

Newsletter

Issue No. 1 - June 2006

<p>Welcome to the very first newsletter of the Halkirk Heritage & Vintage Motor Society.</p> <p>The Society was formally instituted after some sterling effort by Billy Manson. Billy instigated various meetings throughout 2004 and 2005 to gauge the interest within the parish and it soon became clear that there was great interest in all things to do with local heritage and vintage motors.</p> <p>The exciting prospect of gaining brand new premises within the proposed Halkirk Sports and Leisure complex gave the impetus to formally institute the Society in March 2006. It was also recognised, that in order to raise funds, a committee with a formal constitution and bank account had to be formed.</p> <p>The office bearers who</p>	<p>were elected are:</p> <p>Chairman – Billy Manson Vice Chairman – Edward Sutherland Hon. Secretary – James Gunn Jnr (Tel. 01847 831 558) Hon. Treasurer – Peter Blackwood Membership Secretary – Joan Porter (Tel. 01847 831 230)</p> <p>The management committee members who were elected are: Ken Donaldson John MacKay Janet Mowat Les Myatt John Ross Heather Gunn</p> <p>Initial funds have come from the running of the weekly lottery bonus ball competition. This is entirely due to the efforts of Billy Manson and forms can be seen in Mackay of Halkirk (Spar) shop.</p>	<p>The Society held a very successful coffee morning on 6 May 2006 in the Ross Institute and raised nearly £500. The event was held to raise the awareness of the Society and as a result, 30 people signed up to become members. The public was also asked to select the Society's logo from various options and over 80% selected the logo shown above. The logo was designed by Duncan McLachlan of local company, Studiograff.</p> <p>The proposed sports complex will be built in four phases, but the premises for the Society will not be included in the first phase. Moving into the premises could be several years away and so the Society decided to organise an exhibition in the Ross Institute to gain some experience and to learn what the public would like to see.</p>
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<p>The exhibition will be held in the ground floor of the Ross Institute between Saturday 1 July and Saturday 2 September 2006.</p> <p>Viscount John Thurso M.P. has kindly agreed to officially open the exhibition.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The landscape & parish life in the 1800's • Vintage motors <p>As well as interesting information there will be some excellent photographs on show.</p>	<p>A selection of vintage vehicles owned by local enthusiasts will also be parked beside the Ross Institute at various times throughout the summer. These vehicles have won many championship prizes at shows throughout the UK and are stars in their own right.</p>
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<p>Society members are invited to attend a private viewing at 2pm on Saturday 1 July 2006.</p> <p>Drinks and “nibbles” will be freely available.</p> <p>The exhibition will then be open to the public between 3 and 5pm.</p> <p>Thereafter the exhibition will be open on: Tuesdays 2-4pm & 7-9pm Thursdays 2-4pm & 7-9pm Saturdays 2-4pm.</p> <p>Studiograff has designed a selection of very professional information panels that cover the topics of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halkirk whisky • The Halkirk Highland Games • Ancient monuments 	<p>The panels will be displayed on stands designed for the purpose and exhibits will be displayed within professional glass showcases.</p> <p>The star exhibits will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The giant linen bedspread that displays the names of 986 people who gave donations to furnish the new Ross Institute in 1911 (loaned by the Village Council). • A full bottle of Gerston whisky, dated 1859 (loaned by Viscount John Thurso M.P.). This bottle is the only known example and is one of the oldest bottles of whisky in the world. 	<p>Some of the pupils from Halkirk Primary school are busy making replicas of the equipment used by the “heavies” at the Halkirk Games and these will also be on display.</p> <p>There will also be a small selection of books that will be of interest to people undertaking research on family history within the Halkirk parish.</p> <p>The Society is always on the look-out for new exhibits and if you have items that would be of interest, please contact any management committee member.</p> <p>If you would like to join the Society and help preserve local history the membership fees for 2006 are:</p> <p>Full - £5.00 Associate - £2.50 Junior - £1.00 Family - £10.00</p>
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