North Queensferry Heritage Trust
Newsletter – Spring 2020

Our Chairman's Message…

These are testing times and I am reminded of the opening paragraph of Charles Dickens novel *A Tale of* Two Cities which opens with:

"It was the best of times,
it was the worst of times,
it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness,
it was the epoch of belief,
it was the epoch of incredulity,
it was the season of Light,
it was the season of Darkness,
it was the spring of hope,
it was the winter of despair …,
we had nothing before us,
we were all going direct to Heaven,
we were all going direct the other way …"

We are certainly experiencing the 'worst of times' at the moment and the flow of news may even get worse before it gets better. Not a good backdrop to start 2020 where we were planning a number of new projects but in reality we have had to cancel a number of events including our AGM which was provisionally arranged for the 26th May. More news on this at a later date.
However our autumn and winter events are still possible and there are more details on these further in the newsletter.

Forth Bridge Heritage Centre @ The Station
The Gallery waiting room has also been closed as there is not enough space in the room to maintain 2m social distancing. The main Meeting Room is also closed for events. Unfortunately, that means that the popular Growforth garden talk by Stan Green was cancelled. But take note, that Stan Green has made appropriate arrangements at Hillend for customers and staff. The toilets are still open and are regularly cleaned by our volunteers.

Steaming Forth Exhibition - closed
Until recently the exhibition 'Steaming Forth' continued to attract, both local and overseas, visitors as recorded in our visitor book.

However, we are pleased to say that our website www.nqht.org has the exhibition well documented.

The Light Tower - closed
As you may appreciate it has only a single-person stairwell and does not allow social distancing.

NQHT Website www.nqht.org
During these difficult times when we are asked to self-isolate in our homes I would suggest this is a good opportunity to investigate our comprehensive website. It has an extensive coverage on many matters relating to the particularly rich 'Heritage' of our area. We will be adding to the website and posting to our Facebook page, the latest information on any further closures of our facilities or opening if current regulations are relaxed.

Questions on any matters can always be sent to our email at: nqhtinfo@gmail.com or messages can be left in our postbox on platform 1 at the station.
I am sure all members would wish to pass on their thanks to all volunteers for their service at this difficult time.

Thank you for your continued support for the Trust which I can assure you will do its utmost to help the community or individual residents as required.
Members may find these two new community websites helpful at this difficult time.
http://nqsupport.co.uk/ https://nqchurch.uk/
Have a great Easter & Stay Safe
James Lawson - Chairman

NQHT Talks & Events
Here are the Trust's programme so far, with talks at the station. *Updates via the website and Facebook.*

- **Nature Walk** by John Done. Start at the Station, and then the War Memorial.
  Wednesday 17th June, 10am.
- **Village Show** - We have already started planning for this year's show. It will celebrate a "Roaring Twenties" theme!
  Saturday August 29th (check for updates)
- **Fife Doors Open Day** - An Art exhibition at the station; Lamp-lighting at the Light Tower; St James Chapel open for visitors.
  We also plan a Heritage Walk with a guide.
  Sunday 15th September, 2020, 10-16:00
- **The Island Jewels of the Forth** by Ian Archibald from Burntisland Heritage Trust
  Tuesday 13th October 2020, 19:30
- ***A Heritage Craft-Cutting Wooden Jigsaw Puzzles*** by Mike Travis
  Tuesday 10th November 2020, 19:30
- **January-April 2021 -** TBD
- ***Sub-Mariners*** by Duncan McNiven & Boyd Williamson
  Wednesday, 5th May, 2021, 19:30

Thank you for reading this far! We will have more news in our next edition.

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