

## MAYBOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Charity No. SC034056

## NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2010

Next meeting will be held in The Castle, Maybole

**MONDAY 6th September at 7:30pm**

**Our Speaker for September will be:-  
John Jackson talking about Blairquhan  
and the Hunter Blairs**

### Membership 2010-2011:-

Fees are now due and should be remitted to the treasurer:

**Jack Boyd,  
9 Kincaig Court,  
Maybole, KA19 8AQ.**

Individual £10

Couples at same address £15

Students & Disabled Free

Please make cheques payable to  
"Maybole Historical Society"

### Dates for your diary:-

**October 4th—Hugh Kennedy of Ardstincher by Jean Brittain**

**November 1st—History of Computers by Tom Parker**

**December 6th—Dundonald Castle by James Brown**

### Committee Meeting Dates:-

August 24th

September 21st

October 19th

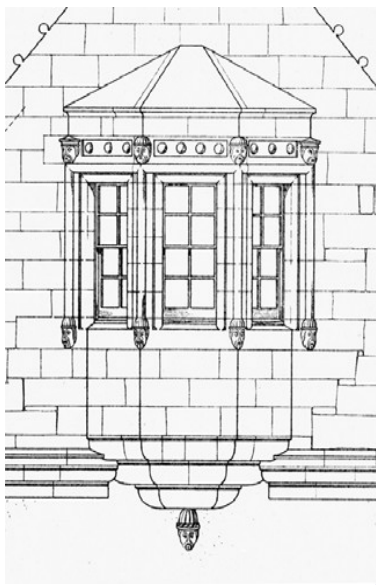
November 23rd

Meetings held in the Castle,  
Maybole at 7pm



John graduated from being a Blairquhan guide, starting in 1988, to becoming the Head Guide and then became a part-time amateur archivist. He wrote the Guide Book for Blairquhan in 2000. John takes his duties seriously BUT is always (and without labouring the point) emphasises that he has no professional qualifications. He has a great affection for Blairquhan and its place in local history and looks forward to sharing his knowledge with all who are interested.

*Just a snippet about Blairquhan—Four different families have lived at Blairquhan or on its lands. The McWhirters built the first tower house about 1346. The Kennedys then inherited the estate through marriage and built the remainder of the old castle about 1573. In the early 17th century the Whitefords took over, but in 1798, suffering the effects of a bank crash, they sold Blairquhan to Sir David Hunter Blair, 3rd Baronet and second son of James Hunter-Blair, 1st Baronet who had married Jean Blair, the daughter and heiress of John Blair of Dunskey in Wigtonshire in 1770. (When Jean Blair inherited her father's estate in 1777, the family added Blair to their name.) - but we will leave the rest to our speaker to tell us so much more.*



**THINGS TO DO?  
PLACES TO GO?  
OR KNOW OF  
INTERESTING  
SPEAKERS?  
—WE WANT TO  
KNOW ABOUT THEM.**

If you know of any interesting exhibitions or places to visit or heard a good talk recently that our members would be interested in—please let us know. It's great to be able to pass this on. Please contact a member of the committee with the information.

**THE GLASGOW NECROPOLIS**—this is a most fascinating place to visit. **The Friends of the Glasgow Necropolis** do tours and their next tour (booking essential) is during the Open Doors for Glasgow on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th September—visit their website:-  
[www.glasgow-necropolis.org](http://www.glasgow-necropolis.org)



**The team who put the Cluny Exhibition together**

## **THE CASTLE, MAYBOLE “Cluny to Crossraguel” Exhibition**

**Our Exhibition during the summer has been well received. The exhibition will now travel during the autumn term to the four schools of Maybole. There are still booklets for sale at £1 that accompanied the exhibition to raise funds.**

### **MHS COMMITTEE**

**The Society would like to welcome Wendy Bibby to their committee. We are always looking for new committee members and if you feel that you can help please contact our Chairperson, Helen McAdam. Thanks goes to Grant Kidd, who recently stood down at the AGM. Grant will be busy with his studies and felt that he could not devote enough time to help the Committee.**



## **FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION at ROZELLE**

### **ROBERT BRYDEN (1865-1939)**

The son of a colliery manager in Coylton, Robert Bryden served in the office of Hunter & Morris, architects in Ayr. He lived in London for 15 years, studying, fulfilling commissions and teaching art. Between 1894 and 1897 he visited Italy, Spain and Egypt, experiences which enriched his art. He was a prolific artist, working in paint, print and later in carving and sculpture. In 1899 he gained the title of Royal Engraver, the same year he published the first of three volumes of etchings illustrating Ayrshire castles.

**Rozelle House Galleries, Ayr** is putting on an exhibition of Robert Bryden's work entitled: **'Robert Bryden—Life, Work and Legacy'** in October.  
*Opening Hours:* Monday—Saturday 10am—5pm & Sundays (April—October) 2pm—5pm.