ALAN DUNLOP WILL SPEAK ON
“BRITISH MILITARY FLINTLOCKS
IN THE AGE OF HORSE AND
MUSKET—A COLLECTOR’S VIEW”

Alan is a collector of muskets, rifles and pistols and will explain why he collects these. He will describe the historical issues such as how they were used, how the British Government acquired its small arms during the 18th and early 19th centuries and how these firearms developed over the period in question.

This should be a very interesting talk so come early and get your seat!

“O solider, soldier, won’t you marry me
With your musket fife and drum?
O no sweet maid I cannot marry you
For I have a wife of my own”
MURRAY COOK    1924 -2014

Murray Cook founding Member and Honorary President of Maybole Historical Society died on Saturday 25th January 2014.

Murray, born in the town, was a proud and committed Minnieboler and had a deep and extensive knowledge of the history of Scotland, Maybole and the surrounding District. His views were not insular. Murray’s life experiences provided him with a compassionate understanding of other peoples and their cultures. A favourite quote by Murray from the French author Victor Hugo was ‘nationality was the last barrier to humanity’.

As Honorary President and life member of the committee, Murray’s ongoing contribution over many years to Maybole Historical Society was enormous and it will not be forgotten.

Murray will be remembered by his friends in Maybole Historical Society.

ON YOUR DOORSTEP—BLAIRQUHAN CASTLE

Four different families have lived at Blairquhan or on it lands. The McWhirters built the first tower house in 1346, the Kennedys inherited the estate through marriage and built the remainder of the old castle in 1573. In the early 17th century the Whitefords took over, but in 1778 suffering the effects of a bank crash, they sold Blairquhan to Sir David Hunter Blair, 3rd Baronet. Sir David commissioned Scottish architect William Burns to design a new house, the old castle torn down to make way for the new mansion completed in 1824. With an approach three miles long along the river Girvan, Blairquhan has an impressive façade that has been used frequently as a filming location. It was used as a substitute Balmoral Castle for the firm The Queen and also as a hotel for Dr. Finlay’s Casebook (starring David Rintoul and Ian Bannen).

AYR APPARENT

A series of free lectures looking at Ayr’s historic architecture and how to protect it.

Venue—The University of the West of Scotland-Ayr Campus.
Dates: 6th March, 3rd April, 1st May, 5th June
Time: 7pm
Contact Name: toria.cassidy@south-ayrshire.gov.uk