
CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS



Since writing my first report nine years ago, commenting on the success of Bothwell Historical Society has been easy. No need for hyperbole or persiflage as a simple record of verifiable facts was all that was required. Given the stability of the membership over the years with some people moving on and new friends joining, our numbers have always been around 100 proving that local people and sometimes others from furth of Bothwell were attracted to what we were presenting. Our success may also be seen in the high audience numbers at speakers' meetings. Sometimes this gave us mild palpitations as we worried about our ability to give everyone a seat. So far this has not been a problem, even when our audience numbered around 80.

For me the confirmation that we were indeed, contributing something worthwhile to the life of our community came from Professor Sir Tom Devine in the course of his last visit to speak to us. Sir Tom has always taken an active interest and has been more than an Honorary President giving us advice and encouragement in all sorts of ways. Prior to his lecture, Sir Tom took the opportunity to comment publicly on the work of the Society as he saw it, praising what we had done to encourage an interest in local and nation history, commenting on our efforts to work with our schools and on the high quality of our published material. Unexpected as it was this paean was a huge boost to the society's morale coming as it did from the nation's most eminent historian.

Let me assure you that despite this there will be no resting on laurels and no complacency on our part. There is no reason why we cannot look forward to

further success. As usual we will be taking part in the Scarecrow Festival by presenting an exhibition in the Library which has proved popular in previous years. Our speakers' programme is now in place and we will see some speakers returning by popular demand and others visiting for the first time. I would encourage you to turn out in force. Other projects are in the pipeline and we will inform you as these progress.

Nevertheless no organisation is ever free of the possibility of change and we are no exception. Changes will take place. At the end of our 2019/2020, Bill Gow our Secretary/Treasurer, Eric Denton our Vice Chairman and Technical Director will be resigning from their offices. I too will be standing down as your Chairman at the same time. There is no need for conspiracy theories to explain this. It comes about as a result of burn out, changing health circumstances and the effects of anno domini. I can truthfully say that having been on many committees in my lifetime, national and local in education, as a member of our local community council and as a Board member on NHS Lanarkshire, I have never worked in a more harmonious group. Any differences of opinion have been trivial to the point of not being worthy of mention.

Bill, Eric and I will step down from office but will remain as members willing to give every support and advice to those who take over. Changes will happen but the society will go forward. I would ask you all to encourage anyone you know who might be interested in taking over the 3 possibly 4 vacancies as Secretary and Treasurer could be separated. The new executive will find their roles stimulating, exciting and fun.

Jack Gallacher

JEAN HARDMAN



It is with considerable regret that we have accepted the resignation of Jean Hardman from the committee of Bothwell Historical Society with effect from August 2019.

Jean was born in Scotland's smallest county, Clackmannanshire and attended Alva Academy where she met her future husband Roger. After graduation from Aberdeen University with an honours degree in history, Jean worked for a number of years in the personnel department of Marks and Spencer. Following her marriage to Roger, a G.P., Jean in time moved to Bothwell where she and Roger raised a son and a daughter. With her

family grown up and independent, Jean took a post graduate qualification at Jordanhill College of Education and taught at Newarthill primary School for a number of years.

Seven years ago, Jean took early retirement from teaching. We, in the Historical Society, were delighted when she volunteered to join the committee. In her time on the committee Jean took responsibility for raising funds for the work of the Society and did so with considerable success. In discussions on the society's work, Jean's contributions were quietly succinct and sensible and appreciated by her colleagues. She was a frequent contributor to the newsletter and her articles received much favourable comment from members as were her votes of thanks to visiting speakers.

PROGRAMME OF TALKS 2019/2020

MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE COMMUNITY HALL, FALLSIDE AVENUE, BOTHWELL

Tuesday 24th September 2019 @ 7.30pm

AGM &

"The Development of Water Supply in Lanarkshire."

Bill Gow

Tuesday 22nd October 2019 @ 7.30pm

"Rudolf Hess."

Ian Valentine

Tuesday 26th November 2019 @ 2pm

"James Tytler."

Robert Wilson

Tuesday 4th February 2020 @ 7.30pm

"A History of Glasgow's Royal Hospital for Sick Children."

Ian Hutchinson

Tuesday 10th March 2020 @ 7.30pm

"Windsor Castle & Garter Parade."

Bob Keys

BOTHWELL IN THE FIFTIES - SOME PERSONAL MEMORIES

Having lived in Bothwell all my life, I am amazed at the huge amount of house building which has taken place. Growing up in Bothwell, it was a little country village but now it seems like a small town.

Change began in the fifties. Then I lived in Croftbank Avenue where there were very few houses and no access to Langside Road. Surrounded by fields, we had panoramic views of the Clyde right up to Tinto Hill. The only road went up to Bellshill with a cut off at Raith farm to Bothwellhaugh. In the fifties Woodhead Gardens was developed to become known locally as "Millionaires Row."

More house were built at Blairston by Weir Housing. To this day, houses and flats are being erected in Old Bothwell Road. Silverwells is an area of residences originally built in the 19th century for wealthy industrialists (the "posh folk" according to the locals). One of the most beautiful houses here was "Bredenhill", later to become the "Silvertrees Hotel", now demolished and replaced by modern flats.

Tucked at the top of Wooddean is Grieve Croft formerly the site of a nursery growing soft fruits and tomatoes. The former local authority Wooddean houses were built in the twenties and thirties and the nearby park was a magnet for children in summer and winter. This area too has seen significant developments.

The grounds of Bothwell Castle, then still a private estate, were only open to the public two or three times a year for charity events such as snowdrop Sunday. To those able to climb the wall, however, it was an adventure playground. Where Bothwell

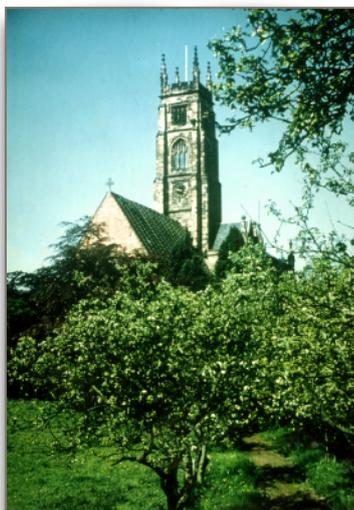
Primary School is today was the football pitch of "Bothwell Athletic." Bell's Nursery, the only house in the policies in the fifties and the walled garden of the former mansion house are now taken up by housing in Royal Gardens. Although many houses have been built in the policies, Castle Avenue is an attractive road for both walkers and motorists.

Woodlands, built in the twenties and thirties is still an attractive area. Behind here is the extensive later estate which includes Baillie Drive and St Bride's Way. Sadly, the former Kirkfield and Wooddean Church was demolished and replaced by flats. The area formerly occupied by Bothwell Castle Colliery in Blantyre Road is taken up by the local medical centre and the Fairways development.

The gardens at the corner of Fallside Road and Uddington Road mark the site of the former Public Hall, once the centre of the village social life as well as a library. The former sandstone tenements housing local miners' families (Murray Place, Waverly Place Maxwell Place) are long gone as is Castle Square. The LMS and LNER stations too have disappeared, and the ground they occupied has been redeveloped.

Although the shops have changed, the line of Main Street remains the same. Green Street has some traditional homes as well as new developments. Where previously there were farmlands and ponds full of wildlife, Bothwell has expanded to become a twenty first century community quite different from the village where I grew up. Such is progress.

Mary McWhinney



This is a picture of the pathway used by the minister to go from the manse in Fairyknowe Gardens to the Church in the 1940s and 1960s, walking through the orchard.

THE HAMILTON MEMORIAL IN BOTHWELL PARISH CHURCH



On the north wall of the chancel of the Parish Church is a large monument to Sir William Hamilton who was created Duke of Hamilton for life in 1660 and who died in 1694. It was commissioned by his widow Anne, Duchess of Hamilton in 1696 and constructed by James Smith Snr. and his son James Smith Jnr. who were the architects of Hamilton Palace. The monument was adorned with Coats of Arms which were painted and gilded and originally constructed in the Hamilton Aisle of Hamilton Old Parish Church.

Hamilton New Parish Church was built in 1732 and the Old Parish Church fell into disrepair. It was demolished between 1841 and 1852 when the Mausoleum was built and the memorial, which by now had suffered a considerable amount of deterioration in the ruined Hamilton Aisle, was carefully dismantled and rebuilt in Bothwell Parish Church. Sadly the colouring and gilding had been worn away as a result of its exposure to the elements.

The Coats of Arms are of particular interest and were designed by George Porteous, Herald Painter to the Court of the Lord Lyon and Marchmont Herald, in 1698 for which he was paid twelve pounds sterling. The achievement at the top of the memorial is that of Sir William and the shield is surrounded by the Garter of the Order of the Garter to which he was appointed a Knight in 1650.



Over the Duke's Coronet can be seen (using a strong torch) a Peer's Helmet and the Crest of an Oak Tree. There are also antelope supporters either side of the shield.

During the period of the Duke's life and after, funerals were exceedingly grand affairs with a procession of a multitude of mourners and a great display of heraldry - very expensive affairs. This display of heraldry included the "eight branches" or shields for the immediate ancestors in a particular sequence and the practice was followed in the way the heraldry is disposed on the monument.

To the sides of the fluted columns can be found eight shields, four on each side. On the dexter side, left as you face the monument, are those of the Duke's paternal side and on the sinister, right as you face the monument, those of his maternal side. In all cases they are Arms of the father of the married daughter. They are as follows:

Dexter

Father
 Father's mother
 Grand-father's mother
 Grand-mother's mother

Sinister

Mother
 Mother's mother
 Grand-father's mother
 Grand-mother's mother

Paternal side, top to bottom



Douglas,
11th Earl of Angus,
1st Marquis of
Douglas



Oliphant,
Lord Oliphant



Graham of Morphie



Hay,
Earl of Errol

Maternal side, top to bottom



Gordon
Marquis of Huntly



Stuart,
Duke of Lennox



Hamilton.
Earl of Arran &
Duke Chatelherault



De Balzac,
Duc de Antrogues

William Douglas was the eldest son of the second marriage (August 1632) of William, 1st Marquis of Douglas (died 1660). In August 1646, when aged 12 years, he was created Earl of Selkirk, Lord Daer and Shortcleugh, and in April 1656 (aged 22 years) he married Anne (Hamilton), Duchess of Hamilton in her own right (If she had been a man she would have been the 3rd Duke). On 20th September 1660 William (Douglas), Earl of Selkirk, was created (for life) Duke of Hamilton, Marquis of Clydesdale, Earl of Arran, Lanark and Selkirk, Lord Aven, Mauchanshire, Pomond and Dair. These were the same titles possessed by his wife, Duchess Anne, whose titles had been created in April 1643, except she was Countess of Cambridge and not of Selkirk. William thereupon changed his surname from “Douglas” to “Hamilton” and has always been numbered 3rd Duke of Hamilton despite the fact that he had been created a Peer for life only and so his peerage was not and had not been heritable.

Further information on the monument can be found in the booklet specially prepared for the visit of members of the Heraldry Society of Scotland in April 2010, a copy of which was lodged with the church following the visit.

ⁱ Marshall: 2000, *The Days of Duchess Anne: Life in the Household of the Duchess of Hamilton: 1656-1716*. page 201

ⁱⁱ National Register of Archives of Scotland: Hamilton Manuscripts [held at Lennoxlove]

ⁱⁱⁱ Alexander Nisbett: Vol.2 originally published 1743 by Robert Fleming. (facsimile of 1816 edition: Clark Constable, Edinburgh: 1984)

^{iv} Burnett:1986, “Funeral Heraldry in Scotland with particular reference to hatchments” *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland: Vol.116* (1986) pp.473-559

^v Hodgson:2010, *The Heraldry in St. Bride’s Parish Church, Bothwell*

STOP PRESS 1899 (courtesy of Hamilton Advertiser)

- A meeting was held in the Bothwell public hall with an inspector from the Society of Inspectors to review local taxes. The rates were to be costed for every £1, tax would be 1 penny for public health, 1 penny for street lighting and 1½ pence for scavenging service. In addition there would be 2½ pence for county tax. There were complaints voiced regarding the poor street lighting as many lamps had been left off and some had been extinguished before 11pm.
- *A letter to the local newspaper complained of the poor work being done regarding sanitary disposal in Silverwells and some residents not keeping the area clean. There was again comment about street lighting in the area.*
- In early November the Clyde had been in spate for more than a week and flooding had occurred in many areas. There had also been discussions regarding the provision of a recreation ground for the village. Two farms had offered to release land for the purpose. One was from Mr. Gilchrist of Bothwell Bank Farm the other from Mr. Walker of Back Sweethope Farm. The rental for the lands was to be £50 per annum but the local authority thought that sum was too high. A compromise was reached and the sum of £30 per annum was agreed, but the farmer had to promise he would not allow cattle on the land when any public access was required.
- *Bothwell Library (in the old public hall) held its AGM in November that year noting that the end of year balance was £13-3-8d. The meeting agreed that the sum of £10 should be spent on acquiring new books. The previous year had seen 103 new books being bought bringing the total number of books to 3469 with some periodicals available too.*
- During September 1899 a new stained glass window, a gift from the family of Mr. James Mann who died in 1885 after living many years in Bothwell, was installed in the east window of the parish church. The church had been restored about a year previously. The window depicts the Nativity of Christ. The work was designed by Sir Edward Burne-Jones and built and installed by Messrs. Morris and Company of London, a company holding high reputation for glass decoration.
- *Praise was lavished on the district superintendent and staff at Bothwell junction North British Railways marshalling area. In preparation for the July holiday getaway, no less than twelve trains had to be assembled during the early hours of the day to provide accommodation for almost 8000 travellers. Three trains for travel to Aberdeen, two long specials to Dundee, five crowded specials for Portobello and Edinburgh and two long specials to Helensburgh. It was noted that this not only beat all previous records but also allowed all other rail traffic to run normally and indeed more punctually than was usual.*
- A meeting of the Scottish Quarrymen's union (Fallside Branch No.9) was held where it was resolved to approach the masters and seek an increase in wages, deputations were elected for the purpose. A reply has now been received from Bothwell Park Quarries and Brickworks conceding the men's demands, and from the 1st of May the quarrymen's wages there will be 7½d per hour, an advance of ½d per hour and those of cranemen to 30s per week, an advance of 2s. Intimation was received that all the local quarry masters had agreed to this decision and it is expected that the quarry masters of Coatbridge and Cleland will follow this decision to avoid any disputes.
- *Meetings of councillors, Bothwell Ward. A letter had been received from Mr. Dunlop formerly headmaster of Aitkenhead school and now of Muiredge School Uddingston, that he had, as instructed, closed the old school, the number of pupils numbering twenty.*
- Applications were made by Miss Johnston and Miss Lockhart, Tannochside School for an increase of salary, it was agreed to advance that of the former to £80 and that of the latter to £50 per annum.

- *Mr. Trydall, janitor, Uddingston Grammar School, was granted an increase of 2s a week on his present salary.*
- *By four votes to three, the request of Mr. Russell, assistant at Bellshill Academy, for an extension of his ordinary holidays so as to enable him to visit the United States of America, was granted.*
- *The early months of the year, known as "Removal Term" has been an unusually busy one in Bothwell and we are in the thick of it. West House, Dechmont, Roxburgh Villa, Mount Pleasant, Arden, Mayfield, Fern Cottage, Cordoba, Knightswood and Dalmarnock have already changed owners or occupiers, or are in the process of doing so. There are also minor changes and some new small houses come into occupation.*
- *A letter from County Councillor McGregor, Bothwell, calling attention to the dangerous condition of the old Roman Bridge over the river Calder was submitted to the meeting. It indicated that the bridge had no protection at the sides and there was great risk to persons crossing. Mr. Henry Steven moved that this matter be remitted to the Bothwell Ward representatives. It was a right of way to the middle of the stream and it was their duty as a Parish Council to see to it. Mr. D. B. McNab could not see why it was the duty of the Parish Council at all and to put railings on the bridge would be downright vandalism.*
- *The new "Home For The Poor". A considerable discussion as to the name under which the new Combination Poorhouse should be known. Mr. Alexander Hamilton making an eloquent appeal to the council to do what they could to remove the stigma of the word "Poorhouse", so repugnant to the Scottish nature and call the new house "The Home for the Poor". Mr. McCann seconded and the motion was carried by the casting vote of the chairman. It was also agreed to recommend to the combination that the new house be called after that parish holding the largest number of shares.*
- *Bothwell Halls Company Ltd. The annual report shows a gross revenue of £79-0s-9d, fully an average return. The largest item of expenditure was repairs £17-8s-3d, next comes the bill for rates and taxes £11-9s-2d. The pianoforte has cost £1-7s more than the profits derived from it but no doubt it serves to attract custom.*
- *An autumn dance at Bothwell Convent. On Thursday last the members and friends of the Glasgow Franciscan Society to the number of about 300 ladies and gentlemen were conveyed by special train from Queen Street to Bothwell. On arrival they proceeded to the Franciscan Convent where they were received by the Lady Superior. A garden party was afterwards held in the beautiful grounds, the spot chosen being the lawn in front of the main building, the weather being very fine a most enjoyable time was spent. Dancing was engaged in to the strains of a string band. The party was afterwards photographed.*
- *On Saturday last the annual excursion of Bothwell Castle Lodge of Good Templars took place to Garelochhead when close on 70 were present. Leaving N.B. station at 7:15am, the company arrived at Garelochhead shortly before nine after a pleasant journey. In due course refreshments were partaken of in the village restaurant after which an adjournment was made to a field where outdoor sports were indulged in and a happy day was spent. The party returned by steamer to Craigendoran then hence home by rail. Uddingston being reached shortly after 11pm.*
- *Uddingston. The betting nuisance at "The Cut" is getting worse and it is to be deplored that no steps are being taken by the authorities to, once and forever, put their foot hard down on what is really a disgrace to the town. On Wednesday last, considerable feeling was exhibited between parties there over what is known in betting circles as a "Flash Wire" or a bet that had been lodged after the race had been run. Of course the horse staked, won, but the "bookie" refused to pay up, hence the scene which was renewed with less vigour on Thursday. Now on what is known as "idle days" amongst the miners the number of loiterers in the vicinity of "The Cut" both sides of the main street is altogether insufferable.*

MYSTERY SOLVED!

In a previous newsletter we asked if anyone could identify the children in this picture which was Primary 4 and Primary 5 in 1957. Thanks to Mr Dunsmore we can now fill in the gaps.



Back row left to right:

Alan Winning, John Wilson, Jimmy Lee, David Glass, Christopher Luce, Nigel Barker, Richard Lucas, Ian Forrest.

Middle row left to right:

Ian Hamilton, Marcus Cannon, Ann Smith, Jennifer ?, Elizabeth Fowlis, Moira Jones, Pamela Robertson, Elizabeth Wilson, Ann Maxwell, Sutherland Dunsmuir, Gordon McKinnon.

Front row left to right:

Michael Bennet, Douglas Pearson, David Craig, Irene Durrant, Helen Hutton, Sheila Stannard, Joyce Dickson, Valerie Ford, George Burgoyne, Bobby Gillespie, Erwin Gray.

