



Gullane and Dirleton History Society

Newsletter 50

December 2018



Dear Member,

50 up.



The first of these new style newsletters appeared in April 2013 after the retirement of Jim Sinclair from the Chair of the Society. In the five and a half years since that time your Society has continued to flourish and fulfil its aim of promoting the study of local history by means of lectures, outings, exhibitions and research using the substantial archive of historical material that is maintained.

A stand promoting the Society's activities was taken to the Archaeology Conference at Queen Margaret's University last month. It attracted much interest.

Remembering life in East Lothian.



The Coastal Communities Museum in North Berwick has closed for the winter allowing some displays to be replaced, altered or enhanced. A feature of the new exhibition opening at Easter next year will be a display put on by the young of East Lothian telling the story of youth in the area between 1945 and 2000.

The team working on this project are keen to record the memories of people who lived locally during that period. Where did they meet? What activities did they partake in? What did they wear? Who were their idols?

If you would be prepared to share your memories of life at that time come to the Museum (above the library in School Road, North Berwick) on **Friday 14th December 1 pm to 3 pm** or **Saturday 15th December 12 pm to 2 pm**.

Dunbar Battery.



Roy Johnstone didn't disappoint in November with his masterful lecture on Emily Pankhurst and the Suffragette movement. The programme of lectures continues this week in Dirleton on Thursday with the fascinating story of the battery at Dunbar harbour. Excavation has revealed evidence of the varied uses of the area apart from defence of the coast and harbour. Come and hear all about it.

Cousland smiddy.

This year's Society outing to Cousland Smiddy is tentatively set for **Saturday May 4th 2019**. This fine example of an old style smiddy with bellow operated furnace, anvils and a huge collection of blacksmith's tools is well worth seeing particularly when it is fired up. Keep the date clear in your diary. More details will be announced in the Spring.

Michael (Thomson)