

# MAYBOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Scottish Charity Number SC034056

Hon. President : J. Murray Cook

## Newsletter 45 \* November, 2005

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

### NEXT MEETING

## SOCIETY

## CHRISTMAS NIGHT



cheers & wine (with soft options!)  
and many other diversions. Come  
along and join in the fun. Prospective  
members especially welcome.

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 7.30 pm

MAYBOLE CASTLE

ALL WELCOME

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – 2005/6

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2005 – **Maybole Community Association Christmas Bazaar, Maybole Town Hall. MHS Display & Stand**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2006 – **Burns Supper, Carrick Sports Club** – Tickets (priced £12.00) now available from Helen McAdam.

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2006 – Alloway Family History Society : **Drop In Day in Alloway Church Halls.**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2006 – John Steele : **Secrets of Horse Island**

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2006 – Joint meeting of Ayrshire Family History Societies in Carnegie Library, Ayr at 7.30 pm hosted by Alloway FHS – Mrs Joanna O'Rourke, New Register House : **The Scottish Family History Project**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2006 – John Miller : **The Smugglers Who Saved the Language**

Saturday 22nd April 2006 – **Scottish Association of Family History Societies Conference 2006 – 'Education and Recreation'** : The Visitor Centre, New Lanark; 10.00 am – 5.00 pm; further information from the Conference Secretary, Lanarkshire Family History Society, 26A Motherwell Business Centre, Coursington Road, Motherwell, ML1 1PW.

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2006 – AGM & Archie Scobie : **Maybole Emigrants**

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2006 – **Troon History Fair**, Walker Halls, Troon, 9.30 am – 4.00 pm : further details from The Scottish & Local History Department, Carnegie Library, 12 Main Street, Ayr, KA8 8EB

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2006, 10.00 am - 4.30 pm – **The National Family History Fair** : Gateshead International Stadium, Neilson Road, Gateshead, NE10 0EF; full details at [www.nationalfamilyhistoryfair.com](http://www.nationalfamilyhistoryfair.com)

Researching e-genealogy

This request was received via our local Archives Service. If you use the internet for your family history research, can you help? The survey actually takes less than five minutes to complete! –

'A PhD study is underway at the Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, examining Internet family history resources and their users. This will investigate the users themselves, how users view both e-genealogical resources and libraries, and how these resources are used within the research process. An eventual aim of the project is to highlight methods of promoting the "added value" of UK Local Studies Library Collections, increasing their visibility to users online. The research also aims to identify, categorise and examine the available resources: developing specific evaluative criteria and promoting increased awareness and understanding within the library community in order to maintain a quality level of service for genealogical researchers in libraries. The first stage of the project is a 5-minute online survey, available at [www.researchinggenealogy.co.uk](http://www.researchinggenealogy.co.uk). This hopes to gather more information about anyone accessing UK information online for their family history research. I would be grateful if you could pass to any potentially interested parties.

If you require any further information, please contact [prs.friday@rgu.ac.uk](mailto:prs.friday@rgu.ac.uk).

Kind regards, Kate Friday'

### MAYBOLE MEMORIES

We are still looking for memories and photographs from the WWII period to make up a new publication on Maybole from 1939 – 45. **If you have anything relevant please contact David Kiltie (Tel. 01655 882644) or Dave Killicoat (whose contact details are overleaf).**

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership fees are due on 1<sup>st</sup> September each year except for those whose subscription was received after the previous 1<sup>st</sup> February. Current membership will be valid until 1<sup>st</sup> September 2006.

Membership is only £10.00 and covers individuals or couples staying in the same household. Individuals who are registered disabled and anyone in full time education can join the society free of charge.

**Please send all membership applications and renewals (with the appropriate fee) to The Honorary Treasurer at the address below.**

## CASTLE OPENING

The Castle has now ceased its regular openings to the public and these will start again at Easter in 2006. A full programme of opening times will be available in the new year. In the meantime, if you wish to have a special visit (providing sufficient notice is given) or if you wish to arrange a function or hold a meeting at any time please contact -

**Dave Killicoat** Tel. 07776 445033  
e-mail [maybole@scotsfamilies.co.uk](mailto:maybole@scotsfamilies.co.uk)  
**Helen McAdam** Tel. 01655 884255  
or **Murray Cook** Tel. 01655 883235

Maybole Historical Society  
All communications to the society  
may be addressed

**c/o Maybole Resource Centre  
48/50 High Street  
MAYBOLE, KA19 7BZ**

Committee 2005-6

**Hon. President** – J. Murray Cook  
(Tel. 01655 883235)

**Chair** – Helen McAdam  
(Tel. 01655 884255)

**Vice Chair** – Archie Scobie

**Project Co-ordinator** – Dave Killicoat  
e-mail [maybole@scotsfamilies.co.uk](mailto:maybole@scotsfamilies.co.uk)  
(Tel. 07776 445033)

**Secretary** – Jim Hastings

**Treasurer** – Jack Boyd

9 Kincaig Court, Maybole, KA19 8AQ  
Tel. 01655 882109

**Members** - David Kiltie MBE  
Alex Davidson Mary Henry  
Eleanor Jamieson Arnold Lake

## GOING, GOING, GONE! AT DUNASKIN

We first heard about the fact that the contents of Dunaskin were to be put up for auction from a couple of people from East Ayrshire at the Ayrshire Federation of Historical Societies' meeting.

Two days later the note of the sale appeared on Wilson's web site but with no catalogue it was impossible to tell if the historical exhibits, memorabilia, etc were up for sale. This caused great concern as we were aware that many items had been donated by local people and other items had been bought with grants from bodies such as the Lottery and Scottish Museums Council. In addition the Trust were signed up members of the Scottish Museums Council.



By Wednesday morning, with still no catalogue and very many more local people concerned about what might "disappear" it was decided to try and get an interim interdict to stop the sale however there was simply not enough time to organise this. At the same time we had alerted the Lottery, the

Scottish Museums Council and OSCR (the office of the Scottish Charities Regulator). Lottery were unable to help us at such short notice and the same response came from the SMC but they would (and did!) send an observer to the sale so that action might be taken at a later date if anything untoward happened. OSCR were very helpful and checked the constitution of the trust and also contacted the liquidator. Their official status helped them to get assurances from the liquidator that everything possible was being done to ensure that as much of the heritage as possible was being removed from the sale and to this end they were working closely with East Ayrshire Council - hence the lack of a catalogue. OSCR also discovered that the constitution of the Trust (which had remained unchanged for many years) allowed the sale of any "assets". This latter situation should not arise again as it is necessary under new charity laws and in order to get SMC, Lottery or other grants to have a very specific clause regarding the disposal of items should anything happen and this precludes a sale of donated or grant aided items.

The sale itself was good with a lot of local people, collectors, museums and our own historical society buying a considerable amount of the heritage items left. Dealers were not at the sale in any great number and were mostly interested in the audio-visual and catering equipment. The best result from these events is that we have all learned a great deal about how much more protection our heritage needs and SMC and OSCR are going through various consultation processes to formulate new regulations of which Dunaskin will provide some very good material for discussion!

## OUR BEST MEETING YET!

The November meeting was held in the Castle in weather that had the committee wondering if anyone would turn up at all – the rain was almost horizontal and the temperature near freezing but we soon discovered that the only problem was going to be fitting everyone in! Margaret Morell gave us a fascinating talk on the wartime history of Turnberry Airfield with excellent photographs of the aircraft, personnel and many crash scenes. We were also delighted that she brought along a few of the men who had actually served at Turnberry during WWII. There will be a book to follow but in the meantime any of you who missed this talk (Margaret's first on this subject) can look out for it on the programme of other societies in the area.