

HALKIRK HERITAGE & VINTAGE MOTOR SOCIETY

Newsletter



Issue No. 4 - June 2007

<p>All members of the Society are invited to a private viewing of the 2007 Summer exhibition in the Ross Institute on Tuesday 26 June at 7pm. A finger buffet by local caterers Hasty Tasty and fine wine will be served.</p> <p>The star attraction will be a very rare vintage motorcycle (1917 new imperial) kindly loaned by John Bremner, Halkirk. The motorcycle is part of the fantastic collection of John's late grandfather, John A. Bremner, West End, Castletown.</p> <p>The Halkirk vintage motor enthusiasts have put together another vast display of car artefacts for your viewing pleasure. For a village the size of Halkirk, the quality and quantity of vintage motor vehicles and memorabilia is truly amazing. It is no wonder</p>	<p>that motor enthusiasts from all over the UK are green with envy when they see what is tucked away in various local garages.</p> <p>There will be an eye catching display of photographs of the Altnabreac Peat Development scheme, kindly loaned by John Bain, Spittal, who worked on the scheme way back in the 1950's. The Scottish Hydro Electric Board in conjunction with the Peat Marketing Board, built an experimental power station at Braehour Farm, Scots Calder, that was fuelled by peat from the Altnabreac moor. The peat was transported to the station by a diesel locomotive on a narrow gauge railway. The B&W photos have been transposed onto clear acrylic panels giving a very dramatic effect. Problems with fine ash blocking the</p>	<p>pipework meant that the scheme was abandoned in 1960.</p> <p>There is also a new photo display of some of the vintage cars and motorcycles owned by John MacKay, Edward Sutherland, Sandy Bremner & John Bremner all of Halkirk. Four gleaming cars and two sparkling motorcycles have been captured in modern digital format and colourfully displayed on wrap-round canvas panels to give an eye catching 2D effect.</p> <p>William Harper, Wick, has recently donated an unusual and historic silver cup to the Society. The totally black cup was rescued from a hotel cellar and after several hours of elbow grease was transformed. Sir Tollemache Sinclair presented the cup to the Halkirk Rifle Volunteers in 1883.</p>
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<p>This is an organisation that nobody in the Society new existed and most likely evolved into the Halkirk Rifle Club, making the club one of the oldest in Scotland. The body of the cup looks like it is the cone of an artillery shell and this is supported by crossed cricket bats and three cricket stumps. A most unusual feature that is not related to shooting!</p> <p>Also on display will be a large book on the history of Halkirk, Alberta in Canada. The village was named in 1909 by a railway worker who came from Halkirk, Caithness. The book has hundreds of fascinating photographs of the early settlers.</p>	<p>If you look hard enough you will find an Ulster Arms luggage label that was issued to travellers in the early 1900's. It is the only one known to exist.</p> <p>The exhibition will be open to the public between Wed 27 June and Thurs 16 August on the following days of the week;</p> <p>Tuesdays 2-3pm Wednesdays 7-8pm Thursdays 2-3pm Sundays 2-3.30pm</p> <p>Admission is free, but donations are welcome. Viewings at other times can be arranged if advance notice is given to Billy Manson.</p>	<p>Halkirk coasters and postcards will be for sale at £2 and 75p respectively. All profits will be ploughed back into the Society for next year's exhibition.</p> <p>The extra large postcard is thought to be the first Halkirk postcard to be issued in over 30 years. See below.</p> <p>The management committee is still gathering photos and information covering the gala week, the wars, and sports clubs. If you have anything on these please contact Billy Manson or any committee member on duty during the exhibition.</p> <p>Billy's telephone No. is 01847 831459.</p>
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New large postcard on sale for 75p

