Our Speaker for October is Tom Parker who will talk about the “History of Darvel and its Lace Industry”.

Tom will discuss how Darvel came into being in 1752 and the origin of the town’s name. As the story of Darvel developed with its cottage weaving industry, Darvel comes to a turning point with the introduction of the first power loom in 1876. By the 1920s over 20 lace factories were producing all types of lace products and the old hand loom weavers had all disappeared. Tom will also talk on three of Darvel’s most famous sons and their impact on Darvel and the world. Finally he will look at Darvel as it is today and consider what has changed and what has remained the same. At the end of the talk there will be time to examine a variety of lace and Terylene products.
ALLOWAY & SOUTHERN AYRSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

AsAFHS are holding an Open day in Alloway Church Halls on Saturday 8th October 2011 from 11 am until 4 pm. This will be initially for non-members to come along and listen to speakers as well as for tracing their ancestors.

Maybole Historical Society have decided to take a stall at this event and we thought this would be a good way to publicise our Society. We look forward to seeing some of you there to support us.

Second Homecoming 2014

Homecoming 2014 will take place in the year that Scotland hosts the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, the Ryder Cup at Gleneagles and also the 700th Anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn. Plans are afoot in ideas and thought at the moment to celebrate the 700th Anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn in Carrick and surrounding areas. Keep watching local news and websites to find what may be in the offing and how you can be involved.

“CELEBRATION OF SCOTLAND” MEMBERS SOCIAL EVENING

We will be having our annual social evening on Monday 5th December 6.30pm for 7pm till 11pm. We are currently working on the programme for the evening and will update you shortly. Keep this date free in your diary.

3rd October 1357 The Scots agreed by the Treaty of Berwick to pay a ransom of 100,000 merks for the release of David II. David died childless and his nephew Robert the Steward became King on David’s death.

THE ESTATE OFFICE

The estate office is now located at Maidens. To contact them their e-mail address is chris@cassillisestate.co.uk

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.

Have you seen the refurbished state apartments in Stirling Castle yet? It is certainly worth a visit to see the fantastic new Stirling Heads commissioned for the castle and back on the ceiling. Their colours are brilliant as are the tapestries that were made for the walls. The woodwork is splendid with shutters for the windows and cabinets for some of the rooms. Historic Scotland spent £12m on the refurbishment and it certainly brings the castle alive as how it would have been furnished in the 16th century.