



Beltane Partners at Scotland's History Festival

November 2013

Now in its third year, Scotland's History Festival aims to bring Scotland's history to life. In 2013, the Festival will take place across several Scottish cities and will feature nearly 300 events over 18 days.

The Festival caters for adults and children. Whether you fancy theatre, live music, a talk, a guided tour or a craft workshop, there is likely to be something that appeals to you.

In November 2013, the University of Edinburgh, Heriot-Watt University and Edinburgh Napier University will contribute to at least 19 events:

- [University of Edinburgh events](#)
- [Heriot-Watt events](#)
- [Edinburgh Napier events](#)

We have done our best to identify all events involving Edinburgh's universities, but please let us know if we've missed yours.

Scotland's First Time Lord

14 November, 6pm-7.30pm

James Hutton, the 'Father of Modern Geology', started a trail of innovative thinking. As a polymath, he epitomised much of the nature of Society during the Edinburgh Enlightenment. Share a glass of wine, listen to Prof Stuart Monro discuss Hutton and the great minds that followed and discover how we are truly 'standing on the shoulders of giants'.

£3, Our Dynamic Earth, Edinburgh

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/scotlands-first-time-lord-tickets-8927433193?aff=eorg>

Previously...Schools History Conference 'Women, the Great War and the Vote'

15 November, 10am-1pm

Higher pupils discover how women played an integral part of the government's war machine for the first time.

Free event for schools, contact for venue and other information

info@historyfest.co.uk

Gavin Douglas, Makar and Translatour

15 November, 2pm-5pm

Gavin Douglas celebration continues with a conference featuring Rab Wilson reading five excerpts from Eneados and papers by Jenny Wormald, Derrick McClure, Emily Wingfield, and Jamie Reid Baxter.

£5 / £3, Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gavin-douglas-makar-and-translatour-tickets-8833907455?aff=eorg>

Burke and Hare

15 November, 6pm-7.30pm

Dr Gordon Findlater, Head of Anatomy, University of Edinburgh, gives a talk on the gruesome case of the West Port Murderers, William Burke and William Hare.

£5 / £3, The Edinburgh Dungeon, 31 Market Street, Edinburgh

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/burke-hare-tickets-8834003743?aff=eorg>

Darien and the Buccaneers

15 November, 6.30pm-9pm

Darien. A word that sends a shiver down the collective Scottish spine. A tale of financial misadventure and human loss on an epic scale. But what is less well-known is the impact it had on another Scottish maritime career choice – Piracy. Er Eric Graham weaves a story of Scotland's buccaneers over dinner, in beautiful surroundings.

£40, Howies, 29 Waterloo Place, Edinburgh

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/darien-the-buccaneers-tickets-8833648681?aff=eorg>

Uncovering Edinburgh's Secret History

16 November, 2pm-4pm

Bob Morris and Joe Rock – Capturing the original New Town plans; Brian Wilkinson – The city from above: the aerial record of Edinburgh's history; Richard Rodger – Making your own historical map in 20 minutes.
Free, drop-in, Teviot Lecture Theatre (University of Edinburgh), Teviot Place, Edinburgh

<http://www.apsedinburghclub.org.uk/index.php/news/81-uncovering-edinburgh-s-secret-history>

Women on the Platform: A Campaigning Tale

21 November, 2pm

Eliza Wigham, Elizabeth Pease Nichol, Jane Smeal and Priscilla Bright Maclaren were extraordinary 19th century Edinburgh women. They campaigned against slavery and later for Women's Suffrage.

Free, drop-in, Museum of Edinburgh, 142-146 Canongate

Margaret.findlay@edinburgh.gov.uk

The Sermon on the Mound – Thatcher's Years in Scotland

22 November, 8pm-9.30pm

In May 1988, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher delivered an address to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, dubbed by the Scottish press "The Sermon on the Mound". Chaired by Alec Bell, join our panel, which includes David Torrance, Rosie Kane, Alex Massie and Professor Ewen Cameron, for an evening of passionate discussion.

£8 / £5, Adam House, Chambers Street, Edinburgh

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-sermon-on-the-mound-thatchers-years-in-scotland-tickets-8849666591?aff=eorg>

We Had a Story, We Had a Life

23 November, 1pm-2.30pm

In a groundbreaking partnership, postgraduate students from the School of History, Classics and Archaeology at the University of Edinburgh data-mined Scotland's archives to reveal the words of young people speaking about their lives in the 18th century. They brought their findings to young people of a similar age working with Impact Arts, an outstanding charity dedicated to changing people's lives for the better using the arts, and together they have created a unique and moving theatre piece to bring the past back to life.

Free, booking required, Adam House, Chambers Street, Edinburgh

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/we-had-a-story-we-had-a-life-tickets-8849718747?aff=es2>

The Private and Public Lives of Scottish Women

23 November, 3pm-4.30pm

Women in Victorian Scotland were confined to the realm of the home, to domestic labour, household management, and childrearing but their lives were much richer and more varied than this stereotype suggests.

Free, booking required, Adam House, Chambers Street, Edinburgh

<http://stores.blackwell.co.uk/stores/events/>

Pub Summit: Talking about Scotland's Mither Tongue

24 November, 2pm-4pm

A discussion about language in a multi-lingual Scotland with author Alan Bissett; Dr Chris Robinson, Director, Scottish Language Dictionaries; Prof Rob Dunbar, Chair of Celtic, University of Edinburgh; Michael Hance, Director, Scots Language Centre

Free, booking required, Voodoo Rooms, 19a West Register Street, Edinburgh

<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pub-summit-talking-about-scotlands-mither-tongue-tickets-8849971503?aff=es2>

Of Coleworts and Kings

27 November, 6pm-7pm

How have Scottish writers treated their monarchs over the ages? Professor Greg Walker will discuss the depiction of Kingship (and of James V) in David Lindsay's *A Satire of Three Estates*, Professor Penny Fielding will look at the case of Sir Walter Scott and Dr Alex Thomson will talk about attitudes to monarchy in work by more contemporary Scottish authors. In partnership with Scottish Writing in the Nineteenth Century (SWINC).

Free, booking required, Museum of Edinburgh, 142-146 Canongate, Edinburgh

margaret.findlay@edinburgh.gov.uk

A Scots History of Britishness with Richard Holloway

28 November, 7.30pm-9.15pm

Richard Holloway recreates a live version of his recent BBC Radio Scotland series in which he delves into the history of the Scottish version of Britishness. Richard is joined for the evening with a panel including Lesley Riddoch, Matthew Dziennik, Alex Murdoch and Richard Findlay.

£5 / £4, City Art Centre, 2 Market Street, Edinburgh

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-scots-history-of-britishness-with-richard-holloway-tickets-8855026623>

The Devine Interrogation

28 November, 5.30pm-7pm

He's back! Professor Tom Devine returns to rampage in the Stand Comedy Club for a full 90 minutes – and this time to hold an entire nation to account. Is Scotland a nation forgetting its past? Prof Tom Devine and his guests will ask, do we need to take a better look at our past?

£5 / £3, The Stand, 5 York Place, Edinburgh

<http://www.thestand.co.uk/listings.aspx?city=Edinburgh>

St Andrews Day Event – 'It Wisnae Us'!

30 November, 6pm-7.30pm

Featuring Richard Holloway, Geoff Palmer and Tom Devine. The discussion will present some of the latest thinking on the Scottish role in black slavery in this vital, controversial but forgotten aspect of the nation's past.

Free, Surgeon's Hall Museum, Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh

<http://www.museum.rcsed.ac.uk/learning-events/diary/2013/november/st-andrews-day-lecture-with-special-guest-geoff-palmer.aspx>

The Flyting

30 November, 7.30-9.30pm

We recreate the mighty poetic battle between Dunbar and Kennedy, two makars at the court of James IV, this year in the stunning surroundings of the European Room in the City Chambers and featuring an excerpt of The Flyting with context and interpretations provided by Dr Katie Stevenson and Chris Robinson. Best-selling author AL Kennedy joins for a spectacular finale and stropping her verbal talons in a 21st century flyte!

£15, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

[http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-flyting-tickets-](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-flyting-tickets-8855277373?aff=es2&rank=1&sid=292be3a34be511e3b21812313b00c181)

[8855277373?aff=es2&rank=1&sid=292be3a34be511e3b21812313b00c181](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-flyting-tickets-8855277373?aff=es2&rank=1&sid=292be3a34be511e3b21812313b00c181)

Heriot-Watt University Events

1963 Exhibition at Heriot-Watt University Museum and Archive

13-30 November, 10am-4pm, Mon-Fri only

Visit our exhibition to find out what was it like to be a student in 1963 and look back at the fashion, culture and events of this exciting year.

Free, drop-in, Heriot-Watt University, Riccarton, Edinburgh

<http://www.hw.ac.uk/news-events/events/new-museum-archive-exhibition-1963-14294.htm>

Bernat Klein: An Eye for Colour

19 November, 12.30pm-1.30pm

Heriot-Watt University explores the lasting impact of Klein's distinctive use of colour and texture on British textile design.

Free, booking essential, Heriot-Watt University, Riccarton, Edinburgh

heritage@hw.ac.uk

Edinburgh Napier University Events

War Poets Collection Guided Tours

14 & 19 November, 11am-midday; 27 & 29 November, 2pm-3pm

In the summer of 1917, poets Siegfried Sassoon and Wilfred Owen met at Craiglockhart, when the building was a hospital for officers suffering from shell-shock. Catherine Walker provides a guided visit and talk about the many interesting characters who have had links with Craiglockhart over the years.

Free, booking preferred, Edinburgh Napier University, Craiglockhart, Edinburgh

events@napier.ac.uk