

MAYBOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Hon President : J. Murray Cook

Visit us at www.maybole.org/history

Newsletter 21 * January, 2003

Crosshill * Dunure * Kirkmichael * Kirkoswald * Maidens * Maybole * Minishant * Straiton * Turnberry

NEW ON THE MAYBOLE WEBSITE

One of the earliest known descriptions of Carrick was written by Rev. William Abercrombie about 1696. This has now been transcribed in full and is available on the Maybole website. As we are aware that not everyone is able to access the website easily it is also available in hard copy at the Local and Family History Centre or by post. (SEE OPPOSITE FOR ADDRESSES. IF ORDERING BY POST PLEASE INCLUDE 5 X EUROPEAN COMMUNITY 1ST CLASS STAMPS OR 2 X IRC's [International Reply Coupons] AVAILABLE AT POST OFFICES WORLDWIDE)

Contemporary maps are available on the Internet from the digital image section of the National Library of Scotland at www.nls.uk/digitallibrary/map

and copies will soon be available on paper in the Local and Family History Centre.

Cooper Hay of Cooper Hay Rare Books has also recently contributed a section from James Paterson's "History of the Counties of Ayr and Wigton" 1864

An index to the **AYRSHIRE POOR RELIEF DATABASE** for several parishes is now available on line at www.ayrshire-roots.com/poorreleif.php

A **Username** and **Password** is required but these are available free of charge via e-mail. It is hoped that the microfilms of the MAYBOLE POOR RELIEF will soon be made available to our members who will transcribe them and add the index to those already available.

For those of you who are particularly interested in the laws which set up the Poor Relief system, the history behind it and the actual Poor Houses themselves, a comprehensive website for the whole of the UK – including Maybole – is available at www.workhouse.org.uk

If you who wonder why it is necessary to have to register before you can log on to some free databases, the answer is very simple – most free databases are provided on relatively small servers. In order to control who can log on, so that the database can be maintained without continuous crashes, a little effort and information is requested from all genuine users (i.e. this will exclude spurious, commercial or professional users)

The Statistical Accounts of Scotland 1791-1799 and 1845

To further compliment Abercrombie's description of our parishes in 1686, the statistical accounts of 100 and 150 years later, which were provided by the local ministers, are available on the internet at www.edina.ac.uk/statacc

A GLOBAL HOME FOR SCOTLAND'S HISTORY

The Scottish Executive recently announced a £1.6million investment in what will become by 2005 a central Local and Family History "campus" based on Register House off Princess Street in Edinburgh.

Next Meeting SCOTTISH COVENANTERS an illustrated talk by Dane Love



A welcome return to Maybole by one of our most popular speakers on yet another of his specialist subjects

**MAYBOLE TOWN HALL
Monday 3rd February
7.30 p.m.**

All Welcome Visitors £0.50

If you have any requests for particular speakers for session 2003/4 or would like a visit arranged to any place of historic interest, the committee would be pleased to hear your ideas.

On behalf of the
committee and members

Maybole Historical Society

would like to wish all our
readers, members and
friends a very good and
prosperous New Year

Maybole Historical Society

All communications to the society may be addressed to :-

The Local & Family History Centre
c/o Maybole Community
Development Group,
48/50 High Street,
MAYBOLE, KA19 7BZ

Committee

Hon. President – J. Murray Cook

(Tel. 01655 883235)

Chair - Helen McAdam

(Tel. 01655 884255)

Vice Chair - Dave Killicoat

e-mail maybole@scotsfamilies.co.uk

(Tel. 07713 309450)

Secretary - Margaret Dick

Treasurer - Jack Boyd

9 Kincaig Court, Maybole, KA19 8AQ

Tel. 01655 882109

Members -

Willy Connelly

Alex Davidson

David Kiltie

Any member who would like to join the committee or help the society in any other way please contact any one of the above.

IMAGES OF OLD MAYBOLE

Available soon at the Maybole
Access Point in the High Street

The photographs have been selected and (because we would like as professional a display as possible) are now being set in four A1 presentations. These should be available for local residents and visitors to view during normal MAP opening hours from the beginning of February.

HISTORY MONTH!!

Many of you will remember our efforts during a very successful national history week last year. This was the very first **History Week** and we were one of the very few participants in Scotland. The History Society have now decided that **History Week** will be a bi-annual event but in the intervening years there will be a less prominent **HISTORY MONTH** during May which will feature smaller events and will coincide with **Museums and Galleries Month** and **Adult Learners' Week** (10th – 16th May).



Rather than have a big event in Maybole this year it has been proposed that we have a series of 4 open days in Maybole Castle (probably one day each weekend but including at least one Saturday) and also hold a half or full day open session in each of Straiton, Kirkmichael, Kirkoswald and Dunure on the day each weekend when the castle will not be open.

WATCH OUT FOR NEWSLETTERS AND POSTERS ADVERTISING THESE EVENTS.



Maybole Historical Society's recent application for funding from the Local Heritage Initiative Scotland for a major historical project has been unsuccessful. This is mainly due to the fact that much of the work which was proposed to be done will now be covered by the major national funding initiative described overleaf. However, all is not lost! Our application will now be passed to the Heritage Lottery Fund who will assess what parts of our project might be funded by them. We will also be applying for other grants specifically for the publication of the letters of Rev. Roderick Lawson.

OUR FIRST ST. ANDREW'S NIGHT



A capacity crowd was welcomed to Drumellan House to help us celebrate a slightly belated St. Andrew's Night. Guests were greeted on a very pleasant evening by Pipe Major Gavin Nicol of Maybole Pipe Band. After a glass of wine and a buffet supper of Scots fare (left) the

entertainment began with songs from the Maybole Concert Party (right). Murray Cook then gave a splendid "Toast to Scotland" followed by a song from Alex Davidson. Murray's son Fergus (below) kept it in the family by reciting several excellent Scottish poems and finally Gavin Nicol brought the evening to a close



with more pipe music. Our grateful thanks to Peter and Patti Kewney once again for the venue and to all the members and friends who helped make the evening such a success. More photographs of the evening (taken by Tony Kerrigan and published in the Ayrshire Post) are available on the website.

Once again we would like to apologise to all those members who were unable to obtain tickets for this event but we were taken completely by surprise with the popularity of our efforts. We will endeavour to make sure that this does not happen again! It has been decided that a St. Andrew's Night will become a bi-annual event and on alternate years we will return to our old formula for a members Christmas social in December which will be followed by a Burns Supper as near to 25th January as we can arrange and replacing the meeting on the first Monday evening in February. So now you know! The first Burns Supper will be in session 2003/4, on Monday 26th January 2004 and the next St. Andrew's Night in session 2004/5 on Monday 29th November 2004. Venues have still to be finalised but details and tickets will be available nearer the event!

MEMBERSHIP - ALL MEMBERS WHO LAST PAID PRIOR TO 1ST FEBRUARY 2002 PLEASE NOTE THAT THEIR SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE FOR RENEWAL. Membership is only £10.00 and covers individuals or couples staying in the same household. Anyone in full time education can join the society free of charge. Please send all membership applications (with the appropriate fee) to The Honorary Treasurer at the address shown in the committee contacts section.



Looking for a map with Maybole in the middle? Ordnance Survey have recently produced **Explorer™ 326** at a scale of 1:25,000 (4cm:1km) which covers Ayr and Troon on one side and the area shown left on the other. **Cost £6.99**

