

# Dunfermline - A Story to Weave

## New Museum & Gallery

Issue 4 - May 2013



## Visit the Team in the Abbey Room

We are delighted to welcome Lesley McNaughton and Shahana Khaliq to the Display and Activities Team. With funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and Fife Council, they will be working full time to gather stories for the new museum project. They are based in The Abbey Room in Dunfermline Carnegie Library and can usually be found there on weekdays between 9.30am and 5.00pm.

The Abbey Room is a great place to find out more about the project. Not only do we have the plans for the proposed building and the displays, but we also have a twin tub and cooker from the 1950s which are provoking lots of memories from visitors. An old fashioned blackboard is a focus for the children's corner so that you can entertain the kids whilst telling us your Dunfermline stories.

### **Dunlop / Duracord - Can you help?**

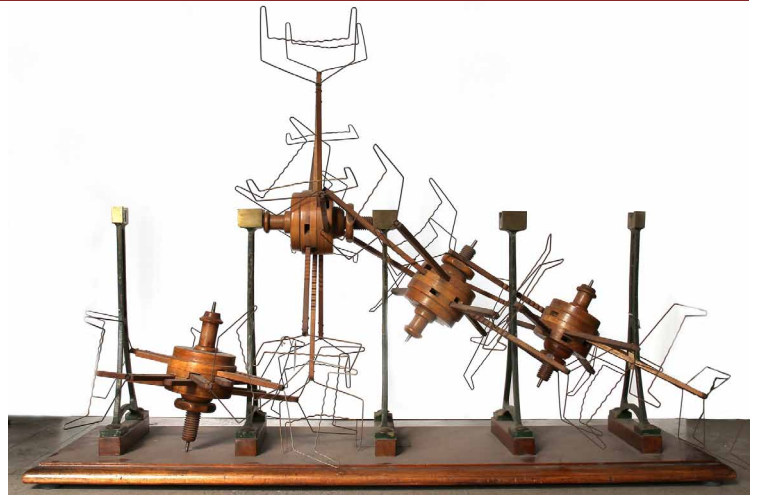
Do you know anyone who worked for Dunlop or Duracord at the old Hay & Robertson factory in Dunfermline? Lesley McNaughton would love to hear from you. Ring 01383 602365.

[www.fifedirect.org.uk/futureheritage](http://www.fifedirect.org.uk/futureheritage)

## Pick an object, any object ...

The plans for the new museum are well underway and our team want your help!

We are currently deciding what objects should be displayed in the Gateway wall of the new building: An eye-catching and exciting feature that you will see as soon as you come in the doors. As the museum is about Dunfermline and for Dunfermline, we want your help to choose what will be displayed.



Please come along to one of our consultation days, where we will show you images of objects relating to homes, leisure and recreation, shopping, transport, local industries, and the wars: all you need to do is tell us if you find the objects interesting.

You can visit us at:

Carnegie Library, Abbey Room – Tuesday 28th May 9.30am – 5pm

Asda, St. Leonards – Thursday 6th June 10am – 3pm

Kingsgate Shopping Centre – Wednesday 12th June 10am – 3pm

Carnegie Leisure Centre – Friday 14th June – 10am – 3pm

We look forward to meeting you!



### Curator's Corner

Lesley Botten, Museum Display Design & Activities Curator, reveals some of her project highlights in this regular slot.

I really enjoyed meeting Jim Drummond who came to The Abbey Room to tell me about his weaving ancestors. This is him with his father's web glass which he used to check the quality of the linen cloth he wove whilst working at Hay & Robertsons. After a stay in Glasgow, Drummond senior came back to Dunfermline to work at the British Celanese company in Gardeners Street.



Jim Drummond

# What will be in the Museum?

## TRANSPORT

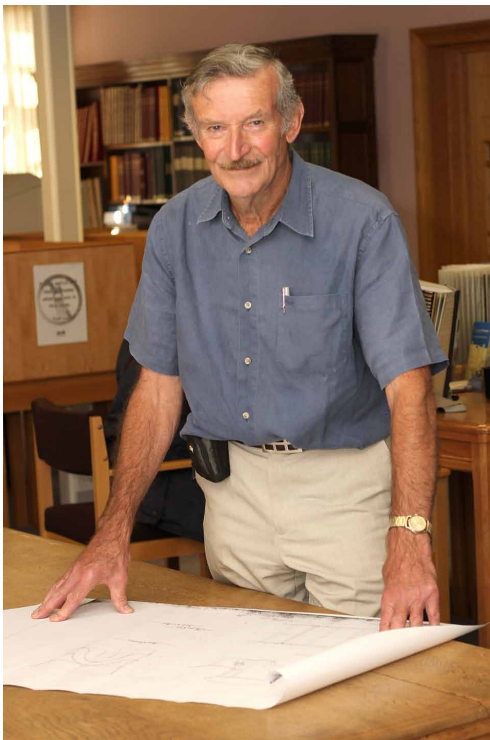
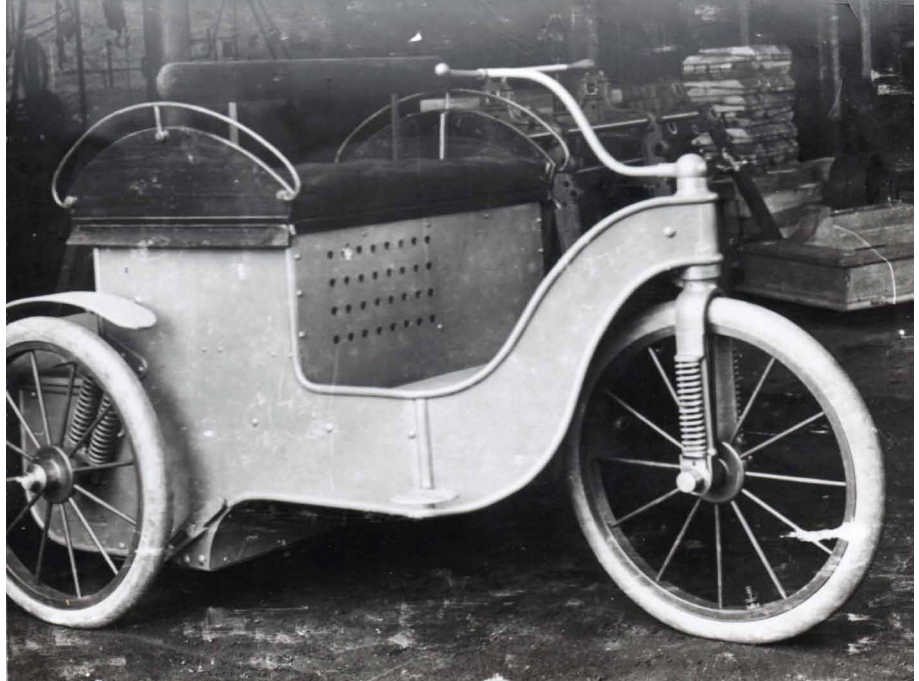
As well as featuring the Firth of Forth crossings, from ferry and train to a second road bridge, there'll be a bit on transport curiosities. Did you know for example that a very early motor car was built in Dunfermline in 1897?

### The Tod Car

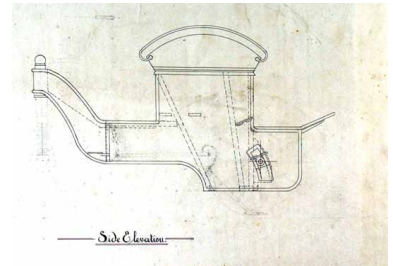
The Tod car is the only vehicle with an internal combustion engine to have been built in Dunfermline. In 1897 the Dunfermline Press reported on the Tod three-wheeler with Dunlop early pneumatic tyres. "The engine is a high speed one," stated the Press report, "and the car could be propelled at a rate of thirty miles per hour, although, of course, the regulations prohibit anything like such a speed." After 1959 Michael Tod & Son was wound up and its assets sold.

The car is believed to have been broken up. What is certain is that

the car's engine survived along with engineering plans and we are hoping to involve young people in building a replica car to put into the permanent museum displays in 2016.



A few months ago we had a visit from the son of the last owner of Michael Tod & Son. Sandy Tod spent a day looking at a great pile of drawings of pumps and other machines built by his ancestors' works for use in the weaving and mining industries. He took away a copy of the Tod car plans to study them with a view to helping us to build a new one.



### Crossing the Firth of Forth - Can you help?

Lesley Botten wants to hear unusual tales of crossing the Forth by ferry or train. Were you there the day that the road bridge opened? Ring 01383 602365.

Each newsletter will focus on one of the new museum's six display themes. The next issue will feature Dunfermline in Wartime.

# Archaeological Dig Volunteers

An archaeological dig will take place from mid August 2013 and last about 6 weeks. If you would like to be involved contact Lesley McNaughton or Lesley Botten for an application form (also available in The Abbey Room, Carnegie Dunfermline Library).

Priority for hands-on digging will be given to local residents, first time diggers and people considering archaeology as a career. You can get involved in other ways too – helping with family events, tours for school groups or making tea for the volunteers and staff (very, very important job, especially if we get the kind of summer weather that none of us want!)



## Get involved ... Find out more

For the next 3 years there will be lots of ways that you can help make the new Dunfermline Museum into something to be proud of. More information will be issued in quarterly newsletters which you can download from the website or receive by post if you send in a request to join a newsletter mailing list. Send an email to

[libraries.museums@fife.gov.uk](mailto:libraries.museums@fife.gov.uk) or pick up a mailing list request form at a Dunfermline library or go to:

**[www.fifedirect.org.uk/futureheritage](http://www.fifedirect.org.uk/futureheritage)**

You are also welcome to contact any of the following people involved in the project:

Lesley Botten, Museum Display Design & Activities Curator  
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Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and Fife Council with The Carnegie Dunfermline Trust, **Royal Dunfermline – A Story to Weave** will develop a new and accessible museum and art gallery in the heart of Dunfermline's heritage quarter, adjacent to and integrating with the world's first Carnegie Library.

