



Gullane and Dirleton History Society



Newsletter 51

January 2019

Dear Member,

Happy New Year?



Whatever the New Year brings you your Society will continue to provide a steady source of interest on historical matters throughout 2019. The first of these will be the art and history of story telling.

Tim Porteus who most of you will be aware of through his regular contributions to the Courier, comes to **Gullane on Wednesday 9th January** to explain the importance of oral tradition in the recording of history. Before the days of writing and print news and events were promulgated by mouth and ear but stories and oral reminiscences remain a crucial source of historical material today.

I look forward to seeing you there.

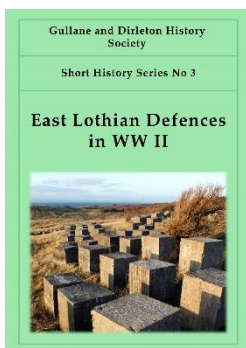
Down memory lane.



Continuing the theme of remembering many of you will recall rationing during and after WW II. **James Herring** will be coming to speak to the Society again on **31st January 2019 at Dirleton**. He will explain the effects that rationing had on daily life.

I look forward to seeing you there too.

The camera and recording the past.



Depicting events with charcoal, pigments, paint and chisel has been around for millenia but the advent of the camera revolutionised the recording of history. Permanent records of objects and scenes could be captured and stored exactly as they appeared before time, man's hand and nature altered and lost them for ever.

Your Society holds a large archive of photographs and is adding to them all the time. As the number of surviving participants in WW II dwindles a new publication from the Society records the remaining evidence of the defences around Gullane, Dirleton and Drem in photographs and text. At £1 a copy this is a cheap must-have reference booklet. They will be available to purchase at the Society's meetings or by application through the Society's Publications Officer on 01620 850983.

Cousland smiddy.

As previously intimated this year's Society outing to Cousland Smiddy is tentatively set for **Saturday May 4th 2019**. Keep that date in mind as you begin to fill in your pristine 2019 diary!

Michael (Thomson)