



North Queensferry Heritage Trust

Newsletter – October 2025



Chairman's message...

As we approach the winter we've had a busy few months. Our NQHT volunteers have been busy as usual supporting the Village Show which was a success, and keeping our 3 main venues in the village operational as well as preparing for the West Fife Door Open Days, which ended last weekend. We are very grateful for our volunteers who made this year's event a big success. We've also had a few lamp lighting sessions which, without exception, were enjoyed by all, including our volunteer Light keeper.

We are seeing an increase in requests for this unique "lamp lighting experience", as well as from those completing the Forth Bridges Walking Trail and claiming a certificate for crossing 'a world heritage site' now celebrating its 10th anniversary.

I am also pleased to announce that the Trust has recently been awarded a grant towards installing solar panels on top of the 'Fisherman's hut' at the Town Pier. Once installed, the museum or 'hut' will be a more welcoming place for volunteers and visitors.

James Lawson -Chairman

Village Show - August 31st

As stated, this year's village show was a great success, and that success is down to two factors: our ever keen lady volunteers for planning and managing it; and, of course all those village participants that included the



youngest to the oldest, including the children. Many, many thanks to you all! Everyone this year did

their usual great job of producing ever interesting and beautiful vegetables, flowers, plants, home-baking, jams, crafts including paintings, sewing and so much more from the children!

The theme this year was WW2 Memories which was fitting for the 80th anniversary of the end of the war. This was



also a big success with the small hall exhibiting lots of personal war time memories. Thank you again, to all who loaned, donated and exhibited the many items on display.

Many thanks goes to Pam Bell for managing the WW2 Memories exhibition. In this case, 'managing' included setting up, making sure the items were handled carefully, clearing up afterwards, and returning all the items safely to their owners.

To see more pictures from the show, check out this link... [Village Show - 2025](#)

Garry Irvine

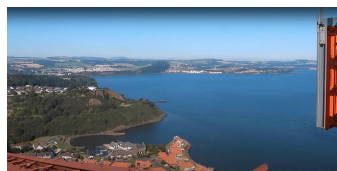
Museums Gallery Scotland (MGS)

As stated in our last newsletter, the Heritage Trust has gained "working towards" status that allows us to submit funding requests, which is the main reason for seeking MGS accreditation. This funding is initially limited for "working towards" groups and will be unlimited when accreditation is awarded.

Cataloguing our collections is one of the key tasks and we are keen to get computer literate volunteers to help. So, if you have some spare time, please let us know so we can all benefit from your help. And, yes, we are using AI or artificial intelligence, as it is a great help in creating the correctly formatted documentation for accreditation. This activity would be good for school-leavers, college or university students who are interested in the heritage of the local area. For helpers, we also provide great references for schemes such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Barnardo's & Balfour Beatty "Your View" 2025 - September 19-21, 2025

Yes, this was a very busy but successful few days. It "clashed" with our **West Fife Doors Opens Day** events, but in reality it simply swelled our visitors numbers. Our 3 venues were open for the Barnardos & Network Rail visitors including the Station



Gallery, the wee Light Tower and museum, and St James Chapel. Generally, we saw approximately 400 visitors to our venues! Many thanks to our volunteers for helping out - from opening the venues, to cutting the grass, and acting as guides. Without them, I am sure our numbers would be much much less!

Fife Museums Forum - 25th September

The Heritage Trust had the pleasure of hosting this month's meeting. Attendees were from museums, large and small, around Fife with a few joining us via Zoom. FMF has been working for over 40 years to connect museums across the Fife region. FMF exists to bring confidence and encouragement to members using our shared knowledge, experience and training and promotes the collective work of our Fife museums across the region.

Next Talk at the Station - 23 Oct. 7:30 pm Occupations of Old by Jackie Sangster

This talk will use archive photographs to explore working lives and professions from the past. Looking at jobs we used to do, from bus-conductors and onion Johnnies, to switchboard operators and lighthouse keepers. Technology and shifts in society have rendered many of these roles to history, so we shall look back and celebrate the people who served their communities in different ways.

Save the Albert - an update from ACG Ltd

For those of us who are concerned about the state of The Albert Hotel, here is an update: Eleven NQ residents and a local councillor attended the Dunfermline Sheriff Court on 16th September to hear our appeal being contested. After some delay, we were informed that another case took precedence and we were dismissed. A further date has been arranged for 18th November.



Meanwhile, a review of the whole Community Right to Buy (CRtB) legislation and process is taking place as many communities have found the process too burdensome. Only one CRtB Part 5 (sustainable development) application has been approved so far.

Alastair W.S. Ritchie - ACG Ltd

November Talk - 11 Nov. 7:30 pm Submarine Miners by Boyd Williamson

Boyd will be presenting his research into the war-time activities at Port Laing Beach. Quite fascinating, and worth getting out to attend.



With the help of FMF, we will try to plan to make the talk available via Zoom, but that depends on a number of factors that are not in our control.