

Royal Dunfermline - A Story to Weave

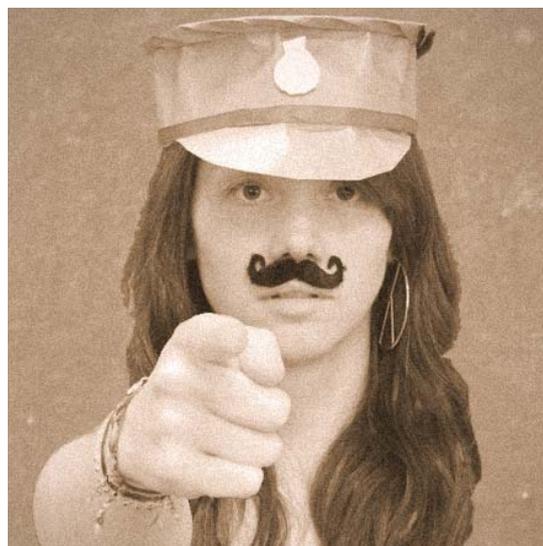
New Museum & Art Gallery

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Your Museum Needs You - Volunteer Researchers Wanted

Every object has a story to tell. Who won these medals? Who wrote this diary? Did they survive? Explore our First World War collection and help us tell their stories. If you are interested in the First World War, can work alone but also like sharing information with others, why not enlist today?

This is a fantastic opportunity to gain research experience and get involved in the Dunfermline Museum and Art Gallery project. To apply contact Catriona at Catriona.davidson@onfife.com or call 03451 555 555 Ext 492781. Deadline is 30th June.



We've Moved!

Dunfermline Carnegie Library closed at the end of March to give us time to safely move staff, furniture, all the books and museum collections before building work starts later this year. Alternative town centre library services are open for business. For book borrowing go to The Maygate Library and for free internet access it's the City Chambers or the Music Institute. Opening times on www.onfife.com or find us on Facebook.

The DMAG team has joined forces with the Local Studies Service in St Margaret's House next door to the library just down the hill in St Margaret's Street. We will shortly be relaunching our volunteer programme and hope to see many of you in our new Dunfermline Museum and Art Gallery project hub soon.



www.facebook.com/dmagfife

Getting Ready to Move

Two teams of volunteers joined in the mammoth task of packing up ready for moving out.

Robert Burns: The Murison Collection

23 specially selected volunteers had professional training in book conservation from Emma Fraser so that they could carefully clean and pack up part of the Murison Collection. Thanks to the Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust for their financial support.

Our volunteers took just eight and a half days to pack away a total of 2498 items including books, pamphlets, catalogues and song sheets (and they drank around 200 cups of tea in the process!)

To thank our volunteers for their huge contribution to our project, we invited them to join us for more tea and Burns-themed cupcakes. After some mingling and a lovely speech from our volunteer Margaret Williamson about her experience, everyone was presented with a certificate to mark the training they had received, and their own personalised bookmark.



Volunteer Katy Wall shows off her favourite book



Ewan McLeod: (pictured)

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this project ... it's been a really good experience and a pleasure to work with you."

Gordon Fraser
Charitable Trust



How to Make Sausages out of Tissue Paper?

More volunteers joined us for a week to catalogue the contents of one of our museum stores. They learned how to make tissue paper "puffs" and "sausages" to pack around objects inside their boxes as well as how to handle objects and record information about them. We also asked them to choose their favourite examples of Dunfermline made linen and silk for our "Beautiful Things" display case.

Huge thanks to Douglas Groom, Stuart Forrester, Kevin Cox, Emma Argyrou and Judith Walker for all their hard work and enthusiasm!

Pictured right: close up of a bedspread made at Hay & Robertson's factory



Curator's Corner

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

I was intrigued when Blair Morgan showed me rock band Nazareth's Lifetime Achievement Award presented to them by music therapy charity Nordoff Robbins. The band will definitely feature in the new museum and we're looking forward to meeting them soon.



Dunfermline Homes

The DMAG team has been working hard behind the scenes to pick the objects that will be on display in your new museum. We're focusing on homes and kitchens just now. One thing we've noticed is how heavy some labour saving devices are compared to modern versions.

This iron for example weighs almost half a stone or nearly 3 kilos.



When you visit the Museum you'll be able to compare 3 kitchens from different eras. One from the 1920s, one from the 1960s and one from the 1990s.

A range, (pictured right) bought from Dunfermline ironmonger Andrew Adie, forms the heart of the 1920s kitchen. But the star object for the 1960s is likely to be a washing machine.

This twin tub (pictured left) has been on display in the Abbey Room of the Library for the last year and we've been amazed at how many visitors have loved it. Everyone over a certain age has fond memories – men and women. Jean Reid, cleaner with Fife Council, loved her twin tub so much. It reminds her of New Year's Night – getting all the cleaning and washing done, then opening the back door of her mother's house to hear all the ships on the Forth sounding their horns and hooters.



Mystery Object

Clue: something you would probably use in the kitchen. See back page for answer.



Team News

Congratulations to volunteer, Rachel Lessells, who started her new job as a Visitor Services Assistant at Edinburgh Castle in May. We are extra pleased that Rachel still plans to be part of the Dean of Guild Team here in Dunfermline.

Double congratulations to our volunteer, Morven Ross. She recently left us to begin a year long traineeship with the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland. And she and her husband, Alasdair, tied the knot in April.

More double congratulations, this time for our Research and Activities Assistant, Shahana Khaliq. Shahana's got a new job as Assistant Curator at Glasgow Museums (Kelvin Hall), and she also got engaged recently to Russell. The team will miss her so much and wish her all the luck in the world with her new job.

Pictured from top to bottom: Rachel, Morven and Shahana and Russell.



Mystery Object Answer: It's a lemon squeezer!

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@onfife.com or ask in one of our Dunfermline libraries.

You are also welcome to contact:

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Funded by Fife Council, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and 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.

