



LAW AND ORDER ON FILM
Documenting the fight against crime

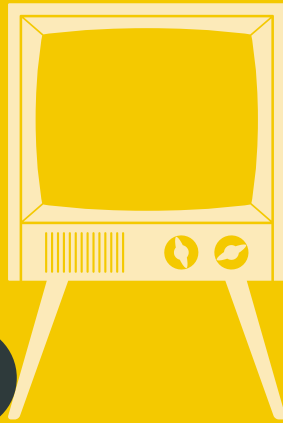
DISCOVER

The magazine of the National Library of Scotland

www.nls.uk | Issue 24 Winter 2013



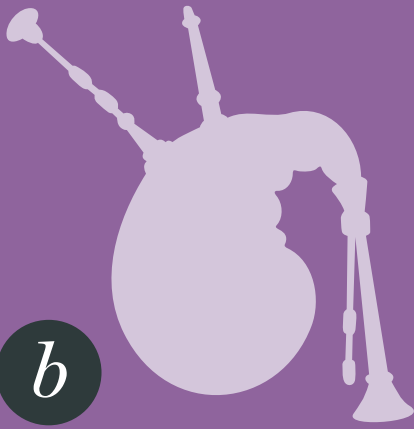
f



t



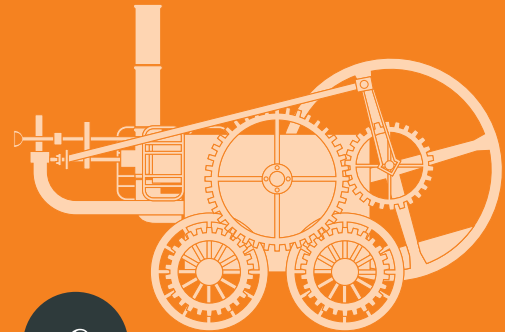
h



b

Wha's Like Us

An A-Z of what Scotland has given the world



s



j



x



p

Best-selling Scots of the 19th century

Launching the NLS Gaelic catalogue

Field Marshal Haig's war diary



DISCOVER NLS
ISSUE 24 WINTER 2013

CONTACT US

We welcome all comments, questions, submissions and subscription enquiries. Please write to us at the National Library of Scotland address below or email discover@nls.uk

FOR NLS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Alexandra Miller
EDITORIAL ADVISER
Willis Pickard

CONTRIBUTORS

Bryan Christie, Martin Conaghan, Jackie Cromarty, Gavin Francis, Alec Mackenzie, Nicola Marr, Alison Metcalfe, Willis Pickard, Kenny Redpath, Helen Vincent

EDITOR

Jack Kibble-White
jack@thinkpublishing.co.uk

DEPUTY EDITOR

Andrew Cattanach
andrew.cattanach@thinkpublishing.co.uk

DESIGN Matthew Ball

SUB-EDITORS

Ellen Arnison, Sian Campbell, Andrew Littlefield, Sam Bartlett

PUBLISHER John Innes

john@thinkpublishing.co.uk

ADVERTISING Alison Fraser

alison.fraser@thinkpublishing.co.uk
0141946 8708

PUBLISHED BY

Think Scotland
Woodside House
20-23 Woodside Place
Glasgow G3 7QF
0141 582 1280
ISSN 1751-5998 (print)
ISSN 17516005 (online)

National Library of Scotland

George IV Bridge
Edinburgh EH11EW
TELEPHONE 0131 623 3700
FAX 0131 623 3701
EMAIL enquiries@nls.uk

The National Library of Scotland is a registered Scottish charity. Scottish Charity No. SC011086

Celebrating Scotland's global contribution

What has Scotland given to the world? The quick answer to that question is 'plenty'! Our nation's contribution to the rest of mankind is substantial and diverse.

For a small country we have more than pulled our weight, contributing significantly to science, economics, politics, the arts, design, food and philosophy. And there are countless other examples. Our latest exhibition, *What's Like Us? A Nation of Dreams and Ideas*, which is covered in detail in these pages, seeks to construct an alphabetical examination of Scotland's role in shaping the world. It's a sometimes surprising collection of exhibits and ideas, ranging from cloning to canals, from gold to *Grand Theft Auto*.

Diversity is also at the heart of Willis Pickard's special article in this issue. Willis is a valued member of the Library's Board, but will soon be standing down from that position. As such, he's taken some time to reflect on a number of items from our collections that have particular personal significance for him. Some are physical objects and some are resources accessible via a screen (be that on a computer, tablet or some other device).

And it is to the screen that we head for an examination of how crime and punishment have been reflected in the Library's Scottish Screen Archive. It's a fascinating subject, which we cover here on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the last hanging in Scotland.

Elsewhere we take a look at some of the Scottish literary contemporaries of Sir Walter Scott and there is also the latest Library news, including details of our new Gaelic catalogue, which is an impressive initiative, and another contribution from Scotland to the world.



Martyn Wade

MARTYN WADE
National Librarian
and Chief Executive

THREE NLS DIGITAL GALLERIES

1

THE DUNCAN STREET EXPLORER

Photos, audio recordings, floor plans and more help tell the story of the famous Bartholomew mapmakers
digital.nls.uk/bartholomew/duncan-street-explorer



The first Times survey atlas of the world is ready for delivery

2

FIRST WORLD WAR OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Black and white images mainly of the Western Front taken during the First World War
digital.nls.uk/first-world-war-official-photographs

3

BLIGHTY AND SEA PIE

Editions of two magazines published for Britain's fighting forces between 1917 and 1919, with pictures, stories, poems and humour
digital.nls.uk/blighty-and-sea-pie



23



7

7 NEWS

The latest news and comment, including the launch of the Library's Gaelic catalogue, a swim across the Hellespont and events at the Library

14 AN ABC OF SCOTLAND

How NLS curators compiled an alphabet of Scottish achievement for the Library's new exhibition

20 FIVE OF THE BEST

NLS Board member Willis Pickard reflects on his years at the Library through a selection of items from the collections

23 MEET THE RESIDENTS

We profile the Library's Wikimedian in Residence and Reader in Residence

24 CRIME AND PUNISHMENT CAUGHT ON CAMERA

BBC Journalist Martin Conaghan on how criminality and law enforcement are represented in NLS' Scottish Screen Archive

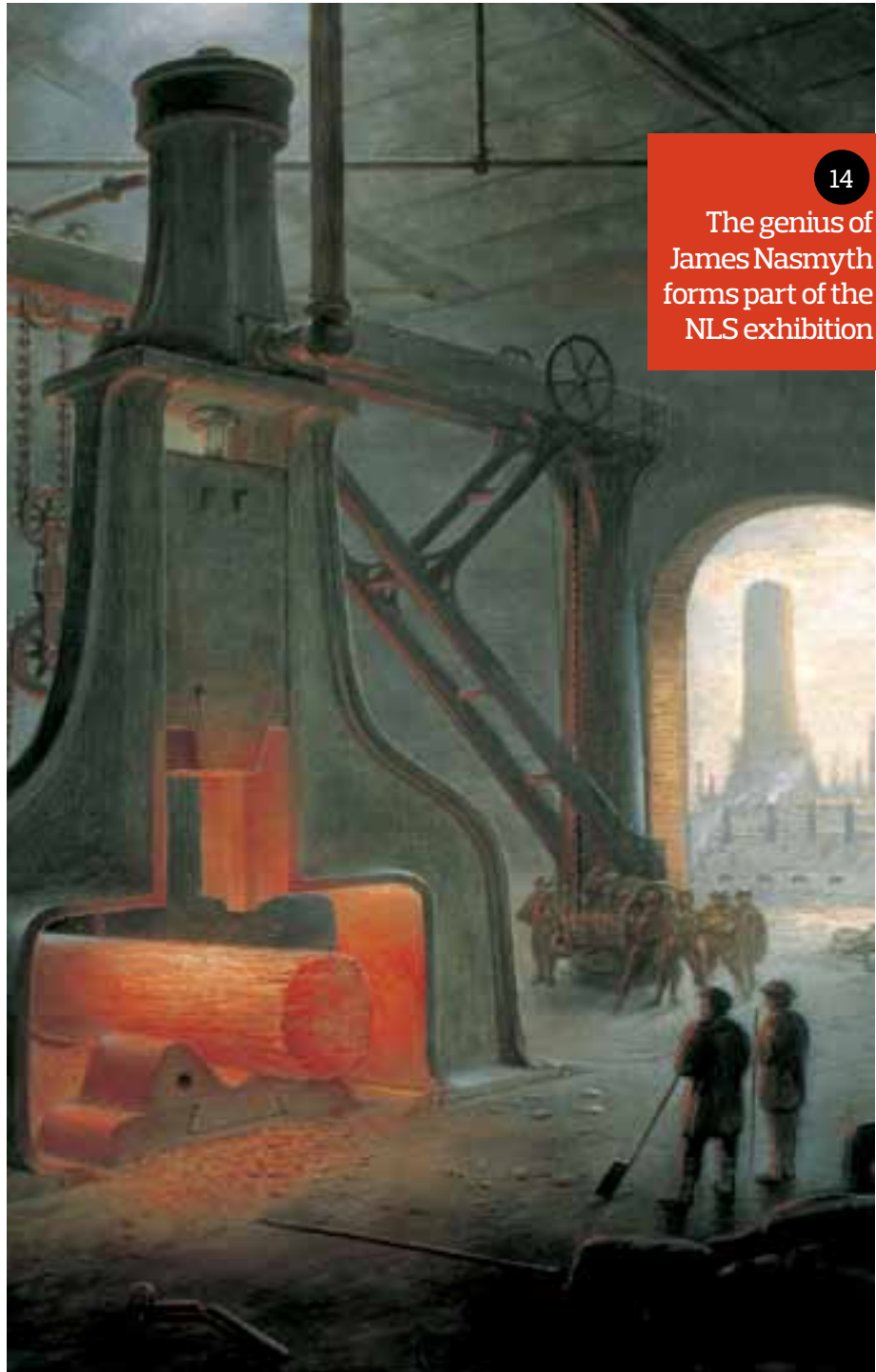
28 SCOTTISH SISTERS

Helen Vincent on the writers who, in their day, were as popular as Sir Walter Scott and Jane Austen

31 MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR NATIONAL LIBRARY

33 MY NLS

34 LAST WORD



14

The genius of James Nasmyth forms part of the NLS exhibition

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE INCLUDE



Andrew Martin
The Library's Modern Scottish Collections Curator, Andrew is also part of the Council of the Scots Language Centre



Alison Metcalfe
Curator, Manuscript and Archive Collections, Alison writes in this issue about Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig's war diaries



Gavin Francis
An author and GP Gavin's first book, *True North*, was published in 2008. His latest book is the award-winning *Empire Antarctica*



Dr Maria Castrillo
A Manuscripts Curator, Maria – with Andrew Martin – has curated *What's Like Us? A Nation of Dreams and Ideas* exhibition



Willis Pickard
Willis has been features and literary editor of *The Scotsman* and editor of the *Times Educational Supplement Scotland*



NLS launches Gaelic catalogue

The Minister for Scotland's Languages unveils a major online resource in Gaelic

LANGUAGE

The world-class collections at the National Library of Scotland can now be searched in Gaelic. This is a major milestone in the Library's continuing commitment to promote the use of the language.

The new Gaelic feature on the Library's website was officially launched in September by Dr Alasdair Allan MSP, Minister for Scotland's Languages. It covers the main catalogue and includes the majority of the Library's printed collections.

NLS has also produced its own Gaelic Language Plan which sets out how the Library will support the use of the language.

'For Gaelic to flourish, people with the language must be encouraged to

use it more often and there must be more opportunities for them to do so on a day-to-day basis,' says Dr Allan. 'The National Library's Gaelic catalogue will give speakers and learners a unique opportunity of being able to access this incredible national collection of more than 15 million printed items representing centuries of Scottish heritage, culture and achievement.'

CHALLENGE

The work on the catalogue proved to be challenging

because of the technical and specialist terminology used in libraries which often required a creative approach to the translation. 'Shelfmark', for example, became 'Àite air an sgeilp', literally 'the place on the shelf'. There are also more words in Gaelic than the equivalent in English, but the translators needed to be concise because of the way the catalogue interface is laid out.

One positive spin-off from the project has been the development of a list of Gaelic terms relevant to

cataloguing which NLS plans to share with other libraries and organisations that want to develop Gaelic versions of their own catalogues. This will make translating their catalogue interface into Gaelic easier and further encourage the use of the language.

The translation was completed by four members of the Library staff who are Gaelic scholars, but non-native speakers, and a volunteer, Katie Murray, who is a native speaker and former teacher of Gaelic. Once the translation was completed it was checked internally at NLS and externally by Greg MacThomais, a native Gaelic speaker who works in the library at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig – the Gaelic College on Skye.

'It is great to see our catalogue available in Gaelic,' says National Librarian Martyn Wade. 'The National Library of Scotland is committed to promoting and increasing awareness of the Gaelic language and we hope this translation will prove popular with Gaelic speakers and those interested in the language.'

Search the Library's catalogue in Gaelic at main-cat.nls.uk/vwebv/searchBasic?sk=nls_gae

'As a native Gaelic speaker, I was pleased to be able to help staff at the Library translate the catalogue into Gaelic. Translation from English into Gaelic can be challenging, in particular when dealing with specialised terms.' – **Katie Murray (left), with Digital Access Manager Gill Hamilton and Dr Allan**



'Haig continues to divide opinion like no other'



CURATOR'S CHOICE

Alison Metcalfe, Curator, Manuscript and Archive Collections on the First World War diary of Field Marshal Haig

30 June 1916

Preparations were never so thorough, nor troops better trained. Wire very well cut, and ammunition adequate... With God's help, I feel hopeful for tomorrow. The men are in splendid spirits: several have said that they have never before been so instructed and informed of the nature of the operation before them.

As Commander-in-Chief of the largest British Army ever assembled, Haig has become one of history's more controversial generals, but at the end of the war he was considered something of a national hero for the part he played in delivering victory for the Allies

This extract comes from the diary of Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, Commander-in-Chief of the British Army on the Western Front during the First World War. Written on the eve of the Battle of the Somme, it demonstrates Haig's conviction that the men under his command were well prepared for what lay ahead. The British Army was to suffer 57,000 casualties on the first day alone in a protracted battle that, some historians would say, has come to symbolise the incompetence of British Army command.

As Commander-in-Chief of the largest British Army ever assembled, Haig has become one of history's more controversial generals, but at the end of the war he was considered something of a national hero for the part he played in delivering victory for the Allies. Haig devoted the remainder of his life to the cause of ex-servicemen, and for his state funeral hundreds of thousands of people across



Curator Alison Metcalfe with Haig's diary



How the Library building will look under scaffolding

REFURBISHMENT PLAN FOR NATIONAL LIBRARY BUILDINGS

MAINTENANCE

Major renovation work will be carried out at the Library's building on George IV Bridge this winter as part of an extensive 18-month external refurbishment programme.

Work will also start next year on repairing the exterior of the Library's seven-storey building in Causewayside, which has suffered a number of defects. This project will last three years.

The maintenance and repairs are essential to

the country paid their respects.

FIRST-HAND EVIDENCE

Yet, in the years that followed Haig came to be vilified by some who felt he bore responsibility for the high casualty rate suffered by the British Army. While Great War historians in recent years have taken a different view of his abilities, and debate has shifted from the competence or otherwise of individual generals, Haig continues to divide opinion like no other.

Regardless of your own viewpoint, his diary is a unique record that is undeniably at the heart of the documentary evidence that has informed modern opinion of the Great War. The historical significance of this momentous 3,800-page document has now been recognised with its inscription to the UNESCO 2012 UK Memory of the World Register. A total of 11 items from across the UK were inscribed to the 2012 register this summer, including the *Domesday Book* and the personal archive of Sir Winston Churchill. Haig's diary is the sixth inscription from NLS' varied collections since 2010, the UK register's inaugural year.

Find out more about Sir Douglas Haig's First World War diary at www.nls.uk/collections/manuscripts/collections/military-naval/haig-diary

ensure the Library's world-class collections are housed in the best conditions possible. It will also improve the energy efficiency of the buildings, producing long-term savings on the Library's energy bills.

All the Library services will operate as normal during the renovation programme.



Justin Notley, Iain Pender and Callum Robertson from Frame, with, (second from the right) NLS' Alex Miller

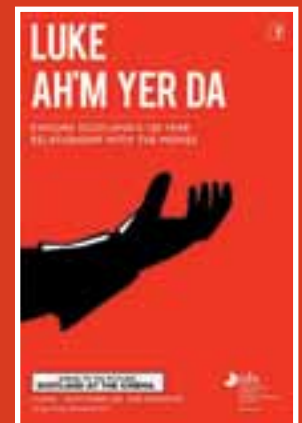
Seven wins for the Library

AWARDS

NLS, working with creative agency Frame, has won a number of marketing awards. The *Going to the Pictures: Scotland at the Cinema* campaign, designed to promote the Library's summer 2012 exhibition was named gold winner in the Public Sector category at the Marketing Society Star awards.

The memorable campaign called for contributors to 'Scotify' a famous phrase from the movies, resulting in such gems as 'Luke ah'm yer da'.

NLS was also honoured six times at the Scottish Creative Awards, including winning the much-coveted Grand Prix award.



5 million

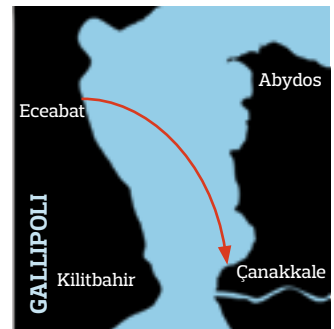
BY THE NUMBERS

The approximate number of translated records in NLS' main catalogue in Gaelic

Swimmers battle the currents to cross the Hellespont



In the wake of Byron



ACHIEVEMENT

NLS Patron, Roy Leckie, completes an impressive feat of endurance for charity

In a life of adventure, literary success and the odd scandal, it might seem strange that poet Lord Byron would consider a swim across an open stretch of water as one of his greatest accomplishments.

It was in 1810 that he became the first known person to swim across the Hellespont, the narrow strait in Turkey that divides continental Europe from Asia, now called the Dardanelles.

Today, hundreds of swimmers follow in the wake of Lord Byron and take part in an annual organised swim from west to east across the 4.5 kilometre channel. This year that swim included one of the Library's patrons, Investment Director Roy Leckie.

Like Byron, he was attracted to the physical challenge of one of the world's most celebrated wild swims. It is no trivial undertaking.

Strong currents are created by water flowing from the Black Sea to the Aegean Sea which can pull swimmers seriously off course.

'The conditions were tough,' says Roy who works at Edinburgh-based Walter Scott and Partners. 'Even when conditions are benign, the currents are always going to be strong but the wind made it even more difficult.'

Roy is an experienced open-water swimmer having taken part in a relay across the English Channel aged only 13 and a similar relay across Lake Ontario in Canada four years later. He trained throughout the summer in swimming pools and a reservoir in the Pentland hills.

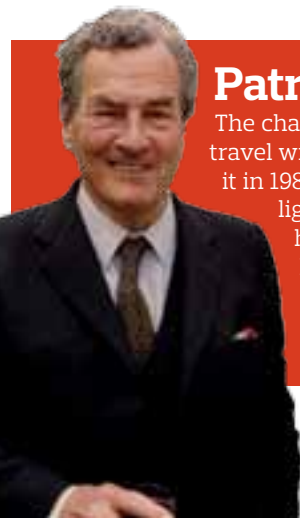
It was in 1810 that Byron became the first known person to swim across the Hellespont, the narrow strait in Turkey that divides continental Europe from Asia, now called the Dardanelles

He persuaded a number of friends to join him in the swim and they all raised money for the Teapot Trust, a Scottish charity that provides art therapy for children in hospital.

Waves meant that swimmers had to stop regularly to get their bearings. Roy ended up using local knowledge to get to the finishing line. 'Locals wore orange caps and are easy to spot. I decided to tuck in behind one of them to get home.' He reached land in

a very respectable time of one hour 11 minutes, not long behind the first finishers who got there in just under an hour.

In a letter in the Library's collection, Lord Byron describes himself as the 'celebrated aquatic genius' who swam across the Hellespont. Roy Leckie is not claiming the same for himself but he has an unqualified respect for anyone who has managed to reach Asia from Europe across this wild stretch of water.



Patrick Leigh Fermor vs Hellespont

The challenge of swimming the Hellespont was one that the celebrated travel writer Patrick Leigh Fermor (pictured) could not resist. He completed it in 1984 at the age of 69. 'It seemed quite easy at first, the landmarks – lighthouses, mountains, minarets, forts – exchanged places with heartening speed, and the dreaded current didn't seem too strong,' he wrote of his experience. 'Only when we were halfway did I start to feel the dread current.' Nonetheless Leigh Fermor eventually completed the swim to cries of 'You've done it!' from his wife as he came ashore 'amid slippery boulders and green seaweed'.



The sculpture of *Treasure Island* was found at the Seabird Centre



Above: *Whisky Galore*
Below: *Peter Pan*



POP-UP FUN AND BURNS

DISPLAY

Books with moving parts and Burns' Glenriddell Manuscripts go on show

The Christmas display at NLS features a selection of pop-up books from the Library's collections. Early printed books sometimes incorporated moving elements, but in the 18th century, paper engineering began to be used for entertainment. In the 19th century 'movable' books for children became increasingly sophisticated, and the term 'pop-up' began to be used from the 1930s onwards.

In January, NLS celebrates a true 'Homecoming' story in the shape of Robert Burns' Glenriddell Manuscripts (pictured). Burns compiled these volumes of his unpublished poems and letters for his friend and neighbour at Ellisland, Robert Riddell of Glenriddell. They will be complemented by other printed and manuscript items in the Library's collections and by loans from partner organisations, giving context to Burns' time at Ellisland and his latterly turbulent relationship with the Riddells.

The pop-up books are on display until 19 January. The Glenriddell Manuscripts display runs from 22 January to 30 March

Literary sculptures for Book Week

EXHIBITIONS

Works of art discovered hidden in public places last year are together on display



Five paper sculptures that appeared mysteriously last year have been displayed together for the first time at NLS for Book Week Scotland 2013. These five sculptures were created by an anonymous artist in celebration of Book Week Scotland 2012 and were commissioned by Scottish Book Trust.

The intricate sculptures arrived at the Library in time for Book Week Scotland, which commenced on 25 November,

and for the duration of that week were exhibited alongside an associated treasure from NLS' collections.

What is Book Week Scotland?

This seven-day initiative is about celebrating books and reading in every part of life in Scotland. Between 25 November and 1 December, people of all ages and walks of life are able to come together in libraries, schools, community venues and workplaces to share and enjoy books and reading. They are joined in this celebration by Scotland's authors, poets, playwrights, storytellers and illustrators to bring a packed programme of free projects and events to life.

www.scottishbooktrust.com



A MOVING PORTRAIT OF SCOTTISH POET

SCOTTISH SCREEN ARCHIVE

More than 150 films have now become available to view on NLS' Scottish Screen Archive website. Digitised from the national moving images collection at the Library, the films span the period from 1917 to the 1980s and are free to view. Among the highlights are *Hugh*

MacDiarmid: A Portrait (1964), a portrait of the Scottish poet (pictured) made by the film maker and poet Margaret Tait. Also available are the self-explanatory *Earl Haig Unveils Peebles War Memorial* (1922), and *Escape to Freedom* (1981), a hard-hitting amateur documentary about Vietnamese refugees in Lanarkshire.

To view these films and many others, visit ssa.nls.uk. For more on The Scottish Screen Archive, turn to page 24

FUNDING FOR KELVIN HALL

COLLECTIONS

The Heritage Lottery Fund has announced a grant of £4,575,000 for redevelopment of Glasgow's famous Kelvin Hall.

The project is a partnership between Glasgow City Council, Glasgow Life, the University of Glasgow and NLS.

As part of the development, the Library's Scottish Screen Archive, currently based at Hillington Park, will be relocated to the new centre.

'The move to the Kelvin Hall will provide greatly enhanced access to Scotland's moving image collection for use by researchers, learners and the public,' says Martyn Wade, National Librarian and Chief Executive.

Winter events at NLS

All the following events take place at the National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge unless otherwise stated. At the time of writing, places are available at all of the events listed here.

TRICOLOUR POETRY NIGHT

2 December, 6.30pm,

The spoken word and performance poetry scene is currently thriving in Scotland. Tricolour is a new monthly event which showcases three different poetry and spoken word talents. The poets stepping up to perform for you in December are Maggie Rabatski, Sheila Templeton and AC Clarke.



CHRISTMAS FAIR

3 December, 6pm to 8pm

Join us for our annual Christmas Fair. Enjoy a 15 per cent discount on everything in our shop, from exhibition prints, mugs and t-shirts to those hard to find books and children's favourites. Once you've shopped, you can relax with our tasty



CALLUM MACDONALD PAMPHLET POETRY FAIR

11 December, 6pm to 8pm

Come along for a glass of wine, meet the publishers, hear the poems and buy the pamphlets. No need to book, just drop in. If interested in booking a stall please contact Graeme Hawley on g.hawley@nls.uk. A Callum Macdonald Memorial Award event, supported by the Michael Marks Charitable Trust.

refreshments and festive entertainment. There's no need to book, just drop in to enjoy some festive cheer anytime from 6pm to 8pm.

'IF BOOKS GREW ON TREES...'

10 December, 6pm

Lucy Roscoe is an illustrator who works with paper, printmaking and traditional bookbinding skills to create books that are sculptural and interactive. Andrew Martin is Senior Curator of Modern Scottish Collections at the Library. In this talk Lucy discusses her own practices and inspirations, while Andrew

will give an overview of some of the pop-up books that can be seen in the Library's Treasures display (for more see page 11).

Book events online at www.nls.uk/events/booking or call 0131 623 3734



WIN A COPY OF PHOTOGRAPHY BOOK

COMPETITION

Italy-born Oscar Marzaroli was an extraordinary photographer of the fabric of Glasgow. His work caught the life and times of a great city in the middle and later years of the 20th century. *Waiting for the Magic: The Photography of Oscar Marzaroli* (published by Birlinn Ltd) celebrates Marzaroli's extraordinary

talent with a number of specially commissioned essays and a selection of previously unpublished photographs, as well as many of the iconic, much-loved works for which he is renowned. We have a copy to give away. For your chance to win, all you need to do is answer the following question correctly:

How old was Marzaroli when his family moved from Northern Italy to Glasgow?

POST YOUR ENTRY, ALONG WITH YOUR ADDRESS, TO:

Discover NLS Marzaroli Competition, Think Scotland, 20-23 Woodside Place, Glasgow G3 7QF, or email discovernls@thinkpublishing.co.uk



(with 'Marzaroli Competition' in the subject line). Closing date is Friday 24 January 2014.



An ABC of Scotland

A new NLS exhibition profiles some of Scotland's many contributions to the world. From revolutionary scientific breakthroughs to the game of golf, NLS curators Dr Maria Castrillo and Andrew Martin explain to Bryan Christie how they constructed an alphabet of endeavour and achievement



Curators Maria
Castrillo and
Andrew Martin

Take hundreds of years, thousands of individuals and incalculable quantities of effort, invention and breakthroughs. Analyse, categorise, rationalise and, finally, select the best that Scotland has given to the world.

That was the task handed to NLS curators Dr Maria Castrillo and Andrew Martin who have spent the past few months immersed in Scottish achievement in the arts, science, economics, politics, sport, design and food, plus many other fields, to produce the NLS exhibition, *Wha's Like Us? A Nation of Dreams and Ideas*.

It celebrates the impact Scotland has made on the world from the bagpipe to the encyclopedia, anaesthetics to urban planning, the best seller to

workers' rights and much, much more. Where would we be today without the telephone or television? What was the impact of the Scottish Enlightenment, of Scottish politicians, and reformers? Why did the works of Sir Walter Scott and Robert Burns delight readers round the globe? Why are tartan, porridge and whisky so widely known?

These are just some of the issues explored in the exhibition that is being staged as part of the Scottish Government's Year

The exhibition celebrates the impact Scotland has made on the world from the bagpipe to the encyclopedia and much, much more





CHRISTMAS 1937
Macfarlan & Co.
YANKEE



MY BEST SCOTCH STORIES
GORDON G.
Author of 'Scotland's Great Men' and 'The Story of Scotland'

SCOTTISH CLOTH BOOK
SCOTCH WOOLFEATHER
KOREAN SHIRT
SCOTCH WOOL
SCOTCH WOOL
SCOTCH WOOL
SCOTCH WOOL

So much to choose from and many of the items in the exhibition will surprise and delight visitors

of Homecoming, which seeks to attract tourism and investment by showcasing Scotland.

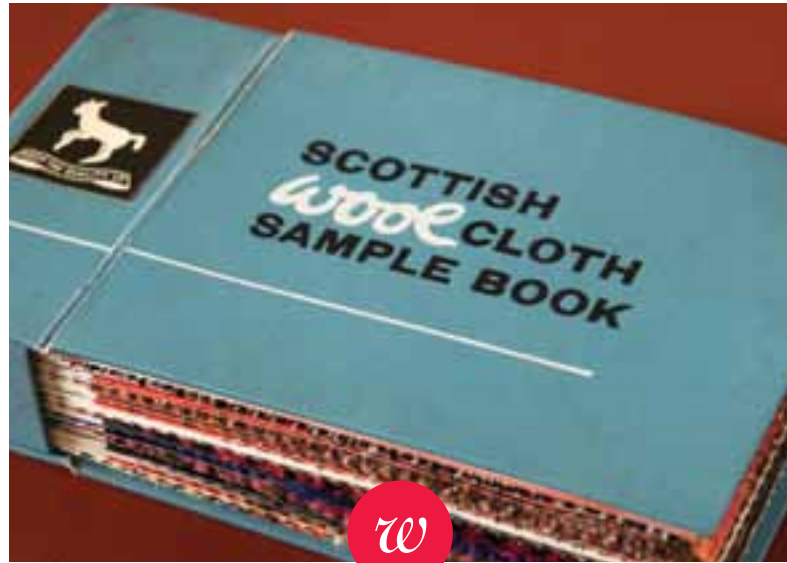
The exhibition features some 80 different topics in an A to Z of Scotland's global impact. Choosing these topics has been a far-from-easy process. It involved taking a broad approach to items of merit which is why the exhibition can encompass that staple of the breakfast table – marmalade – alongside the much more significant invention of the steam engine.

'It was incredibly difficult,' says Andrew. 'We had to be ruthless in cutting it down. We couldn't aim to be comprehensive and what we have here is often a personal selection of material. It is by no means the definitive account of Scotland's contribution to the world but it is wide-ranging and, we hope, entertaining. It is a mixture of familiar stories and items, along with some that may surprise a few people.'

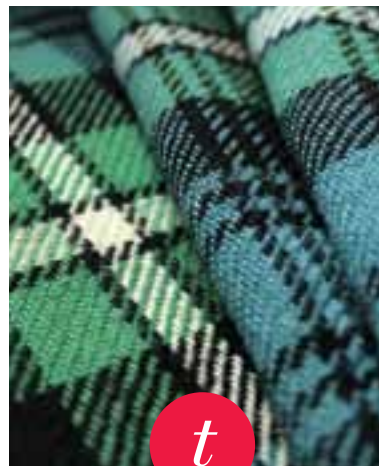
The exhibition uses the homecoming theme to examine Scotland's position as the home of ideas, creativity, innovation and industry. There were three basic criteria used to select topics for inclusion. The idea had to originate in Scotland, or from a Scot, it had to be unique and it had to be of genuine international significance.

'Initially we were just throwing things into the pot and drawing up lists but then the idea of doing this as an A to Z emerged,' says Maria. 'That allowed us to have a more structured approach to the selection.'

She says one of the challenges of an exhibition of this nature is that there is no central storyline or narrative to follow. It is a wide-ranging compendium of information, but there are strengths in the appeal this should have to a wide variety of tastes and interests. There are not many occasions that the Library gets the opportunity to display material on Scotland's success in geosciences alongside the best-selling computer



w



t



g



game, *Grand Theft Auto*, also made in Scotland.

GLOBAL INFLUENCE

Another key challenge has been to find items from the Library's vast collections that can tell the story of the Scottish successes. 'There are topics here – such as tartan – that we could do a whole exhibition on,' says Andrew. 'Instead, we have to pick one or two things that tell that story.'

Maria agrees that this has been one of the hardest tasks of putting together the exhibition – but also one of the most worthwhile. 'It is very rewarding when you find what seems to be just the right object to tell a story.' She searched the Adam Smith archive at NLS for

Clockwise from top left: wool samples, Ryan Fletcher and Emun Elliott in the hit play *Black Watch*, computer game *Grand Theft Auto* and tartan. Below: marmalade

items to reflect the widespread influence of the thoughts and ideas of the 18th-century economist and philosopher. She was delighted when she found a contemporary review of his best-known book *The Wealth of Nations* and a letter he wrote to William Pitt's

Government commenting on the budget. 'This seemed to encapsulate the influence he had at the time which has carried on into modern society,' she says.

All the time during the selection process the curators had to ask themselves if the topics had a genuine international impact. 'One question kept going through my head – are we just being cocky as Scots?' says Andrew. 'I had to check my own



m



b

'One question kept going through my head – are we just being cocky as Scots? I had to check my own long-cherished assumptions – and single out real achievements

long-cherished assumptions – and single out real achievements. And there are certainly plenty of those worth remembering.'

Maria was born in Spain, which she found to be an advantage in assessing her adopted country's place in the world. 'I have been living in Scotland for 15 years, but when you come from another country, you have a different perspective. I found that has been more of an advantage than an obstacle. Not being Scottish gives you a freedom to say – "this is what I think about Scotland's contribution to the world".'

Ideas that Scotland has given to the world



Bank of England

It was a Scot, William Paterson, who conceived and proposed the idea of establishing the Bank of England. In 1691, he published a document called *A Brief Account of the Intended Bank of England*. The idea was adopted three years later by Charles Montagu, Earl of Halifax.



Canals

Although canals date back to Roman times, the Scottish engineer Thomas Telford revolutionised their design in the late 18th century. His projects included the Ellesmere and Shrewsbury canals, as well as the Caledonian Canal.



Cloning - Dolly the sheep

The world's first cloned mammal was created in 1996 by a team of experts at the Roslin Institute near Edinburgh. It was a breakthrough and a major boost to Scotland's scientific standing. Dolly survived for six years, before she died from lung disease.



Decimal point

The 16th-century Scottish mathematician and inventor John Napier was responsible for advancing the notion of the decimal fraction by introducing the use of the decimal point. He also came up with the concept of logarithms in mathematical calculation.



Golf

The modern game of golf is generally considered to be a Scottish invention. The first written record dates back to 1457 when James II banned it as an unwelcome distraction from learning archery. NLS holds the first written rules of golf, from 1744.



Penicillin

The discovery of penicillin – the first antibiotic – by Ayrshire-born Alexander Fleming was one of the greatest medical breakthroughs of the 20th century. His discovery of a mould that killed the surrounding bacteria in one of his culture dishes has saved millions.



Sherlock Holmes

The fictional detective created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle first appeared in print in 1887. The fascination with his powers of deduction has remained constant since then. He is the world's 'most portrayed movie character' according to Guinness World Records.



The exhibition presents a fascinating insight into Scotland's success on the world stage and has been designed to be both entertaining and accessible. It mixes serious topics such as architecture and philosophy with lighter elements including red hair and Scotland's contribution to the world of biscuits.

FROM THE FLOOR UP

Andrew's favourite item in the exhibition is the catalogue from a Kirkcaldy linoleum manufacturer that shows the different patterns of lino once available to the discerning homemaker. Kirkcaldy was at one time the leading centre in the world for the production of linoleum. 'This is a great thing to have and I expect many people will be surprised to know that we have things such as this held in the Library's collections.'

Maria chose the sketches and drawings of James Nasmyth, a 19th-century inventor of machines and tools, as one of her favourite items. James was the son of the painter Alexander Nasmyth and used sketches to develop his ideas into practical applications. One of these shows the outline of a prototype factory which Nasmyth imagined. He put the plans down on paper and,



Top left: A photo of the moon (really a plaster model) taken by James Nasmyth
Above: Andrew and Maria
Below: 'W' is for whisky

It mixes serious topics such as architecture and philosophy with lighter elements including red hair and Scotland's contribution to the world of biscuits

three years later, built the factory to the very same design. 'We have a whole collection of sketches and drawings of Nasmyth in the Library and it is great to be able to include them here.' Maria adds: 'Many of the successes shown in the exhibition still have an impact on how we live today. The telephone and television are obvious examples that are present in most people's lives but there are many others we could have covered.'

'Our lives have been shaped by these developments and

it is a privilege to reflect on Scotland as a successful nation of dreams and ideas.

'I hope people who visit the exhibition will have their curiosity aroused, not just about what Scotland has given to the world but what we have in the Library.'

'People may be surprised to see the wide range of things we collect.'

Wha's Like Us? A Nation of Dreams and Ideas runs from 13 December to 18 May at the National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge building.



Five of the best

A Board member and Trustee of the National Library of Scotland for the last seven years, Willis Pickard's term of office is drawing to a close. Here he reflects on items from NLS' collections that mean the most to him



1

JOHN MURRAY ARCHIVE APP

By far the most important acquisition by NLS during my time has been the John Murray Archive of the publishing family's contacts with some of the greatest writers of the last two centuries. I would like to highlight the recently created app for smart phones and tablets which gives an introduction to the story of the archive and its acquisition by the Library. Here is new technology opening the doors on history, meaning you don't even have to set foot in the George IV Bridge building to be able to explore the archive.

Among the items on the app is the letter sent by William

Gladstone to John Murray telling of the death of Sir Robert Peel just half an hour previously. 'A great man is gone from among us, and a broad and deep void, not easily to be filled, remains.' Peel's death was unexpected. He was Gladstone's mentor and hero. Peel had broken the Tory Party over repeal of the Corn Laws, taking Gladstone with him. The letter opens the next period in which the former Peelites would help to create the high Victorian Liberal Party, to be led by the grief-stricken writer of the letter.

For more on the app go to www.nls.uk/murray-app



2

CHEPMAN AND MYLLAR'S ABERDEEN BREVIARY

My next choice goes back a further 300 years and more. Copies of the first books printed in Scotland went on display at the Library on the 500th anniversary of the Battle of Flodden. In 1507 James IV

granted a merchant, Walter Chepman, and bookseller Andrew Myllar, a patent to begin printing. Their press was located in Edinburgh's Cowgate.

On the rare occasion that the Library's copy of the Aberdeen Breviary was put on display for two hours, long queues formed. The curators who explained the significance of the book had difficulty in keeping the throng moving, such was the interest. There is an unexplained consequence to the story. Printing appears to have died out again for a period in Scotland, despite the fact that the printing machinery presumably remained available.

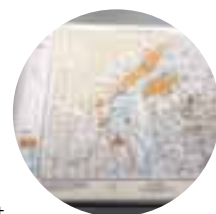


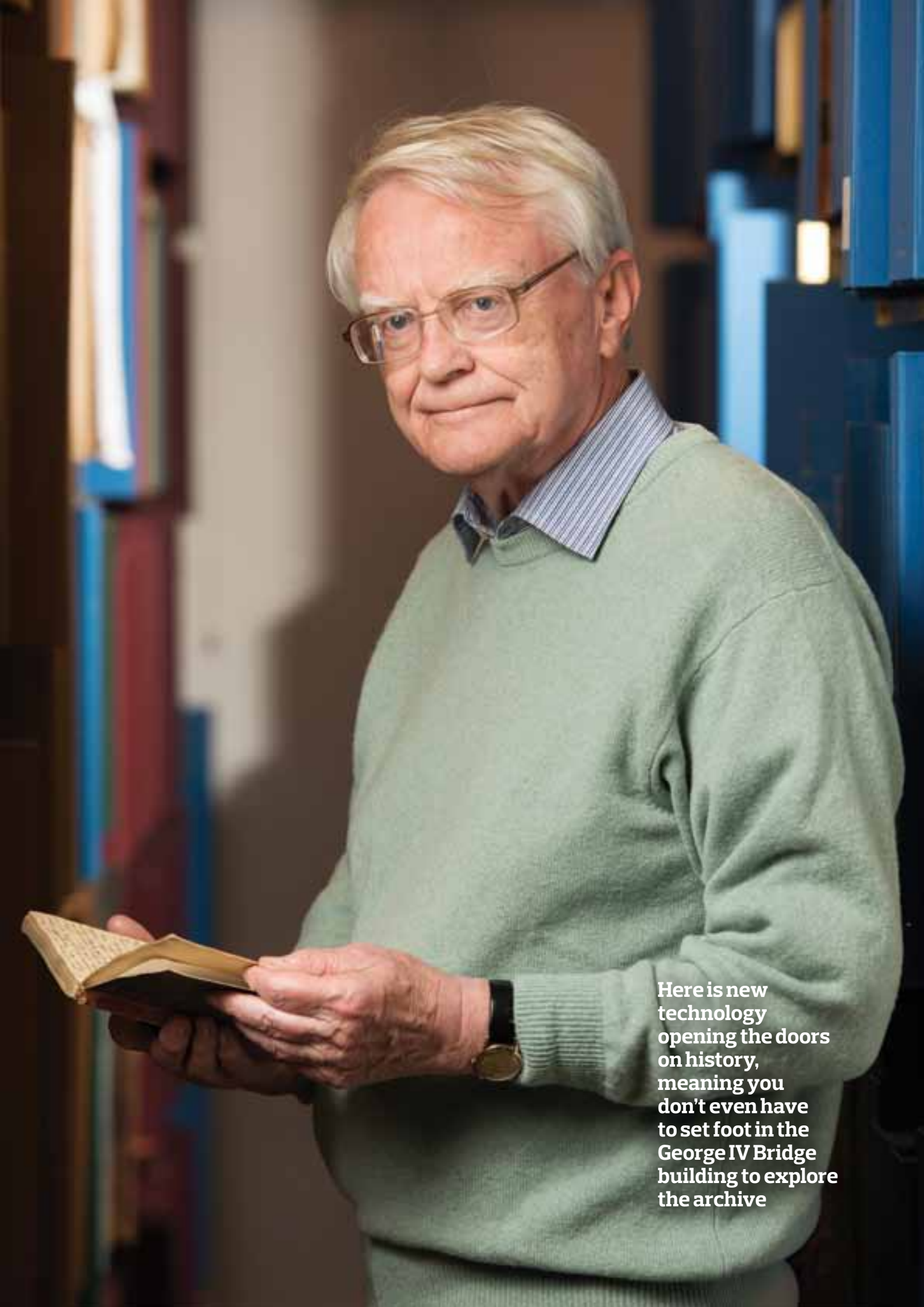
3

A NORTH KOREAN ATLAS

Before meetings of the Library's Board, members are sometimes shown a selection of recent acquisitions. One oddity sticks in my mind. It is a two-volume atlas of the mysterious state of North Korea, available at the map library at Causewayside. Published in 1997, the atlas dates back to an earlier initiative by Soviet joint chiefs of staff who used a Japanese land survey compiled between 1937 and 1942. The original work was in Russian orthography, then transcribed into Korean, Japanese and English.

There is evidence from the geographical features highlighted that the purpose of the enterprise was military. Looking at the villages and minor roads through sparse valleys I could not help thinking that here was the setting for a spy thriller. If only I had the ability to create a Hollywood blockbuster...





Here is new technology opening the doors on history, meaning you don't even have to set foot in the George IV Bridge building to explore the archive



4

THE RENTON BIBLE

There could hardly be a greater contrast with a Victorian family Bible. NLS possesses the *Renton Bible*, pulpit-size, richly tooled, a tribute to the bookbinder's craft (which is still practised within the Library). The Bible was a golden wedding present in 1852 to William and Agnes Renton, and 34 members of the extended family are shown as contributing to the tribute. While not many people might welcome such a present nowadays, manifestations of piety were commonplace at the time.

The Rentons were a prominent family of Dissenters whose home in Edinburgh's Buccleuch Place saw regular social gatherings of serious-minded visitors, especially young people who admired the Rentons' good works.

Among the frequenters of the sober-sided salons was Duncan McLaren, businessman and later Lord Provost and MP, about whose life I published a book – *The Member for Scotland* – a couple of years ago. McLaren was a widower in his 30s, father to three children. He married the Rentons' daughter Christina, only to lose her five years later in childbirth. McLaren remained close to the family even after his third marriage to Priscilla, John



Bright's sister. His is among the 34 names that appear on a cartouche inside the Bible.

The *Renton Bible* is a symbol of the religious spirit of the age. People were not embarrassed to talk about faith and religious duties. We are wrong to remember only the factions, schisms and the great Disruption. There was also commitment and dedication. True, we may also sympathise with Thomas Babington Macaulay who as MP for Edinburgh at the time cynically observed that he could not be in his constituency on a Sunday because whichever of its churches he chose to worship in he would offend all the others. He solved the problem by almost never coming to Edinburgh at all.

People often wonder what it was like to live in previous generations. For the period from about 1800 one way to find out is to immerse oneself in old newspapers

5

THE SCOTSMAN ONLINE

Delving among the millions of items at NLS brings eclecticism to the point of eccentricity. My final choice, however, can be called mainstream. I refer to the historic collections of newspapers now readily available online. As a former journalist on *The Scotsman* I will nominate the files of that newspaper but I could refer to dozens of other titles.

When I was a young leader writer in *The Scotsman's* former premises at North Bridge, now a hotel, I used to while away some hours in a dusty storeroom that amidst other clutter contained the bound volumes of the paper stretching back into the 19th century. The lack of conservation would appal those who protect NLS' collections in terms of light, humidity and other threats to fragile paper. I am sure *The Scotsman* itself is more careful, too, nowadays.

Looking then into the precarious piles of Victorian volumes of the paper I was struck by the reporting of politics – detailed to a degree that would no longer be acceptable to readers. We assume that there was a straightforward duopoly of Liberalism and Conservatism, with Labour still trying to find a voice. But in fact readers were confronted with infighting among many rival factions, especially within the then dominant Liberal Party in Scotland. Only years later when I retired from journalism did I have time to explore and write about forgotten controversies.

People often wonder what it was like to live in previous generations. For the period from about 1800 one way to find out is to immerse oneself in old newspapers. With ready accessibility it is possible to read an old paper, not just in order to pick out a single report or reference, but as the original purchaser would have – from the small ads on the front page, to the reports from Parliament and the courts, to the sales at agricultural markets and landings at fish ports.

As with NLS in general, all human life is there.



Making
themselves at
home, Kate
Hendry (left) and
Ally Crockford
bring different
perspectives to
the Library



eat biscuits and meet new people and bask in the light of open knowledge'. She also delivered an online event in October, during which people from around the world were able to log in to get some insights into the role of the Wikimedian in Residence at NLS.

You can keep up to date with Ally's residency at en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:GLAM/National_Library_of_Scotland

As the Wikimedia Foundation continues to focus on improving research and citation standards, and the overall quality of articles, the extent to which it becomes trusted as a reputable source by cultural and educational institutions seems to grow day by day

THE READER IN RESIDENCE

Kate Hendry is a writer, teacher, editor and arts project co-ordinator with more than ten years' experience of working in prisons. She has run and evaluated reading groups, delivered creative writing workshops and edited many learner publications, including STIR, the award-winning cross-prisons creative arts magazine.

Her recent project - to write a collection of essays reflecting on her work running reading groups in HMP Barlinnie - has allowed her to consider the question 'what does reading do?'. This is something she is now exploring as NLS' Reader in Residence. Her work at the Library began in September, and Kate's mission is to focus on NLS' General Collections (which cover all UK publications from 1901 onwards) and to devise mini-projects to bring elements from the collection to new audiences.

Kate is currently in the first phase of her residency, which means she is getting to know the Library and, in particular, learning how people use items in the collection. However, by the beginning of the new year, Kate will be launching a number of initiatives both within the Library walls and further afield, introducing interest groups to parts of the Library's collection that have particular relevance to them.

Meet the Residents

NLS has launched two initiatives tasked with exploring and highlighting treasures from the Library in quite different ways. We profile Kate Hendry and Ally Crockford and learn how their residencies will open up the collections to new readers

THE WIKIMEDIAN IN RESIDENCE

In July 2013, Ally Crockford became the Library's first ever Wikimedian in Residence. A post-doctoral researcher and teaching assistant at the University of Edinburgh, the aim of her residency is to encourage staff and volunteers at organisations, such as galleries, libraries, archives and museums, to share their knowledge and resources with the world, via Wikipedia (the internet encyclopedia).

'In the past five years, the Library has made a concerted effort to provide more digital material online for free, and it has rapidly seen a huge increase in the number of users reached on a regular basis,' says Ally. 'However, these numbers are still small when compared to the billions of monthly page views averaged on the English-language Wikipedia alone last year.

'As the Wikimedia Foundation continues to focus on improving research and citation standards, and the overall quality of articles, the extent to which it becomes trusted as a reputable source by cultural and educational institutions seems to grow day by day. I'm working with NLS as part of this strategy: joining forces with Wikimedia projects means improving the quality of those projects, while at the same time raising the profile of the extensive and valuable digital resources already provided by the Library'.

Ally has conducted a number of training sessions for NLS staff and arranged a Wiki & Bicky session in early October. This event was designed to function 'like a knitting circle: come to learn, come to ask for advice, come to give advice, or just come to sit and



Martin Conaghan views evidence of law and disorder including, right, the introduction of the breathalyser

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT CAUGHT ON CAMERA

2013 marks the 50th anniversary of the last judicial hanging in Scotland. Martin Conaghan takes a look at how criminality and law enforcement are represented in the Scottish Screen Archive

Scotland has a curious relationship with law and order. Thanks to a right that can be traced back to the 11th century, the country's politicians and public servants have enjoyed the luxury of creating and retaining a unique hybrid of civil and criminal laws quite separate and distinct from the rest of the United Kingdom.

Scots law criminal trials are required to assemble juries comprising 15 people – not the typical 12 often found in Hollywood films – and, in addition to 'guilty' or 'not guilty', an anomalous third

verdict exists as an option for the jurors of 'not proven', where guilt has all but been determined, but remains inconclusive.

Policing in Scotland was also the first of its kind to be created in the UK, established under the Glasgow Police Act of 1800 – some 29 years before the inception of the world-famous Metropolitan Police. Scotland, of course, has its own brand of criminal underclass, with accounts dating as far back as the legendary 16th-century flesh-eater Alexander 'Sawney' Bean, through to Lanarkshire's infamous serial-killer Peter Manuel (pictured left), in the 1950s.

As early as 1934, Scottish director Stanley L. Russell created a short film for the second Scottish Amateur Film Festival entitled *Glasgow's*





In 1947 Glasgow's police officers were delighted to demonstrate how they kept the people of the city safe and secure in a short black-and-white film *Our Police*



Police which showed fascinating images of the city's tram-filled streets as ordinary police officers went about their training and work in crime prevention and detection. Russell, a lawyer by profession, was one of a group of film enthusiasts who set up the Meteor Film Producing Society in 1932, organising the first Scottish Amateur Film Festival in 1933.

Through his work as a director of silent films, and later on 'talkies', Russell attracted a variety of clients, from the Clyde Navigation Trust to the Ministry of Information. In 1945, his company became known as Thames and Clyde Films, specialising in industrial and educational commissions, and he helped to establish the Scottish Film Producers Association in 1948 as a vehicle for promoting the film industry in Scotland.

EVERYDAY POLICING

By 1947, the quality of such productions had dramatically improved. The Glasgow Corporation-sponsored *Our Police* is one such example and is a more extensive public information film covering a day in the life of the city's uniformed officers. They variously tackle local problems including a lost child,

In the film the police tackle local problems including a lost child, an amusingly staged road traffic accident, the theft of a vehicle, and, what can really only be described as a very early 'CSI-Glasgow' branch of the police dusting for fingerprints at a crime scene and matching them to photographic records in the lab

an amusingly staged road traffic accident, the theft of a vehicle and what can really only be described as a very early 'CSI-Glasgow' branch of the police dusting for fingerprints at a crime scene and matching them to photographic records in the lab. Produced by Thames and Clyde, it offers a wonderful, silent insight into the culture of the era.

A GRIM WARNING

It is on the small screen where these short-form public-information films excel, starting in 1965 with the impending introduction of the UK-wide on-the-spot alcohol breath test for road drivers and an omnipresent Ministry of Transport-sponsored campaign to warn motorists about the risks of getting behind the wheel after one too many pints.



Filmed in black and white and lasting a mere 30 seconds each, these sternly voiced and conservatively shot films have a single, authoritative message for anyone who may have been considering a night on the tiles before driving home: 'Now you really can't ask a driver to have another drink.'

The point delivered by the films is quite clear – the test is coming. And that test eventually did arrive with The Breathalyser Act of 1967 and the introduction of portable hand-held devices that could be used to establish an individual's blood alcohol concentration level at the roadside.

It is truly remarkable to think that the UK only introduced a legal driving limit in the late 1960s of 80mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood as the maximum, which has not changed significantly in the years since. The Scottish Government has run a public consultation on reducing the limit to 50mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood. However, the message of the day in these brief television announcements was simple, 'it used to be a matter of opinion, now it's a matter of fact', and warned that a drink-driving conviction could lead to a fine or a prison sentence.

INSIDE THE CELLS

If the threat of a visit to prison failed to deter would-be criminals, then the 1969 film *1500 ALL CORRECT SIR: A Report On A Scottish Prison* and 1972's television documentary, *Friday Night – Women's Prison*, would certainly give pause for thought.

The former, 30 minutes of black and white reportage produced by Jordanhill College Film Unit, presents a corporate view of Glasgow's infamous Barlinnie Prison and is akin to a modern-day marketing DVD, featuring footage of the daily routine, from prisoners' employment in the laundry, to sewing postbags.

In sharp contrast, the report on the condition of the old facilities in Gateside Women's Prison in Greenock depicts a forbidding, run-down, Dickensian building, where certain members of society were once housed before the construction of the modern prison at Cornton Vale in the early 1970s.



The infamous Barlinnie prison where many of Scotland's most dangerous criminals were held including Jimmy Boyle, below, who spent time in the Special Unit

The Scottish Television presenter-led news report betrays a style and tone still prevalent in modern broadcast journalism, replete with panoramic shots of the location, to camera narratives, talking head interviews and general shots of the life of women serving at Her Majesty's pleasure. Nowadays, such a report would be necessarily condensed into a snappy three-minute package to make room for other news items, but the reporter's final pay-off of 'only time will tell' still manages to make its way into many a modern news report.

FROM MURDER TO SCULPTURE

The all-too brief *GLASGOW BY THE WAY: Jimmy Boyle* boasts an interview peppered with anecdotes and recollections by Boyle, one of Glasgow's most infamous gangland figures who, in 1967, was sentenced to life in prison for the murder of another gangland figure, William 'Babs' Rooney.

Boyle's time in prison was characterised by long periods spent in solitary confinement due to excessive behavioural problems. Eventually, frustrated by his lack of progress, the prison authorities placed him under the care of the world-famous Barlinnie Special Unit, where he was given access to extensive support and therapy, and developed a lucrative career in sculpture. Boyle emerged from his sentence as a fine example of rehabilitation – although the interview tends only to cover his





Retired deathwatch prison officer Frank McCue relives the details of carrying out the death sentence

Ten judicial executions by hanging took place at Barlinnie between 1946 and 1960, before the abolition of capital punishment for murder in 1969

life and experiences from his childhood in the city and not his criminal activities, as such.

THE DARKEST CORNER

In a similar vein, but with a much brighter outlook on life inside HM prisons, *Hugh's Story* includes unedited material related to a 1993 documentary about Hugh Collins – a former Saughton Prison 'lifer' working as a sculptor in Muirhouse. He had been imprisoned for life in 1977 for the fatal stabbing of gangland rival Willie Mooney in a Glasgow pub.

Like Boyle, Collins spent a tortured period in Scotland's prison system before being recommended for the Special Unit, famed for its relaxed rules and high success rate in the rehabilitation of troublesome prisoners. Once there, Collins was given tools and stone, then embarked on a career venting his frustrations through sculpting with the help of fellow prisoner Boyle and, following his release in 1993, carved out a successful career in the art world.

However, without exception, one of the most fascinating items in the National Library's archive of crime and punishment films recounts the darkest corner of life at the sharp end of the law — the death sentence.

Made as recently as 1996 by director David G Scott, the stylistic black-and-white short *Hanging With Frank* follows former deathwatch officer Frank McCue as he discusses his experiences in Barlinnie on his return to the execution chamber before its demolition. Ten judicial executions by hanging took place at Barlinnie between 1946 and 1960, before the abolition of capital punishment for murder in 1969. McCue casually guides the viewer, in extensive detail, through his memories of the long-retired process of monitoring the condemned men following conviction, through to death at the hands of the UK's infamous hangman-general Albert Pierrepont – who Frank confidently describes as 'a nicer man you couldn't meet'.

THE HANGMAN'S NOOSE

The second-to-last man to be hanged in Scotland, and the last at Barlinnie Prison, was Anthony Miller, a young man who was sent to his final resting place by Harry Allen, Pierrepont's assistant. Miller had brutally murdered John Cremin during a casual robbery in 1960 and was just 19 years old when Allen placed the three-quarter inch Italian hemp rope around his neck and a white hood over his head, before pulling the lever to drop him to his death.

As the short film draws to its bleak end, McCue takes a brief walk along the outside perimeter of the Barlinnie building and indicates the spot marking Miller's former grave, recalling without pause the young man's final, chilling words before he was hanged – 'please mister'.



CRIME PAYS

The collections of the National Library of Scotland show us that when it comes to attracting an audience, in any medium, there is little as effective as crime at drawing in the ever-fascinated public



IN PRINT

Broadsides were the tabloids of their time and would often feature tales of wrongdoing or, in the case of this example from 1830, justice being served. The woodcut graphics, plus bold headline, help to tell the vivid tale of The Gilmerton Murderers, David Dobie and John Thomson.



ON STAGE

Tom McGrath and Jimmy Boyle's 1977 play, *The Hard Man*, was a controversial production because of its violence, nudity and its connection with the notorious convicted murderer Jimmy Boyle.



IN SONG

The tale of Burke and Hare inspired a number of crime ballads, including *William Burke — A New Song*, which probably dates from 1829 and opens with the lines: 'Come all you resurrection men, I pray you now beware, / You see what has happened William Burke, and likewise William Hare.'



Mothers of the Scottish novel

NLS Curator Helen Vincent rediscovers three of Scotland's best-selling women writers of the 19th century

In the history of the Scottish novel, Sir Walter Scott towers over his contemporaries as the father of the genre, just as his monument towers over Princes Street today. When his first novel *Waverley* was published in 1814, it started a craze for Scott's fiction that swept around the world and led to his becoming the most celebrated Scottish author of the 19th century.

But he was not the only Scottish writer of best-selling fiction in his own time. During the first decades of the 19th century, other authors were producing novels that captured readers' imaginations and sold thousands of copies – and some of them were women whose names are hardly known today.

Sir Walter Scott,
the father of the
Scottish novel



ELIZABETH HAMILTON (c.1756-1816)

Scott himself recognised Elizabeth Hamilton's merits as a writer at the very end of *Waverley*, mentioning her along with the non-fiction writer Anne Grant of Laggan as 'female authors whose genius is highly creditable to their country'. In particular he praised the 'striking and impressive fidelity' of her portrayal of a small Scottish village in *The Cottagers of Glenburnie*. This was published in 1808, a decade after Hamilton had established herself as an author.

Hamilton was raised on a farm near Stirling by her aunt and uncle, and her childhood experiences there must have informed *The Cottagers*, which tells the story of what happens when Mrs

Mason, after a lifetime of domestic service, retires to her cousin Mrs MacClarty's village of Glenburnie.

Glenburnie turns out to be a dirty, run-down and downright dangerous place, but its inhabitants' stock response when faced with any suggestion for improvement is 'I couldna be fashed' (I can't be bothered), which became a popular catchphrase. Mrs MacClarty's house, for instance, 'was by no means inviting. The walls were... on one side of the door completely covered from view by the contents of a great dunghill.'

In spite of her evident dislike of the mess and disorder she observed in Scottish rural life, Hamilton's writing is shot through with humour and lively energy. Mrs MacClarty and her equally reprobate family might perhaps be seen as the ancestors of Rab C Nesbitt in their resistance to the attempts of the respectable middle class to 'improve' them.

MARY BRUNTON (1778-1818)

Very different from the independent Elizabeth Hamilton was Mary Brunton, the retiring wife of an Edinburgh minister. The daughter of Colonel Thomas Balfour of Elwick and his wife Frances, Mary grew up on Burray in Orkney. The story of her marriage could come from one of her own novels.

Her husband, Alexander Brunton, became Minister of the New Greyfriars Kirk in Edinburgh and subsequently Professor of Oriental Languages at the University of Edinburgh, but when Mary first met him, he was the humble tutor hired to teach her younger brothers by her parents, who disapproved of the relationship. Family legend had it that the young couple eloped by boat at night, marrying on the mainland.

Brunton began to write shortly after her husband's move to Edinburgh in 1802. Her first novel, *Self-Control* (1811), became an instant best seller, going through four editions in the first year of publication. Unlike Elizabeth Hamilton, Brunton published both this book and her second novel, *Discipline*, anonymously. She wrote to a friend: 'I would rather, as you well know, glide through the world unknown, than have (I will not call it *enjoy*) fame, however brilliant. To be pointed at – to be noticed and commented upon – to be suspected of literary airs – to be



Two of the many 19th-century editions of *The Cottagers of Glenburnie*



Scott himself recognised Elizabeth Hamilton's merits as a writer at the very end of *Waverley*, mentioning her along with the non-fiction writer Anne Grant of Laggan as 'female authors whose genius is highly creditable to their country'

shunned, as literary women are, by the more unpretending of my own sex; and abhorred, as literary women are, by the more pretending of the other! – My dear, I would sooner exhibit as a rope-dancer..'

Brunton was halfway through writing *Discipline* when Scott's *Waverley* appeared. Like many people in Edinburgh, she had heard something of who might be behind that novel, and the experience of reading it seems to

have thrown her completely. She wrote in a letter to a friend: 'There seems little doubt that it comes from the pen of Scott. What a competitor for poor little me! The worst of all is, that I have ventured unconsciously on *Waverley's* own ground, by carrying my heroine to the Highlands!'

Brunton's husband and friends successfully persuaded her to complete *Discipline*, and it was published with success in 1814. But after that Brunton's crisis of authorship continued. She projected a series of 'domestic tales', which would draw on her Orkney background, and began a new novel, *Emmeline*, but she was still conflicted about her ability to write. Her career was cut sadly short in 1818, when she died after giving birth to a stillborn son.

SUSAN FERRIER (1782-1854)

Like Mary Brunton, Susan Ferrier refused to put her name on her novels when they were first published. As she wrote: 'I never will avow myself, and nothing can hurt or offend me so much as any of my friends doing it for me; this is not *façon de parler*, but my real and unalterable feeling. I could not bear the *fuss* of authorism!'

An illustration of Lady MacLaughlan, one of the characters in Susan Ferrier's novel *Marriage*



Instead Ferrier prioritised her domestic role as home daughter to her father, a prominent Edinburgh lawyer, after her mother's death. Her father was legal agent to the 5th Duke of Argyll, and Susan accompanied him on visits to the Duke's estate in Inverary. Through these visits, she gained a first-hand knowledge of Highland life and landscape, and also formed a friendship with Charlotte Clavering, the Duke's granddaughter. The genesis of Ferrier's first novel can be traced in a letter she wrote to Charlotte: 'I do not recollect ever to have seen the sudden transition of a high-bred English beauty, who thinks she can sacrifice all for love, to an uncomfortable solitary Highland dwelling among tall, red-haired sisters and grim-faced aunts. Don't you think this would make a good opening of the piece?'

This became the premise for *Marriage* (1818), whose brilliantly funny opening chapters show spoiled heiress Lady Juliana as a fish out of water stranded in a remote Scottish castle with her new in-laws.

Marriage was the talk of Edinburgh society – not least because its characters could be identified as recognisable members of that society. Scott was one of those who appreciated it, praising it in public in *Tales of My Landlord* and complimenting it privately to Ferrier's publisher William Blackwood, who quickly shared the praise with her in a letter.

Ferrier wrote two other novels, *The Inheritance* and *Destiny* which, like *Marriage*, were rich in comic characters and cast a satirical eye over

Like Mary Brunton, Susan Ferrier refused to put her name on her novels when they were first published. As she wrote: 'I never will avow myself, and nothing can hurt or offend me so much as any of my friends doing it for me; this is not *façon de parler*, but my real and unalterable feeling. I could not bear the fuss of authorism!'

Susan Ferrier completed the original manuscript for *Marriage* in 1810. It was finally issued, in a much-revised version, in 1818. Publisher William Blackwood paid £150 for it

Scottish society. A fragment called *Maplehurst Manor* was published for the first time in the catalogue of the 1982 exhibition held at the National Library of Scotland to mark the bicentenary of her birth. However, from the mid-1830s onwards she told those who asked that she was dissatisfied with what she was writing, and rejected the repeated pleas of Richard Bentley, who was then publishing her novels, for further works, citing her poor eyesight as an excuse.

In their very different ways, all three of these novelists evoked the Scotland of their own age, from the feisty farmers of Elizabeth Hamilton to the decaying Highland estates of Susan Ferrier. Funny, wise and engaging, they deserve to be rediscovered today.

Find out more about these authors and their novels in our Learning Zone. Go to tinyurl.com/womennovelists

Make the most of your National Library

With a collection of more than 15 million printed items, two million maps, 32,000 films, three miles of manuscripts, plus thousands of photographs, getting around NLS requires a little navigation

NLS LOCATIONS

Films

Scottish Screen Archive
39-41 Montrose Avenue
Hillington Park
Glasgow G52 4LA
Tel 0845 366 4600
Email: ssaenquiries@nls.uk

Maps

Causewayside Building
159 Causewayside
Edinburgh EH9 1PH
Tel 0131 623 3970
Email: maps@nls.uk
Mon-Fri 9.30am-5pm (Wed 10am-5pm), Sat 9.30am-1pm

Other collections

George IV Bridge
Edinburgh EH1 1EW
Tel 0131 623 3700
Email enquiries@nls.uk
Mon-Fri 9.30am-8.30pm
(Wed 10am-8.30pm),
Sat 9.30am-1pm

HOW TO JOIN

To use NLS' Reading Rooms



and order items from the collections, you need to hold a library card. This can be obtained by completing the online form at <https://auth.nls.uk/> registration. Simply follow the steps on the website.

On your first visit to the Library, you should go to Registration where staff will take your photo and produce a library card for you. For proof of identity and confirmation of your address, bring one or more documents that include your name and address, supported by a signature or photograph.

VIEWING MATERIAL

If you know what you are looking for, we recommend making your request for the required material in

advance of your visit to the Library. Requests can be made in person, by telephone on 0131 623 3820 or 3821, or by email: enquiries@nls.uk

In addition, if you have a library card, books can be ordered in advance via the online catalogue on our website.

More information about pre-ordering is available at www.nls.uk/using-the-library/reading-rooms/general/preorders

ONLINE

NLS has a vast range of electronic resources, including digital versions of reference works, massive full-text facsimiles and business databases (see the next page for a list). Many of these resources are

available on the internet to customers resident in Scotland, although additional conditions may apply in line with our licence agreements. Your first port of call to access the Library's licensed digital collections is <https://auth.nls.uk/ldc>

Additionally, recent legislation has given NLS and the other five legal deposit libraries in the UK the legal right to collect, store and preserve the nation's memory in the digital age. There will be a mixture of electronic content available including websites in the UK domain web archive, and articles/chapters from e-books and e-journals. This material can be viewed on Library computers within the reading rooms of NLS if you are a registered user.

VISITOR CENTRE

The Visitor Centre at the George IV Bridge building was opened in 2009. It features an exhibition space, a shop selling books, stationery and gift items, a café and PC terminals with access to NLS catalogues and other digital facilities.

FOCUSON

The German Collections

The Library only began to acquire German material on a regular basis in the 1960s. However, its collections may now be the largest of their kind in Scotland. The post-Reformation period is represented particularly strongly, with a more



selective collection from earlier periods.

The Advocates Library, the Library's forerunner, collected some German material during the course of the 18th and 19th centuries. The majority of this was in the decades immediately following the French Revolution. Several of the Library's special collections also contain a significant number of German items, including

the Dieterichs Collection of pamphlets and miscellaneous literary publications. This comes from part of the huge library formed by Georg Septimus Dieterichs (1721-1805), Count Palatine and Senator of Regensburg in the second half of the 18th century, and constitutes the largest single collection of German materials in the Library.

Digital resources

With more than 300 million items, of which in excess of 80 per cent is available remotely, NLS' licensed digital collections are a superb research tool

ART AND LITERATURE

The Library's digital collections relating to art and literature include 19th Century UK Periodicals Part 1: Women's, Children's, Humour and Leisure/Sport; British Literary Manuscripts Online c.1660-1900; Naxos Music Library; Oxford Music Online; Perdita Manuscripts – Women Writers, 1500-1700; Scottish Women Poets of the Romantic Period; SCRAN Digital Materials; SUR Digital Archive and Times Literary Supplement Historical Archive.

BUSINESS

Online resources for businesses, including BCC Research Reports;

COBRA – The Complete Business Reference Adviser; The Economist Historical Archive 1843-2009; Euromonitor Passport Markets; Factiva; FAME; Hoovers; Insider 500; Key Note Market Research Reports; Kompass; Mint Global; Mintel Market Research Reports; OneSource Global Business Browser; Orbis and ReferenceUSA.

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

Educational resources include ALPSP Learned Journals Science Collection; GreenFILE; JSTOR; MLA Directory of Periodicals; MLA International Bibliography; Oxford Journals Online; Science Full Text Select; Standards Infobase and Web of Science.

GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIAL

A wealth of political information can be viewed online, including

House of Commons Parliamentary Papers – includes reports of committees and outside bodies on public affairs; Public Information Online and The Making of Modern Law – Legal Treatises 1800-1926.

HISTORY, BIOGRAPHY, GENEALOGY

You can access 17th & 18th Century Burney Newspaper Collection; 19th Century British Library Newspapers; 19th Century UK Periodicals Part 2: Empire: Travel and Anthropology, Economics, Missionary and Colonial; British and Irish Women's Letters and Diaries; The British Newspaper Archive; British Online Archives; InfoTrac Custom Newspapers; John Johnson Collection: an archive of printed ephemera; The Making of the Modern World; Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (ODNB); India, Raj & Empire; Sabin Americana, 1500-1926;

The Scotsman Digital Archive 1817-1950; Times Digital Archive; Waterloo Directory of English Newspapers and Periodicals 1800-1900 and Who's Who (and Who Was Who).

REFERENCE WORKS AND CATALOGUES

Credo Reference gives you access to 400 high-quality reference books from a range of the world's leading publishers. Early American Imprints, Series 1 – Evans, 1639-1800; Early English Books Online 1475-1700 (EEBO); 18th Century Collections Online (ECCO) Parts 1 & 2; Oxford English Dictionary Online and Oxford Reference Online.

ACCESSING MATERIAL

All collections can be accessed on the Library premises and more than 80% is available outwith the Library by customers resident in Scotland.

To register to use the licensed digital collections visit <https://auth.nls.uk/> registration



London's theatre community circa 1820 forms part of the John Johnson Collection

Treasures for all

Explorer, GP and writer Gavin Francis on why libraries are invaluable

Years ago I read a piece by Carlos Fuentes, the great Mexican novelist, comparing libraries in the Latin world with those that are culturally Anglo-Saxon. According to Fuentes, librarians in Mexico, Italy, Spain and Argentina are jealous guardians who prefer their books to remain buried in the vaults.

When he first visited a library in the United States Fuentes was astonished: not only could he handle the books, in some cases he was even allowed to take them home. The Anglo-Saxon literary culture was one with a great passion for books and for learning, but tempered with a pragmatism which recognises that if books are to fulfil their potential they have to be accessible.

In Scotland, that pragmatism has been allied not only with great reverence for learning, but also with a 'school in every parish' philosophy that has made this country such a powerhouse of intellectual and artistic achievement over the last three or four centuries. One of the many aspects of Scottish public life I find admirable is the respect we have for, and the importance we place on, our libraries.

As a child I made weekly visits to Dunfermline library, which celebrated

its 130th birthday this year. It was the first of some 2,500 libraries Andrew Carnegie helped to build across the British Isles, the USA and the Commonwealth (Fuentes would have said 'the Anglo-Saxon world').

Growing up in Dunfermline I took it for granted that a town's library should be one of its most magnificent buildings. When later I moved to Edinburgh, I accepted that Carnegie's Central Library on George IV Bridge has all the grandeur of a Renaissance

The Anglo-Saxon culture was one with a great passion for books and for learning

palace. Over the lintel is carved a flourishing scroll with 'Let There Be Light' inscribed on it, as if Carnegie wanted to build not just a palace of brick and slate, but a palace of the mind. If that wasn't enough to confirm the Scots' respect for libraries, just across the street I began to visit the National Library of Scotland, with its façade of sculptures representing the arts and sciences, medicine and theology, music and law.

These days I spend part of the week working as a GP on the south side of Edinburgh, and part of the week writing in NLS. My first book, *True North – Travels in Arctic Europe*, was written while I was the base doctor on a remote Antarctic station. I wrote it without access to libraries or the internet, and so had to take a trunk of about 100 books with me to the ice.

When I came to write my second book, *Empire Antarctica – Ice, Silence & Emperor Penguins*, I didn't have to be so careful in my planning – I passed the National Library every day. Being able to call up first editions of Scott's or Shackleton's writings, obscure scientific papers on the aurora australis, or monographs on the emperor penguin is a tremendous privilege. Carlos Fuentes and the Latin librarians are right – our libraries hold the treasures of our learning and our culture. I'm delighted that in Scotland we believe everyone should be able to get their hands on those treasures.

Gavin Francis's Empire Antarctica – Ice, Silence & Emperor Penguins (Chatto) has been named Scotland's Book of the Year in the 2013 Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust Book Awards.
www.gavinfrancis.com

Born 100 years ago, Bill Shankly – one of many thousands of people represented in the Library’s collection – is one of the most influential football managers to have graced the game. Nicola Marr looks back at his life and work

Born in the small Scottish mining village of Glenbuck, for Bill Shankly a life in football was an escape from the harsh conditions of the pit. In 1932, he realised his dream of becoming a professional footballer by signing for third division side Carlisle United. Here he established the foundations for what would become a distinguished playing career, including being capped seven times for Scotland.

Despite success on the pitch, Shankly’s most influential mark on football history undoubtedly came in the sphere of management. His first managerial post was, aptly, with Carlisle United – the team that had given him his break as a player. Spells

at Grimsby Town, Workington AFC and Huddersfield Town followed. He was interviewed for the manager’s job at Liverpool in 1951, but at that point was passed over. It would be another eight years before the then struggling second division club would be united with the man who would irrevocably change its fortunes.

Known for his charismatic determination, Shankly transformed Liverpool into one of the finest football teams of its time. Through his winning mentality, passion for the game and good relationship with supporters, the maverick manager led his team to victories at both league and European level. Liverpool won the first division three times under Shankly, the FA Cup twice and

a UEFA Cup. It was after holding aloft the FA Cup in 1974 that Shankly announced his shock resignation from football. He retained a life-long enthusiasm for the game until his death in 1981, aged 68.

His legacy lives on at Anfield, where fans continue to honour him through memorials and tributes. A statue erected in his honour at the ground commemorates the life of a man held in the highest regard by the people of the red half of the city, who view Shankly’s managerial stint as a pivotal landmark in the football team’s history.

DISCOVER MORE

Read the magazine online at www.nls.uk/about/discover-nls

