



Please reply to:
Stewart Noble
Treasurer, Helensburgh Heritage Trust
28 East Abercromby Street
Helensburgh G84 7SQ

Tel 01436 675484
snoble84@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2021

Just a very brief newsletter this time, to bring you up-to-date with some developments.

Winter Programme

Because of the ongoing Covid 19 situation, your Board have decided that it is prudent to postpone the start of our winter programme to January 2022 at the earliest. We had been hoping to resume our winter meetings in the Civic Centre this month, but that is not going to happen.

One of the meetings which will be effected by this change is our Annual General Meeting. This will take place some time in November and it will almost certainly be conducted online using Zoom. However arrangements will also be made for members who do not have access to a computer. Fuller details will be sent to you in due course.

New Trustee

I am delighted to say that Calum McNicol has been co-opted to the board of the Heritage Trust, and ratification of his co-option will be sought at the AGM.

Calum is a former print and online journalist, including a stint as the Sports Editor at the Helensburgh Advertiser. He now works in communications for the MOD. A Rhu man, born-and-bred, he has lately developed a keen interest in the changing physical history of the local area. He has been involved in many local groups and clubs, in particular Helensburgh Rugby Club, authoring their 50th anniversary book in 2012 and acting as club reporter/webmaster for many years.

The photo which you can see was taken during the performance of a short play during the Burgh Bicentenary celebrations in 2002. In case you don't recognise Calum, he is in the middle in the role of the town crier (complete with bell), while I am King



George III on the left and Jim Ritchie is Sir James Colquhoun.

Helensburgh Town Council Visitors Book

On behalf of the board, I should like to thank the members of the Heritage Trust for their generosity in making donations towards the purchase of the visitors book. We have also received a donation of £100 from Helensburgh Community Council. Taking all these donations together, and then adding gift aid for most of them, the Heritage Trust has been able to acquire the visitors book at virtually no cost. Naturally, as treasurer, I am very happy!

The book will probably be displayed in the link corridor in the Civic Centre, with different pages open from time to time. Descriptions will be given of the events that brought the signatories to Helensburgh, as well as giving some information about them as people.

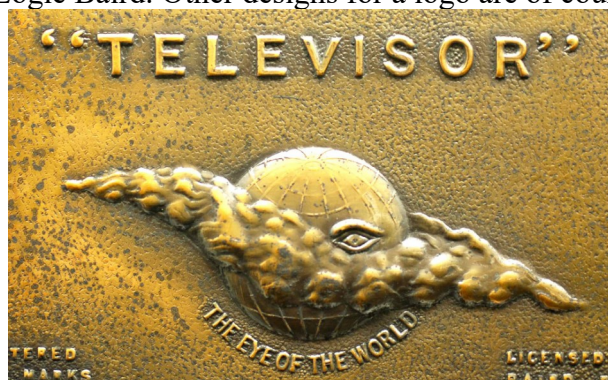
Meantime, just to whet your appetites, here is a photograph from the visitors book of Princess Margaret signing it on 29th March 1960. She visited the town then to open the former Old Parish Church on the seafront in its new incarnation as a Church of Scotland hostel for servicemen and women. Followers of fashion will have noted her fur coat, while historians will be contrasting the television set in the photo with those we have today.



Centenary of the Invention of Television

John Logie Baird first got his invention to work in October 1925, and so plans are now being made for the celebration of the centenary. I am pleased to report that a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) has now been set up under the name of Baird TV Centenary (number SC051167), with one of the trustees being the inventor's grandson, Iain. Another two are our chairman, Robert Ryan, and myself. More details in due course.

Meantime ideas are being sought for a logo for the new SCIO. A possibility being considered is to base it on "The Eye of The World" trademark which was used on early television sets which were called televisors by John Logie Baird. Other designs for a logo are of course welcome.



Helensburgh Heritage Trust is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (No. SC 024603)
www.helensburgh-heritage.co.uk