

# **EVENTS** *in Dumfries & Galloway*

2011-12

# Welcome

We are once again delighted to present a varied and exciting series of workshops, lectures, concerts and conferences throughout this academic year. Everyone is warmly invited to attend and many events are free.

This year, we are pleased to introduce the new *Solway Centre for Environment & Culture*, an important hub for research on the campus and throughout the region. To celebrate the development of this facility, we are offering several series of talks exploring the unique landscape and culture of south west Scotland. These include a four-part series on *Landscape, Memory and Place* and a conference in the planning, exploring our region as the *Home of Environmental Art*, in association with *Wide Open*. We look, too, across the Solway to explore *Land and Sea*, from the perspectives of Dumfries & Galloway and Cumbria.

For those who appreciate the chance to explore a subject in more depth, we have popular lecturer Ann Karkalas exploring *The City in Literature* during a seven week course and Lionel Masters considering *Pyramids of the New World*, in Mexico and in Peru, over two days. Benjamin Franks' half day course *Three More Dangerous Ideas* follows on from last year's course. We welcome new speakers, too, from the University of Edinburgh and from our sister campus in Glasgow.

With events running in Dumfries, Whithorn, New Galloway, Stranraer, Castle Douglas, Annan and Gatehouse of Fleet, as well as the popular Kirkmahoe Concerts, we hope you will find something to enjoy. We look forward to seeing you and we promise a friendly welcome, whatever your interests.

Dr Valentina Bold Events Co-ordinator, and Reader in Literature & Ethnology University of Glasgow, Dumfries Campus



Front cover image by Alastair Ross, University of Glasgow Graduate, Dumfries Campus (MLitt Tourism, Heritage & Development)

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# September 2011

# The Auriga Strings

#### Kirkmahoe Concerts

#### Sunday 18th September ,2.30pm, Kirkmahoe Parish Church, Kirkton

Led by Iona Hassan, this dynamic young team of string players from across the UK are building a strong following for their exciting chamber music concerts. The programme includes Johannes Brahms - String Sextet No.1 in B-flat major, Richard Strauss - Capriccio for String Sextet, plus some lighter popular pieces. Look out for the return of Feargus Hetherington playing viola.

£8 per person. Tickets available from The Midsteeple (Dumfries), from Thomas Tosh (Thornhill), from the venue on the day, by calling 01387 702043, or online at www.dgarts.co.uk (64)

### Linda Cracknell and Valerie Gillies

#### Writers' series with the generous support of the Scottish Book Trust

#### Wednesday 28th September, 3.00pm – 4.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

Two of Scotland's finest writers on the environment, Linda Cracknell and Valerie Gillies, will read from their work and discuss poetic and artistic responses to Scotland's landscape. Linda Cracknell is a writer of short stories, creative non-fiction and radio drama. She edited *A Wilder Vein* (2009) which brought together a range of writers' essays on their experience of nature and landscape. Valerie Gillies collaborates with visual artists and musicians. Her *The Spring Teller* (2008) is a collection of poems inspired by Scotland's wells and springs. For further information contact David.Borthwick@glasgow.ac.uk or call 01387 702024.

Free event, talk 1 of 3 (65)





# October 2011

# World Hospice & Palliative Care Day: Handel's Messiah

# Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October, 1.30 pm, St John's Church, Lovers Walk, Dumfries

Sing Handel's *Messiah* with thousands of friends around the world! *Voices for Hospices* is a wave of simultaneous concerts around the globe which take place on World Hospice and Palliative Care Day. Everyone is welcome to join us for this 'come and sing' session - groups and individuals of all faiths and none. Together we aim to increase awareness of hospices and palliative care and to raise funds for Hospice Africa Uganda. Whatever your talents you are welcome to take part in a performance of Handel's Messiah, under expert guidance, in the beautiful surroundings of St John's Church. For more information and to book a place please contact Rev Andrew MacKenzie on epimeth@aol.com or by calling 01387 254056. **E5 per person (participants and audience), children under 16 free (66)** 



# Being Scottish in the Carolinas

### Dr Valentina Bold, University of Glasgow Dumfries Campus

#### Landscape, Memory and Place series, in association with the Solway Centre

#### Tuesday 18th October, 11.00am - 1.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

Dr Valentina Bold has been researching, over the past 15 years, the experience of being Scottish among *diaspora* communities in America and Canada. Today's talk, focussing on Scots from North and South Carolina, involved in Scottish-based activities from dance, to poetry and song, bagpiping, crafts and Gaelic-learning, suggests that Highland Games, in North America, are conducted in a Scottish landscape of the mind. Real places, such as Grandfather Mountain, become 'embassies' for the Highland culture of Scotland, allowing participants to be in a safe, and nurturing, environment to explore their identities as Americans and Scots.

£6 per talk or £20 to attend all four, including refreshments, talk 1 of 4 (69)

# The Balliol Kings: Local Boys Made Good?

### Stuart McCulloch

#### Wednesday 19th October, 2.00pm - 4.00pm, Whithorn Community Centre

Popular speaker Stuart McCulloch turns his attention to the Balliol Kings. King John Balliol of Buittle was only on the Scottish throne for a few years until he was deposed by King Edward of England. His son, Edward, fared little better, only sharing his throne with two other kings! Scottish history has not been kind to the Balliols. However this family, based in Galloway, kept local support during more than 70 years of warfare! This illustrated talk will re-evaluate the lives of John and Edward Balliol and the central part they played in the Scottish Wars of Independence.

£8 per talk or £30 to attend all four, talk 1 of 4 (68)

# Discovering Dumfries & Galloway's Past: a new initiative

### Dr Richard Jones

#### Wednesday 26th October, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, Whithorn Community Centre

This talk is an overview of a new project which aims to exploit the potential of geophysical survey to locate and understand archaeological sites in the region. The project, a cooperative venture with the University of Glasgow, Dumfries Campus, is designed to be community based. It arises from Glasgow University Archaeology Department's recent work in Dumfriesshire - the Solway Hinterland Archaeological Remote Sensing Project (SHARP) – which applies magnetometry and resistivity to Roman and medieval sites. The talk considers how the project can complement and extend the recent as well as current archaeological fieldwork in South West Scotland. **£8 per talk or £30 to attend all four, talk 2 of 4 (69)** 

# November 2011

# Place-Making: The Sensory Engagements of Environmental Dwelling Dr Rachel Harkness, University of Edinburgh

Landscape, Memory and Place series, in association with the Solway Centre

#### Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November, 11.00am – 1.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

Rachel Harkness is a Social Anthropologist, working at the University of Edinburgh's Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities and the University of Strathclyde's Department of Marketing. Her talk draws upon research with people building eco-homes (often for themselves, sometimes for others) in both Scotland and New Mexico in the U.S. In it Dr Harkness considers landscape, place and memory within the processes of place-making that these eco-builders engage with/in. She argues that the eco-home provides fertile ground for thinking about ways in which to be at home in the world and of how just and sustainable futures might be forged.

£6 per talk or £20 to attend all four, including refreshments, talk 2 of 4 (70)

# The Wit and Wisdom of Wigtownshire

### Professor Ted Cowan, Emeritus Professor of Scottish History, University of Glasgow

#### Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, Whithorn Community Centre

Professor Cowan explores and discusses themes and topics which will be of particular relevance and interest to the people of Wigtownshire.

£8 per talk or £30 to attend all four, talk 3 of 4 (71)

# Gerry Loose

#### Writers' series, with the generous support of the Scottish Book Trust

#### Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 3.00pm – 4.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

Gerry Loose is a writer and horticulturist whose words are as likely to appear in the gardens he designs as they are to appear on the page. He has recently completed a commission to make poems for the new Crichton Acute Mental Health Hospital at Midpark, where his poems will be built into the landscape in courtyards and in the grounds. Gerry will discuss his work, and after the reading there will be the opportunity to visit some of his installations a short walk away at Midpark. This event is free. For further information contact David.Borthwick@glasgow.ac.uk or telephone 01387 702024. Free event, talk 2 of 3 (72)

# Pyramids of the New World: Mexico

### Lionel Masters, Former Senior Lecturer in Archaeology, DACE,

#### University of Glasgow

# Thursday 3rd November, 10.30am – 12.30pm and 2.00pm – 4.00pm, Castle Douglas Community Centre

Everyone has heard of the pyramids of Egypt, but there are equally striking pyramids in Central and South America. We will examine sites in Mexico including Teotihuacan, Monte Alban, and the Mayan sites at Uxmal, Palenque and Chichen Itza. In Peru we will look at the early site of Caral, and at the Moche sites of Sipan, El Brujo and the Huaca de la Luna (Trujillo), where ongoing excavations are revealing ever more magnificent finds.

This is a set of four lectures, two on each date.  $\pm 10$  per day or  $\pm 18$  to attend both days (2 x 2 hours each day) (73)



Chichen Itza, Mexico

# The Songs of Wigtownshire

### Phyllis Martin

#### Wednesday 9th November, 2.00pm - 4.00pm, Whithorn Community Centre

Phyllis Martin was born and raised in Garlieston, and sang with Stravaig for 20 years. Now performing as part of Linkum Doddie, she recently released 2 CDs featuring the traditional songs of the South West of Scotland, from her own collecting, some with members of her own family; most of these have never been previously recorded; some will be familiar. Her illustrated talk will consider the distinctive songs of Wigtownshire, and include performances from herself and, quite probably, some of her friends. £8 per talk or £30 to attend all four, talk 4 of 4 (74)

# Robin Williamson

#### Kirkmahoe Concerts

#### Friday 11th November, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, Dalswinton Village Hall

Multi-instrumentalist, singer, songwriter, story-teller, poet and founder member of the Incredible String Band - Robin returns to Kirkmahoe, by popular request. Come along for an evening of beautiful harp playing, songs new and old with guitar – and a few unexpected digressions along the way! An evening to delight his many followers, old and new. Price: £8. Tickets available from The Midsteeple (Dumfries), from Thomas Tosh (Thornhill), from the venue on the day, by calling 01387 702043, or online at www.dgarts.co.uk (75)

# Commemoration, Memory and Tourism on the Western Front: a new look at contemporary interest in the First World War

#### Stephen Miles, University of Glasgow

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus To coincide with this year's Remembrance Day observances, this talk describes the experiences of tourists to the sites of the Western Front and the range of meanings they attach to the actual sites of conflict and cemeteries. The talk is based upon recent research undertaken on a coach tour to the area, providing a revealing and insightful analysis of experience within a commemorative context. It is now nearly a century since the outbreak of the First World War, a conflict which changed the face of modern Europe and with the death of 16.5 million people worldwide marked the 'end of innocence' of a previous age. Interest in these events is still strong, however, and the conflict is viewed from a variety of different moral, historical and cultural perspectives. Stephen Miles is completing a PhD on Battlefield Tourism. Free event (76)



World War I trenches, Belgium

# Memory, Place and Regret: The Beothuk in Newfoundland

# Dr John Harries, University of Edinburgh

Landscape, Memory and Place series, in association with the Solway Centre

#### Tuesday 15th November, 11.00am – 1.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

Over the last few years, Social Anthropologist John Harries has been conducting research concerning the ways in which the people of Newfoundland, Canada, remember the Beothuk, a native people of that island who became extinct (or were exterminated) in the early 19th century. He has been addressing the question of how we may theorise the presence of the past. This is particularly a concern with the material traces of past lives, be they human bones or scratches on stones, and how these traces are enfolded into the work of individual and collective memory.

£6 per talk or £20 to attend all four, refreshments included, talk 3 of 4 (77)

# The Scottish Wars of Independence: No more heroes any more?

### Stuart McCulloch

#### Exploring Galloway Through History and Literature series

#### Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2.00pm – 4.00pm The Catstrand, High Street, New Galloway

Local historian Stuart McCulloch considers the Scottish Wars of Independence. The events of the Wars and the lives of the 'heroes' such as Bruce and Wallace are well known, even today. However, accounts of the effects of these turbulent times on ordinary people are almost impossible to find. This illustrated talk will examine why the people of the South West remained at the centre of national conflict for over 70 years and will explore the impact these wars had on their lives and on the local landscape.

£8 per talk or £30 to attend all four, talk 1 of 4 (78)

# Sara Maitland

#### Writers' series with the generous support of the Scottish Book Trust

#### Wednesday 16th November, 3.00pm – 4.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

One of Britain's foremost novelists and short story writers, Sara Maitland lives in a remote cottage in Galloway where she pursues her writing which, most recently, has come to address environmental issues. The Book of Silence (2008) documented her quest to find complete silence as a means of spiritual regeneration. Sara will read from her work and answer questions. For further information contact David.Borthwick@glasgow.ac.uk or call 01387 702024.

Free event, talk 3 of 3 (79)

# Pyramids of the New World: Peru

# Lionel Masters, Former Senior Lecturer in Archaeology, DACE, University of Glasgow

#### Thursday 17th November, 10.30am - 12.30pm & 2.00pm - 4.00pm, Castle Douglas Community Centre

Everyone has heard of the pyramids of Egypt, but there are equally striking pyramids in Central and South America. We will examine sites in Mexico including Teotihuacan, Monte Alban, and the Mayan sites at Uxmal, Palenque and Chichen Itza. In Peru we will look at the early site of Caral, and at the Moche sites of Sipan, El Brujo and the Huaca de la Luna (Trujillo), where ongoing excavations are revealing ever more magnificent finds.

This is a set of four lectures, two on each date. £10 per day or £18 to attend both days (2 x 2 hours each day) (80)

# Witches and Charmers of Galloway

### Dr Lizanne Henderson, University of Glasgow Dumfries Campus

#### Exploring Galloway Through History and Literature series

#### Wednesday 23rd November, 7.00pm -9.00pm, The Catstrand, High Street, New Galloway

The southwest was among one of the areas affected by the witch-hunts of early modern Scotland. In Galloway, suspected witches, if found guilty, were executed, or banished from their communities, while local charmers faced criminal charges. There was a particularly notable concentration of cases in the late seventeenth century. This talk will discuss the stories and lives behind these accusations.

£8 per talk or £30 to attend all four, talk 2 of 4 (81)



# Place and the Contest for Heritage Identity

### Dr Donald Macleod, University of Glasgow Dumfries Campus

Landscape, Memory and Place series, in association with the Solway Centre

#### Tuesday 29th November, 11.00am - 1.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

Dr Macleod has published widely on sustainable development, heritage, identity, cultural change and globalisation, all in the context of tourism. This talk explores the relationships that surround place, cultural heritage and identity. It recognises there are often numerous groups that have different experiences, interpretations and priorities concerning understanding, representing and celebrating the past. The scope of the talk is wide, embracing the Caribbean Islands, the Canary Islands, and Scotland: areas in which fieldwork or other research has been undertaken by Dr Macleod. They illustrate discrete and varied examples of how groups have argued and agreed over cultural heritage, the place where they live and their identities. **E6 per talk or £20 to attend all four, refreshments included, talk 4 of 4 (82)** 

# A Wild Adventure, Thomas Watling, Dumfries Convict Artist

#### Tom Pow, Poet and Honorary Senior Research Fellow, University of Glasgow

#### Exploring Galloway Through History and Literature series

#### Wednesday 30th November, 2.00pm – 4.00pm The Catstrand, High Street, New Galloway.

Award-winning poet Tom Pow will be talking about Thomas Watling (b. Dumfries 1762) who was transported to Botany Bay for forging bank notes. Watling was the first professional artist in Australia and left a valuable record of its natural life and of a human world that was on its way to near extinction. He returned to Dumfries, where he was again charged with forgery. His life throws up interesting issues concerning the Enlightenment, colonisation, identity and trauma - and certain challenges for the life writer. Pow will discuss these, showing illustrations, and reading a number of poems from his own speculative poetic biography of Watling.

Price: £8 per talk or £30 to attend all four, talk 3 of 4 (83)

# December 2011

# Fictional Galloway

### Margaret Elphinstone

Exploring Galloway Through History and Literature series

#### Wednesday 7th December, 2.00pm - 4.00pm The Catstrand, High Street, New Galloway

Literary landscapes exist as words on a page, but they also change the way we see the actual landscapes that inspired them. Often they go back to earlier oral narratives, and the threads that bind story and place have been woven together over generations. Many novels have been set in Galloway, but they're not often explored as a separate tradition, though several are well known outside their Galloway context. Elphinstone will be looking at some novels set in Galloway between 1815 and 1915, and considering how our view of Galloway may have been shaped by these narratives.

£8 per lecture or £30 to attend all four, talk 3 of 4 (84)

# Advent Concert

#### Saturday 10th December, 7.30pm, Crichton Memorial Church

The renowned University of Glasgow Chapel Choir performs a service of nine lessons and carols in the beautiful candle-lit surroundings of the Crichton Memorial Church. Don't miss this wonderful experience in the run up to Christmas, a chance to sit back and enjoy a feast of music and readings that will appeal to people of all faiths and none. Entry is free, but by ticket only (telephone 01387 702001 or email admissions@crichton.gla.ac.uk). There will be a retiring collection in aid of the Peter Pan Moat Brae Trust.

Free event by ticket only (85)





# January 2012

# The Halton Quartet

#### Kirkmahoe Concerts

#### Sunday 15th January 2.30pm, Kirkmahoe Parish Church, Kirkton

This astonishing Scottish quartet are hard to pigeon hole. Rooted in the folk tradition, they draw on many influences from around the world and weave a rich and evocative world of sound from strings, bow and bellows. Expect stunning musicianship, high energy and an afternoon to blow away the January blues! From Kirkmahoe they head off to feature at Celtic Connections in Glasgow.

£8. Tickets available from The Midsteeple (Dumfries), from Thomas Tosh (Thornhill), from the venue on the day, by calling 01387 702043, or online at www.dgarts.co.uk (86)

# The Crichton Carbon Centre

#### Thursday 19th January, 6.00-7.30 pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

This lecture is the first in a two part series introducing the work of the Crichton Carbon Centre: a not-for-profit post graduate teaching and research organisation based at the Crichton University Campus in Dumfries, Scotland, founded in 2007 in response to growing concern about climate change. The Centre provides active leadership in carbon management as the foundation for protecting the environment and supporting sustainable development, contributing to the transition to a low carbon economy. The first lecture will provide an introduction to the challenges and opportunities that sustainable development presents and will review some of the actions that are being taken to respond to them. The second lecture is on Wednesday 8th February. For more information on the work of the centre visit www.carboncentre.org **Free event including light refreshments (87)** 

# 5-a-day: the mysterious emergence of 'dose-response' in public health Dr Sandy Whitelaw, University of Glasgow Dumfries Campus

#### Wednesday 25th January, 1.00pm – 2.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

The past 20 years have seen a growing prominence of a 'dose-response' notion within public health, for instance in relation to the notion of '5-a-day' of fruit and vegetables, recommended 'safe' units of alcohol , levels of 'safe' sun exposure and most recently, adequate levels of daily water consumption. Drawing upon evidence from a commissioned review of what might be an optimal 'dose' of physical activity associated with promoting mental health and wellbeing, this seminar will explore the basis of the translation of the 'dose-response' principle from the specific field of toxicology to the wider social field of public health. It will conclude by speculating on the possible function that 'dose related' plays in seeking to regulate behaviour.

Free Event (88)



# The City in Literature

### Ann Karkalas

#### Lecture one of a seven week course

#### Thursday 26th January, 1.00pm – 3.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

Cities have been hailed by many as indices of civilisation, dynamic and forward looking; lamented by others as hotbeds of vice, isolation and despair. This course will begin with a brief survey of attitudes towards the city in the western world, the urban/rural debate, and the growth of suburbia. Next we shall examine how some great cities have been portrayed in poetry, fiction, essays and memoirs, and finish by studying the creation of an imaginary city. A list of texts for detailed study (and browsing) will be available from Phillipa McNeill on Phillipa.McNeill@glasgow.ac.uk or by calling 01387 702131. This is a course of seven weekly sessions taking place on the 26<sup>th</sup>January, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> February and the 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

£30 for the whole series (89)

# February 2012

# The City in Literature

Ann Karkalas

Lecture two of a seven week course

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 1.00pm - 3.00 pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus £30 for the whole series (90)

# The Crichton Carbon Centre

#### Wednesday 8th February, 6.00-7.30 pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

This lecture is the second in a two-part series focusing on the work of the Crichton Carbon Centre in Dumfries & Galloway over the last four years; work with local significance and national resonance. Case studies will be presented that highlight the Centre's work with three different types of community in the region: communities of place [D&G towns], communities of interest [D&G schools] and communities of practice [D&G small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs)]. Outcomes from this work provide the evidence base underpinning the Centre's work with local and national government. An overview of projects involving collaboration with local authorities across Lowlands and Uplands Scotland, the Centre's role in Scottish Government's Climate Change Centre of Expertise and the Centre's involvement in Scottish Government's working party on the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development will provide the context for a wide ranging discussion with the audience. For more information on the work of the centre visit www.carboncentre.org

Free event including light refreshments (91)

# The City in Literature

### Ann Karkalas

#### Lecture three of a seven week course

Thursday 9th February, 1.00pm - 3.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus, £30 for the whole series (92)

# Discomfort and Joy: the Cinema of Bill Forsyth

### Jonathan Murray

#### Friday 10th February, 1.00 pm – 2.00 pm Rutherford/McCowan Building

Dr Jonathan Murray lectures at Edinburgh College of Art and is the author of the new critical study, *Discomfort and Joy: the Cinema of Bill Forsyth* (Peter Lang, 2011). Writer/director Bill Forsyth is the most important filmmaker that Scotland has to date produced. Forsyth was a vital figurehead for the tentative late-1970s/early-1980s emergence of an indigenous Scottish cinema. The distinctive and subtle nature of his directorial style, one capable of making comedy and a profound melancholy coexist on the cinema screen, has, arguably, not been matched since by any Scottish filmmaker. This presentation explores the key characteristics of Forsyth's writing and directing practice, and argues that the enduring significance of this filmmaker's work extends far beyond his native shores. **The lecture is free. A price applies for the follow-on screening.** 

#### Friday 10th February, 7.00pm, Robert Burns Film Theatre, Dumfries

A screening of a Bill Forsyth Film with an introduction by Jonny Murray. Details can be found in the Burns Centre 2012 programme, through their box office at 01387 264808 or website at www.rbcft.co.uk (93)

# The City in Literature

#### Ann Karkalas

Lecture four of a seven week course

Thursday 16th February, 1.00pm – 3.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus, £30 for the whole series (94)

# Proposed Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere

### Nic Coombey

Land and Sea: Across the Solway series, in association with the Solway Centre

#### Thursday 16th February, 6.00pm-7.30pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

Galloway and South Ayrshire is being proposed as a new style UNESCO Biosphere because of its unique combination of special landscapes and wildlife areas, rich cultural heritage and communities that care about their environment and culture and want to develop it sustainably. Biosphere designation will help understand, define, sustain and enhance those special qualities. As an internationally recognised marketing brand for superb natural environments Biosphere designation will offer new opportunities for individuals, businesses and communities to demonstrate how to live, work and play in a world class environment. Nic Coombey of the Biosphere Partnership will discuss the initiative and its implications.

Free event, talk 1 of 3. Parts 2 and 3 on 1st March and 22nd March. (95)

# Memory and Fiction: John Leyden and Walter Scott

Elaine Keenan, Johannes Gutenburg University, Mainz

The Borders, Dumfries and Galloway: knowing the land through poetry and song series

#### Friday 17th February, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, Buccleuch Centre, Langholm

Elaine Keenan, working on a PhD about John Leyden, discusses his ambiguous *Minstrelsy* image as eccentric character and "ingenious friend" to Walter Scott. Scott could not have hoped for a better assistant in preparing the *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border* (1802-03): John Leyden (1775-1811) was not only born and brought up in the Borders, but highly educated and shared Scott's enthusiasm for ballads. Their common undertaking became one of the most successful ballad collections ever published, reflecting Scottish cultural memory. Unlike Scott, Leyden never profited from the *Minstrelsy's* success. He instead sailed to India in 1803 and his promising career as orientalist, linguist and judge ended with his sudden death in 1811.

£6 per talk or £20 to attend all four, refreshments included, talk 1 of 4. Part 2 on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, part 3 on 16<sup>th</sup> March, part 4 on 30<sup>th</sup> March. (96)

# Frank Miller: Annan's forgotten antiquarian

### Dr Valentina Bold, University of Glasgow, Dumfries Campus

Exploring Annan: some new perspectives series in association with Friends of Annan and Eskdale Museums

#### Tuesday 21st February, 11.00am - 12.00pm, The Bruce Restaurant, Annan

Dr Valentina Bold will talk about Frank Miller (1854-1944), the Annan-based antiquarian. Miller's legacy lives on in his book *The Poets of Dumfriesshire,* his many contributions to the *Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society Transactions,* and in his manuscript and book collection now in the Ewart Library, Dumfries. While his house in Fruid's Park remains, along with the building of the Commercial Bank of Scotland, where he worked, Miller's lifetime work, in documenting South West Scotland's cultural heritage, is forgotten. Dr Bold will reconstruct his quiet life, and reflect on his importance as a collector, particularly of songs, suggesting that he deserves to be celebrated in the town he made his home.

Free event, with optional soup and sandwich lunch at £6. Part 1 of 3. Part 2 on 13th March, part 3 on 17th April. (97)

# The City in Literature

### Ann Karkalas

#### Lecture five of a seven week course

Thursday 23rd February, 1.00pm - 3.00 pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus £30 for the whole series (98)



# March 2012

# What's so special about the Solway Firth?

### Pam Taylor, Solway Firth Partnership

#### Land and Sea: Across the Solway series, in association with the Solway Centre

#### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March, 6.00pm - 7.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

What are the challenges and opportunities for the Solway Firth and what do we want it to be like in a hundred years' time? Pam Taylor works with the Solway Firth Partnership: a local charity dedicated to supporting a prosperous future for the Solway and respecting, protecting and celebrating the distinctive character, heritage and natural features of the area. Harbours, fishing fleets and recreational craft are the focal point of many coastal communities. The wellbeing of tourism and the quality of the environment are bound up with one another. This talk presents a view of the estuary's unique blend of landscape and seascape, its people and places, wildlife above and below the waves, fisheries and tourism. **Free event, talk 2 of 3. Part 3 on 22<sup>nd</sup> March. (99)** 

# The Songs of James Hogg

### Dr Kirsteen McCue, University of Glasgow

The Borders, Dumfries and Galloway: knowing the land through poetry and song series

#### Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, Buccleuch Centre, Langholm

Kirsteen McCue will lecture about the unique and influential songs of James Hogg. She is currently completing editions of James Hogg's *Songs by the Ettrick Shepherd* (1831), and a companion volume of Hogg's *Contributions to Musical Collections and Miscellaneous Songs* for the acclaimed Stirling/South Carolina Research Edition of The Collected Works of James Hogg for Edinburgh University Press. A performer herself, McCue formerly managed the Scottish Music Information Centre and has been part of Scottish Literature at the University of Glasgow since 2002. Her research focuses closely on Romantic song culture and she has been actively involved in the Glasgow University project to edit all of the folksong settings of Joseph Haydn for George Thomson's collections. For further information on Kirsteen's work visit www.jameshogg.stir.ac.uk and www.scottishmusiccentre.com

£6 per talk or £20 to attend all four, refreshments included, talk 2 of 4. Part 3 on 16th March, part 4 on 30th March. (100)

# The City in Literature Ann Karkalas

Lecture six of a seven week course

Thursday 8th March, 1.00pm – 3.00 pm Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus £30 for the whole series (101)

# Carlyle's Annan Schooldays

*Dr Ralph Jessop, University of Glasgow, Dumfries Campus Exploring Annan: some new perspectives* series in association with Friends of Annan and Eskdale Museums

Tuesday 13th March, 11.00am - 12.00pm, The Bruce Restaurant, Annan

Ralph Jessop is an internationally recognised Carlyle scholar. Here he argues it is high time this part of Scotland actively celebrated Carlyle's massive impact on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. This must involve new research into the extent of Carlyle's roots, his formative years in Annandale, his pivotal work at Craigenputtoch, and his numerous life-long connections with the region of his birth. Born in Ecclefechan, Carlyle attended Annan Academy before the University of Edinburgh. By most accounts his Annan schooldays were not happy. Yet these formative years were immensely important in contributing to his development as a writer whose powerful presence infused itself throughout Victorian culture.



Thomas Carlyle's statue, London

Free event, optional soup and sandwich lunch at £6. Talk 2 of 3. Part 3 on 17<sup>th</sup> April. (102)

# The City in Literature

Ann Karkalas

Lecture seven of a seven week course

Thursday 15th March, 1.00pm – 3.00pm Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus. £30 for the whole series (103)

# "Not so much a curriculum, more a way of life!"

### Professor Graham Donaldson, University of Glasgow

#### Thursday 15th March, 6.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

Graham Donaldson, Honorary Professor in Glasgow University's School of Education, recently completed the comprehensive review of teacher education in Scotland. He joined Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education in 1983, and rose to become Her Majesty's Senior Chief Inspector of Education and chief professional adviser to the Scottish Government. In this talk he considers how, over at least the last 50 years, Scottish education has seen a series of major reforms, each of which has addressed specific aspects of the work of our schools. However, we are currently engaged in the most profound and far-reaching transformation of not just what or even how we teach, but of the conditions for successful learning and for the governance of education. The lecture will look critically at this process and consider implications for our young people and their teachers and for educational leadership.

Free event (104)

# Songs and Ballads from the Borders

# Kathy Hobkirk

The Borders, Dumfries and Galloway: knowing the land through poetry and song series, in association with the Solway Centre

#### Friday 16th March, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, Buccleuch Centre, Langholm

This lecture will feature a selection of songs and ballads from the Borders discussed and sung by Kathy Hobkirk. Hobkirk, a former student of the University of Glasgow Dumfries Campus, now works in the Scottish Borders Archive and Local History Centre in Hawick, where she lives, and is much in demand as a performer of traditional songs.

£6 per talk or £20 to attend all four, refreshments included, Talk 3 of 4. Part 4 on 30th March. (105)

# Hubble, Bubble, Wine Spells Trouble!

### Foster Ross, Glebe House Winery

#### Wednesday 21st March, 5.00pm - 7.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

The Glebe House Winery is located just outside Ecclefechan. We take pride in the fact that we grow all our own fruit, which is processed into Scottish fruit wine on site; our main objectives are taste and quality. Traditions of wine-making can be traced back to around 8,000 BC. The principle of using crushed fruit, most notably the grape, is still the same today as it was in the past: i.e. the fermentation of fruit sugar to alcohol with the aid of a yeast; an example of possibly the earliest use of biotechnology in practice. This talk will concentrate on fruit wines, which in contrast to standard grape based wines, are made with a variety of alternative soft fruits and some more exotic materials, such as leaves, flowers and tree sap. Some tips and examples of generally encountered problems will also be discussed in conjunction with a questions and answers session, followed by a wine tasting. **£6 including a free sample. (106)** 





# Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (Challenges and Excursions)

# Dr Brian Irving, Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership

Land and Sea: Across the Solway series, in association with the Solway Centre

#### Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 6.00pm – 7.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building Dumfries Campus

The Solway Coast AONB lies between Maryport and the River Esk in England. Designated for almost 50 years, it came under full time management in 1996 following over 30 years of neglect as a National Treasure. Now, following secure funding and the veteran of four Statutory Management Plans the area is living up to its designation. However, external development pressures are increasing and the opportunity to fund innovative and cutting edge projects is receding. The speaker will give his personal take on the past, the present and the future of the Solway Coast, one of the most beautiful places on earth. Brian Irving was born in Carlisle and left school at age 15 without qualifications. He worked in a factory for 14 years and, in his spare time was a volunteer for the RSPB, gaining a real interest in Natural History. After studying at the Open University, the University of Lancaster and University College London, he worked as a Research Fellow at the University of York and returned to Carlisle 16 years ago. Free Event, talk 3 of 3. (107)

# O A' the Airts: Volumes 1 & 2

### Phyllis Martin

#### Friday 23rd March, 2.00 – 4.00pm, Rutherford/McCowan Building, Dumfries Campus

Following on from her first volume of South West Scottish songs, launched last year here in Dumfries, Phyllis Martin introduces her new CD, and discusses the songs of South West Scotland. An acclaimed performer, formerly with Stravaig and now with Linkum Doddie, Martin will illustrate her talk with a variety of locally collected and performed material. **E6 including light refreshments (108)** 

Book signing to mark the publication of Nouveaux Riches to Nouveaux Pauvres: the story of the Macalpine–Lenys

#### lan Macalpine–Leny

By courtesy of Peter and Sarah Landale.

#### Saturday 24th March, Dalswinton House, Dalswinton

This is the story of one particular family and some of the families they have married into over the last 200 years. Much of the narrative is set during the 100 years that the Macalpine-Lenys owned the Dalswinton Estate in Dumfriesshire - from 1819 to 1919. While the story is unique it also encapsulates many of the characteristics of a certain class, and what they achieved, 'in Britain's high noon'. Free event. Please contact Phillipa.McNeill@glasgow.ac.uk or 01387 702131 for confirmation of the

start time. (109)



# Matthew McCallister and Aisling Agnew

#### Kirkmahoe Concerts

#### Sunday 25th March, 2.30pm, Barony Church, Dalswinton

Matthew's reflective and lyrical classical guitar playing thrilled the Kirkmahoe audience back in January 2011 and now he returns with flautist Aisling Agnew. The duo recently celebrated their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and are well known across Europe and further afield for their repertoire of classical, traditional and contemporary pieces.

Price: £8. Tickets available from The Midsteeple (Dumfries), from Thomas Tosh (Thornhill), from the venue on the day, by calling 01387 702043, or online at www.dgarts.co.uk (110)

# Allan Cunningham: Nature and the Nith

### Dr Valentina Bold, University of Glasgow, Dumfries Campus

#### The Borders, Dumfries and Galloway: knowing the land through poetry and song series

#### Friday 30th March, 2.00pm - 4.00pm, Buccleuch Centre, Langholm

Dumfriesshire poet Allan Cunningham (1784-1842) firmly anchored his work in the local, from his notorious engagement with Cromek in *Reliques of Nithsdale and Galloway Song* (1810) to long poems like *Sir Marmaduke Maxwell* (1822). Valentina Bold, author of *James Hogg: A Bard of Nature's Making* (2007), presents a reassessment of this Dalswinton writer, who boasted of hearing the first recitation of 'Tam o Shanter' at his father's farm, Sandbed, and of attending Burns' funeral as a child. As a writer, stonemason and sculptor's assistant, Cunningham led a rich and poetic life, which richly merits new and considered attention. **£6 per talk or £20 to attend all four, refreshments included, talk 4 of 4 (111)** 





# April 2012

# Galloway Art, Literature and History – a local and personal perspective *Professor Tom McGuffog MBE*

#### Thursday 12th April, 12.00pm - 1.00pm, Stranraer Library

Over the last 25 years we have assembled a collection of fine paintings which illustrate the beauty and history of Galloway – Kirk Covenant, Kirkmadrine, Sandhead motte, and other Galloway landscapes. These are by such artists as Graham Bradshaw, Mansell Crighton, Phil Gibson, Jan Holak, William Neal and Jimmy Sutherland. We commissioned some of these works of art, for example, a beautiful illustration of Robert Louis Stevenson's great Galloway poem to SR Crocket from Vailima shortly before his death – 'Blows the wind today and the sun and rain are flying...' This talk will interlink Galloway and family history and literature. McGuffog is, according to George Fraser Black, ' an ancient and once powerful family' who aided Robert the Bruce to become King of Scotland. We appear in the works of Walter Scott and John Buchan, and we are due a renaissance. **£5 per talk or £12 for all three, talk 1 of 3. Part 2 on 19<sup>th</sup> April, part 3 on 26<sup>th</sup> April. (112)** 

# James Hogg's The Brownie of Bodsbeck: landscapes of the Covenant

#### Dr Valentina Bold, University of Glasgow, Dumfries Campus

#### Memory and place series in association with the Solway Centre

#### Friday 13th April, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, Gatehouse of Fleet Community Centre

James Hogg's *Brownie of Bodsbeck* (1818) is a compelling novel, mixing supernatural memories of the Borders with oral, and written, reminiscences of 'the Killing Times'. Valentina Bold, who is currently editing *The Brownie* for the Stirling/South Carolina edition of the Complete Works of James Hogg, will show how the book is firmly anchored in a very small area, around the head of St Mary's Loch, drawing on particularities of place in, roughly, a 5 mile radius. Hogg draws on his intimate knowledge of that landscape, and its Covenanting associations, to create a real as well as an imagined landscape of the Covenanting period. £6 per talk or £15 for all three, refreshments included, talk 1 of 3. Part 2 on 20<sup>th</sup> April, part 3 on 27<sup>th</sup> April. (113)

# Civil Unrest in Dumfries and Galloway during the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars

#### Catherine Forbes

Exploring Annan: some new perspectives series in association with Friends of Annan and Eskdale Museums

#### Tuesday 17th April, 11.00am-12.00am, The Bruce Restaurant, Annan

During the last two decades of the eighteenth and the first two of the nineteenth centuries , the main issue that dominated political life for the population of Great Britain was the French Revolution and the subsequent wars with the French Reublic. The government's greatest fear was that the French would invade Ireland with a gateway into Scotland via Larne and Wigtown Bay. The 'Militia Bill' was extremely unpopular and led to unrest, as the wars progressed there were food riots. Forbes' talk will focus on the unrest in Annandale , Eskdale and Nithsdale. Forbes holds a postgraduate degree in Scottish Cultural Heritage from the University of Glasgow, Dumfries. She is a founder member of Crichton Writers.

Free event with optional soup and sandwich lunch at £6. Talk 3 of 3. (114)



# From the Farmlands of Galloway to the Lowlands of Holland: maritime culture and the songs of South West Scotland

### Dr Valentina Bold, University of Glasgow, Dumfries Campus

#### Thursday 19th April, 12.00pm – 1.00pm, Stranraer Library

Dr Valentina Bold discusses perceptions of the sea in the songs of South West Scotland. Looking, in particular, at three songs—'The Lowlands of Holland'—'The Mermaid of Galloway' and 'Helen of Kirkconnel', and referring to others, she suggests that the sea is presented as a location of danger, death and separation—in this respect, the South West is quite distinct from other coastal areas of Scotland and beyond, where the sea also yields rich harvests and adventures. **£5 per talk or £12 for all three, Talk 2 of 3. Part 3 on 26<sup>th</sup> April. (115)** 

# J.M. Barrie: from Dumfries to Neverland

# Peter Pan Moat Brae Trust

#### Memory and place series in association with the Solway Centre

#### Friday 20th April, 2.00pm - 4.00pm, Gatehouse of Fleet Community Centre

A representative from Peter Pan Moat Brae Trust, which has recently secured funding to preserve the house whose garden inspired 'Peter Pan', will discuss current plans to turn Moat Brae into a national centre for children's literature. Born in Angus, the Peter Pan author spent part of his childhood in Dumfries. In the garden of Moat Brae, he played pirates—the inspiration for his most famous story. The talk considers the influence of this precise location on the Angus-born writer. **£6 per talk or £15 to attend all three, refreshments included, Talk 2 of 3. Part 3 on 27<sup>th</sup> April. (116)** 

# The Scottish rural novel and peripheral identity: the *Wigtown Ploughman, Greenvoe* and *Sunset Song*

### David Borthwick, University of Glasgow, Dumfries

#### Thursday 26th April, 12.00pm – 1.00pm, Stranraer Library

This talk will consider some key 'rural novels' of twentieth century Scottish literature: Gibbon's *Sunset Song*, MacNeillie's *The Wigtown Ploughman*, Mackay Brown's *Greenvoe* and Duncan McLean's *Blackden*. Dr Borthwick will argue that novels of rural Scotland ought to be re-examined and allowed to break free of the label of 'regional novel', disputing the implied downgrading of their content as being *merely* rural. Instead, he will argue that new ways of looking at these works of fiction privileges their sensitivity to notions of place, memory, and stewardship of the landscape, and shows how these novels display tremendous foresight in predicting the anxieties of rural dwelling which remain emotive today. **£5 per talk or £12 for all three, talk 3 of 3 (117)** 

# The Topography of Five Red Herrings

Professor Paul Bishop, University of Glasgow

Memory and place series in association with the Solway Centre

#### Friday 27th April, 2.00pm - 4.00pm, Gatehouse of Fleet Community Centre

Paul Bishop, of the School of Geographical and Earth Sciences, examines and explains the broad elements of the Galloway topography (Galloway's geomorphology) and how that relates to the plot and events in *The Five Red Herrings*, Dorothy L Sayers' famous Lord Peter Wimsey detective novel set in Galloway. The road and rail network of the area is discussed in relation to the overall setting of the novel, as well as with respect to specific events. We spend some time examining the bicycle ride of the villain, and then of Lord Peter, and ask whether such a ride is possible across the Galloway topography that the ride traverses.

£6 per talk or £15 to attend all three, refreshments included, talk 3 of 3 (118)

# Additional events

# Spring Fling 2012

Scotland's most successful open studios event, to be held in the first week of June 2012, celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary this coming year. Following on from the success of the 'Art of Place' lecture series, we are planning a series of 4 lectures from late April to early May, to lead up to Spring Fling. Further information will be available on our website nearer the time or by visiting www.spring-fling.co.uk

# Dumfries and Galloway: Home of Environmental Art

This is a one-day conference in development in partnership with *Wide Open*. It will showcase Dumfries and Galloway's special role as home of environmental art. For further information please contact Phillipa McNeill on Phillipa.Mcneill@glasgow.ac.uk or *Wide Open* on Jan@wide-open.net

# Cultural Currents

Cultural Currents is a series of academic talks of interest to members of the wider public, as well as staff and students at the university. Past topics have included transformational leadership in health, integrated education in Northern Ireland, and heritage in the south west of Scotland. They are scheduled on Wednesdays at 3pm in the Rutherford/McCowan Building. For up to date information please visit www.glasgow.ac.uk/dumfries or contact Stuart Hanscomb on Stuart.Hanscomb@glasgow.ac.uk or by calling 01387 702059.



# Changes to the programme

All information in this brochure is correct at time of going to press. The University of Glasgow and partner organisations reserve the right to make changes to the programme if necessary.

Every effort will be made to communicate changes to those who have registered an interest.

# Contributing to the programme

If you are interested in contributing to this developing events programme, please contact the Events Coordinator, Dr Valentina Bold, on Valentina.Bold@glasgow.ac.uk or by telephone on 01387 702021.

Degree-level study

# Full-time and part-time

We bring high quality research and teaching to students in the southwest of Scotland. Based two hours from Glasgow in the university town of Dumfries, we offer small group teaching, excellent facilities, and the prestige of a University of Glasgow degree programme delivered in a beautiful and friendly setting.

# Undergraduate degrees

- Environmental Stewardship
- Health & Social Studies
- Primary Education with Teaching Qualification

# Postgraduate degrees

- Applied Carbon Management
- Managing Health & Wellbeing
- Tourism, Heritage & Development

# Research opportunities

We also offer research opportunities in a number of interdisciplinary areas. For an informal discussion please get in touch or visit our website for more information.

# How to apply

- Full-time undergraduate applications are through UCAS at www.ucas.com.
- Part-time undergraduate applicants should contact us on admissions@crichton.gla.ac.uk.
- Postgraduate taught applications can be made online through our Graduate School.
- Research applicants should email admissions@crichton.gla.ac.uk and your email will be directed to the appropriate member of staff.



# Open Days

We hold a selection of Open Days throughout the year, giving you the opportunity to visit the campus, take a full tour, find out about the courses and facilities, and speak to academic staff and students. Friends and family are also welcome to these events. Our forthcoming Open Days are:

Wednesday 21st September 2011 Wednesday 9th November 2011 Wednesday 27th June 2012 Wednesday 26th September 2012

For more information and to register, please visit www.glasgow.ac.uk/dumfries

# Part-time university courses

If you don't want to commit to a full degree programme, why not consider joining us for one or two individual classes?

The majority of courses are taught by the university's subject specialists based in Dumfries, and some are delivered by experts from Glasgow via video-link. Successful completion of some courses can lead to degree-level study and are suitable if you have relevant professional or career aspirations.

Courses start in September and January and include the following subject areas:

- Applied Carbon Management
- Environmental Studies
- French
- Health Studies
- History
- Literature
- Managing Health & Wellbeing
- Philosophy
- Science Studies
- Spanish
- Social Studies
- Text & Communication
- Tourism, Heritage & Development

Please note that there may be minimum entrance requirements for some courses, for example successful completion of pre-requisite courses. For further information please contact admissions@crichton.gla.ac.uk or telephone 01387 702131.

# How to book

For all events listed in the Events Calendar on pages 1 - 21, please use the following booking procedure unless directed otherwise in the event listing.

Please complete this booking form and return it with your payment to the University of Glasgow's General Office at the address below. Use the event code displayed in red, e.g. '(33)'.

General Office	Web: www.glasgow.a
The University of Glasgow	Email: admissions@c
Rutherford/McCowan Building	Tel: 01387 702131
Dumfries Campus	
Bankend Road	
Dumfries DG1 4ZL	Cheques should be r

ac.uk/dumfries crichton.gla.ac.uk

made payable to the University of Glasgow.

Name:				
Address:				
Postcode:				
Email:				
Telephone number:				
Event code	Number of places	Total price		
	Total payable:			

# The University of Glasgow in Dumfries – at a glance

Undergraduate degrees Environmental Stewardship Health & Social Studies Primary Education

Postgraduate degrees Applied Carbon Management Managing Health & Wellbeing Tourism, Heritage & Development

Research opportunities are available in a number of areas.

Many of our degrees are available on a part-time basis. We also offer you the opportunity to take individual classes on a 'non-graduating' basis - see page 23 for details.

The University of Glasgow School of Interdisciplinary Studies Rutherford/McCowan Building Dumfries Campus Bankend Road Dumfries DG1 4ZL

Tel: 01387 702131 Email: admissions @crichton.gla.ac.uk

www.glasgow.ac.uk/dumfries

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