



The Voice

Queensferry Heritage Trust

January 2019

Dates for your diary

Wednesday, 16th January

The Mystery of the Model in the Museum

An Emigrant Ship Disaster. The Story of the SS Kapunda



Queensferry resident, Trevor Whittley, will tell the tale of a terrible disaster that befell a Scottish built sailing ship carrying emigrants to Australia in 1887.

Astonishingly a model of this unfortunate ship has been found in the local Museum, its story long forgotten and its identity only recently re-discovered. At last it can be told just how, why, and when the model came to the museum, and the full identity of the mysterious model maker revealed.

The talk will explore the role of Queensferry museum founder and schoolmaster, John Mason, and his connections to the sea, the ferry captains, and Trinity House in Leith.

Other intriguing side stories will include connections to local landed gentry, Dumbarton, Ulster, privateer John Paul Jones, the disruption of the Church, Dame Nellie Melba, Mrs Beaton, suffragist Elizabeth GarretAnderson, the Wild West, the Zulu Wars - and a peculiar 'monkey' murder in Queensferry!

Wednesday 30th January

John Harris : The Priory Church and the Carmelites



The Priory Church of St Mary of Mount Carmel which is the town's oldest building is usually called the Priory Church or St Mary's. Originally it was a Carmelite Friary founded in 1330. The church building was constructed in the mid 15th century for the Carmelite Order and is the only Carmelite church still in use in the British Isles.

It served as the parish church in the 16th and 17th centuries, but subsequently fell into disrepair. In 1890 it was restored and reopened by the Scottish Episcopal Church.

The Carmelites are a religious Order of Roman Catholics who follow an 800 year-old tradition of spirituality.

January 1 to January 25

Message from the Skies

Six acclaimed Scottish writers are to have their words projected onto buildings in the Capital when Edinburgh welcomes in the New year. The event is a unique collaboration between the writers and 10 of the country's best designers musicians and artists, including local artist, Eleanor Meredith. The latter's saturated water colours can be seen with M.J. McCarthy's musical score which together with Stef Smith's poetic letter to life will be projected onto the Bongo Club in the Cowgate. The event is a result of a partnership between Edinburgh International Book Festival and Edinburgh UNESCO city of literature trust. It is supported by Creative Scotland. Nothing in Queensferry despite the bridge having UNESCO status!

Dundas Castle

The Castle owned by one of our members Sir Jack Stewart- Clark can now be called “The Scottish Wedding Venue of the Year” having won the accolade at this year’s VOWS awards. The castle which has 17 bedrooms and 400 acres of secluded estate has been operating as a wedding venue for the last 20years. It is billed as one of the most romantic places to get married in Scotland.

Barnbogle Castle



The first building at Barnbogle was a thirteenth-century tower House. It was sold in 1662, to Sir Archibald Primrose of Carrington. His eldest son was created Earl of Rosebery in 1703, and Barnbogle became the family seat.

By the early 19th century, the castle had become dilapidated, and during a storm a wave supposedly washed into the dining room during supper.

With his family getting tired of the wet and cold the 4th Earl of Rosebery had Dalmeny House constructed on the estate, and the family moved in on its completion in 1817. Barnbogle was then used to store explosives, but after being damaged in an accidental explosion, it was subsequently left as a ruin

In 1881 the great grandfather of the present Lord Dalmeny the fifth Earl, Archibald Primrose, who was to serve as PM from 1894 -95 made the castle his personal retreat and had the castle entirely rebuilt in the Scots Baronial style. It contained one bedroom, six libraries containing 10,000 books and a 60 foot banqueting hall in which the future P.M practised his speeches.

After he died in 1929 Barnbougles was closed and used only for storage.

A storm in 2013 caused considerable damage and the repairs which had to be made spurred the family on to tackling further issues.

In the new year it will be opened as a party venue with parking available for 1000 cars. It will also be used for weddings.

It will remain a one bedroom property with a four poster bed situated in the middle of the room allowing breathtaking views in two directions from the windows. This bed will replace the original which was situated in the corner.

The bathroom will remain relatively intact. The wooden top loo and the deep marble bath , complete with its salt water tap have been kept. However, a modern shower has been installed.

The first proper party will be on 11 February to celebrate Lord Rosebery's 90th birthday.

The antiquary William Wallace Fyfe recorded, in 1851, a legend associated with Barnbougles and nearby Hound Point. He relates that "whenever the death of any of Barnbougles's lords is about to occur, the unwanted apparition of a black man, accompanied by a hound, appears upon the point, and winds from his bugle the death-note of the baron."

Hence the origin of the ancient name of *Bar'n-bugle*."

Fyfe took the story as inspiration for a poem relating the adventures of "Sir Roger Mowbray" and his faithful dog on [Crusade](#) in the Holy Land, culminating in Sir Roger's death and closing with the words:

*And ever when Barnbougles's lords
Are parting this scene below
Come hound and ghost to this haunted coast
With death notes winding slow.*

A number of variations on this legend have been recorded, including versions where the baying of a hound, rather than a trumpet, precedes a death.

Port Edgar : The Navy Years: 1958 -1975

Pete Collinson.

1958. The Fishery Protection Squad was moved from the River Humber to Port Edgar.

1960. AS HMS LOCHINVAR , the base became responsible for all minesweeping training. During the 60s a number of live minesweeping operations were carried out by Port Edgar based vessels, off mainland Europe to clear up the legacy of WW11 minelaying.

1962 His Majesty, King Olav of Norway visited Queensferry and Port Edgar to review ships of the Scottish Command. During World War Two King Olav had, whilst in exile, led his Navy from Queensferry. Their headquarters being the current Council Offices in the High Street.

1974 Port Edgar based vessels engaged in clearance of the Suez Canal following the Arab Israeli War.

1975 The new fleet base opened at Rosyth Naval Base. After almost 75 years service Port Edgar base was closed down. HMS LOCHINVAR , Port Edgar vessels and personnel transferred across to Rosyth.

The committee would like to wish all members a very happy New Year and look forward to seeing you all at talks in 2019.