Our Speaker for October will be:-
Jean Brittain speaking on Hugh Kennedy of Ardstincher.

Half a millennium after its construction, Jean Brittain stood in the overgrown courtyard of Ardstinchar Castle and wondered about the man who built it—that soldier who had fought for Joan of Arc and brought home French gold and money. His castle’s final function as an unofficial playground for Ballantrae youngsters had disappeared in one Health & Safety conscious era, its ruins now left to crumble away unnoticed.

The landmark events in Hugh Kennedy’s lifetime are astounding—the Battle of Agincourt, the Siege of Orleans, the assassination of King James the First, the beginnings of Rosslyn Chapel and the University of Glasgow, the formation of the Scots Guards in France and the birth of Leonardo de Vinci.

Generations of Carrick folk have grown up believing that Hugh was a mercenary nicknamed ‘Friar Hew’ and ‘Come with the Penny; and that the fleurs-de-lys in the Bargany court-of-arms were his reward from the King of France. But how does the image given in the ‘Historie of the Kennedyis’ match up with other accounts? What did he do in his later years? Any why is his name linked to the beginnings of golf in Scotland? The time to look at his whole life seemed long overdue.

Jean will also be speaking at the Ayrshire Federation of Historical Societies’ conference at Troon on 16th October.

BURNS SUPPER
Monday 7th February 2011- we are holding a Burns Supper to celebrate the life and work of Robert Burns in the Speakers’ Club, Maybole. Tickets will go on sale in November/December.
FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION at ROZELLE
ROBERT BRYDEN–(1865-1939) ‘Life, Work & Legacy’
THIS EXHIBITION HAS BEEN POSTPONED DUE TO BUILDING WORKS IN ROZELLE HOUSE—A NEW DATE HAS YET TO BE PROPOSED. WE WILL KEEP YOU POSTED.

THE ESTATE OFFICE The estate office will be locating to Maidens during October. To contact them their e-mail address is chris@cassillistate.co.uk

MAYBOLE CASTLE VOLUNTEERS
During 2010, on behalf of Cassillis and Culzean Estate, MHS has provided public access to Maybole Castle. On 25 days from May to September, 14 volunteers have participated in MHS’s long term project which contributes to the future of this iconic building. The Society would like to thank the following members for their hard work during the summer months—Wendy Bibby, Alex Davidson, Molly Garrie, Margaret Grant, Ken Gray, Elspeth Kidd, Ian Kidd, Nancy MacGregor, Roy MacGregor, Andy McAdam, Helen McAdam, Alan McFarlane, Myra McLanaghan and Ian McVey.

BURNS BIRTHDAY REVELLERS
A limited edition book, charting the global celebration of Robert Burns’ 250th birthday has been presented to four local schools as well as Maybole Community Associations, Maybole Saint Crispin Burns Club and Maybole Historical Society by Provost Winifred Sloan on behalf of the organisers of last year’s year of Homecoming events. Published by the Robert Burns World Federation it contains entries from many contributors including clubs, communities, academics and individuals from around the world. Maybole community’s own celebrations are marked.

CONFERENCE: New Perspectives on the Auld Alliance. The Ayrshire Federation of Historical Societies is holding a conference at the Walker Halls, Troon on Saturday 16th October. Tickets are £10, (lunch is not provided). (Closing date for registration 11th October) All enquiries please to Rob Close 1 Craigbrae Cottages, Drongan, Ayr KA6 7EN
E-mail address: thelearnedpig@googlemail.com
Speakers include:- Jean Brittain, Denis Reid, Thomas Clancy, Charles McKean, Godfrey Evans, Tom Barclay, John Burnett and Robin Urquhart

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.

National Trust for Scotland—Robert Burns Birthplace Museum—
FREE TALKS
Sundays at 2pm in the Robertson Room, new Museum.
7 Nov—David Hopes on curating the Museum
14 Nov—Mel Houston on conserving the collection
21 Nov—Mary Hudson on reinterpreting Burns
28 Nov—Nat Edwards on the story of the new Museum
1 December—the new Museum officially opens