

Exploring the effects of the past on the present and future of our community

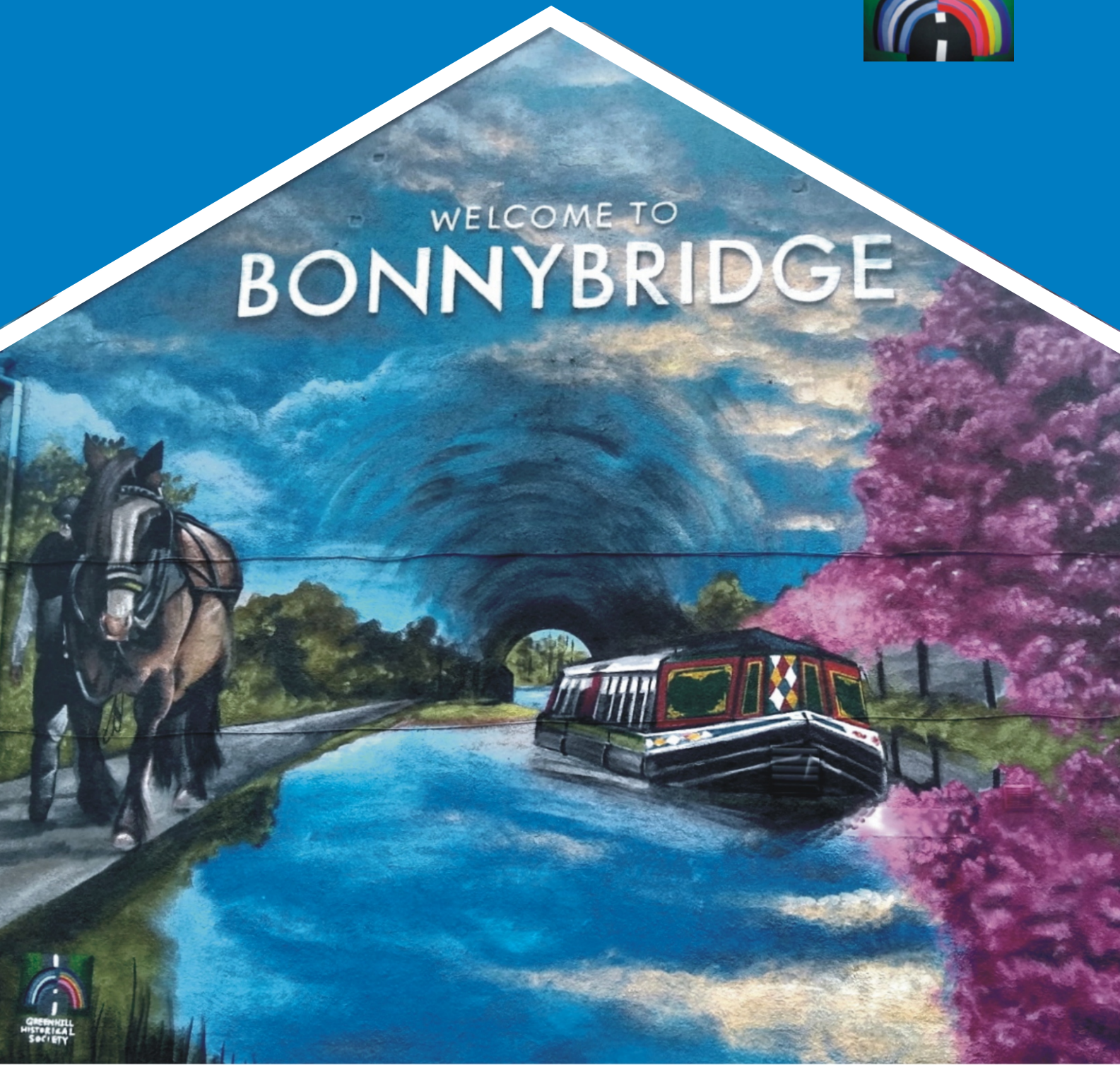
Bonnyseen

The magazine from Greenhill Historical Society

Issue Number 19 October 2021



WELCOME TO
BONNYBRIDGE





Introduction

Where to begin. The years 2020 and 2021 have been unlike any others in the lifetime of the majority of Bonnybridge residents. They were filled with tragedy for many families and fear and anxiety for most of us. The Sars Covid pandemic dramatically changed the way we lived our lives and gave new meaning to words such as lockdown, shielding, self-isolation, face masks and furlough to name just a few. As the pandemic has become part of our history, we have included how a small sample of residents coped with the difficulties they encountered. In subsequent issues we will be happy to print any Covid stories you would like to share with us.

So, apologies for the absence of Bonnyseen since October 2019! We were all set to launch in April 2020, but lockdown intervened. As a small compensation this edition will be 20 pages in length instead of the usual 16 pages. This is possible in no small part to a generous grant from the Falkirk Schools Charities Board and donations from the Falkirk Rotary club and the residents of the town who continue to support our efforts.

As you will be aware, the work of the Historical Society didn't stop altogether even although we were unable to have face to face meetings. The evidence of one enterprise is visible in the amazing mural now in place on the wall at the Scotmid carpark.

We hope you enjoy the return of Bonnyseen and continue to keep us supplied with your memories and photographs which form the basis of the magazine.

P Swierczek

Front Cover: *Community Mural*

Back Cover: *Heritage Park*

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Contact Information

Irene Ryan 01324 810259 07733297768
 Phil Swierczek 01324 812097 07801058542



Greenhill Historical Society

WHERE TO FIND US



**GREENHILL
 HISTORICAL
 SOCIETY**

www.greenhillhistoricalsociety.weebly.com
 or greenhillhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

Meetings

The Society meets every Friday in the
 Bonnybridge Community Centre
 from 2pm till 4pm
 and all are welcome to join us.



Memories of my Father, The Village Postman

By Joseph Shearer

My father, Joseph Nish Shearer, was born on 20th November 1907 in Main Street, Bonnybridge (since demolished). He had 2 brothers and 4 sisters.



He left Bonnybridge Public School and joined the Post Office, where he was employed as a Telegram boy @ 14/6d per week. He was made a Postman on 22nd August 1927, delivering mail on a big red bike.

After the war, (he served as a Signaller on a destroyer), he returned to Bonnybridge Post Office. They gave him a little "Morris" red van with black rubber mudguards. Suddenly, he had to learn to drive. He looked after that van, as if it was his own.

On about one Sunday a month, he would take me with him around the District (highly illegal). I used to empty the red street letter boxes (also illegal). As the van only had 1 seat, I used to sit on a pile of mail bags.

During the week he delivered mail to outlying farms, where he was often given gifts of eggs, butter, rabbit and even lime for his garden. These were very acceptable, especially just after the war ended. He reciprocated by doing odd jobs for them.

In 1964, he retired from the Post Office, due to ill health. After 42 years of service, he was presented with the Imperial Service Medal by Mr D.M. Galbraith, Head Postmaster, Falkirk at the Bonnybridge Post Office (*Falkirk Herald*, November 1964).

At a Retirement Dinner, held at the Royal Hotel, Falkirk, George McWatt, Bonnybridge Postmaster, presented my father with a gold watch.

My father died on 23 January 1972, aged 64.



Regd. No. 76465/24
 Mr J. N. Shearer
 I have to inform you that you have been appointed Postman
 on probation on and from 14 August 1927 on scale 18/- to 30/-
 Your commencing pay will be 19/- a week, and your date of
 increment 20 November
 This paper may be retained.
 1849 W6330 535 739 9126 J.P. G22

Office: COATBRIDGE and AIRDRIE 1927
22 August 1927
 Attention is drawn to the note overleaf.
 Head Postmaster.



David Campbell

Community Mural

After mulling over the possibility of installing a mural on the gable end of the original co-op building for a few years, we finally bit the bullet and decided in 2019/2020 To do a feasibility study. Our project manager, Paul Cortopassi, took it in hand and set to work securing permission from the owner Mr George Stewart, raising funds, seeking a suitable artist and canvassing for ideas of the subject to be used. As the historical society were completing this project it had to be an historically themed design.

We were progressing well with the initial preparations until 23rd March 2020 when the country went into lockdown as a result of the Corona virus Pandemic. From then until May 2021, we were unable to meet face to face and communication was by email or phone calls (Not all members have access to computers and mobile phone technology so Zoom meetings were not an option) Provost Buchanan was a great help in securing funds, arranging with Scotmid to cone off part of their carpark and ensuring exemption of parking fines for the artists!

The hardest part of the exercise was the choice of the image to be painted. The problem was that we have recorded so much of the history of Bonnybridge in various mediums, we did not want it to be a replication of previous work. As a town rich in history there were endless possibilities. A chance conversation with Lauren Campbell, who had just reopened the Wee Studio and the Wee Gallery led to her husband David offering to draw up some ideas for us. David is a very talented local graphic artist who was working from home during lockdown. That makes it sound as if he had loads of time to draft images but in fact he had two young children at home, one of whom was being home schooled while Lauren was busy building up their business. David produced the most amazing, beautiful design. It incorporates the canal, which enabled the expansion of industry in Bonnybridge, and which is still in use today by pleasure craft. The cherry trees in Wellpark terrace are stunning in spring so we wanted to include them in case more of them are damaged by storms. There is also an allusion to the radical pend as a memorial to those who fought for their rights in the uprising of 1820. The 200-year anniversary was in 2020 and we were unable to have any ceremonies of commemoration. So, we were ready to get started by 6th July 2021.

Paul engaged the service of a graffiti artist called Joe Miles after examining samples of his work online. In order to reach the apex of the gable end we needed access to a 'Cherry Picker' machine. This was generously loaned to us by Central Demolition and George Stewart provided a generator and transformer to allow Joe to project the image onto the wall. There was a real buzz around the town as work got underway. Joes' assistant started on Tuesday 6th July by laying down a background coat in preparation for the main image. Joe arrived on Wednesday and got to work. He did have an evening break as he was from Birmingham and England were playing Denmark in the European championships that night! From Thursday to Saturday, he worked nonstop on the painting. It was truly awesome to see it emerging. He had been unable to project the image due to our summer sky and streetlights, so he worked from his mobile phone as he zoomed into each section!

What has been achieved has everything we hoped for. It is colourful, historically referenced and has the WOW factor! We have had positive comments from close to home as well as from America, Sweden, Australia and New Zealand.

Our grateful thanks for an outstanding addition to our town go to Paul Cortopassi, Provost Buchanan, George Stewart, Scotmid and Central Demolition. The Falkirk Schools Charity Board awarded a generous grant and Provost Buchanan helped to secure the funding for the project. It would not have been possible to complete the mural without their generosity and hard work. Thanks also to the David Campbell for his inspired design which will be here for many years for future generations to enjoy. We are also indebted to Joe Miles who has produced the most beautiful addition to the heritage of Bonnybridge.



Reinstate Bonnybridge Railway Station

Bryan Deakin



Bonnybridge and the wider surrounding area have had a long history of rail services, with Bonnybridge having 4 working stations at one point. The first station to open in Bonnybridge was on the Edinburgh and Glasgow railway (the Falkirk High line). Opened in 1832 and closed in 1967 along with the other stations on the route. It was located west of St Helen's Church at top of the Broomhill Road in High Bonnybridge. A second station was provided by Scottish Central Railway at Greenhill Lower Junction opening in 1848 and closing in 1966. Bonnybridge Canal Station was the third station in Bonnybridge. This station opened in 1886 and was at the end of a short branch line leading off from Greenhill Lower, terminating at the canal near where the E & R Moffat factory is today. This station closed for passengers in 1930 and later to goods in 1964. The fourth and final station was Bonnybridge Central. The station opened in July 1888 on the Kilsyth & Bonnybridge Railway and was located at Wellpark Terrace. The site is now the area known as the Sunken Gardens at the top of the High Street next to the Railway Hotel. The station was closed to passenger traffic in 1935. The rail infrastructure declined largely due to other public transport services such as an increased bus service in the area, which was more competitive and frequent at the time.

Over the years political figures in the local council have always brought up the idea of a new station in the town. With Consultations and Petitions to gain support, however these never produced the desired results. Many people were still left in the dark with rumors and hearsay causing confusion within the community. After a discussion on Bonnybridge Banter, a local Facebook Group, a report was made and the idea of a group to campaign for a station was set on track (excuse the pun!) The group was named Reinstate Bonnybridge Railway Station and was founded in August 2015.

The groups aim is to be a community voice in pushing for a train station in the area. Since then we held a public consultation through Social Media, and gained a clear idea of the thoughts and opinions of the people that responded. In 2016 the group held a meeting for elected officials to share the results and to bring forward a unified approach, with the aim of taking away any political posturing and to finally do what all previous consultations have stated.

In September 2017, Falkirk Council administration agreed that the first stage of a Transport Appraisal would be carried out. The outcome of this first stage (pre-appraisal) can then be informally submitted to Transport Scotland for an initial opinion. During the Council budget debate in 2018 this was put forward and an agreement was made to move forward with the first stage with money being sourced for the later stages.

In August 2018 Reinstate Bonnybridge Railway Station ran a community consultation that clearly showed that 97% of the residents supporting the re-introduction of a train station in Bonnybridge. This consultation was done with funding from Lottery Awards for All fund, under the supervision of Scottish Community Development Center, making sure that the questions were not leading, and the reporting was done in a neutral manner. This report was released in January 2019 with praise from the local council and professionals involved in the industry.

On the 10th of December 2019, the Executive Committee of the council voted to fund the next stage of the process, after a new station in Bonnybridge was identified in the Pre-Appraisal as one of four outcomes to help the transportation in Bonnybridge.

GHS
ABOUT TOWN
GREENHILL

GREENHILL STATION

Courtesy of Jock Kidd



From Left to Right :
 Mr Morrison (Station Master), Mr Grinly (Ticket Office Clerk), Booby Kidd (Porter)

St. Andrew's Ambulance Association Awards Ceremony 1963

Photograph taken in Maxwell Muller hut in Greenhill

From Left to Right

Back row:

Ian Broadbelt, William Buchanan, George Fleming, Linda Fulcher, Unknown, Drew Smith, Alfie Mann, Janet Mercer, Helen Broadbelt, Margaret Mercer.

Middle row:

Unknown, Janet Fleming, Jean Mowat, Robert Christie, Samuel Dalrymple, Ronald Buchanan, Helen Brown, Janice Broadbelt,

Front row:

James McKee, Tommy Baxter, Dr. Maclean, Janis Johnston, Mrs Pearson, Robert Nimmo, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown.



Greenhill School Primary 1, 1936



The girl seated second from the left in the second row from the front is Alice Reed who lived at Dalnair Cottage on the Allandale Road at the foot of Dalnair Road. Alice is aged 4 years and 6 months when this photograph was taken. Her married name was Johnston and the photograph came from her daughter Janis Downie who now lives in America.

Greenhill School 1959?

From Left to Right

Back row -

Hugh Archibald, Raymond Renton, George Graham, Alan Reid, Edward Pollock, Billy Baxter, Colin Stanners.

Row two:

Sandra Reid, Irene Baird, Anne Baird, Jean Bell, Betty Devaney, Ruth Smith, Nora Renton, Janice Broadbelt, Janis Johnston, Janet Henderson.

Row three:

Moira Carson, Marion Boslem, Margaret Marshall, Irene Templeman, Jean Mowat, unknown, Janice McCallum, June Parker, Agnes Major, Lillias Cunningham.

Front row:

George Williams, Jackie Douglas, William Rollo, Tony Gray.



Greenhill School 1962



From Left to Right

Back row:

George Williams, Jackie Douglas, Billy Baxter, Colin Stanners, Edward Pollock, George Graham, Alan Reid, William Rollo, Hugh Archibald, Robert Connell.

Second Back Row:

Christine Cockburn, Janice Broadbelt, Janet Henderson, Betty Devaney, Ruth Smith, Anne Baird, Dorothy Tait, Janice McCallum, Jean Bell, Betty Wallace.

Row three:

Mary Mowatt, Marion Boslem, Agnes Major, Jean Mowat, June Parker, Agnes Duncan, Janis Johnston, Sandra Dunsmore, Carole Wilson, Margaret Marshall, Irene Dunn.

Front Row:

Tony Gray, Moira Carson, Lillias Cunningham, William Hamilton.

Greenhill Primary School Choir 1962

The photograph was taken in front of the old Falkirk Town Hall on the steps between Upper and Lower Newmarket Street in Falkirk.

From Left to Right

Back row:

Edward Pollock, George Graham, Ruth Smith, Janice Broadbelt, Jean Mowat, Janis Johnston, Fiona Cownie, Janice McCallum, Anne Baird.

Middle row:

Jean Bell, Sheena Johnstone, Christine Cockburn, Margaret Marshall, Dorothy Tait (partially obscured), Linda Fulcher, Sandra Dunsmore (with glasses), Marion Boslem, June Parker, Janet Fleming (partially obscured), Agnes Duncan, Irene Baird, Agnes Major, Unknown.

Front Row:

Murray Tait, Lorna Parker, Moira Carson, Mary Mowat, Ian Broadbelt, Lillias Cunningham, Robert Nimmo.

Teacher: Mrs Barr.



The Battle of Bonnymuir

Provost Buchanan

200 years ago, on a barren moor near Bonnybridge, workers carrying pitchforks clashed with soldiers – and lost. It signalled the start and end of the last radical uprising in Scotland. The rebels, who marched from Condorrat, had been led into a trap by government spies. They were rounded up and imprisoned and later two of the leaders died in the last public hanging in Stirlingshire. 19 were sent to Botany Bay in Australia.

Falkirk was to be the focal point of this revolt which was quickly crushed in the Bonnybridge skirmish which is now labelled as the Battle of Bonnymuir. The group intended meeting up with Camelon and Falkirk radicals and taking over the Carron Works, using captured canons to blast the government out of power.

The whole revolt was whipped up by the agents provocateur who were set to the task of flushing out Scotland's leading radicals. Glasgow was the movement's headquarters but the strength of the organisation lay in the countryside. It was a time of high unemployment and low wages and only the rich and land owners in Scotland were allowed to vote in elections. The radicals were determined to fight for a better life for themselves and their families

Like most other villages, Condorrat had its core of rebels and it was from John Baird's (a relative of J Beveridge of Bonnybridge) home that the leading light, Andrew Hardie and 35 men set off for Falkirk early on April 5th. The men were short of arms and at Longcroft they entered the house of James Russell and "requisitioned" two muskets and ammunition.

At Bonnybridge the group was joined by the man they knew as John Andrews. It was later discovered he was John King, a government agent. King advised Hardie and his men to march on to the bleak moorland at Bonnymuir where he would bring reinforcements from Camelon. An unsuspecting Baird agreed and marched his men a mile on top of the moor where they positioned themselves on a hilltop. Guided by King, this is where the troops of 10th Hussars found them an hour later. "Baird weighed up the situation – a group of half fed, ill armed weavers, against a troop of well equipped, battle-hardened cavalry. He made his decision, remembering the words of the proclamation – "Liberty or Death" and engaged.

They were quickly overcome and tried to flee to safety but most were captured or injured. News of the skirmish quickly spread as soldiers searched the countryside for radicals who had managed to flee.



The troops were unpopular with the people and in Falkirk members of the Yeomanry had to dodge stones and were jeered and hissed at as they moved through the town.

At one point, the captain of the Yeomanry ordered his men to line up across the street and warned the people to disperse or the cavalry would charge.

There was a great jubilation in government circles when news of the Battle of Bonnymuir reached London. Home Secretary Lord Sidmouth personally gave the news to King George IV and a special edition of "London Gazette" was published.

While this was the major clash of the 1820 uprising, there were other incidents right across the Central belt. At Greenock, the local prison was stormed and nine people died under a hail of bullets from the militia. At Strathaven, a group of radicals set off for Glasgow but they broke up when they heard of the Bonnymuir defeat.

The uprising ended in disorder with their leaders, Baird and Hardie, in jail. After trial in Stirling, they were found guilty of high treason hanged and beheaded post mortem. It sent the whole radical movement scurrying underground. A year later, when George IV took the throne, he granted pardons to all the radicals who had fled the country in 1820 and had been declared outlaws. The majority of those sent to Australia decided to stay and many had much better lives than they would have had as hand weavers were put out of business by the introduction of large mills which could produce quality cloth in much larger quantities.

Services were held in many parts of Scotland on the 5th April to commemorate the reformers who tried to improve the lives of ordinary people.



Roman Plinth in Bonnybridge

Paul Cortopassi

When we planned the 16 heritage panels along Bridge St wall beside the library part of the plan was to erect a statue on the low stone buttress at one end.

In the event this never happened as we could not really envision what shape this monument would take (we did have several suggestions – ‘nuff said!), nor did we have the funding.

However we had been describing our plans for the Heritage Park with members of the ‘Rediscovering the Antonine Wall’ (RAW) team as they outlined their own plans for public art projects linked to the Roman Wall.

To our surprise they come back to us offering support for our statue plans.

Further discussion scrapped the idea of a statue (you’d get more than a traffic cone on your head in the ‘brig!) but when I suggested a cast bronze plaque on a plinth built of narrow Roman-style bricks it was met with approval.

I drew up an outline specification and provided a sketch linking Vulcan, the Roman god of metalworkers, with Bonnybridge foundries and Terra, the Goddess of the earth representing the clay needed to feed Bonnybridge brick works.

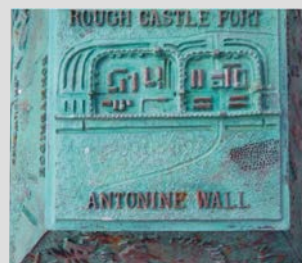
The RAW team then advertised for artists to undertake the work and three applied. Two of these were interviewed (one by phone from a French farmhouse with a hilarious choir of chickens in the background) and he of the French chickens (Alan Potter) was selected.

Alan had provided an outline sketch of his interpretation of the project which was amazingly close to the original outline.

Later, when we researched Alan’s other work, we noticed he had produced a series of flat-topped pyramid artworks which allowed us to redesign the sculpture to show a model of Rough Castle Fort on top with two sides relating to metalworking and two relating to brick making. There are stainless steel inserts describing the artwork and a QR code symbol linking the work to a YouTube video describing the sculpture for those with sight difficulties.

The finished public art work is now on display just inside the street entrance to Bonnybridge Community Education Centre and adds yet another fascinating feature to Bonnybridge and District Heritage Park.

My thanks go to ‘Rediscovering the Antonine Wall’ for funding the project and to Alan Potter for his superb artistry.



LOCKDOWN by Brody & Millie Stevenson

Our lockdown experiences were similar yet very different, for example, our teachers at school taught in very different ways, and sometime one of us would finish all our work quick and the other would still be working at teatime.



Our typical daily routine in lockdown 1 was:

We would wake up, get washed and dressed,
Have breakfast
Brush teeth,
Do work,
Take our dogs a walk,
Have lunch,
Finish our work (if we had not already finished it)
Play in the garden while mum and dad finished working,
Play board games or watch a movie together as a family
at night then do it all again the next day. That was our first lockdown experience.

On Thursdays we would watch Blair Drummond safari live online. It was great because we got to find out a lot more about the animals they have, and it kept us entertained. We went to visit the

Safari Park in summer when it re-opened and liked meeting the animals they have introduced us to online.

Lockdown could be fun as we got to discover lots of new places by taking our dogs out a daily family walk in the local area. We discovered new places such as new paths down the nature reserve leading to fun bits that our dogs liked to go in the water and paths through the woods that had interesting wildlife we hadn't seen much of before. We got to spend lots of time with our family including seeing more of our older brother than we would normally have seen because he couldn't go out with his friends. It was fun playing board-games and in the garden with him sometimes.

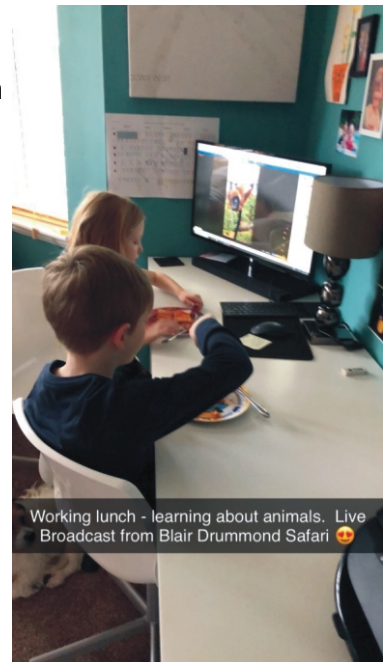
Millie learned more ICT skills such as how to scan her work, photocopying and uploading things to email and google classroom. I improved my typing skills as I had to do some work online but some I did in my jotter and took pictures which I uploaded to Google Classroom to hand-in.

Dad was working from home, so he helped me with some fun school projects at night. We made a wooden model of a boat and another of the Golden Gate Bridge. He wouldn't normally have time to do things that take as much time as that with us – we really enjoyed it! We cooked together and baked a lot! It was delicious and we learned some new recipes which we liked so much we've made a few times now.

In the first lockdown it was sunny, so we were lucky we have a garden and were able to play in it. It was so hot we had a paddling pool out and were allowed in it most days as soon as we finished our school work. In the second lockdown it was snowy which was lucky for us again because we love the snow. We were able to get up early and go sledging and have snowball fights in the morning before anyone else was around, then we headed home to get our schoolwork done for the day. That meant we got out when the snow was really fresh and powdery which we wouldn't normally get to do because we would be in school.

Some not so good stuff in lockdown was not being able to meet up with our friends in the first lockdown and in the second we could see our friends but only outside and it was often really cold. We couldn't travel so didn't get to go on the holiday we had booked. All our clubs we normally go to were either cancelled or online only which was boring compared to Normal.

Mum was always online working. She's a teacher and it felt like she was working all the time because her school did loads of live lessons. We had to keep ourselves busy a lot of the time but at lunchtime she always logged out and we all took the dogs out a walk which was nice. We liked walks along the canal or under the pen to Antonine Wall or sometimes up to Rough Castle. At weekends we went nice walks to the Falkirk Wheel or Canada Wood too. We think we are really lucky to live in such a beautiful area where we had nice places to go our daily walk.





FINLAY WHITEFORD

If I were to sum it up in a word, “Silence” would be how I’d encapsulate Thursday the 19th March 2020. It wasn’t one that started off particularly silent; as I sat on the bus that morning, a member of the second-oldest year group in the school, I had been annoyed as usual by the overexcited yelps and gossips of the younger pupils. Entering into the refectory before classes, silence still had failed to reach the crowds of teenagers. In fact, it took until around 2pm that day for the silence to take hold, as every class in the school started to tune in - many for the first time ever – to John Swinney. Precisely ten minutes later, my fellow pupils and I got the news we had waited for; exams were cancelled, for everyone, for the first time ever.

I was sat in a Higher Physics class, on the top floor. My teacher, who had dismissed the threat of the pandemic for weeks, wore a slightly dismayed expression, clearly trying to hide his shock. My class, many of whom were relying on the main exams to get their target grades, had no words to say. The only thing to permeate the silence after Mr Swinney’s words was a small cheer from some of the younger S4 pupils in a classroom across the corridor. Needless to say, that felt like quite the unpopular opinion. Walking to my next class, the noise of the morning had evaporated – something died that day, and whether it was the hopes of my classmates or the expectation of a pandemic-free future, I can’t say.

Within a week we were done with the school for the academic year – our fifth year like no other, curtailed by a pandemic that very quickly engrossed us. While our parents navigated working from home, we were forced into “blended learning” – a cursed phrase – working for the sake of working, with no goals or grades to achieve. Days turned into weeks, weeks into months, and with no end in sight there was never a conclusion to fifth year. Even on results day, as many celebrated good results or near-misses, closure was never there for us. Now sitting here over a year on after finishing school, it still hasn’t come.

Fortunately, there have been some positives amidst the darkness – attainment for our year group is significantly higher than previous years, meaning more of us have gained places in universities and colleges, for example. After a year of isolation, many of us have found new passions or hobbies; a few I know have changed their entire career paths as a result. We got time to think, to be ourselves, and step back – something in a fast-paced teenage life, or within modern life for that matter, one rarely does.

Our Class of 2021 have navigated so many major obstacles – double exam cancellations, multiple lockdowns, shifts in a way we live and study and work - but for me, at least, it is the absences that have been hardest. We, as teenagers of the COVID period, have lost out on so much of what it means to be a teenager in the modern age: driving lessons, first jobs, group holidays, house parties, music festivals, relationships – the list is nearly endless. So as the silence stops and the noise of everyday life starts to come back in, there’s plenty for us to catch up on – and my, will it be glorious.

MHOIRE CAMERON

Tesco Express Bonnybridge

As a member of staff at Tesco express I, along with my colleagues, were not in lockdown during the pandemic and worked throughout to ensure the food supply was maintained. The company put all the required protections in place for staff and customers to make us as safe as possible.

The vast majority of customers were brilliant and followed the rules all the time. Nevertheless, on 15th of November 2020 I felt a bit unwell with a cough and very cold hands and feet so went for a Covid test. I thought it was just a winter infection as I did not lose my sense of smell or taste which were two of the very common symptoms of Covid 19. On 16th of November the result of the test came back positive. I went into isolation but seven days later I began to have severe breathing problems and, as family weren’t allowed to visit, I sent a video of me trying to breathe to my brother. He insisted I call my GP immediately which I did and I was sent to the Covid Centre in Stirling. After a series of tests I was sent straight to hospital where I stayed for 14 days on oxygen to keep my lungs functioning properly.

During my illness the staff and friends in Tesco Express were so supportive and made sure I had a care package sent to me in hospital. They also phoned and sent messages to cheer me up. I went back to work three weeks after getting out of hospital but I only lasted one day as I was completely exhausted. I was signed off for another month before I was able to go back to work and although I am managing fine, I still feel breathless and hope that will get better over time.





My Dad and the Pandemic

By A Bonnybridge Daughter

There is never a good time to fall and break your hip but a few days before your 93rd birthday is bad luck. However, when you fall and break your hip in January 2020 it's disastrous. We knew something was happening in the large Glasgow Hospital as it was 'buzzing'; staffs were huddled together whispering, equipment and beds were being moved around. Even patients were being moved from ward to ward. Some old men, who did not have family, were being sent out to care homes. There was no Social Services being offered and no aftercare organised. What on earth was going on?

A few days later I got a phone call to say dad was being sent home, I asked when, the caller said "NOW". I told them the house was not ready yet for dad, they said "that does not matter he is being sent out NOW". I said 'I lived in Bonnybridge, 30 miles away, and there is nobody at his house'. The caller said 'he has to go home NOW'. I was shocked that the National Health Service would do this to such an elderly man. So I immediately drive over to dad's house, I got there just as the mini bus arrived and my dad was carried into his home still in his pyjamas. He had no idea what was happening to him, he was shocked and traumatised. He was even discharged with someone else's medical papers so we did not know what medication he was on!

Then W.H.O. announced that the Corona virus, rampant in China, had become a Pandemic!

I understand the reason dad was rushed out of hospital. The NHS was worried that patients would contract this Corona Virus while in hospital. Within days the news was full of devastating figures of elderly people in hospital with the shocking effect of the virus. More concerning news was all the hospitals were rapidly filling up with Covid 19 patients and the NHS was being overwhelmed.

As dad lives in a one bedroom flat I couldn't stay at his and I am too old to sleep on a little sofa. My home has the bedrooms and bathrooms upstairs so no use for a man who could only walk with a Zimmer. So I travelled sixty miles almost every day, with my sister coming down from Perthshire to help. On the 23rd March 2020, when the whole country went into 'lock down', everything change! The government said "stay within your own area" "only go out for essential shopping" "only key workers" "where does that leave me! My dad is a proud, independent, stubborn man and even if we could get some social services he would refuse it. My sister could not come down anymore so I had to keep going to South Lanarkshire myself every day. Shopping was difficult, long queues took so much time. Tesco's allowed the over 70's in first at 9am, that was a help. But trying to do all of this along with cooking and cleaning for both houses was exhausting.

Before breaking his hip my father had been a very active man, even at 92 he would walk 5 or 8 miles a day. He loved going into Glasgow, catch a bus to anywhere in the central belt, go to a pub and have a meal, he could chat with anybody. His nights at the 'club' with his friends have been his life as long as I can remember – all stopped. He was left with just me to talk to. He's also refused to do the exercises which were essential for his recovery, as they were too painful. As a result he is still struggling to walk any distance and is frustrated by his loss of independence. But he has a plan! He wants the Rolls Royce of mobility scooters. We are still trying to find one he can store in his wee flat! Corona Virus may not have taken dad's life but it has taken his love of life.



ANTONINE MEDICAL PRACTICE

*Dr Peter McCalister
Dr Bridget McCalister
Dr Louise Marshall
Dr Martin Nørve
Dr Katie McRae*



*The Health Centre
Bonnybridge
Stirlingshire
FK4 1ED
01324 812315*

Covid 19 – The View From the Health Centre

Its hard to summarise in a few words the effect of the Covid 19 pandemic, on the health service in Bonnybridge. Obviously things developed very rapidly in March 2020, with a reduction in hospital and GP services, and an enormous rise in workload managing Covid symptoms. Most of this work occurred outside Bonnybridge, as Drs and nurses went out to do sessions in the “Covid Hub”, give vaccinations, and so on. The most difficult thing was managing the changes which were happening on a daily basis at that time, as government advice altered constantly.

The biggest change that patients noticed was that no-one was allowed to visit us without having a telephone call with a GP, nurse, physiotherapist or pharmacist first. The telephone lines got so busy that we had to buy a whole new telephone system to cope with that. The brunt of our work fell on our reception team, to try and direct patients appropriately, and they have managed this new role very well indeed. The Health Centre never closed its doors at any time, a feat of which we are very proud.

The reduction in hospital appointments and services led to problems for those suffering from non-Covid diseases. We were very concerned as the pandemic continued, that people were not coming forward with life-threatening symptoms including symptoms of cancer. There are gradual improvements now at the hospital end, as they have fewer people in hospital with Covid-19. However it is going to take some years to return to where we were before the pandemic in 2019. This is because waiting lists have built up for conditions such as arthritis - which are not life threatening – but do cause people a great deal of pain and distress.

On a positive note our team has really come together, as we struggled through the many different phases of the pandemic. We were lucky that very few team members were off sick with Covid or other illnesses, during this time. We have worked hard on social distancing in the Health Centre to prevent spread within the building, which seems to have worked (fingers crossed!).

We wish to thank our local community, for their patience and stoicism, accepting these changes and the loss of the “open door” access that you had previously. The community really has supported the NHS as a whole during this difficult time.

2020/2021 may change the face of the NHS for ever. Some things will continue - which have been good developments, that have come out of the pandemic. For example some conditions **can** be easily managed on the telephone, and this is quick and easy for those who would previously have to get away from work, and sit in a waiting room here. We are trying to return to as many face-to-face appointments as we can, and to strike the right balance in the long-term. We really miss seeing people in person. Please be patient with us, as we all work towards a new health service, whatever that may look like.

Dr Peter McCalister

Greetings from America

Ian S Young



Hi Folks.

My name is Ian Scott Young and I am writing at the request of my son, Sean. Sean and his wife Denise visited Bonnybridge in October of 2019 and had the pleasure of Meeting several members of Greenhill Historical Society and they expressed to him

an interest in hearing from me because I spent part of my Childhood In Bonnybridge. These are some of my memories, but please keep in mind they are those of a young boy and may be a little scattered and embellished.

I was born December 4, 1942 in Falkirk and spent my first 5 years at Lilybank, above the Bank. My grandfather, William McGruther, had managed the bank prior to his death (not sure of date). My father (John Young), mother (Mary McGruther) and I lived at Lilybank with my grandfather's second wife Helen and two sisters from his first marriage, Chrissy McGruther, who was a matron at Princess Margaret Rose Hospital in Edinburgh, and Nettie McGruther who was a school teacher in Falkirk. On November 12th 1945 my brother William Alexander was born. During this time I vaguely remember or overheard about the blackout and the German Bombers using the canal to guide them after the raids on Glasgow, occasionally dropping left over bombs along the canal on their way back to Germany.

At the age of five I left Bonnybridge with my parents to go to South Africa (my Father was an Engineer working for The International Construction Company, (specializing in building steel mills) and returned to Bonnybridge after 3 years. We left 6 months later to go to India, returning again after 3 years. My Brother and I were enrolled at Hurst Grange boarding School in Stirling, while my Parents remained in India. While at Hurst Grange I would spend holidays, being loved and nurtured, by my two aunts, Chrissy and Nettie, at Lilybank, along with my grandmother Helen and her brother Alex ,a local constable (on one occasion he locked me in jail for a couple hours because of doing something I shouldn't have done to teach me a lesson). In summers they would take my brother and I to Millport.

It was during the next 4 years that I remember the most about Bonnybridge. My best friend at the time was Neal Menzies and we spent time playing games in The Lumber Yard on the right side of the street up to High Bonnybridge and playing football in the vacant field on the left side of the road; climbing the hill on the far side of the canal and picking strawberries and raspberries in the backyard at Lilybank. I remember going through the park to cross the burn to get to Geordie Hall's barber shop for a haircut. I remember riding the top deck of the bus to Falkirk to see a picture show or the delights to be eaten at the tearoom in Mortons(?).I remember the shop, next to the bank, where I would get wonderful penny caramels: the butcher shop across from the Co-op as well as the bookstore where I would get comics: Petal's Fish and Chips shop, as well as their ice cream store were favourites on the weekends. A particular favourite was a newspaper cone full of Fish and Chips sprinkled with vinegar and a blackman ice cream sandwich (two wafers filled with marshmallow covered in Chocolate, a slab of vanilla ice cream and another wafer).There was a sweet shop at the top of the hill, by the Bridge, run by the McCullough sisters, which featured rows and rows of candy filled apothecary jars on shelves. I remember spending time and learning to milk a cow at Peat Hill Farm which I believe was owned by relatives of my mother's best friend, Vera Davis.(my mother's maid of honour when she married my Father) In 1956 my mother returned from India and we moved to Stirling and I was enrolled at Strathallen, near Gleneagles.

In 1957 my Father returned and after short vacation traveling through Scotland and England we moved to Canada. In 1995 my wife Carol and I visited Bonnybridge and as opportunity would have it we connected with Neal, who at the time lived in the Railroad House and managed the Junior Bairsns. We also saw my 'Aunt' Vera, who was living in a Home in Stirling. I must say that from the pictures my son has shown from his visit, there have been some wonderful improvements from what I remember from my 1995 visit. My maternal grandfather, as I indicated, was married twice. He had, as relayed to me, 4 children by his first marriage. William, who left in his 20's, for Alberta, Canada, another son (name unknown) who left in his 20's for Australia to raise sheep. Chrissy, who I indicated earlier, became Nurse Matron at Princess Margaret Rose hospital in Edinburgh.(I still have a photo of her with Princess Margaret and her bible with an inscription from 1903),and Nettie who was a teacher in Falkirk. His second marriage produced 3 children, my mother Mary Alexander, who ran whisky exports in Glasgow, and Ronald who moved his family to Maud, where members of his family, including my cousin Helen still live. I have enjoyed reliving these memories of what life was like in Bonnybridge in 1940's and early1950's and hope you find it all informative in one way or another.



Lilybank is the name of the house above the RBS Building.

SCOTMID
co-operative

Scotmid celebrated its 160th Birthday on the 4th November 2019

Yvonne Goodfellow

Scotmid (Scottish and Midland Co-operative Society) are not part of Co-op Group which is based in Manchester. Scotmid is completely independent with a different membership base and has its HQ in Newbridge just outside Edinburgh – but they work together (Cooperate!) and stock Coop branded goods and use the same delivery network. The society was formed in 1859 as St Cuthbert's Cooperative Society by 12 ordinary workmen from Edinburgh, the same year as Charles Dickens wrote tale of two cities!

The first shop was opened in Ponton Street in Edinburgh on November 4th 1859. Expansion was fast and varied. Not long after the turn of the century the Society was the largest farming operation in Scotland and the largest cattle feeders in the UK. The society also had a large number of stores and enterprises; draperies, pharmacy, food stores, butcher shops, coal department, bakeries, furniture shops, laundries and department stores. In 1923 women were admitted to the board of management. From 1900, St Cuthbert's began to merge with other small cooperatives, at first in the east of Scotland, but in 1981 St Cuthbert's merged with the Dalziel Cooperative Society based in Motherwell and that's when they changed their name from St Cuthbert's Cooperative society to Scottish Midland Cooperative Society or SCOTMID for short! We merged with Bonnybridge cooperative society in 1996.

Sir Sean Connery is perhaps their most famous employee. He worked for St Cuthbert's twice. He started in July 1944 as a barrow worker at the age of 13. Following his national service, he came back again to work as a milk horseman earning £3 14s 6d. He was also an excellent football player and played for the St Cuthbert's football team. He left in 1950 to pursue a new career and the rest as they say is history! (Sir Sean's wage slip is still in the Scotmid archive!)

Scotmid have a policy of supporting local groups and charities and Greenhill Historical Society are grateful for their support over the years. They also support National Charities such as Chest Heart and Stroke foundation. As part of their birthday celebrations they awarded three local groups with their Community Champions awards. The recipients were members of Driving Force Bonnybridge, Bonnybridge Foodbank and Greenhill Historical Society.



Picture courtesy of Mr. G. Graham, Bonnybridge

The original opening of this store as the Bonnybridge Co-Operative Society bakery c1930

The following stores form the Scotmid group

Scotmid – 188,

Semichem – 87 stores,

Funeral Directors – 13

There are currently around 4,000 employees and around 50,000 Scotmid members.

Scotmid
co-operative



SCOUT CAMP of 1951 : FEEDBACK From Lynne Nicolson

I saw the latest magazine at my uncle's and he had some information: Scout Camp 1951 – the boys were Sandy Beaton, Jim Harrower, Billie Gracie (person writing), and Ian Gillespie. William Wells Houston wanted to know where Milnquarter Place is. The tenement terrace opposite St. Helen's Church, High Bonnybridge was commonly known as Milnquarter. There are newer houses there now, It was just before the railway bridge on the right as you head uphill. Piece of interest here: my uncle was told by my Grandfather that the Duncan Stewart Memorial Park which had been known as Jennie's Park was known as Patie's Park before that (pate as in late). Finally, in amongst family photos I found this – but you will be lucky to find out who was in it. It was the school photo of my grandfather (step-grandfather) who was 5th from the left in the back row in Bonnybridge Primary in 1911.



BONNYSEEN Number 18 Page 15 Scout Camp in London 1951

Names in Scout Photograph L-R

Jim Beaton, Jim Harrower, Ian Gillespie, Scout Master:
Arthur Belligham, Archie McWatt, Scott Stanners
Front Billy Gracie

Page 15 : Can you help with place names?

I was born at 4 Milinquarter Place, Bonnybridge in 1939. Milinquarter Place was on Seabegs road where E & R Moffats car park and works are now situated. Milinquarter House was 3 houses and belonged to Smith & Wellstood for their staff. I recall the Leitch, McFarlane and McLaren families lived there I the 1950/60s. My family moved to Falkirk Road, Bonnybridge around 1940/41.

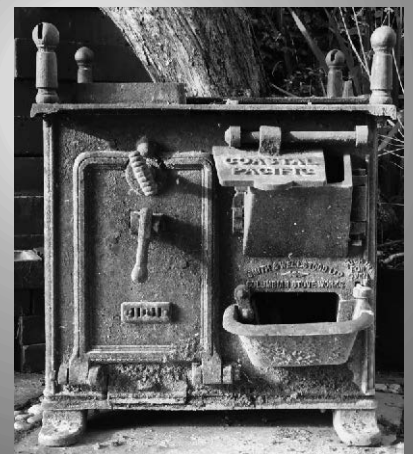
The foundation stone was laid for St. Helen's Church , High Bonnybridge on 28th October 1933 and was opened in 1934 as St. Helen's Church of Scotland, prior to that the Church was High Bonnybridge United Free Church from 1925-34.

I trust this information will be of some interest.

Jim Stevenson

Hi,

I've had this stove for 25 years. I saved it from Wood Wharf in Greenwich when the old boatyard was demolished for development. The boatyard has been in existence for many years primarily for the repair and construction of Thames lighters. Saw your article on the foundry and thought I'd send you this. The firebox is rotten, but the casing is in good order
Best wishes



*Kind regards
Steven Carson
London N10 3TH*



BONNYBRIDGE BRAND



Alan Potter, who designed and manufactured our beautiful Roman plinth, sent us these photographs from his holiday in Barbados. A lovely sunlit brick pathway and when you zoom in on the bricks they are Bonnybridge Brand!

Obituary

Robert (Bert) Grier

It was with great sadness that we learned of the sudden death of our newest recruit to Greenhill Historical Society on 15th December 2020. Bert was born on 6th January 1949 and was the youngest of ten children. He was a mechanic to trade and worked in the Mill Garage Bonnybridge, D. D. Bell and Millar's of Falkirk. When he laid down his mechanic's tools he worked part time in Aldi store in Camelon.

He was a keen golfer and a member for years at Bonnybridge Golf Club. During his membership he helped train the juniors and was Club captain in 2005.

He was always keen on local history and joined GHS early in 2019. He was a willing helper at any events we held and had a wicked sense of humour. We never had a meeting where we didn't end up in fits of laughter at his jokes and stories. Sadly, we went in to lock down in March 2020 so only briefly had the pleasure of Bert's company at our meetings.

Unfortunately, due to the Covid 19 Pandemic, only ten people were allowed to attend his funeral. As a mark of respect the GHS members lined up outside the Community Centre as his cortege went past. The cortege then drove along Larbert Road and slowed down outside the golf club where many members had also gathered to show their respect for Bert.

Our thoughts are with Bert's wife and family.

R.I.P.





ROTARY
SERVICE Above Self

Rotary International is a worldwide service organisation begun in 1905 by a lawyer, Paul Harris, in Chicago. Its stated purpose is to bring together business and professional people in order to provide humanitarian service and to advance goodwill and peace around the world. It is a non-political and non-religious organisation open to all people regardless of race, colour, religion, gender, or political preference. There are in excess of 35,000 member clubs worldwide, and 1.2 million individual members.

Rotarians usually gather weekly for breakfast, lunch, or dinner to fulfil their first guiding principle: to develop friendships as an opportunity for service. The Rotarian's primary motto is "Service Above Self".

The Rotary Club of Falkirk meets in the Park Hotel on the Camelon Road in Falkirk every Thursday lunchtime and was Chartered as a member of Rotary International in 1924. Since that time the Club has been heavily involved in local charitable causes. Within the last few years for instance, senior pupils from the Greenhill and Bonnybridge area have been sponsored on character building outward bound courses in Ardeonaig Lodge on the south shore of Loch Tay and sailing in the Hebrides with the Ocean Youth Trust. These sponsorships are continuing the culture of the post war years when boys from schools in the area or local youth organisations would be sponsored for two weeks at the Moray Sea School.

In 1933 after an approach from Toc H (a charity which continues to work within the community to ease the burden of others and bring together disparate parts of society) Falkirk Rotary guaranteed the rent of premises for the establishment of a Boy's Club. This was active until 1949 when the responsibility was handed over to other organisations such as Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, B.B. and Girls' Guildry.

In 1949 Food and Clothing parcels donated by the people of Canada and Australia were distributed among "the deserving" by members of the Club.

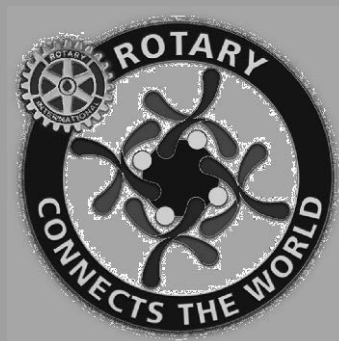
In 1962 the Club purchased a caravan which was sited at St. Andrews to provide holiday accommodation for widows, widowers and their children.

In 1963 a historic initiative by Falkirk Rotarians saw the installation of emergency lights in the windows of the homes of a number of elderly people in the district. This was the forerunner of present day emergency systems such as MECS.

Initially the Club's influence covered all of what currently is regarded as the Falkirk Council Area but over the years Falkirk Rotary has sponsored new Clubs in Denny, Larbert, Grangemouth and Polmont. The Denny Club would have been the Club within whose jurisdiction Bonnybridge and Greenhill lay but it was sadly unable to sustain its membership and closed its doors eight years ago.

As a result, the Falkirk Club has re-established connections with Denny High School and this saw, last year, in partnership with Falkirk Writer's Circle, the establishment of the first Rotary Young Writer competition in the area. Denny High has also contributed very positively to the Club's Schools Day where the local secondary schools outline their work in the local community.

As indicated above, the ethos of Rotary is that by meeting regularly, members become close friends and not simply acquaintances. It is in this spirit of friendship and fellowship that the members join to fundraise for many worthy causes both at home and abroad. The Falkirk Club continues to be active in the community and in the wider world, supporting, among many others, "End Polio Now" a programme begun in 1984 which has since seen the immunisation against Polio of billions of children worldwide and now has its sights firmly set on ridding the world of this debilitating and deadly disease within the foreseeable future.



Bonnybridge & District Heritage Park

P Swierczek

As a local history society we have worked hard for the past eleven years to preserve the history of Bonnybridge for future generations. To this end we have published to date 18 editions of our Bonnyseen magazine. We receive letters from all over the world sharing memories of life in the village over the decades and we record significant events, industries and social history.

The mural which was painted on the Smith and Wellstood building was lost to the village when the company closed and the building was demolished. A local resident, Paul Cortopassi was determined to find a way to reinstate the mural as it was of historical and social value, especially to the hundreds of people who had worked in the company.

Paul approached Greenhill Society with his proposal and asked if we could work together to bring his brilliant idea (my words not his!) to fruition. We were delighted to be asked to be involved and the outcome is there for all to see and study on the wall of the Community Centre.

Inspired by the positive reaction to this venture, Paul had another brainwave. He had heard that Zetland Park in Grangemouth had been awarded lottery funding to produce a heritage wall. Paul thought this was a great idea but why not replicate the idea for Bonnybridge and District? He set about applying for funding from the National Lottery and was initially refused with the instruction not to apply again! On the advice of a member's daughter, who had experience of funding applications, Paul appealed against the decision and not only received an apology but over £8000 towards the project. The remaining £9803.16 was awarded by the Falkirk Environmental Trust and we were in business.

The first task was to lay paths which would give non slip access and be wide enough for prams and wheelchairs. Griffin Construction of Bannockburn was contracted for this work and completed it in good time in some very difficult weather conditions. Paul decided we needed 16 information panels to tell the history of Bonnybridge and district from the Bronze Age to the present day. He wrote the scripts for each panel, had Geoff Bailey of Falkirk Community Trust scrutinise the text for historical accuracy and had his talented daughter Jennifer design a logo to be added to each panel. Signs Express Falkirk was contracted to manufacture and fit these beautiful and durable information boards. Several of the boards have QR codes attached where more information is stored online.

The Heritage Park was officially opened by Provost Buchanan on 5th October 2019, a wet and blustery day, and refreshments were made available in the Community Centre. This corner of the village is now a hub of interest with the library mural, the Smith and Wellstood mural and now the Heritage Park and the Roman Replica Plinth which is detailed in another article on page 9.



Paul Cortopassi introducing the Heritage Park Project



Provost W Buchanan declaring the Park open

We are indebted to the following for the installation of our fantastic Heritage Park:

Devising and Producing the Heritage Park

Paul Cortopassi for his monumental work, Provost Buchanan for his invaluable assistance, Jenny Naylor for her wonderful art work and Marie Cortopassi for her patience and support of Paul.

Financing the Project

Heritage lottery fund; Falkirk Environmental Trust; Bonnybridge Community Council; Bonnybridge Community Education Centre

Contractors

Griffen Construction

Signs Express Falkirk

JK Landscaping

Finishing Touches

Sandy Crozier, who took time out of his busy farm schedule to clear out the graveyard memorial garden Central Demolition, who laid the concrete bases for two garden benches.

Malcolm Allan and Sons for donating a bench in memory of Malcolm

Organisation and assistance on opening day Bonnybridge Community Centre

Scotmid, Greggs, Tesco and Café Retro who all contributed to the refreshments served on opening day by Fiona Buchanan, the Guide leaders and the Guides

BONNYBRIDGE and DISTRICT HERITAGE PARK

COMMUNITY CENTRE PARKING ONLY

1 BONNYBRIDGE BURIALS

The 18th and 19th centuries were a time of great change in the lives of the people of Bonnybridge. The population grew rapidly and the town expanded. The old church was too small and a new one was built. The old graveyard was too full and a new one was built. The old church was too small and a new one was built. The old graveyard was too full and a new one was built.

2 FARMING AROUND BONNYBRIDGE

The 18th and 19th centuries were a time of great change in the lives of the people of Bonnybridge. The population grew rapidly and the town expanded. The old church was too small and a new one was built. The old graveyard was too full and a new one was built.

3 BONNYBRIDGE - EARLY HISTORY

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4 BONNYBRIDGE and THE ANTONINE WALL WORLD HERITAGE SITE

The 18th and 19th centuries were a time of great change in the lives of the people of Bonnybridge. The population grew rapidly and the town expanded. The old church was too small and a new one was built. The old graveyard was too full and a new one was built.

5 THE FORTH and CLYDE CANAL

The 18th and 19th centuries were a time of great change in the lives of the people of Bonnybridge. The population grew rapidly and the town expanded. The old church was too small and a new one was built. The old graveyard was too full and a new one was built.

WELCOME TO
BONNYBRIDGE & DISTRICT HERITAGE PARK

Commissioned by The Greenhill Historical Society

Funded by

with additional support from
Bonnybridge Community Education Centre
Provost W. Buchanan
Bonnybridge Community Council

www.greenhillhistoricalsociety.weebly.com

11 BONNYBRIDGE PEOPLE

The 18th and 19th centuries were a time of great change in the lives of the people of Bonnybridge. The population grew rapidly and the town expanded. The old church was too small and a new one was built. The old graveyard was too full and a new one was built.

12 BONNYBRIDGE COMMUNITY

The 18th and 19th centuries were a time of great change in the lives of the people of Bonnybridge. The population grew rapidly and the town expanded. The old church was too small and a new one was built. The old graveyard was too full and a new one was built.

13 BONNYBRIDGE at WAR

The 18th and 19th centuries were a time of great change in the lives of the people of Bonnybridge. The population grew rapidly and the town expanded. The old church was too small and a new one was built. The old graveyard was too full and a new one was built.

14 TOUR ROUND SOUTH BONNYBRIDGE AND DISTRICT

The 18th and 19th centuries were a time of great change in the lives of the people of Bonnybridge. The population grew rapidly and the town expanded. The old church was too small and a new one was built. The old graveyard was too full and a new one was built.

15 UFO SIGHTINGS (Unidentified Flying Objects)

BONNYBRIDGE has a reputation as 'The UFO Capital of the World'. As you know you can see other people's UFOs many other visitors to the ground of no heritage. Whatever the truth, here is one part's take on the story.

The 2 First Sightings, October 1951

1st sighting, Bonnybridge, October 1951

2nd sighting, Bonnybridge, October 1951

6 TRANSPORT THROUGH BONNYBRIDGE

The 18th and 19th centuries were a time of great change in the lives of the people of Bonnybridge. The population grew rapidly and the town expanded. The old church was too small and a new one was built. The old graveyard was too full and a new one was built.

7 BONNYBRIDGE FOUNDRIES

The 18th and 19th centuries were a time of great change in the lives of the people of Bonnybridge. The population grew rapidly and the town expanded. The old church was too small and a new one was built. The old graveyard was too full and a new one was built.

8 BONNYBRIDGE BRICKS & CLAY

CLAY MINING Bonnybridge clay is a special type of clay. It is a soft, silty clay. It is a soft, silty clay. It is a soft, silty clay. It is a soft, silty clay.

BRICKMAKING At the end of the 18th century, the first brickworks were established in Bonnybridge. They were established in Bonnybridge. They were established in Bonnybridge. They were established in Bonnybridge.

9 There's been more to Bonnybridge than bricks and stoves!

OLD INDUSTRIES The 18th and 19th centuries were a time of great change in the lives of the people of Bonnybridge. The population grew rapidly and the town expanded. The old church was too small and a new one was built. The old graveyard was too full and a new one was built.

NEWER INDUSTRIES The 18th and 19th centuries were a time of great change in the lives of the people of Bonnybridge. The population grew rapidly and the town expanded. The old church was too small and a new one was built. The old graveyard was too full and a new one was built.

10 The BATTLE of BONNYMUIR

The last hand-to-hand battle fought on British soil (probably)

AT THE START OF THE 17th CENTURY WAS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT BATTLES IN THE HISTORY OF THE KINGDOM OF SCOTLAND. It was a battle between the King and the nobles. It was a battle between the King and the nobles. It was a battle between the King and the nobles.

THE BATTLE OF BONNYMUIR WAS A BATTLE BETWEEN THE KING AND THE NOBLES. It was a battle between the King and the nobles. It was a battle between the King and the nobles. It was a battle between the King and the nobles.

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maddison print services
m 07969 812680
e slig@blueyonder.co.uk