



Gullane and Dirleton History Society

Newsletter 30

April 2016



Dear Member,

The AGM.

The final event in your Society's winter season is on **Thursday 7th April** in Dirleton. This is the time that the Society takes stock of the past year's activities, reports on its financial health and elects officers. Happily all of your officers are happy to continue in post but there are still plenty of places for those who might wish to serve on the committee. It's a chance to get involved and provide fresh ideas and energy to ensure your Society moves forward.



Traditionally a Society member delivers a short talk on an historical subject and this year I am pleased to announce that Eric Thomson will give a talk entitled '**A visit to the Zulu and Boer battlefields – was it all worth it?**' He will be showing images gleaned on a recent trip to South Africa.

Please come and support your hardworking officers and enjoy the company of your fellow historians.

The outings.

There is still time to join other members on one or both of our outings.



On **Saturday April 16th** a visit to Smail's print works in Innerleithen has been arranged. This active business in the Borders uses old style printing methods which will be demonstrated. Come and learn the derivation of such terms as 'a dab hand' and 'upper and lower case'.



On **Saturday June 18th** a more adventuresome trip to Inchcolm Island will take place. We will be led by Chris Tabraham who delivered a lecture to the Society on the history of the Bass Rock recently.

The island is packed with history both ancient and modern but is also a haven of peace.

The boat trip is not arduous and includes a brief sail around the three bridges of the Forth giving a good view of the new road bridge under construction.

Lecture programme 2016 / 2017.

Many of you enjoyed hearing **Marie Macpherson**, the author of 'The First Blast of the Trump' talk about John Knox. The planning of the programme of lectures for this coming winter is well advanced with talks on The Innocent Railway, Smuggling, Burns and religion, the history of Curling and General Monck already fixed. Keep an eye on the Society's website over the summer for more details.

Michael (Thomson)