

# CUMNOCK HISTORY GROUP



# NEWS LETTER

September 2024

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## Management Committee

Chair: Kay McMeekin  
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Membership Secretary: Ailsa McInnes  
CHGmembership@gmail.com

Vice Chair: Sadie McNair

Treasurer: Elaine Corbett

### Committee Members:

Kevan Aitken, Scott Daily, Anne Lawrence, Alex Lennox, Robert Stevenson

### Postal Address :

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Newsletter by Kay McMeekin



## Visit to Dundonald Castle

Our annual summer outing was to Dundonald Castle on 18th July followed by lunch at Da Vinci's in Kilmarnock.



## Monday Meetings

Dumfries Arms Hotel 7.15 pm on 3rd Monday of the month.

Our June speaker was Dane Love who told us about the history of Glaisnock Street. In September Scott Macfie whose talk "The Crichton Family and Cumnock, 1750-1850" was about their role in promoting trade and manufactures in the local area, as well as their place in local politics and charitable initiatives.

For other meetings see the sidebar on the next page. They are also on the home page of the website under Events.

# CUMNOCK HISTORY GROUP

**The Cumnock Connections Family Tree has over 66,000 names**

[Cumnock Connections](#)

## CHG Syllabus

Monthly Meetings are now on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:15 pm in the Dumfries Arms Hotel, Cumnock KA18 1BY

All welcome. Non-members are asked for a donation of £2.

Latest info on the home page of [cumnockhistorygroup.org](http://cumnockhistorygroup.org)

Monday 21st October: Barbara Graham - Ayrshire Mining Villages

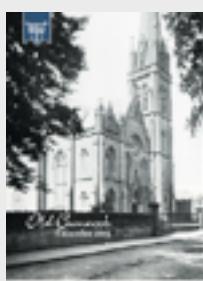
Monday 18th November: Bobby Guthrie - New Cumnock place names

Monday 16th December  
Christmas lunch

Monday 20th January: Nancy Stuart (Owens) ~Recollections of a local girl's life working in underdeveloped countries

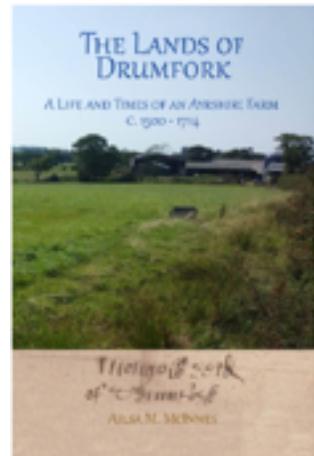


2023 Christmas lunch



## The Lands of Drumfork, researched by Ailsa McInnes

Our very own Ailsa McInnes has researched the place she lives, at the edge of Mauchline parish, going way back in time to 1500, a time when records are sparse and documents are hard to read. She has traced the life and times of Mungo Reid whose signature is reproduced on the cover. He lived in a time when there were no banks and money was lent and borrowed from friends, family and neighbours.



## Many a Lang Scots Mile

Our migration project is progressing well with 69 interesting stories. <https://langscotsmilecumnock.blogspot.com/>

## 2024 Christmas lunch

Let me know if you'd like to attend our Christmas lunch on Monday 16th December at the Dumfries Arms. 2 courses £28.95 or 3 courses £32.95. Numbers are limited in the private dining room, so don't miss out. It was very nice last year.

## 2025 Calendar

We hope to have the latest calendar ready in October with a selection of old photos such as this 1931 image of Glaisnock Street.



## A second cookbook?

We have been given access to a wartime recipe book by Carol Arnott belonging to her New Cumnock granny. We need people to type up recipes (ability to read joined up writing!) and/or to test the recipes and photograph the result. Get in touch if you would like to help.

Coburg Cakes baked by Morag Gordon



## Class of '64- '70 Reunion

We were invited along to the recent 60 years later class reunion in the Dumfries Arms. We made up a slide show which was projected on a loop and had some copies of the school magazine on display.



Jim and Andreena Archibald (Steele)



## Research: Fashionable Edwardian wedding

This fabulous framed photo was found in the Dumfries Arms Hotel. After some research and expert advice regarding the date, I think it is the wedding of farmer's daughter Janet Osborne Smith 1882-1952 of Glenside Farm, Auchinleck and John Climie, butcher in Cumnock, 1875-1937 which took place at the Dumfries Arms Hotel on Wednesday 7th June 1911. This is the side door into the gardens facing the Town Hall (before the picture house which opened in 1913). The wedding was reported in the Cumnock Chronicle. They didn't have any children. They lived at Braemar, a large house in Auchinleck Road. The minister was Rev. James Hill of Auchinleck assisted by Rev. John D Dykes of Holytown a relation of the bride. The bridesmaid was Agnes Howatson Kay of Ayr and the groomsman was James Kay chemist in Cumnock. Thomas Buck played the violin (is this him in the window?) and Matthew Mair of the Kilmarnock Standard, a cousin of the bride, made a toast.

# CUMNOCK HISTORY GROUP

## People's Parish - Cumnock

<https://www.peoplesparish.scot/current-projects>

Some of our members have been participating in this project run by Rab Wilson and Sean Gray and an evening showcasing their work was held in the Dumfries Arms on the 5th August. Films can be seen here <https://www.spvr.org/page28.html>

## Cumnock Academy Archive

Some volunteers; Ian Fraser, Hugh Sinclair and Robert Stevenson have been scanning the Cumnock Academy Archive which we got from the school before it closed. It will eventually go on our main



1963 Gym team



1964 Class VI



1967 nursing class



1975 Senior Rugby