hall Architects. The project won the RIAS Andrew Doolan Award for the Best Building in Scotland 2007, and last month won a Civic Trust Award 2008. This success, coinciding with the Stromness THI proposal receiving a stage one pass, provides an ideal catalyst for the regeneration of Stromness.

The Arts Centre first opened in 1979, to house the celebrated collection

of British fine art, bequeathed by Margaret Gardiner to Orkney, including work by Barbara Hepworth and Ben Nicholson. It was originally designed by Kate Heron and Axel Burrough, utilising two listed buildings, formerly the offices and store of the Hudson's Bay Company, sitting on a restored stone pier.

An extensive upgrade and expansion was commissioned 8 years ago following a design competition. A £4.5 million funding package was put in place. Planning, listed building and conservation area consents obtained, including approval for part demolition of adjoining unlisted building to facilitate the new gallery wing. The building works were completed in 2 years.

The project has created a top quality arts venue and building, combining sound conservation work with striking contemporary new build, all very much at one with the strong vernacular quality of Stromness Conservation Area.

Public response has been terrific, with visitor numbers far exceeding expectations. The centre is currently nominated for the short list for this year's Art Fund Prize - the largest single arts prize in the UK. A decision is due this month.

Details of the Arts Centre and the project can be found at - [www.pierartscentre.com](http://www.pierartscentre.com) and [www.reiachandhall.co.uk/project/project.htm](http://www.reiachandhall.co.uk/project/project.htm)

## Stromness THI



Stromness is Orkney's main ferry port link with the Scottish mainland. An 18th-19th century whaling centre, including strong links with the Hudson's Bay Company. It received Burgh status in 1817 and prospered again in the late 19th century from the herring boom. It is one of Scotland's most unique conservation areas, with its long narrow winding main street, 'cheek by jowl' steep closes, like the aptly named Khyber Pass, and huddle of waterfront houses, sheds, piers and slipways.

Orkney Islands Council's proposals for a Stromness THI project, focus on the highly visible and vacant properties along its main street, notably the redundant Commercial Hotel, its most prominent 'building at risk'. A mix of building repair, reinstatement of architectural detail, re-use and public realm works are planned to revitalise the area. The town's THI stage one pass amounts to £1,444,000 earmarked grant plus £25,000 development funding.



© Gavin Fraser

## Pier Arts Centre

New zinc clad gallery beside refurbished original arts centre stone building.

'designed to be strikingly modern yet complement the surrounding architecture - the stone houses and boat sheds that give Stromness its unique appeal'

Reiach and Hall Architects

Funding package, £4.5 million, including HLF, + grants from Orkney Islands Council, Historic Scotland, and The Scottish Arts Council.

## More success for Scottish projects

By Mike Scott

### Castlemilk stable block, Glasgow

In addition to the Pier Arts Centre, another Scottish winner of the Civic Trust Awards 2008, with strong conservation and regeneration interest, is the imaginative restoration and re-use of the category B listed, derelict Castlemilk Stable Block into managed workspaces, training suites, and creche, by Elder and Cannon Architects, for

#### Castlemilk stable block



main elevation, with new dome



courtyard elevation, with new glazed contemporary cloister.



before

photos © Glasgow Building Preservation Trust

for more photos + details, see  
[www.gbpt.org/projects/castlemilk.html](http://www.gbpt.org/projects/castlemilk.html)

Glasgow Building Preservation Trust in partnership with Cassiltoun Trust.

This is an excellent example of quality conservation work contributing to the wider re-generation of a community, in this case the re-generation of Castlemilk, one of Glasgow's large post-war housing estates.

The judges' citation for the Civic Trust Award stated that 'the design and handling of the rejuvenation of this building is masterly. It has been a great local success and is valued by the community, as evidenced by a lack of graffiti, which had previously been a major problem' The project has also won two other awards, The Glasgow Institute of Architect's Supreme Medal and Conservation Award 2007, and the Georgian Group Architectural Award 2007 for 'Best re-use of a Georgian building'.

A detailed article on the project by Gill Stewart of the GBPT and IHBC member, can be found in the current Spring edition of the AHSS magazine.

For online details, see -

[www.gbpt.org/projects/castlemilk.html](http://www.gbpt.org/projects/castlemilk.html)

### Belmont House, Unst

The Belmont Trust was set up in 1996 to save and restore the category A listed Belmont House, on the



Shetland island of Unst. This is the most northerly classical house in the UK, comprising a 1770s Palladian laird's house, with remarkable surviving interior despite longstanding dereliction. Its immediate setting is included on the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes.

The Trust, essentially a consortium of local conservationists, assisted by Groves-Raines Architects, successfully put in place a rescue scheme, with grant aid from Shetland Islands Council, Historic Scotland and others, plus 'hands on' help from volunteer work parties.



© Mike Finnie

External restoration is now complete. A later 19th century extension has been removed to restore Palladian symmetry. The roof has been replaced using reclaimed Scottish slates and sashes have been re-instated, using handblown glass. Lime harling and lime wash have been applied.

It is an exemplary project, showing what can be achieved by a small, but dedicated and well organised community. The house has become a valued resource for the island's recovery following closure of its largest employer, RAF Saxa Vord. It will be used as a community venue and for holiday accommodation.

This is a remarkable rescue of a long abandoned and very remote classical house. The success of the project has been recognised in winning the Georgian Group Architectural Award 2007 for 'Best restoration of a Georgian country house'.

Full details and progress can be found on the Trust's excellent website [www.belmontunst.org.uk](http://www.belmontunst.org.uk).

See also [www.grovesraines.com](http://www.grovesraines.com)



© Mike Finnie



## Scottish Burgh Survey

The Scottish Burgh Survey offers guidance on the archaeological resource present in towns, and on the questions that may be answered by archaeology where development occurs. They began in the 1970s as rapidly-produced surveys that are not available in print. The format was altered in 1995 to make the second series more accessible, and some are still available. The current third series is published through the Council for British Archaeology: Maybole is sold out but Dunbar, Mauchline and Kilsyth are obtainable from - [www.britarch.ac.uk/pubs/scotland.html](http://www.britarch.ac.uk/pubs/scotland.html)

Govan, Tain, Fraserburgh, Whithorn, Barrhead, Galashiels and Kirkintilloch are in the pipeline for 2008-2009.

The survey reports provide an important tool for planning authorities to use, identifying those parts of the burgh that may have archaeological interest and require sensitive treatment. They also have more general historical use. Each volume describes: the geography and topography of the town; its known archaeology and history; its historic standing buildings and potential for further investigation.

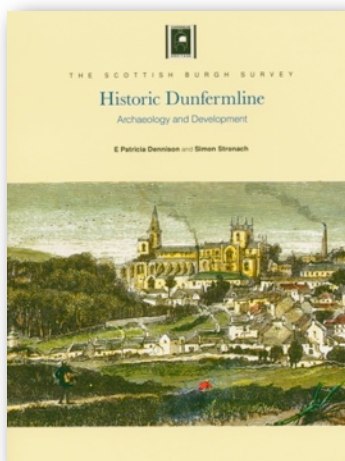
We recently responded positively to the consultation from Historic Scotland regarding the future of the Survey, following completion of the third series. Historic Scotland is considering amongst the options a digital future format with core archaeological and historic information, which could underpin such activities as Conservation Area Appraisal, and would have interoperability with GIS systems and other systems already being developed between RCAHMS, local authority SMRs/HERs and Historic Scotland. It is also possible there will be more partnership arrangements with planning authorities and scope for locally led ventures, like the recent Dunfermline survey, with input from scholars and researchers.

More details at -

[www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/archaeology/scottish-burgh-surveys.htm](http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/archaeology/scottish-burgh-surveys.htm)

## Dunfermline Burgh Survey review

**'Historic Dunfermline: Archaeology and Development'**  
by E Patricia Dennison and Simon Stronach, Published by Dunfermline Burgh Survey : Community Project 2007



Dunfermline Heritage, Historic Scotland, SUAT, Carnegie Dunfermline Trust, Dunfermline Central Community Council, Dunfermline Historical Society, the Heritage Lottery Fund and many volunteers all had a role in the production of this volume and it is their concerted and community effort which sets it apart from others in the Burgh Survey series. Indeed, it is as an educational and promotional tool aimed at the general reader that this survey excels. As someone who grew up by the historic centre of the town I have found the volume invaluable in filling in my own fragmented understanding of its history and at last many sites and places which fascinated me when young are now explained. Of course, it is also a planning tool and I trust that the Fife Council officers already regard it as essential reading. Particularly interesting is the selection of images, which show many buildings which are long gone but

also demonstrate how such material can be invaluable in piecing together an understanding of a historic town.

It is a pity that John Wood's plan is printed to such a small scale but I particularly enjoyed the broadsheet summary which is included and, it is hoped, is now on the wall of many a classroom and child's study. Two photos are poorly reproduced and this is a personal disappointment as one features the weaving works where my grandmother served as a girl.



Dunfermline from Bridge St

Of particular professional interest is the reference to Patrick Geddes' 1904 'plan and plea for conserving and developing the amenities of a small provincial city, and its constructive process based upon a photographic survey of its present, and a re-reading of the past'. In many ways this would be an excellent brief for anyone engaged today in the preparation of a Burgh Survey or conservation area character appraisal!

Details of the book and online information on Dunfermline's heritage can be found at

[www.dunfermlineheritage.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=115&Itemid=182](http://www.dunfermlineheritage.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=115&Itemid=182)

**Stuart Eydmann**



Abbot House from the north

Images courtesy of Dunfermline Burgh Survey : Community Project

## Recruitment drive

The IHBC has been running a recruitment drive since November. Following a big effort by the Scottish branch, we are delighted to have several new full time members and many affiliates which we hope will go to apply for full membership in due course. Our branch total is now 120.

The attractions of getting conservation and historic environment specialists, that you know, to join up include:

- **Easy application for affiliates and associates:** simply tick, sign and send the new membership form on our website [www.ihbc.org.uk](http://www.ihbc.org.uk)
- **Easy start-up for qualified professionals:** simply join as an affiliate and we will guide applicants through the process.
- **Tax-deductible fees, in line with HMRC guidance on professional fees.**
- **All the usual IHBC benefits, from newsletters to events, national journals and yearbooks.**
- **And also, you are helping the only professional body and charity dedicated specifically to conserving our historic places.**

Remember, the IHBC includes members from all disciplines that can shape conservation: project managers, architects, engineers, planners, managers, landscape architects, historians and archaeologists. If you know someone who could enhance their professional role in conservation and the historic environment, please ask them to join up now.

E-mail Devon DeCelles, our UK-wide membership services officer at [membershipservices@ihbc.org.uk](mailto:membershipservices@ihbc.org.uk) for more information or leaflets for distribution.

Online IHBC membership application details can be found at [www.ihbc.org.uk/membership.htm](http://www.ihbc.org.uk/membership.htm)



## IHBC Gus Astley Annual Student Award 2008

The institute is running its second IHBC Gus Astley Annual Student Award this academic year, with a closing date of the end of July 2008.

The award is made to an outstanding item of taught-coursework (i.e. NOT research-only courses) relating to 'Conservation or the Historic Environment'. This covers coursework submitted on any aspect of conservation, from archaeology and architectural history to heritage and conservation projects, and is open to students at all levels. Applicants simply submit digital versions of their coursework to contest for an award worth at least £300. Entries must be submitted to [studentaward2008@ihbc.org.uk](mailto:studentaward2008@ihbc.org.uk), in accordance with the guidelines, while candidates must be able to secure validation from their course leaders prior to any award being made.

See [www.ihbc.org.uk](http://www.ihbc.org.uk) for further details

## Honorary associate members

The IHBC is introducing a new Honorary Associate membership status to raise awareness of our work in people with a significant public profile, both locally or nationally. This honorary status will be offered to prominent and influential people with an interest in the historic environment but who are not likely to be encouraged to join IHBC without further awareness of our work, and who would be likely to benefit from receipt of free copies of Context. You can help both nationally and regionally by making suggestions for this.

Initially you may like to put forward the names of those who you feel will be valuable and influential partners in your region or make suggestions for national candidates. Please include some biographical background to show why they are a suitable candidate and a contact address if you have it. If you have any suggestions for regional or national Honorary Associates please let Devon know at [membershipadmin@ihbc.org.uk](mailto:membershipadmin@ihbc.org.uk)



## Woke up, fell out of bed, found my way ... to Liverpool a day (or two!) in the life at the Annual School 2007

The Scotland Branch was extremely well represented at last year's Annual School held in Liverpool. 12 branch members enjoyed two very full days of presentations, workshops and tours which explored the central theme of 'valuing our heritage'

The School kicked off in style with a welcome drinks reception at the Grade II\* Port of Liverpool building, after which most delegates headed to the nearby China Town for a slap up meal and a chance to get to know fellow IHBC members from different parts of the UK a bit better.



© Elaine Lee

The programme was well organised and suitably varied so that there was something for everyone. I particularly enjoyed the presentation given by Judy Ling Wong (Director of the Black Environment Network) on 'Public Perceptions of Heritage' which examined the ways in which heritage was presented, viewed and accessed by different groups of people and explored how this could be addressed in the future.

Another personal highlight was the tour of the magnificent neoclassical, Grade I listed, St George's Hall on the Saturday afternoon. This was a chance to see in more detail some of the work that had been undertaken during the massive £23 million conservation and restoration project which was completed in early 2007, just in time for Liverpool's 800th birthday celebrations.



Its been a hard day's night Scottish posse delighted to see the wine waiter has returned

## 'IHBC members from far and wide boogied on down to music from a local Beatles tribute band'

On the theme of celebrations, the IHBC officially marked its 10th year with an anniversary dinner in the Crypt of the Metropolitan Cathedral on the Friday evening. David Lovie got the evening off to a flying start with his entertaining speech, after which IHBC members from far and wide boogied on down to music from a local Beatles tribute band!

The conference drew to a close with another round of thought provoking and fascinating presentations on the Saturday (despite a few sore heads in the audience no doubt!), followed by a range of city-wide guided tours. These ranged from a magical history tour of Liverpool's world heritage waterfront, 'A walk of faith' illustrating the city's churches and cathedrals, including Gibberd's magnificent Metropolitan Cathedral; a look at heritage-led-regeneration in

## Metropolitan Cathedral



© Elaine Lee

progress in the ropewalks area; Port Sunlight model village and other 'Wonders of Wirral'; to exploring the city's fascinating underground heritage or the historic commercial district.

On our journey back home, a few exhausted Scottish delegates

reflected on the weekend's events and concluded that it had been an enjoyable and inspiring Summer School experience. Hopefully we also went away with a greater sense of the public value of heritage and feeling motivated through our own work in a variety of fields to better engage citizens and communities in caring for the historic environment all around us.

Elaine Lee

## IHBC Annual School 2008

This year's event will be in Guildford, Surrey. There are good rail links from London, so hopefully there will again be a good turnout from our branch.



Organised by the South East branch, the theme will be the management of spaces, context and settings.

Bookings can only be made through the IHBC web site. If you do not wish to book this way, please contact the IHBC Membership Services Officer who can make the booking on your behalf.

Details + flyer can be found at

[www.wonfordweb.co.uk/school08/files/AnnualSchool.pdf](http://www.wonfordweb.co.uk/school08/files/AnnualSchool.pdf)

[www.wonfordweb.co.uk/school08](http://www.wonfordweb.co.uk/school08)



## consultations bulletin

IHBC Scotland has recently been invited to comment on the following consultations:

- **Future of the Scottish Burgh Survey** - we hope to have our response to Historic Scotland available soon on the IHBC website. See article p6.
- **National Planning Framework 2** - see this consultation which is open for comments until **15 April 2008** to the Scottish Government : [www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/01/09112443/1](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/01/09112443/1) member's comments requested for inclusion in IHBC response were due end of February
- **SPP23 Planning and the Historic Environment Consultative Draft** - see this important consultation which is open for comments until **9 May 2008** to the Scottish Government at [www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/02/13134354/0](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/02/13134354/0) comments for inclusion in IHBC response were due by 31 March. See p11 for details of BEFS Workshop on 18 April, Edinburgh.

Please contact Richard Cartwright, branch consultations secretary, if you have any enquiries.

[CartwrightR@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:CartwrightR@northlan.gov.uk)

## Update on VAT

Members will be aware of the long-running campaign to drop VAT charges on building repairs to listed buildings. In response to the recent online petition to the UK government, the Prime Ministers Office has issued the following statement

*'The Treasury has no detailed evidence to date that demonstrates that there are widespread instances of the VAT rules as they stand encouraging new build construction work rather than refurbishment. VAT may rarely be decisive in such circumstances, as it is only one of a range of factors that influence commercial decisions for regeneration projects. However, the Government keeps the impact of VAT on different types of building work under careful review, alongside broader measures to increase the supply of housing'*

Details can be found at

<http://www.pm.gov.uk/output/Page14738.asp> and <http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/NoVAToldBuildings/>

Fresh calls are also being made on the government to remove VAT on repairs and renovation to existing buildings, this time from the British Property Federation, under the eco-banner, following the release of new information by the Empty Homes Agency, which claims 'the construction of new

houses emits four-and-a-half times as much CO2 as refurbishing an existing dwelling'.

Details of the EHA report can be found at [www.emptyhomes.com/resources/policy\\_docs/vat.html](http://www.emptyhomes.com/resources/policy_docs/vat.html)

## The National Committee on Carved Stones in Scotland call for an IHBC Scotland branch rep



Torpichen

The National Committee on Carved Stones in Scotland was formed in 1993 to co-ordinate responses to the threats of damage and destruction faced by Scotland's carved stones from the weather and other natural and

human causes. It is an independent body composed of representative members from Scottish national organisations, plus a Chairperson, and up to three co-opted individual members.

The NCCSS aims to raise awareness of the threats to Scottish carved stones of all periods, to promote their understanding appreciation, and to encourage a common approach to their recording, publication and preservation. The committee's website aims to highlight some of these issues and to provide guidance to sources of information and advice on specific topics -

[www.carvedstonesscotland.org/Role.htm](http://www.carvedstonesscotland.org/Role.htm)

IHBC Scotland branch are members of the committee but there is a need to identify a dedicated representative who can contribute to their work representing, in particular, the interests and expertise of the Institute's membership.

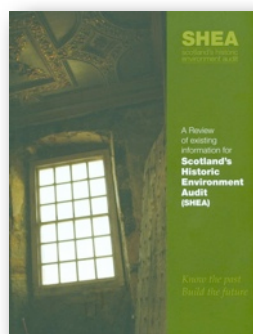
If you think you may be that person please contact Stuart Eydmann for more information. 01506 775279 [stuart.eydmann@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.eydmann@westlothian.gov.uk)

## draft programme of branch events

Following our joint event on 'Buildings at Risk' on 20 March, we hope to announce confirmation of the following study day/events soon :

- **May/June** - Conservation Area appraisals, possibly in Peebles or event at Lime Centre, Charleston
- **July/August** - Visit to Blackburn House, West Lothian
- **Sept/October** - A look at conservation projects in Glasgow. Possibly combined with our AGM.

## recent publications



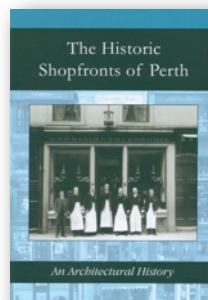
### The SHEA report - A Review of Existing Information for Scotland's Historic Environment Audit is available online.

This forms the basis for an ongoing programme of audit of the care, maintenance and required investment in the historic environment. Key findings include:

- how much of our heritage is protected
- the condition of our heritage
- how the historic environment is managed and resourced
- the benefits of the historic environment

This is the first time that such a systematic review of Scotland's historic environment has been made available online. The report was prepared by Historic Scotland.

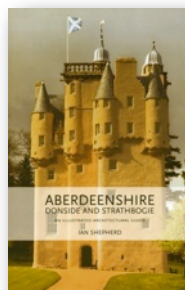
<http://www.heritageaudit.org.uk/findings.htm>



### The Historic Shopfronts of Perth

By Lindsay Lennie, Research Fellow with HS TCRE Group.

Part of a series of booklets by Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust. This is a fine illustrated guide to Perth's shopfront heritage. [www.pkht.org.uk/publications.asp?id=52](http://www.pkht.org.uk/publications.asp?id=52)



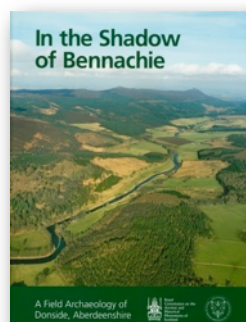
### ABERDEENSHIRE DONSIDE AND STRATHBOGIE

Ian Shepherd  
RIAS Architectural  
Guide £11.95  
1873-190-55-7

Formerly the Gordon District guide, this is the new edition of Ian Shepherd's

architectural guide to central Aberdeenshire - Scotland's 'quintessential castle country' - Kildrummy, Huntly, Castle Fraser, Leith Hall, and the 'consummation of Scottish chateaux' - Craigievar.

[www.rias.org.uk/content/default.asp?page=s4\\_2\\_2](http://www.rias.org.uk/content/default.asp?page=s4_2_2)



### IN THE SHADOW OF BENNACHIE

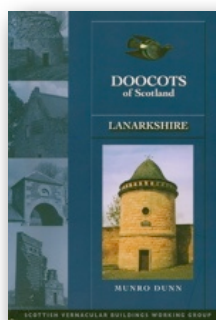
A Field Archaeology of Donside, Aberdeenshire

RCAHMS and Society of Antiquaries of Scotland £30 978-0-903903-46-2

A major title on the archaeology and human settlement of Donside. One of the oldest continuously inhabited areas of Scotland This is a remarkable, richly illustrated, publication. Essential reading for all IHBC members working in the North East ! but will appeal to all who are interested in our changing landscape and settlements.

[www.socantscot.org](http://www.socantscot.org)

[www.rcahms.gov.uk/publications.html](http://www.rcahms.gov.uk/publications.html)



### Dooocots of Scotland : Lanarkshire

by Munro Dunn.  
Second in a series by the Scottish Vernacular Buildings Working Group.

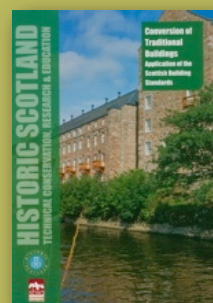
Also Dooocots of Moray by Nick Brown

[www.svbwg.org.uk/publications](http://www.svbwg.org.uk/publications)

## Historic Scotland Publications

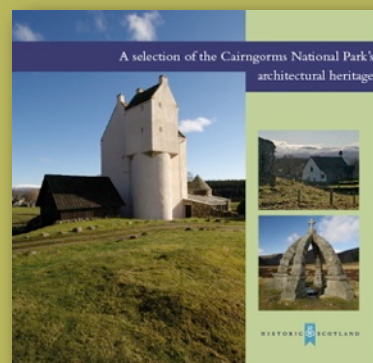


**Inform Guides** - series of free practical guides, including maintaining sash & case windows; lime and cement in traditional buildings; and repairing brickwork



### Guide for Practitioners 6 - Conversion of Traditional Buildings

Application of the Scottish Building Standards Including DVD format  
£6.00



### 'A selection of the Cairngorms National Park's architectural heritage'

produced by the Inspectorate's listing team following recent re-survey work. This well illustrated booklet, is the companion to the earlier booklet on the architectural heritage of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park. Both booklets are free.

### Details of all Historic Scotland's publications can be found at

[www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/publications.htm](http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/publications.htm)



## events

**18 April 2008 Consultation workshop : SPP23 : Planning and the Historic Environment.**  
Business Centre, City Chambers, Edinburgh. 13.30 - 16.30. Organised by BEFS. Deadline for booking was 10 April. Contact [jrobertson@bef.org.uk](mailto:jrobertson@bef.org.uk) for update

**18 April 2008 Seminar for World Heritage Day 'Public Space : Public Value'**  
Scottish Storytelling Centre, Edinburgh, 14.00 - 17.00 Info and booking details at [www.ewht.org.uk/Forthcoming-Events.aspx](http://www.ewht.org.uk/Forthcoming-Events.aspx)

**25-26 April 2008 AHSS National Conference.**  
'Scotland's Castle Culture'  
Edinburgh College of Art.  
[www.ahss.org.uk/AHSS%20Conference%202008.pdf](http://www.ahss.org.uk/AHSS%20Conference%202008.pdf)

**25-28 April 2008 Scottish Vernacular Buildings Working Group Annual Conference 'Inveraray Revisited'**  
Loch Fyne Hotel, Inveraray.  
Details at [www.svbwg.org.uk/events](http://www.svbwg.org.uk/events)

**2 May 2008 Conference 'Energy Efficiency in Historic Homes'** The Hub, Castlehill, Edinburgh. Info and booking at [www.changeworks.org.uk/content.php?linkid=374](http://www.changeworks.org.uk/content.php?linkid=374)

**26-29 June 2008 IHBC Summer School 'Historic Areas, managing spaces in between'**  
University of Surrey, Guildford  
[www.wonfordweb.co.uk/school08/files/AnnualSchool.pdf](http://www.wonfordweb.co.uk/school08/files/AnnualSchool.pdf)

## training

## Charlestown Workshops centre for excellence for traditional skills

By Gillian Ferguson

Based in the historic village of Charlestown in West Fife, Charlestown Workshops, the home of the Scottish Lime Centre Trust, is a centre for excellence for traditional building skills. The Workshops run a series of popular training courses aimed at building professionals, contractors and homeowners. In the simplest terms courses are aimed at either those specifying and overseeing works or those who will be physically undertaking work to historic buildings. What is unique about the teaching at Charlestown Workshops is that every course includes a practical element where learners are given an understanding of traditional techniques and materials by undertaking some hands on work themselves.

SLCT has recently been selected by the National Association of Decorative & Fine Arts Societies (NADFAS) as being a suitable partner organisation to distribute grants to those working in the conservation field through the Patricia Fay Memorial Fund. This means that we are able to provide financial assistance to learners who may have been unable to attend courses at Charlestown Workshops due to financial constraints. Further details and application form can be downloaded from the 'latest news' section [www.scotlime.org](http://www.scotlime.org).



'...every course includes a practical element where learners are given an understanding of traditional techniques and materials by undertaking some hands on work themselves'



photos courtesy of Charlestown Workshops

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contacts

Convenor  
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Consultations secretary  
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Other Committee reps

Charles Strang [charles@strang.demon.co.uk](mailto:charles@strang.demon.co.uk)  
Elaine Lee [elaine.lee@rcahms.gov.uk](mailto:elaine.lee@rcahms.gov.uk)  
Adam Swan [adam@dhct.org.uk](mailto:adam@dhct.org.uk)  
Leigh Johnston [leigh.johnston@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:leigh.johnston@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)  
Stuart Eydmann [stuart.eydmann@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.eydmann@westlothian.gov.uk)  
Richard Cartwright [CartwrightR@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:CartwrightR@northlan.gov.uk)  
Mike Scott [michael.scott@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:michael.scott@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)  
Paul Zochowski [pzochowski@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:pzochowski@eastlothian.gov.uk)  
Victoria Ball [victoria.ball@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:victoria.ball@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)