North Queensferry Heritage Trust
Newsletter – Autumn 2024

Chairman's message...

We are well into 2024 and yes, newsletters have been few and far between. That is not to say, we are losing focus on the aims and objectives of the Trust. We have been busy with the Beamer and the Forth Bridges Lighthouse Museum on the Old Pier. We hope to bring more news of the Beamer in our next newsletter. We have been doing our best to get our talks restarted, but it is only possible to it with more help… do get in touch if interested.

Also, this autumn brings the 60th anniversary of the closure of the Ferries and we are planning Ferry 900 Queensferry Passage exhibition. The FRB marks its 60th Anniversary. More details below.

The 1922 census records released last year are online, so check them out by going to www.nqht.org.

In the meantime, I hope you enjoy this newsletter. The Trust is always open to ideas for new articles or any feedback from our published ones.

James Lawson -Chairman

Robert the Bruce - 900th Anniversary by Sheila Pitcairn - 15 Feb, 2024



A most interesting talk by Sheila, a retired genealogist from Dunfermline, abley assisted by her son Lloyd. A video can be viewed here.

Forth Bridges Lighthouse Museum

We are in the process of accreditation for our Museum and the 1817 Robert Stevenson Light Tower. Accreditation will enable us to apply for grant funding for our Heritage Projects.





With the help of a Museums & Gallery Scotland collections expert we are recognised as "working towards". We are now in the process of documenting the Heritage Trust's collections. If you have donated to the Heritage Trust an article, history of each, is much appreciated as we try our best to fully document our rather extensive collection. If you can help with this process please get in touch at NQHTinfo@gmail.com.

Historic Scotland Visit - 18th June

On the Battle of Waterloo anniversary, we hosted about 20 visitors from Germany, along with their hosts from Historic Scotland and Forth Bridge Forum. This "anorak" group consisted of local government, environmentalists, architects, engineers, and town planners all enjoyed themselves and I believe we answered most of their excellent questions about our 3 famous bridges, built over 3 centuries, and of course, our Robert Stevenson 1817 Light Tower.

We then made our way to our equally famous Victorian Station from 1890. The Heritage Trust hosted them with tea and biscuits - yes, a very British welcome 😉. Their visit concluded with a group picture with a backdrop of the 1990 FB Mosaic.



Hopefully, this will be the first of many visits to learn about our rich heritage.

The next group to visit is the Scottish Saltire Society Trust on Saturday 13th July.

If you have a group interested in a visit, get in touch!

Steaming Forth Photographs…

Our late Trustee John Clemmens exhibition of photographs will be coming to an end, however, the large prints used in the exhibition are available for sale. Please get in touch via NQHTinfo@gmail.com if you are interested.

We can also arrange for new prints if a particular photograph is in demand… such as this one…



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Village Show - Saturday 31st August

The Village Show this year is at the end of next month. Remind the children that the theme this year is “Crossing the Forth”. It will as usual be held in the large and small halls of rhe Community Compex. There will be additional tables for other organisations that wish to promote or sell goods. If your group is interested, please get in touch by emailing NQHTinfo@gmail.com as soon as possible.

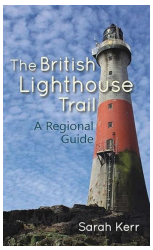
Barnardos & Balfour Beatty "Your View" 2024 September 20th through 22nd

Over this weekend the 2024 Your View event will take place. If taking part, please take public transport and consider (depending on weather) gaining a FB Trail Certificate by completing the Circular walk via the Forth Bridge, and South & North Queensferry. See our FB Trails Walk brochure for more details.
As usual for this event, the Heritage Trust will be hosting an exhibition table to show off our activities. If you can help by volunteering (over 18), please get in touch… NQHTinfo@gmail.com

Lighting the lamp - a popular experience

We have been having a good number of requests for this exciting experience of lighting our unique working lamp. The last visitor was from the north of Scotland. She wanted her children to experience a "lighthouse" experience as she is the author of a popular lighthouse book covering most of the lighthouses in the UK (available on Amazon here).







When visiting the Light Tower or our Forth Bridges Lighthouse Museum, do check out the latest Fife Council, Forth Bridge Trail signs, including the Battery Point Picnic Area.

Save the Albert - an update by ACG Ltd

For those of us who are concerned about the state of The Albert Hotel, here is the latest… The Albert Community Group Ltd have submitted a Community Right to Buy Part 5 application to the Community Land Team, which is under the Scottish Government. The good news is that the application has been accepted as valid and is on the public Register of Applications by Community Bodies to Buy Land… (roacbi.ros.gov.uk). ACG Ltd are now waiting for the Government decision which is taking a bit longer than expected, with delays probably due to the General Election. To purchase The Albert, ACG Ltd, have applied to the Scottish Land Fund and our Stage One application has been accepted and we have been invited to submit Stage Two application. As expected, no funding will be awarded until we have a positive Community Right to Buy decision.



On the owners side, they have withdrawn their latest planning application concerning the basement.
Alastair Ritchie - ACG Ltd

Forth Road Bridge - 60th Anniversary

Wednesday 4th September, Spectacular Forth Bridge tower top trips by Balfour Beatty..

Saturday 7th September Look out for vintage bus transport across the FRB. From/to North Queensferry Park and Ride to/from FRB Customer Education Centre at the south end of the FRB.

Check the Forth Bridges website FB Website for more details..

Ferry 900 Exhibition
Doors Open Day West Fife
21st-22nd September

With John Clemmen's Steaming Forth Exhibition closing, we are delighted to be planning Ferry 900 - a ferries exhibition in the Station's Gallery, celebrating almost 900 years of the Queensferry Passage. Here is a possible view of the exhibition…with, of course, we reserved the right to change it as needed 😉.
We are also planning to have in attendance the last living Ferry Captain - Steven Reid, and his brother First Mate - Robert with his large model Ferry. Come along and enjoy their stories.



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