

AYRSHIRE § NOTES § HISTORY ANTIQUITIES ARCHÆOLOGY • NATURAL~HISTORY

No. 27

Spring 2004

ISSN 1474-3531

£2.00



Monkton and Prestwick Parish Church

Contributions for the Autumn 2004 issue of *Ayrshire Notes*, including information about the activities of Member Societies, should be sent before the end of July to Rob Close, 1 Craigbrae Cottages, Drongan, Ayr KA6 7EN, tel. 01292 590273.

Local Societies may obtain additional copies of *Ayrshire Notes* for their members at cost price by prior arrangement with David McClure, 7 Park Circus, Ayr KA7 2DJ, tel. 01292 262248.

AYRSHIRE NOTES
is published in Ayr by
AYRSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
in association with
AYRSHIRE FEDERATION OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

AYRSHIRE NOTES 27, 2004, ISSN 1474–3531

© 2004. The copyright of the articles belongs to the individual authors.

Further information about the AANHS (Ayrshire Archaeological & Natural History Society) and its publications will be found on the society's website: **www.aanhs.org.uk**

AANHS President	Stanley Sarsfield
AANHS Secretary	Mrs Sheena Andrew, 17 Bellrock Avenue, Prestwick KA9 1SQ. Tel. 01292 479077
AFHS Chairman	Stuart Wilson
AFHS Secretary (acting)	Rob Close, 1 Craigbrae Cottages, Drongan, Ayr KA6 7EN Tel. 01292 590273

Cover illustration

Old postcard from a private collection (see the article on page 4).

Contents

Monkton and Prestwick Parish Church	4
Specification of work to be executed in Monkton Parish Church	4
<i>Mason Work</i>	4
<i>Carpenter & Joiner Work</i>	6
<i>Glasier Work</i>	8
<i>Plumber Work</i>	9
<i>Slater Work</i>	9
<i>Plaster Work</i>	9
Letter from David Bryce to Reverend Thomas Burns	11
Quintin McAdam's Dalmellington Bypass and Bryce Macquiston's map	12
The Covenanters' Prophet	16
'There's credit here for ev'ry soul'	20
Book Notices	21
Ayrshire Federation of Historical Societies	24
Annual General Meeting	24
2004 Conference	24
Contemporary History	24
Diary of Meetings March – May 2004	26
AANHS Publications	28

Monkton and Prestwick Parish Church

One of the recent depositions at the Ayrshire Archives Centre has been a collection of papers relating to Prestwick. The collection is at present in the process of being catalogued, and I am grateful to Kevin Wilbraham, the Ayrshire Archivist, and to Jean Aitchison, who has been undertaking the cataloguing, for drawing my attention to the two items transcribed below.

David Bryce, who lived from 1803 to 1876, was one of the leading Scottish architects of his generation. He was born in Edinburgh, where his professional training was in the office of William Burn, the greatest architect of the previous generation. Burn's best-known work in Ayrshire is Blairquhan Castle. Bryce is well known for his country houses, especially in the modified and romanticised Gothic now known as Scots Baronial, but he was capable of designing in many styles. In Ayrshire, his important works include Glenapp Castle, and additions to Kilkerran.

Bryce is less well-known for his churches, but there are two in Ayrshire. These both date from the early years of his professional life. One is the parish church at Coylton, and the other is the new church that was built midway between Monkton and Prestwick to replace the pre-Reformation churches in the two villages, which formed a united parish. These two transcriptions relate to the latter, which is referred to therein as Monkton Parish Church. The first, which is a specification for the building work, comes from Bryce's office, but is probably not written in his hand. The spelling, which is often eccentric, has been left unaltered, and I suspect that this is a 'fair copy', drawn up by one of his clerks or apprentices from a rough copy provided by Bryce. The second item is of a type perhaps familiar to all architects; a letter responding to a client who is trying to save money. This is almost certainly in Bryce's own hand.

The work of building Monkton Church began in October 1834. The major contractors were the mason John Parker, and the joiner William Alexander, both from Ayr. The church was formally opened in May 1837, and remained in use by the Church of Scotland until 1986. It has, fortunately, remained in religious use.

Rob Close

Specification of work to be executed in Monkton Parish Church

Mason Work

The whole area of church will be excavated to the levels shown on the sections and the foundations of walls until a safe & solid bearing is obtained. The two first courses of building will be executed with large flat bedded stone averaging 4 feet long 2 feet broad and nine inches thick prepared, and the whole upper surface of each course will be run over with thin lime, a space 3 feet 6 inches wide round the walls of church will be filled up from the under bed of foundations to the level of ground with dry shivers or rough loose stones –

The drains will be 10 inches wide and 14 inches deep built with well squared rubble stone, having the soles worked to an angle in the center and laid with a declivity of 2 inches to every 10 feet. –

The whole walls of church will be executed with the best rubble, built crossband through having headers in every foot of height extending through two thirds of the thickness of the walls and not exceeding from 5 to 6 feet apart. –

The whole exterior of the church and session house will be executed with pick stressed or stabbed coursed rubble, each course from 10 to 12 inches on the bed and averaging from 7 to 9 inches high and no larger course being placed above one of smaller dimensions and every third stone being a header extending through two thirds of the thickness of the walls and having the joints and beds regularly squared and worked, and will be hard drawn in on the courses. –

The flue from session house & room in tower will be built with well squared hammer dressed stone and the interior arches in every situation will have the beds & joints worked to the radius. The whole of parapet wall heads will be executed with parallel ashlar from 9 to 10 inches on the bed having the face pick ~~stressed~~ dressed or dabbled similar to the rubble and the back rough dressed. –

The rybats of the windows will be built outband & inband, the outbands extending 2 feet on the face of the wall, and the inbands through their whole thickness, and each rybat will be made to contain two heights of courses, and the whole of the splay mouldings round windows and doors, and a two inch margin on the front face of the same, and the whole of the base course dado course, cornice and cope of church, and string courses, splay cornice, ornament parapet & cope of tower, and the label mouldings and every other moulding throughout the building and the several turrets, buttresses & finials will be clean & regularly dressed. –

The buttresses & turrets will be courses from 14 to 18 inches high each course being in two stones built crossband, and the tails of every second course will have at least 6 inches hold of the wall, and the pinnacles will be doweled with oak dowels one inch in diameter, and the smaller ones may be in two and the large ones in three heights, the portion of the rybats beyond the margin above described will be pick dressed similar to the courses and the fronts of all the hewn stone will be lipped one inch broad and pointed with oil putty and this as also the courses will be made to the same course as the stone.

The jambs lintels and hearths of fire places will be executed with clear polished stone, and the whole pavement in ground floor will also be clear polished that in passages extending the whole width between the dwarf walls, and the whole steps and landing of stairs will also be clear polished and will have a polished stone skirting 6 inches high projecting half an inch

before the finished face of plaster and a similar skirting will be carried along the lobbies and porches on ground floor. –

The whole stone used in the above building will be laid on their natural beds the rubble will be from Ladykirk or any of the neighbouring freestone quarries, and the whole of the interior hewn stone and coursers from Craixland or Auchenwee quarries and all the steps, plats, landings, and pavements of every description must be from Craixland quarry and contractors will state which of the quarries they have made up their estimates from, or the difference of expences from either. They will also state what the difference of expence would be to make the fronts of pick dressed ashlar built header and stretcher, the headers as described for the coursers, and all to be regularly worked on the beds & joints the outbands not being less than from 7 to 8 inches on the bed, and the lime will be mixed up with sharp pit sand and pure water.

Carpenter & Joiner Work

The lath standards will be one inch square and 12 inches apart from ~~standard~~ center to center and will be secured to the wall with malleable iron hold fasts 4½ inches long placed on the alternate sides of standards not exceeding 20 inches apart and the whole walls & ceiling of the church entrance lobby stair cases session room and room in tower will be entirely covered with the best Baltic split lath not less than 9/16 of an inch thick or exceeding 1¼ inches broad each split and to break band at the distance of every three feet.

The sleeper joists in ground floor will be 7 by 2½ inches and 18 inches apart from center to center and will be laid on 12 inch dwarf stone walls as shown on plan of foundations,

The floor timbers in galleries will be seen on Drawing No.7 and the front beams will be dovetailed into the cast iron sockets as shown on the drawings where also the construction and connection of the cast iron pillars with the floor timbers will be fully seen, and the circular main beam in end of gallery will be formed in four thicknesses each 12 by 2 inches strongly bolted together by one inch screw bolts placed three feet apart. –

The wall plate for the roof will be 10 by 3 inches strongly scarfed at the joining of ends and those for floor timbers will be 10 by 2 inches also scarfed on the end joints.

The principal rafters of roof will be seen on Drawing No.9 and their situations and the construction and dimensions of the whole on the several drawings, the purlins will be 9 by 4 inches and the small scantlings 5½ by 2½ inches and 20 inches apart from center to center and the whole roof will be covered with 7/8 of an inch deal boarding laid close joint and not exceeding from 10 to 12 inches broad. –

The roof timbers on tower and session room and floor timbers in tower will be 9 by 2½ inches & 18 inches apart from center to center and

covered with $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch groved and tounge deal not exceeding 6 inches broad. –

The diagonal and other ribs for forming and framing the center ceiling will be 5 by 2 inches and at the springing will be made of two thicknesses of an inch deal strongly nailed & riveted together, having the grain of one piece placed in an opposite direction to that of the other and the whole ceiling joists will be $4\frac{1}{2}$ by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches and these as well as the ribs will be placed 15 inches apart from center to center and must be strongly strapped up to the roof and formed as shown on the different drawings.

The construction of the seating and the framing of the division of pews in the gallery and bodey of church and the construction of communion tables will be seen on Drawing No.2. The doors of the seating will be 17 inches wide in one pannal hung with $3\frac{1}{2}$ inch hinges and having 6 inch hard wood barrs fro fastners placed on the inside.

The floors in the bodey of church & in the gallereys will be laid with $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch groved and tounge deal not exceeding 6 inches broad, the exterior doors will be formed with $2\frac{1}{4}$ inch wood the stiles and upper rails $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad the lock rail and under rail 10 inches broad and the panels $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches thick bead and flush on the inside having a large ovola moulding and projecting one inch broad planted round them on the outside and the stiles and rails to be studded with a double row of dimond headed nails $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches apart and $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch square. –

The principal entrance door to have two leaves and to have a strong 10 inch iron rimmed lock mallable iron bolts & 9 inch hinges and the exterior doors on each side of the session room will have 8 inch rimmed locks and 7 inch hinges with plain brass furniture.

The interior doors will be entirely framed with 2 inch wood & have 7 inch mortice locks of 15sh value each & 6 inch hinges and those to bodey of church and galleries will have spring latches of the best quality.

The whole of the doors in the interior of the church will be finished with a $1\frac{1}{2}$ cover bead carried entirely round, and the wings and soffates will be lined with $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch groved & tounge deal.

The walls of church both below and in the galleries and the stair cases to a height of three feet 6 inches will be entirely lined with $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch groved and tounge deal beaded on the joints and finished with a one inch beaded coping on the top projecting half an inch before the face of the linning, and finished below with a $4\frac{1}{2}$ inch skirting of $\frac{7}{8}$ deal projecting $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch before the face of the linning.

The front of the galleries will be seen on Drawing No.10 and be framed with $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch deal pannals $\frac{7}{8}$ of an inch thick and the uprights for securing the framing will be 3 by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches firmly secured to the ends of joists, having a runtree at top of similiar dimentions to which they will be morticed.

The cast metal columns will not be less than one inch thick and will be secured to each other as also to the timber as shewn on the drawings and the under part of low pilliars will be let one inch into a large whin or granite stone not less than 20 inches square and 10 inches thick having three plies of 6 lb lead betwixt the iron & stone.

The pulpit and precenters desk will be seen on Drawing No.12 and will be formed with 1¾ inch deal and the canopy will be hung with mallable iron brackets 1¼ inches square extending 6 feet down piliasters and projecting 3 feet 6 inches having an angle bracket, and a pannaed soffate and entirely finished with ¾ of an inch deal, the steps of the pulpit stair will be 4¼ inches thick and the front ¾ of an inch thick.

The stair to the pulpit will have a neat and turned balastre from 2½ to 3 inches diameter made of oak with moulded oak hand rail 2 by 3½ inches diameter. –

The door standards will all be 6 by 2½ inches secured to timber bricks built in the wall and the fire place in session room will be finished with jamb mouldings and a 7/8 of an inch coping.

The ingoings breasts and soffates of doors & windows in session room, on breast of windows in room in tower will be linned with ¾ of an inch groved & tounge [] beaded deal, and the session room will have shutters framed with 1½ inch wood hung with 3½ inch hinges and secured by strong mallable iron bars extending entirely across the windows, and the doors and windows in this situation will have 5 inch single fascia architrave and a 4 inch skirting will be carried all round with a small base moulding. –

The whole of the roofing joisting safe lintels wall plates and beams, the exterior doors, door standards and wall standards will be executed entirely with the best Memel brown timber and the flooring deals with white and sleeper joists with redwood Petersbourgh or Riga battans and the whole interior furnishing of every description with the best yellow pine timber all free from sap wood shakes and large or lose knots. –

Glasier Work

The whole windows will be glasied with the best Newcastle or Dumbarton glass of the best second quality, to be cut into lozens about 7 inches long and from 4 to 4½ inches broad secured by lead and properly and compleatley soldred and 3/8 of an inch iron rods will be fixed between the rybats into the stone and placed at the distance of 14 inches for the purpose of securing the lead frames. Which latter will also be let into the stone at least ¾ of an inch on each side and the rybats for the frames will be afterwards filled up with oil puttey mixed with an equal ~~quantity~~ proportion of burnt sand and white lead, and finished flush on the inside face. One compartment of every window beneath the galleries and one in each above the galleries will be fixed in their mallable iron frames and be hung on a pivot on each end and have fastners to secure them; and the windows in

session house will be similiar, the centre window having one division to open as above described.

Plumber Work

The platforms on tower & session room and the gutters will be laid with 7 lb lead extending six inches up the walls where it will be covered by a 4½ inch apron of 6 lb lead let into ~~the stone~~ a raglet let in the stone and filled up with mastic and the gutters will have six inches of an upstand. The rolls will each contain 7 inches of lead and the ridge be covered with 6 lb lead 16 inches broad.

Slater Work

The whole roof will be covered with the best strong Esdale or Balachulish laid on a shouldering of haired lime and having two thirds of cover & secured by mallable iron nails put into lintseed oil in a state of red heat and made to the weight of 15 lb to the thousand.

Plaster Work

The whole of the walls and ceilings of everey portion of the church stair cases entrance porch & session room &c will be finished with the best three coat plaster, the ceiling rib mouldings & cornices being gaged and run with stucco, a cornice and frieze will be carried round the church as shewen on Drawing No.10 and a small cornice will be introduced above galleries, in the entrance porch, stair case & session room and all the rib mouldings on ceiling will be secured and hung with spikes and rope yarn, and all have ties at the various intersections 10 inches in diameter.

The whole windows will be finished with plain splayes and have a 2 inch corner head run round them and the large windows will have a moulded splay and a lable of similiar size to that on the outside.

The whole and everey portion of the works above described with reffrence to the several plans marked from one to twelve both inclusive must be executed in the most substantial ~~manner~~ and workmanlike manner and in everey respect to the entire satisfaction of the Committee of Heritors or such person as they may appoint to examine or superintend the works and it is most expressly to be understood that whatever omission may have occurred in the above specifications or on any of the drawings to which it refers these articles must ~~nesserley~~ nevertheless be completed like corresponding portions of the work or other buildings of a similiar description; as the contract must embrace everey item of expence which may be nesserrey to render the church completely ready for occupation

Contractors will also understand that it shall be in the pour of the heritors to make such alterations and additions on the plans and specifications during the progress of the works as may appear nessarey or benificall without in any respect altring or affecting the terms and

obligations of the contracts to be entred into and that in the event of aney extra work or deductions being thereby incurred the same shall be ascertained at the time and entred in a journal and agreed to by the heritors or superintendent acting for them, and whether additions or deductions the prices to be affixed therto shall be similiar to those upon which the contract may be made, and no addition or deduction will be allowed to either party unless they are regularly entred as above described and each entrey signed at the same time by the contractor and the heritors or the architect or other person acting in their name or behalf. –

Contractors will also be bound to find sufficient security for the due fulfilment of their contracts, and to uphold and maintain their respective departments of work in so farr as aney insufficiency may occur from neglect on their part for a period of five years from the date of the building being taken off their hands.

The estimates for the work will be stated in seprate sums spesifeying the different departments as follows, first the whole mason work, including the excavations 2nd the whole carpenter joiner glasier & smith works 3rd the plumber work, 4th the slater work & lastley the plaster work, it being in the pour of the heritors to employ aney of the contracting parties for one or all of these departments of work as they may find them lowest and they will also observe that the entire department of work must be completed by the contractor or contractors respectivley under the above heads without reference to their part of the part of the specification in which it may be more imediatley described.

8 Great Stewart Street
4th Juley 1834

Letter from David Bryce to Reverend Thomas Burns

8 Gt Stuart Street

July 28 1834

Sir

In reply to yours of the 25 inst, I beg leave to state, that any reduction that could be made on the external ornament of the church would materially injure the general effect, and the difference of expence would not compensate for the deterioration of the appearance.-

The whole saving that could be effected on the session house end of church would be to make the coursing hammer dressed, instead of pick dressed,

which would be a reduction of about	£10		
cornice moulding of session house	2	10	-
label moulding round large windows with small corbels	2	10	-
and capitals on small pillars			
moulding below window sills at each side of session house	2	5	-
	£17	5	-

This deduction is so trifling that I hope the Heritors will not think of making it. -

I can see no objection to plain deal seating being used in every situation, except where the communion tables are, and around the pulpit. A further deduction of about £14.0.0. might be made, some pew doors dispensed with, except where they are absolutely necessary, as in the front seat of galleries, and in pews where the openings must be to the front, there are 84 seats that might do without doors. -

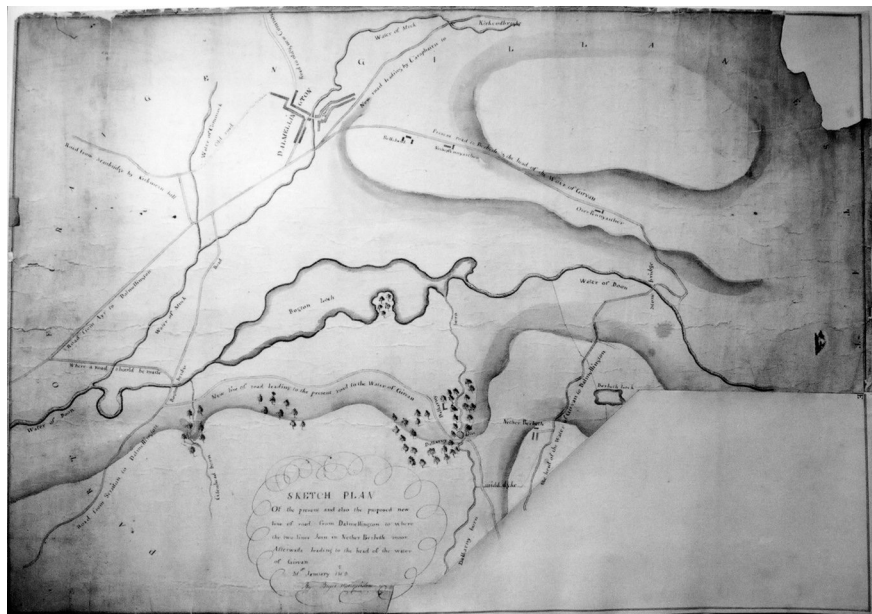
There is no doubt of the drawback of duty being obtained, if the new church contains more settings than the two churches that are to be done away - very particular enquiry should be made before the red pine timber is adopted instead of Baltic, as the duty of the latter is 13^d per foot, and the former I believe about 2^d, I have however no particular objection to red pine.

I am busily engaged preparing drawings of the mouldings, &c., which will be forwarded in a day or two. -

I am, Sir, Your Ob^t S^t., Dav^d Bryce

The Rev^d Tho^s Burns,
Monkton Manse

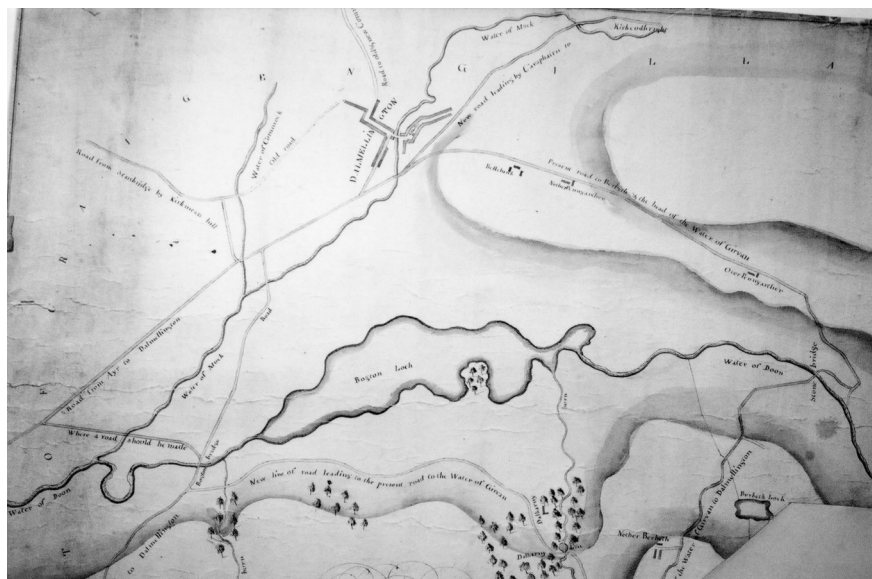
Quintin McAdam's Dalmellington Bypass and Bryce Macquiston's map



1. A view of the whole map, which is damaged and incomplete.

Like his father John before him, Quintin McAdam of Craigengillan (also known as Berbeth) was an active roads trustee; between 1st January 1791 and 2nd November 1804, he attended 11 general meetings of the Ayrshire Roads Trustees in Ayr.¹ With his house standing on the Carrick side of the Water of Doon in the parish of Straiton and Dalmellington on the Kyle side, he served on committees for roads in both these districts of Ayrshire. On 6th August 1793 he was appointed to the committee “For the management of the roads in the Carrick parishes of Maybole, Kirkmichael, Dailly, Kirkoswald, Straiton and Barr”, with the Earl of Cassillis, Sir Adam Fergusson of Kilkerran and Sir John Whitefoord of Whitefoord [Blairquhan] among 17 fellow members.² On 30th April 1795 a new committee of 19 was appointed for the road from Ayr to Dalmellington; Quintin McAdam of Craigengillan was its convener. Three years later he was one of 9 new members added to the committee on the road from Dalmellington to New Cumnock. As the members of the committee on the road from Ayr to Dalmellington were, by 16th January 1800, “mostly

In terms of this map, the Dalmellington bypass attributed to Quintin McAdam is the continuation of (5), the “New road leading by Carsphairn to Kirkcudbright” to meet (1), the “Road from Ayr to Dalmellington”, without entering the village. This is the line of the A713 today. It is fortunate that we have been left a contemporary description of both the old entry to Dalmellington from the southeast, and of the new road, in Richard Hodgkinson’s account of his travels in Scotland in 1800.³



3. Enlarged view, showing Dalmellington, the Water of Doon, and Bogton Loch

Hodgkinson was astonished that, considering that Dalmellington comprised so very few houses, they should be ‘so inconveniently jumbled together ... upon the side of a Hill of steep descent’ by the burn known unpoetically as the Water of Muck. Entering ‘the town’ from the southeast at the ‘upper end’, the traveller came upon a sharp turn ‘into a street which admits of only one carriage at a time’, although further down there was a ‘spacious opening before the principal Inn’.⁴ It was not paved and consisted of ‘a rough gravel which is very much torn up by the rapid descent of the Rains down so steep a pitch’. Hodgkinson turned from his criticism of the village street to compliment ‘the Gentlemen of Scotland’ for the attention they paid to laying out new roads, and to note in particular Quintin McAdam, a young man ‘who has by his influence & the weight of his purse gained almost dictatorial authority abt the Roads in this neighbourhood.’ ‘By one bold effort’ he had made a new road which did not come within 200 yards of the town, ‘by which you escape not only the danger & difficulty of going through the Town but the Road is kept upon a better level’. Hodgkinson goes on to describe how McAdam had to carry the new road through ‘extensive

Moss deep & rotten', and how over the course of three or four years and at a personal expense of £400, he had prevailed.⁵



4. Enlarged view, showing Dalmellington.

Of course Quintin McAdam had an interest in the whole course of the road to Ayr. On 5th June 1801 he attended a meeting in Ayr to discuss the line of the road between Polnessan and Ayr, in connection with a survey by Charles Abercrombie.⁶ The minutes of a meeting he attended on 1st August the same year record the involvement of the author of the above sketch map, Bryce Macquiston, in the road.

But as the whole Proprietors thro whose Property the Road at present goes, or is intended to be carried after the alteration shall be made therein from Dalmellington to the March of the Parish of Ayr, Are satisfied with the Alteration from Ponnassan Burn [Polnessan] to the March of the Parish of Ayr as now lined of by Brice Macquiston upon Mr Abercromby's Plan as well as a New Plan made out by himself having the different Lines of Road delineated thereon, They therefore adopt that Line in preference to that mentioned in the Minutes of [5th June].

It is clear that Bryce Macquiston was responsible for another map or plan showing the line of the road running northwest from Dalmellington to Ayr.⁷

There would have been minute books for the parish of Dalmellington and for the individual roads with which Quintin McAdam was associated, but none of these are presently among the public records or listed among estate papers. However both

Hodgkinson's journal and Macquiston's map survive to record the contribution of Quintin McAdam to the infrastructure of Dalmellington in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Quintin McAdam shot himself on 22nd March 1805.

David McClure

- ¹ David McClure, *Tolls and Tacksmen: Eighteenth century roads in the county of John Loudon McAdam*, (AANHS, 1994).
- ² CO3/4/1, minutes of general meetings of Ayr Roads Trustees, 1767-1805. Ayrshire Archives.
- ³ L15/1-4, Hodgkinson and Jackson Family Papers, Manchester Central Library Archives Department; includes [L15/2/1-12] the Journals of Richard Hodgkinson of Atherton, Lancs., estate agent. Florence and Kenneth Wood (eds.), *A Lancashire Gentleman: The Letters and Journals of Richard Hodgkinson 1763-1847*, (Alan Sutton, Stroud, 1992). See also "The Dalmellington Volunteers", an article on the Ayrshire History website: www.ayrshirehistory.org.uk
- ⁴ In his account of the parish, the minister Duncan McMyne notes that "it has 5 or 6 public houses, kept by people of good character" [*Statistical Account of Scotland, Dalmellington*, Rev. Duncan McMyne (1792)]. No inn is recorded in the window tax records for 5/4/1797 to 5/4/1798, which implies that even the best inn had fewer than 7 taxable windows and was far from being a grand establishment. [E326/1/16, Assessed Taxes Schedules, Window Tax, Ayrshire Apr. 1789 - Apr. 1798. National Archives of Scotland.]
- ⁵ The accuracy of his observations is not beyond question. He records the 'lake called Dom-loch, seven miles long & a mile broad' [Loch Doon], and its small island with a castle, but errs in noting that 'the River Ayr runs through this Loch'.
- ⁶ CO3/5/3a, District of Ayr Road Trustee Records 1781-1827. Ayrshire Archives.
- ⁷ See also CO3/5/32, Kilmarnock District Roads Trustees, minute book 1830-1835; Mr Macquiston to be paid £9 for his survey at Flockside.

The Covenanters' Prophet

On the morning of 9th March 1686 a troop of dragoons under the command of Colonel James Douglas, and led by a Lieutenant Murray, entered the cemetery at Auchinleck and disinterred the remains of Alexander Peden, the renowned Covenanter, transporting the body to Cumnock. Disregarding the fact that Peden had already been forty days in the ground, it was their intention to hang the body on the gallows tree at Cumnock. It was only when the local dignitaries Lord and Lady Dumfries intervened and told Lieutenant Murray, the dragoon officer, that 'the gibbet tree was erected for malefactors and murderers and not for men such as Peden' that the soldiers relented. A hole was dug at the foot of the gallows tree and Peden's body thrown into it 'out of contempt', according to the gravestone. Thus ended the trials and tribulations of Alexander Peden, the Covenanter's Prophet, as controversial in death as he had been in life.

Alexander Peden was born nearby at Sorn, a village about a mile from Auchinleck, where he was interred. There is some doubt however about the actual place where he was

born. Some accounts say it was in the farmhouse at Auchencloich, while others state that it was in a small cottage near Sorn Castle. What has not been disputed is the fact that his father was a man of reasonable means and on good terms with the Boswells, the Lairds of Auchinleck.

Alexander Peden most probably received his primary education at the Parish School in Mauchline. He attended Glasgow University and in 1648 his name was entered in the 'fourth class'. On that occasion it was spelt 'Peathine' but at other times it was recorded as 'Pedine'. After graduation he became the schoolmaster at Tarbolton: as was frequently the case this post also brought with it the responsibilities of being the session clerk for the parish, and the precentor at the church.

Peden moved from Tarbolton to Fenwick, where he was employed in a similar position. Scandal entered his life at this time in the form of a young serving maid who named him as the father of her unborn child. Peden denied the charge and spent twenty-four hours in meditation and prayer after the accused had been proved false. At this time he took a vow never to marry. It is claimed that the girl, overcome with remorse for her accusation, committed suicide on the spot where he had prayed.

In 1659 Peden was ordained, and was inducted to the charge of New Luce, Wigtownshire, in 1660. He soon gained a reputation as a sincere and fervent preacher with a great love for the Scottish Kirk.

On 29th May 1660, Restoration Day in Britain, the monarchy was restored and Charles II installed on the throne. As was expected, many changes were made, and among the changes that Charles wished to implement was change to the control of the church in Scotland. Under Charles' plans, the church would be controlled by the state and the presbyterian structure of control replaced by a hierarchy system, headed by bishops appointed by the state. This proposal was bound to provoke a violent and angry reaction among parts of the Scots church, and so it did.

The Crown appointed four Bishops, and a deadline of 1st November 1662 was set as the final day by which the clergy in Scotland could take the Oath of Allegiance. Peden was among 21 ministers in Galloway, as well as hundreds of others throughout the country, who refused to take this oath. They were, therefore, forced to leave their manse in the middle of a bitter winter, and became known as the Ejected Ministers. Because of their opposition to the Oath of Allegiance these ministers were held to be enemies of the state and became wanted and hunted men. The charges against them stated that 'these men were labouring to keep the hearts of the people from the present government in church and state.'

Peden preached his last sermon at New Luce from the Acts of the Apostles. On leaving the pulpit he knocked three times on the pulpit door with his Bible saying, 'I arrest thee in my Father's Name that none ever enter thee but such as come in by the door, as I have done.' The living and pulpit of New Luce remained vacant throughout the subsequent period of unrest, and was only filled again after the Glorious Revolution of 1690, and the accession of William and Mary.

The ejected Ministers, Peden among them, took to the hills and continued to preach in remote areas where they used the valleys and rough countryside to their advantage. People staunch to the Presbyterian faith helped the ministers and became familiar as

Covenanters, i.e. as faithful to the Scottish National Covenant, which had affirmed Scotland's adherence to the presbyterian form of worship and control. Large crowds of people loyal to their accustomed form of religion gathered to hear these preachers, and the open-air gatherings became known as Conventicles.

As a skilled horseman, Peden was able on many occasions to escape capture from the redcoats hunting him down. His flamboyant style and prophetic preaching drew large crowds from all over the south of Scotland. This, coupled with a series of narrow escapes from the dragoons, gave Peden an aura of invincibility among the peasants who gathered to him his preach.

On 25th January 1665 he was charged with holding conventicles at various places in the south of Scotland and ordered to appear before the Privy Council. He disregarded this summons, and was declared a rebel. Peden's supporters urged him to go to Ireland for his own safety. He took their advice and stayed in Ireland for a few years. In 1673 he returned to Scotland and was almost immediately arrested at the house of Hew Ferguson at Knockdow, near Ballantrae.

The arresting officer, a Major Cockburn, had Peden sent to Edinburgh for trial. He appeared before the Privy Council and was ordered to be imprisoned on the Bass Rock, in the Firth of Forth. He remained on this island fortress until 9th October 1677 when, along with nearly one hundred others, he was sentenced to banishment to America. Their destination was to be a plantation in Virginia. Peden raised the spirits of his fellow prisoners by declaring that 'the ship was not built that would take him or them to Virginia or any other plantation in America.'

Peden's prediction proved to be correct. When the ship's captain realised the prisoners he was carrying were not criminals but people being banished for their religious beliefs, he refused to take them any further than London. The prisoners were put ashore at Gravesend, and most made their way back to Scotland. Peden, however, after spending some time in the north of England, returned to Ireland.

Wearied for his native land, Peden returned once more to Scotland in 1685. As the ship that was to carry him home lay becalmed in the water Peden prayed: 'Lord, give us a loof-full of wind; fill the sails, Lord, and give us a fresh gale, and let us have a safe passage over to the bloody land, come of us what will.' Even as he prayed the wind rose, filling the sails of the ship, and Peden and his friends were soon underway. After landing safely in Scotland, and before dispersing, Peden again prayed knowing he would probably not see his fellow passengers again: 'My soul trembles to think what will become of the indulged, backslidden and upset Ministers of Scotland; as the Lord lives, none of the shall be honoured to put a pin in the Lord's tabernacle, or assert Christ's kingly prerogative as Head and King.'

Once again Peden took to the hills he knew so well, gathering huge crowds whenever he made an appearance. His luck – although Peden did not look on it as such, more as the Lord's protection – held out while he and his close companions continued to have narrow escapes from the dragoons. On one occasion, when pursued by a strong force of troops close by, Peden stopped running from his enemies. Gathering his friends around

him, and taking advantage of a rise in the ground which shielded them from the redcoats, the Covenanter offered up this remarkable prayer:

‘Lord, it is Thy enemy’s day, hour and power. They may not be idle, but hast Thou no other work for them but to send after us? Send them after them to whom Thou wilt give the strength to flee, for our strength is gone. Twine them about the hill, Lord, and cast the lap of Thy cloak over Old Sandy and these poor things, and save us this one time, and we will keep it in remembrance, and tell it to the commendation of Thy goodness, pity and compassion, what Thou didst for us at such a time.’ A mist quickly covered the hill and once more Peden and his friends made good their escape.

The lifestyle of sleeping rough on the hillside, being continually pursued and knowing that it was imprisonment or death if he were captured, was taking a toll on Peden’s health. He returned to his native Ayrshire and spent the last part of his life living in a cave on the banks of the River Ayr, not far from Tenshillingside Farm, where his brother was the tenant. The farm was subjected to repeated searches by the dragoons, so staying at the farmhouse was not an option. He did however visit the farm and see his brother shortly before his death on 26th January 1686. His friends took his body by night and buried it in the Boswell aisle in Auchinleck parish kirkyard.

His fame or notoriety depended on whether you were on the side of the Kirk or the King. There is no known drawing or painting of Peden. Apart from the monument at Cumnock, there is a Peden’s Stone at Harthill, beside the M8, and Peden’s Rock at Failford on the banks of the Ayr. At Failford, he would stand on a rock and deliver his sermon to his followers on the other side of the river. Alexander Peden was the most famous of the Covenanter preachers and a collection of his prophecies (with instances of their fulfilment) was published in 1739 by Patrick Walker of Glasgow. It was reprinted in 1779, nearly a century after his death, and frequently since.

After the Revolution of 1690, the people of Cumnock abandoned their traditional burial ground and established a new cemetery around the Gallows Hill in honour of Alexander Peden. The monument at Cumnock was erected in 1891 to mark the spot where the ‘Prophet of the Covenant’ was finally buried. Made from Aberdeen granite, it is the third memorial marking the grave. It was designed by Robert S. Ingram, an architect from Kilmarnock, and unveiled on 16th July 1892 by Professor John Stuart Blackie.

George Wade

‘There’s credit here for ev’ry soul’

The poem below was written by John Lapraik, resident of Muirkirk parish, during the financial upheaval which followed the collapse of the 'Ayr Bank', Douglas, Heron and Company, in August 1773. The bank had given credit too freely, and when its promissory notes were called in, had first to suspend payments, and later to close its doors for good. Some prominent men in the business and public affairs of the county were ruined while many lesser people, who had not been shareholders in the bank, found themselves equally distressed as their creditors pressed them for payment or attempted to raise their rents. Notoriously one distressed shareholder, David McClure of Shawwood, entered into a prolonged dispute with one of his tenants, William Burnes, as he attempted to salvage something from the wreckage. He lost, but the strain was said to have led to Burnes' early death.

According to Giovanni Batista Vico (1668-1744), in his *La Scienza Nuova*, history is not a straight line, but rather a circular procession of recurrences. The poem's aptness today is a striking example of this. Apart from its quaint language, it could have been published in any newspaper in recent months as a comment on the dangers inherent in the present record level of personal debt.

[Untitled]

In the year sixty-nine and seventy,
Notes^d amongst us were too plenty;
We took our glass and were right canty;
 And little thought,
That plenty, when 'tis misimproven,
 Brings men to nought.

The cry went through from 'pole to pole',
There's credit here for every soul;
If he's well back'd, without control,
He shall have money;
'Tis bitter sauce to each one now,
That then was honey.

This credit went all o'er the country;
It was as ready as *King's bounty*;
But now there is not one of twenty
That can get rest;
*Hornings*² are going every day,
They're so oppress.

If I might pick some men by name,
Wha did contrive a decent *scheme*:
They're foolish folk wha these men blame;
For their intention
Was to make ev'ry *crown a pound*
By this invention.

In midst of their industrious plan,
Their money is required again;
He now is sad wha then was fain;
The secret's kent;
His profits he has not got in,
And money's spent.

And then ilk creditor he has
Comes runnin' on him wi' a blaze;
Each telling that he must have his
Or caution get;³
Then diligence⁴ against him goes;
Syne he's laid flat!

From Paterson, James, *The Contemporaries of Burns*, Edinburgh, 1840.

David McClure

- ¹ Promissory notes – a form of i.o.u. which could circulate as a substitute for cash.
² Bankruptcies; from the trumpet used to proclaim an outlaw, and later a debtor.
³ To call upon his cautionners; i.e. those who stood surety for him.
⁴ Legal distraint for payment of a debt.

Book Notices

Neil T. R. Dickson, **Brethren in Scotland 1838-2000**
Carlisle, Paternoster Press, 2003, ISBN 1-84227-113-X. £29.99.

Readers of *Ayrshire Notes* will recognise Neil Dickson as the transcriber of the autobiographical account of Bob Morrison, which appeared in our Spring 2003 edition. Neil's interest in Bob Morrison arose out of his interest in the history of the Christian Brethren in Ayrshire: an interest which has now brought forth this interesting and thought-provoking account of the history of the Brethren movement throughout Scotland.

I first became aware of the importance of the Brethren in certain parts of Ayrshire when researching the early history of the school at Annbank. It quickly became apparent

that the Brethren played an important part in the life of Annbank and, indeed, of many other largely working class villages throughout Ayrshire. Neil's book is, therefore, a timely introduction to the Brethren and their role in the ecclesiastical and social development of Scotland, especially in the latter 19th Century and into the 20th Century.

To quote from the cover notes, 'through their gospel halls the Brethren were a pervasive presence in Scotland. This book which principally concentrates upon their largest section, the Open Brethren, traces the origins of each of their independent congregations mainly among the industrial working classes. It places their growth in the context of Scottish religion and society and examines their complex relationship to this setting: simultaneously rejecting and engaging with it. The distinctive spirituality of the Brethren, nourished by their publishers, hymns and theological writers, as well as their pronounced millennialism, is also discussed. By following the movement over its entire history it is possible to see how its tensions shaped it – female preaching, for example, being initially accepted and then rejected – and how it transmuted against societal and religious trends. The result is a study of a movement of popular Evangelicalism demonstrating the ways in which a religious body interacted with its social context.'

This book is an essential tool for anyone with an interest in the social and religious development of Ayrshire over the past 200 years. Meticulously researched, and with a comprehensive structure of notes and sources, it raises many questions and suggests many lines for further investigation and study.

Kilmarnock and District History Group, **Kilmarnock Town Trails**
Kilmarnock, KDHG, 2003. £3.00.

This is a third edition of the Kilmarnock Town Trail, first produced by the History Group, under the direction of Barbara Graham, in the 1970s. A second edition was prepared by Frank Beattie in 1987. This third, expanded, edition was prepared by Bob McWilliam and Ian McVey, again with help from Frank Beattie and others. The opportunity has been taken to amend and expand the routes suggested through the town, while advances in printing and publishing have allowed the editors to include a selection of old photographs and other images, and a fold-out map inside the rear cover.

This volume is excellent value at £3: if only for the photograph of Portland Street on page 11: a reminder of what once was and could have been.

Alloway and Southern Ayrshire Family History Society
Dalrymple Churchyard Monumental Inscriptions
Alloway, ASAFHS, 2003, ISBN 0-9542897-3-0.

Our local family history societies do a valuable job, not only for their members, but also for the wider field of social and community historians, through their dedication to the cataloguing and publishing memorial inscriptions in the graveyards of the county. There is a vast amount of material on these stones, and much has already been lost in the more careless years of the mid 20th Century. Even without the interference of man, determined to

make life easier for his gang-mower, these stones are at the mercy of wind, rain and frost. Much of the native stone of Ayrshire seems especially prone to weathering and exfoliation, while even classic monumental stones such as granite become unreadable surprisingly quickly.

Dalrymple is, in many ways, an unexceptional parish, but to read through these entries is to realise the many hundred untold stories contained therein. What took Hugh McKergow's son, also Hugh, to 'Palaballa, Congoland', where he died, aged 25, in 1881? Why did James, the 6 month old son of William White, farmer in Carcluie, die at Deer Park, Long Island, New York, in 1884? Or Anthony Latimer, who died in 1836, 'a man of genius though of humble rank, yet of exalted virtues and extensive literary attainments. This memorial of his worth is erected by his numerous acquaintances to whom he was endeared by his generous and grateful spirit, his upright and independent principles and his lowly but firm faith.'

David M. Hunter, **The Covenanters of Carrick**

Ayr, Ayrloom for Maybole Historical Society, 2003, ISBN 0-9537811-4-3.

David M. Hunter, **Girvan Valley Coal Field 1415-1977**

Ayr, Ayrloom, for Maybole Historical Society, 2003, ISBN 0-9537811-5-1.

David Hunter is the current holder of the AFHS's John Strawhorn Quaich, awarded annually for service to local history in Ayrshire. The publication of his two books by Maybole Historical Society is to be widely welcomed. They make more readily available much of the research done by David over the years, and which has previously been in hard-to-find places. His work on the Covenanters of Carrick, for instance, originally appeared in the Magazine of Dailly Parish Church. The national context for the religious wars is given, before detailed accounts are given of the Covenanters in Carrick, and their surviving monuments. Alexander Peden (see George Wade's article, page 16) was, of course, very active in Carrick, and David Hunter has identified two 'Peden's Pulpits': a large boulder near Lanes Farm, Barr, and a natural amphitheatre on the Water of Tig near Colmonell. A thorn tree which once stood at Cultizeoun Farm, Maybole, was known as Peden's Thorn, again because Peden was traditionally said to have held a conventicle there.

Hunter's work on the Girvan Valley Coal Field brings us much nearer the present day. While never on the scale of mining in central and north Ayrshire, coal mining in the area around Dailly has a long and interesting history, which is well brought out in this book. To many people, perhaps, this coalfield is known only for the burning pit at Dalzellowlie, where a seam of coal caught fire in 1749 and continued to burn for nearly 100 years, and for the story of John Brown, who in 1835 was trapped underground at the Kilgrammie Pit for 23 days, but brought out alive (though he died a few days later). It was only in 1977 that the last NCB pit in the Girvan Vallay, Dalquharran, was closed.

Hunter's work concentrates on the human side of the story, with accounts of accidents and deaths. He does, however, provide a valuable framework of dates, and locations (for old coal pits can disappear remarkably quickly), and adds considerably to our

knowledge of the industrial history of Ayrshire. The economic history of this industrial outpost could be studied using Hunter's framework, and records of the company which await investigation at the Ayrshire Archives Centre. Also fascinating to me is the remarkably intact 'pit village' which survives immediately to the south of Girvan Station: houses built in the early years of the 20th century by the Killochan Coal Co Ltd and their successors, South Ayrshire Collieries Ltd.

Ayrshire Federation of Historical Societies

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Ayrshire Federation Historical Societies will be held at 2 p.m., on Sunday 23rd May 2004, in the Irvine Burns Club, Wellwood, 28 Eglinton Street, Irvine. We are the guests of the Fullarton Historical Society, and the A.G.M. will give us a chance to see the importance collections held at the Burns Club. These relate not only to Robert Burns, but form an important source for the history of Irvine.

As always, we hope that there will be a good attendance, as this is your chance to influence the running of the Federation. Volunteers for the post of Secretary will, as always, be most welcome.

2004 Conference

We have agreed to hold a Conference in Troon on Saturday 30th October 2004. As usual this will be in the Walker Hall, and will follow what has become a successful and informal format. There will be four or five speakers, with a break for lunch. 2004 is the 400th anniversary of the first reference to a hospital in Ayr, and this is being celebrated in a number of ways by the Ayrshire and Arran NHS Trust. We have agreed to co-operate with them on this, and the theme for 2004 will be **Medical History**. A flyer will be included with this mailing, but speakers already confirmed include Brian Moffat, from the Soutra Hill Medieval Hospital Project, Professor R A Houston from St Andrews, and James Beaton, from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. The chairman for the day will be Gordon Wilson, formerly of Craigie College, and now Chairman of the NHS Trust.

Contemporary History

Regular listeners to Radio 4, and especially to its arts programmes, will have become accustomed to hearing the very obviously Ayrshire voice of the novelist Jenny Colgan. She is the author of a number of novels, of what might be called the 'chick-lit' tendency: *Amanda's Wedding* is probably the best known. She was born in September 1971 at Thorneyflat, and her father was Michael Colgan, a school teacher living in Prestwick.

The recent attempt by the reclusive Barclay Brothers, owners of *The Scotsman*, to buy the *Daily Telegraph*, has caused the spotlight to fall on them more than they may wish. The twins were born in London, but it seems that their father was from Kilmarnock, and that he died, having returned to Kilmarnock, soon after they were born. I'd be interested to hear from anyone who knows more, and can put the brothers and their antecedents into a detailed Kilmarnock context.

In *The Guardian* of Saturday 28th February 2004, the Cumnock-born composer James MacMillan wrote about growing up in Cumnock in the 1960s. At that time Cumnock's culture was still very male-driven and, despite the presence of societies such as the Cumnock Music Club, antipathetic to MacMillan. MacMillan has had some harsh words to say about Scotland's last acceptable prejudice, and this account of growing up in Cumnock helps to explain that. Andrew O'Hagan's family was one of the first to be decanted from Glasgow to Irvine, initially to Pennyburn, Kilwinning, and subsequently to Bourtreehill. His books, both his fiction and non-fiction (I strongly recommend *The Missing*), contain much that is autobiographical, and tell us much about growing up in a place that was half town and half building site. In the *London Review of Books* of 4th March 2004, he again brings biographical reminiscence into a review of two books on the singer Morrissey and his band The Smiths:

I first clapped eyes on Morrissey on 22nd September 1985. It was a cold night on the West Coast of Scotland at the Magnum Leisure Centre in Irvine, and The Smiths were brewing up a humongous storm on the converted badminton courts. The audience contained a fair number of ... neds ... There was one devotee in particular, a young man who spent his recreational periods at our school thumping first-years and selling single cigarettes, and I watched as he paid homage to this camp bedazzler onstage and danced around with unfettered joy wearing his mother's beads.

And finally. *The Guardian* of 11th February 2004 contained an obituary of Sir Robert Lewis Fullarton Boyd (1922-2004), who may be regarded as the father of space science in the United Kingdom, and as 'director of the Mullard space science laboratory from 1965 to 1983, he created a unique and successful environment in which space science and space scientists could develop to their full potential.' Sir Robert was one of twins, and was born at Saltcoats. His father was a chemist (at ICI?), but the family seem to have moved from Saltcoats soon after Sir Robert's birth, his father becoming head of science at Croydon Polytechnic.

Any similar Ayrshire and Arran references will be gratefully received.

Diary of Meetings March – May 2004

AANHS	Ayrshire Archaeological and Natural History Society. Meetings in Carnegie Library, Ayr, at 7.45 p.m.
AFHS	Joint Meeting of Ayrshire Family History Societies, hosted by Troon @ Ayrshire FHS, in Portland Church Hall, South Beach, Troon
ASA	Alloway & Southern Ayrshire Family History Society. Meetings in Doonfoot Primary School, Abbots Way, Doonfoot, at 7.30 p.m.
BHS	Beith Historical Society. Meetings in Eglinton Inn, Eglinton Street, Beith, at 8.00 p.m.
CSD	Catrine Sorn & District History Society. Meetings in A M Brown Institute, Catrine, at 7.30 p.m.
DHS	Dundonald Historical Society. Meetings in Visitors' Centre, Dundonald Castle, at 7.30 p.m.
EAHFS	East Ayrshire Family History Society. Meetings in Gateway Centre, Foregate Square, Kilmarnock, at 7.30 p.m.
KCCS	Kyle and Carrick Civic Society. Meetings in Loudoun Hall, Ayr, at 7.30 p.m.
KDHG	Kilmarnock & District History Group. Meetings in Kilmarnock College at 7.30 p.m.
Largs	Joint Meeting of LDHS and LNAFHS. Dunn Memorial Hall, Largs, at 7.30 p.m.
LDHS	Largs and District Historical Society. Meetings in Largs Museum at 7.30 p.m.
L(MS)	LDHS, Marine Section. Meetings in Largs Museum at 7.30 p.m.
LNAFHS	Largs & North Ayrshire Family History Society. Meetings in Largs Library at 7.30 p.m.
MHS	Maybole Historical Society. Meetings in Maybole Town Hall, High Street, Maybole at 7.30 p.m.
PHG	Prestwick History Group. Meetings in 65 Club, Main Street, Prestwick, at 7.30 p.m.
SHS	Stewarton Historical Society. Meetings in John Knox Church Hall, Stewarton, at 7.30 p.m.
TAFHS	Troon @ Ayrshire Family History Society. Meetings in Portland Church Hall, South Beach, Troon, at 7.30 p.m.
WKAS	West Kilbride Amenity Society. Meetings in Community Centre, Corse Street, West Kilbride, at 7.30 p.m.

March 04

Mon 1 st	SHS	Dane Love	The Covenanters
Mon 1 st	KCCS	Charlie Woodward	Clyde Muirshiel Country Park
Mon 1 st	L(MS)	D M Munro	The Scotia National Antarctic Expedition
Tue 2 nd	KDHG	Martin Milner	Thomas Lord Howard de Walden: Arms and the Man

Thu 4 th	PHG	Members	Pot Pouri – Your Very Own Choice
Wed 10 th	DHS	Des Rowe	Shakespeare
Thu 11 th	EAFHS	Jim Steel	tba
Tue 16 th	AFHS	Elizabeth Mortimer	Testaments
Tue 16 th	KDHG	Christopher Whatley	Looking beneath the Kilt: New Ways of Interpreting 18 th Century Scottish History
Thu 25 th	LDHS	Russel Coleman	Three Towns By-Pass Archaeology Project
Tue 30 th	WKAS	Alastair Tait	A History of Scottish Jewellery
April 04			
Thu 1 st	PHG	Alisdair Cochrane and David Rowan	Prestwick History Group – Twenty Years On
Mon 5 th	L(MS)	H Logan	Women and Shipbuilding in Greenock
Mon 5 th	SHS	Robert Mackenzie	Kindertransporter and Britain's Generosity
Thu 8 th	EAFHS	Dane Love	tba
Tue 13 th	LNAFHS	---	tba
Wed 14 th	DHS	Jack Lovie	Kelso Hunter
Thu 22 nd	ASA	Ian Quinn	Steaming out of Ayr
Thu 29 th	BHS	Ken Colville	The St Columba Voyage 2003
May 04			
Thu 6 th	PHG	Members	Blether of 2004
Thu 20 th	ASA	Murray Cook	2000 Years of Maybole

At their February 2004 meeting Prestwick History Group welcomed their 10,000th visitor since the Group was founded in 1984. This is a notable achievement, and we congratulate the Prestwick History Group on reaching this milestone. The Federation (and the editors of *Ayrshire Notes*) are always willing to publicise and celebrate similar milestones.

The next diary will be published in the Autumn 2004 edition of *Ayrshire Notes*. Society Secretaries are reminded and encouraged to send details of their programmes to Rob Close as soon as they are known.

The Federation has been aware that some societies are having difficulty in finding people to organise summer outings, while others suffer from a lack of numbers to make summer outings viable. We have in the past – partly because visits are often to private houses and other sites which cannot cope with unexpected numbers – not advertised these outings through the pages of *Ayrshire Notes*. However, in future, as a service to societies and their members, we will advertise through the diary pages such outings when we are expressly asked to do so. All details should, as always, be sent to Rob Close, preferably well before the publication date of *Ayrshire Notes*.

AANHS Publications

available from Ronald W. Brash MA, Publications Distribution Manager

10 Robsland Avenue, Ayr KA7 2RW

Further information about the AANHS (Ayrshire Archaeological & Natural History Society) and its publications will be found on the society's website: **www.aanhs.org.uk**

A Scottish Renaissance Household (MacKenzie)	£3.00
Plant Life in Ayrshire (Kirkwood/Foulds)	£4.20
The Barony of Alloway (Hendry)	£3.60
Robert Adam in Ayrshire (Sanderson)	£3.60
The Cumnock Pottery (Quail)	£5.00
Tolls and Tacksman (McClure)	£3.60
Smuggling and the Ayrshire Economic Boom (Cullen)	£4.00
The Port of Ayr 1727–1780 (Graham)	£4.20
John Smith of Dalry, Part 1: Geology (ed. Reid)	£6.00
John Smith of Dalry, Part 2: Archæology & Natural History (ed. Reid)	£7.20
Mauchline Memories of Robert Burns (ed. Strawhorn) (reprint)	£3.50
Antiquities of Ayrshire (Grose, ed. Strawhorn) (reprint)	£4.20
Cessnock: An Ayrshire Estate in the Age of Improvement (Mair)	£4.50
Robert Reid Cunninghame of Seabank House (Graham)	£3.60
Historic Ayr: A Guide for Visitors	£2.00
A Community Rent Asunder:	
The Newmilns Laceweavers Strike of 1897 (Mair)	£3.50
The Rise and Fall of Mining Communities in Central Ayrshire (Wark)	£3.00
The Last Miller: The Cornmills of Ayrshire (Wilson)	£6.00
Historic Alloway, Village and Countryside: A Guide for Visitors	£2.00
The Street Names of Ayr (Close) 128 pages	£5.00
Servants in Ayrshire 1750–1914 (Aitchison) 144 pages	£5.00
Ayrshire in the Age of Improvement (McClure) 192 pages	£6.00
Historic Prestwick and its surroundings, 64 pages	£2.50
Vernacular Building in Ayrshire (Hume), 80 pages	£4.50
Armstrong's Maps of Ayrshire (1775: reprint, 6 sheets)	£12.00