Derek Alexander: 
**Estate of the Nation:**
archaeological discoveries at Culzean

**Derek Alexander** has been the archaeologist for the West Area of the National Trust for Scotland since 2000. He was brought up in Neilston, Renfrewshire, and has long-standing research interests in the archaeology of south-west Scotland. His talk will cover the wide range of archaeological discoveries at Culzean from prehistory through to 19th century estate buildings. Of particular interest is his work on the caves below the castle.

**Crucial Carrick Project**

What do you know about Carrick’s history, geology, flora and fauna? If you have knowledge to impart, please contact me as I am doing a one-year research project for Carrick Community Councils’ Forum. The earldom of Carrick has a proud, ancient and distinctive identity. We aim to demonstrate that with a new publication as a result of this initiative.

James Brown, 7 Southpark Road, Ayr, KA7 2TL Tel: 01292 610 790

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**Future Meetings**

**1st December**
Celebration of Scotland

Sold out!

Social evening including prize draw for the silver bangle and the special issue stamps. Ticket availability will be limited so don't miss out. Entertainers include: **Fergus Cook** : Poetry and Piping. **Murray Cook** : Poetry. **David Hunter jnr** : Songs and Music. **Alistair Hastig** : The Toast to Scotland. **Lesley Rodger** and **Alison Dixon** : Songs accompanied by piano. **James Stevens** and **Marie Gibson** : Songs and Music.

**Looking ahead …**
**February, 2009**

Dr Neil Smith will be giving a talk on the **Geology of Carrick.**

**E-mail address**
Have you given us yours? If not, please let me know, James Brown
[james@baltersan.com](mailto:james@baltersan.com)