A new chapter will begin in the story of the National Library of Scotland when it opens its first premises in Glasgow to showcase riches from the national collection.

**KELVIN HALL**

The Library is moving into one of the city’s best loved buildings – the Kelvin Hall – in a unique partnership with the University of Glasgow, Glasgow Life and the City Council that will reinvent the historic exhibition hall as a cultural, academic and sporting complex of international significance.

Around half of the building is being brought back into use in the first phase of the redevelopment which will provide a state-of-the-art new home for the Moving Image Archive, as well as offering access to the Library’s vast digital collections. The move extends the Library’s reach out of its home in Edinburgh for the very first time while providing the people of Glasgow with an exciting new visitor experience with the capacity to both educate and entertain.

The Kelvin Hall has had many incarnations since it opened as an exhibition centre in 1927. During the Second World War it was converted into a factory to manufacture giant inflatable barrage balloons, then over the years, it served the city as a music hall, an indoor arena, as home to the Museum of Transport and most recently as an international sports arena.

The future of this iconic landmark has been secured following a £35 million refurbishment which, in addition to the Library’s facilities, will provide secure and publicly accessible museum storage for around 1.5 million objects from the Hunterian and Glasgow Museums’ collections.

There will also be a new Glasgow Club health and fitness centre.

The Kelvin Hall location will make it much easier for the public to discover and enjoy more than 100 years of Scottish history on film and video held in the Library’s Moving Image Archive. Visitors will be able to access over 60,000 film reels, videotapes and digital files, as well as all of the Library’s other licensed digital collections. This includes hundreds of thousands of digitised books,

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periodicals and manuscripts spanning more than five centuries; thousands of full-text newspapers, journals and reports; and hundreds of full-text reference works. These collections cover business, science, government, art, literature, history, biography and music.

The Library’s Moving Image and Sound Collection Manager, Ruth Washbrook thinks the building’s rich history and special place in so many people’s memories makes it a fitting location for an archive that celebrates our shared cultural heritage.

“I think it’s a brilliant use for the building,” she said. “Obviously you had the Transport Museum here, and also the Kelvin Hall’s history with the carnivals and the fairs and the trade exhibitions. I think it’s true to the building and to Glasgow that it is now this cultural hub, bringing different collections together.”

Work is well under way to develop the Library’s space within the building. After passing through an entrance shared with the other partners, visitors will be drawn towards a video wall at the end of the internal avenue made up of 12 large high-definition screens showcasing a selection of what is on offer. This is the Library’s discovery area, where visitors will be able to see the breadth and variety of its collections and find inspiration in the archive material on display.

The spacious welcome area provides a variety of seating for visitors to relax and start enjoying the Library’s collections. There will be physical exhibits on film and in print of people, places and activities. The exhibits may evoke feelings of nostalgia among older visitors and, perhaps, surprise among younger members but the aim is to create an experience that is both enjoyable and memorable.

The discovery area will be a mirror on Scottish life, past and present. It will feature experiences on film and in print of people, places and activities. The exhibits may evoke feelings of nostalgia among older visitors and, perhaps, surprise among younger members but the aim is to create an experience that is both enjoyable and memorable.

The discovery area will also house two interactive ‘curiosity chests’ looking at Scots at work, at home and how they have had fun down the years with different themes and pullout drawers showing a variety of material from the collection.

Scottish films covering topics as diverse as transport, fashion, shopping, sport and food and drink will be on show on individual screens in another area of the new facility.

A highly specified viewing theatre with a large screen will allow the Library a dedicated space to show film and video to the public.

Within Kelvin Hall the Library also shares access to a cinema which is managed by the University of Glasgow.

There will also be a learning room where groups can take part in educational or other events.

Finally, a study space with desks and terminals will allow anyone to research and access the Library’s digital collections of maps, books, manuscripts, rare books, film and other content.

“The key to this space is that it will be open and accessible to everyone, whatever they want to explore,” said Ruth.

“Moving to Kelvin Hall is going to be amazing,” added Emily Munro, Learning and Outreach Officer. “We’re going to be part of a learning hub in Glasgow. It’s going to take us closer to our users, so that we know them better and understand their needs, but it’s also going to ensure that we reach new audiences, more diverse audiences.

“There’s not really a limit to who we want to engage with now, and I think that’s going to be a real transformation for the National Library of Scotland.”

If you can’t wait for the new facility to open, why not view our extensive online archive at movingimage.nls.uk
The key to this space is that it will be open and accessible to everyone, whatever they want to explore.

RUTH WASHBROOK, MOVING IMAGE AND SOUND COLLECTION MANAGER
The largest modern literary archive held here at the National Library of Scotland is that of Dame Muriel Spark. The unlisted material numbers 27 4 boxes, and brings the total to an incredible 150 feet of manuscripts, letters, notebooks, correspondence and ephemera. The record of much of Spark’s fascinating life is contained within and, thrillingly, it’s my job to reveal the secrets, the facts and the stories, box by box.

From her first published story The Seraph and the Zambezi, winner of the Observer short story competition in 1951, through the rest of her career, Spark continued to publish perfectly-pitched stories where the supernatural and the surreal come into collision – and collusion – with the everyday. Fast forward nearly 40 years to the early 1990s, and we find Spark, long established as a writer of international stature, revisiting a number of these early short stories; retyping some, rewriting others, and reselling a number. The mystery is; why these stories, and why now?

The 1950s see a number of Spark’s stories appear in a range of publications. The Girl I Left Behind Me is one of Spark’s best; the narrative’s unsettling atmosphere builds subtly, until the revelatory impact of the ending’s spectral twist. It appears first in The Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine, then The Norseman. After a gap of 34 years, the story is re-sold for Constable’s Winter’s Tales 8, and in 1993 it appears in the Argentinian newspaper La Nacion as La chica que dejé tras de mí. A similar pattern is repeated for a number of early stories. Her 1953 tale The Pearly Shadow appears in The Norseman in 1955, is distributed for resale in 1990, revised in 1994, and reappears in The Spectator Christmas 1994 edition, comically billed on the cover as Muriel Spark with her spooky short story. And spooky it is. For good measure, it also shows up in Winter’s Tales 11 the following year.

Of all the early stories, Harper and Wilton undergoes the most radical re-imagining, becoming a story within a story. In the early 1990s rewrite, Spark has the two forgotten suffragettes come to life, and, disgruntled at being consigned to a drawer for decades, demand that the narrator ‘give us substance’.

Continues overleaf.
...hold 150 feet of manuscripts, letters, notebooks, correspondence and ephemera, which should help to unlock the fascinating life of Dame Muriel Spark
otherwise we’ll haunt you’. They embody the fears expressed in Spark’s 1979 poem ‘Created and Abandoned’, where she asks:

* Did something next not happen?
* Or are you limbo’d there where I left you forever like characters in a story one has started to write and set aside? *


Nevertheless, this re-selling of stories was not new for Spark; indeed ‘Ladies and Gentlemen’ appears in three different publications between 1953 and 1965. So what prompted her to return to these particular stories over 30 years later? Perhaps, like her characters Harper and Wilton, she felt they had languished unread for too long, not having been collected in any anthology.
Perhaps the re-editing of existing material was a new creative approach, or perhaps in preparation for her 1992 autobiography Curriculum Vitae, she had re-read these early stories and thought them worthy of resurrecting. Or perhaps the answer to this particular Spark mystery lies in the next unopened archive box.

The archive does, however, show that there is no mystery about the level of dedication and industry involved. Fax correspondence reveals Spark and her assistant Penelope Jardine acting akin to publicists and promoters, proactively encouraging Spark’s agents to sell these stories, especially in new linguistic territories: ‘South America? Catalan? – and what about Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, Dutch?’ asks Jardine in a fax of June 1993.

This industriousness should come as no surprise, as one remarkable letter from 1988 shows (pictured above). Here Spark writes to her agent to enquire about her story ‘Open to the Public’. But note the date: 25 December – Christmas Day! Apparently there was no such thing as a day off for Dame Muriel.

That Spark had friends in high literary places is well known. What is less known is her generosity towards aspiring writers and fans. She took the time to reply to abundant correspondence, offering praise and encouragement in generous measure. One fan writes that ‘Pluto’s conjunction with your Ascendant […] in some instances can refer to death’. Despite suffering acute pain in her hip, Spark’s reply is the epitome of grace and comic understatement: ‘I am very glad I escaped the impending doom you read in my horoscope and feel that a temporary setback is not quite so drastic’.

In one tantalising series of correspondence from 1992, we find Dame Muriel writing a press release announcing the production of a film about her early life, based on Loitering with Intent and Curriculum Vitae. This is remarkable for a writer so protective of her privacy, but sadly the project was never realised. Perhaps it would have solved some of the mysteries surrounding one of Scotland’s greatest and best-loved writers, or perhaps – like her ghostly fictions – it may simply have deepened them.
Thanks to numerous films, books and documentaries, everyone is familiar with the sinking of the Titanic in 1912 with the loss of more than 1,500 lives. However, very few are aware of the Iolaire disaster – Britain’s second largest maritime loss of life that occurred in 1919 when 205 Lewis and Harris men drowned in Stornoway Harbour as His Majesty’s Yacht Iolaire sank in heavy seas.

What makes this event even more tragic was that HMY Iolaire was carrying soldiers who had survived the Great War and were returning home for the New Year celebrations. At 1.55am on 1 January 1919, the ship struck rocks 20 yards from shore and the men drowned in sight of Stornoway harbour.

The local Stornoway Gazette described the tragedy at the time as “the blackest day in the history of the island” and the consequence of losing so many menfolk devastated both the economy and social cohesion of the island – many islanders subsequently emigrated to find work and never returned.

The disaster shocked the nation. The King and Queen sent a message of condolence to the islanders and a public enquiry was quickly convened in February. It concluded that insufficient care on the approach to Stornoway harbour had precipitated the tragedy. It also revealed that HMY Iolaire (previously called the Amalthea) only had enough lifeboats for 100 men, but was carrying more than 300 passengers.

This was reported in The Scotsman on 12 February 1919, and the newspaper article can be viewed online via the Library’s Licensed Digital Collection site. There is much to explore about the tragedy in the Library’s collection, which includes newspaper accounts, official reports into the event, together with books and poetry in both English and Gaelic.

This collection was put to good use recently by pupils learning Gaelic from Edinburgh’s Stenhouse Primary School and Tynecastle High School. The project was organised by their Gaelic teacher Ann McCluskey, Comunn na Gàidhlig’s Youth and Community Development Worker for the Gaelic Initiative in Edinburgh.

It was a great pleasure to host the students who had a fascinating journey investigating first-hand accounts in newspapers and studying maps, poetry and later research on the event. There was a wonderful moment when one of the pupils, who was playing a bereaved mother in the play, found a picture of her character’s son in the material – it was like history coming alive.

The play premiered in March 2016 at the Scottish Storytelling Centre, and the 19-strong ensemble returned to the Library to perform it for staff and guests in April (pictured right).

As the centenary of the disaster approaches in 2019, it is hoped that the story of the Iolaire will become more widely known.
1918
WAR HAD ENDED

HMY Iolaire was sunk at co-ordinates N58 11.32 W6 20.93, in January 1919. As the picture taken the morning after the disaster shows, lives were lost just a short distance from shore...

The wreck of HMY Iolaire (pictured left at sea - image courtesy of Adair Ltd) is marked with a pillar rising out of the water which can be seen on entering Stornoway harbour.

School pupils performed a play at the Library to commemorate the Iolaire disaster.

c209
ORPHANED CHILDREN

as a result of the disaster, with 67 women widowed. 6,712 Lewismen served in the Great War with around 1,150 fatalities. 200 were from the Iolaire sinking – representing 17 per cent of total fatalities. The population of Lewis was around 30,000 in 1914.
Make the most of your Library

With a collection of more than 24 million printed items, two million maps, 32,000 films, three miles of manuscripts, and thousands of photographs, getting around the Library requires a little navigation.

LIBRARY LOCATIONS

FILMS
Moving Image Archive
39–41 Montrose Avenue
Hillington Park
Glasgow G52 4LA
The Moving Image Archive will move to the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow in September.
Tel: 0845 366 4600
E: movingimage@nls.uk

MAPS
Causewayside Building
159 Causewayside
Edinburgh EH9 1PH
Tel: 0131 623 3970
E: maps@nls.uk
Due to building works, the public entrance will be moved – please follow signs.

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

HOW TO JOIN
To use the Library’s Reading Rooms and order items from the collections, you need to hold a library card, obtained by completing the online form at https://auth.nls.uk/registration

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. You will need proof of identity and confirmation of your address. Examples of acceptable ID and address confirmation are at www.nls.uk/using-the-library/library-cards/evidence-of-identity

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 to enquiries@nls.uk
If you have a library card, books can be ordered in advance via the online catalogue on our website. For information about pre-ordering, see www.nls.uk/using-the-library/reading-rooms/general/preorders

ONLINE
The Library has a vast range of electronic resources, including digital versions of reference works, massive full-text facsimiles and business databases. 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 the Library 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 if you are a registered user.

VISITOR CENTRE
The Visitor Centre at the George IV Bridge building features an exhibition space, a shop selling books, stationery and gift items, a café and PC terminals with access to Library catalogues and other digital facilities.

Searching the past

Did you know that the National Library of Scotland has more than 700 digitised Post Office directories available for use?

The directories available cover most of Scotland and date from 1773 to 1911. These can be a useful tool for family history research, for finding out where people lived at a certain time and how they earned their living, for example.

In each directory you can browse and search by place, year and resident’s name; view page by page; view a PDF of the complete book; search the full PDF text and download files for free within copyright regulations.

To get started, visit www.nls.uk/directories
Are you interested in family, local or Scottish history?
The Library has recently digitised a selection of almost 400 printed items relating to the history of Scottish families, and you can read them all on our website in the Digital Gallery (see digital.nls.uk/histories-of-scottish-families).

They date mostly from the 19th and early 20th centuries, and include memoirs, genealogies and clan histories, with a few produced by emigrant families. All areas of Scotland are included, from Dumfries to Shetland, and many different families and places are represented – in fact, many more than the titles might suggest, as a keyword search by place or name will reveal.

NEWARK CASTLE
Our first excursion into these items leads us to this excellent image in Memoirs of the Maxwells of Pollok, Volume 1 – Memoirs & charters (see above right).

Newark Castle had been owned by the Maxwell family, who are most usually associated with Pollok House in Glasgow. Now owned by Historic Environment Scotland and open to the public, it is a fascinating building, situated on the banks of the Clyde at Port Glasgow, and is a remarkable 15th-century survival amidst the shipyards. It was upgraded into a fine mansion by the influential Sir Patrick Maxwell in the 1590s, and in one of the bedrooms one can still see the original pinewood panelling and cupboards, which would have included a fold-down bed – handy to have for visitors even then!

THE GORDONS
Many of the digitised volumes include family arms and genealogy charts, such as the Family of Gordon in Girnachary, in the parish of Kildonan, compiled by John Malcolm Bulloch in 1907 (pictured above). It outlines the lives and military achievements of Tacksman Adam Gordon’s family and descendants. The chart shows four generations of military service in one family, probably not unusual, but remarkable nonetheless.

“A NEW ROUTE
There are wonderful stories to find too, such as this account which proves that “doing the Highlands” is nothing new! Summer at the Lake of Monteith was written by PH Dun, 1865.

“Having seen, in one of the Forth & Clyde Railway time-tables, that I could leave the City at 9.35 a.m., reach Port of Monteith station at 11.20, and “do” the Lake of Monteith, Aberfoyle, Loch–Ard, Loch–Chon, Inversnaid, and Loch–Lomond, returning to Glasgow at 8 p.m., and all for “sixteen bob”, it struck me as something “decidedly new”. Determined to make a trial of the new route, on the morning of Saturday last I found myself at Port of Monteith station, exactly at 11.20.”

Find out how he gets on at deriv.nls.uk/dcn23/9483/9483330523.pdf

FREE ACCESS
Find these and much more in our ‘Histories of Scottish families’ page at http://digital.nls.uk/histories-of-scottish-families/pageturner.cfm?id=93506071
Read between the lines.
Experience WWI through the diary of Field Marshal Earl Haig.

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Angus Peter Campbell is the Dr Gavin Wallace Literary Fellow of 2016, which is funded by Creative Scotland and hosted by the National Library of Scotland. Angus Peter’s remit is to explore the huge archive at the Library with a view to making creative use of it. On his appointment at the beginning of the year, he described it as being like Charlie let loose in the Chocolate Factory. Here, he talks about some of the treats he’s found:

“I’ve had the great good fortune not only to see and read but to touch Robert Burns’s letter to Mrs Maclehose (Clarinda/Nancy), where the human basis of all love and art shines through. Rabbie says that the post is leaving in 10 minutes, but meantime, my dear Nancy, here’s a song for you, to the tune of Rory Dall’s Port – “Ae’ fond kiss, and then we sever…”

“The great archive at the Library is full of thousands of these treasures: Hugh MacDiarmid’s passport, with the clear description “British Subject”; the letters of Sorley MacLean; the beautiful hand-made etchings made by Robert Louis Stevenson for his stepson; the gorgeous river-fishing maps drawn by Maude Parker in the 1930s.

“But what I’ve enjoyed most are the sounds of children running and skipping through the vaults of the Library: the countless street-rhymes and songs that have been recorded everywhere from Shetland to Selkirk and beyond.

“Some of them are in R.C. MacLagan’s wonderful book The Games and Diversions of Argyllshire, published by David Nutt in London for the Folklore Society in 1901. The material itself was collected in the 1880s and 1890s and contains hundreds of Gaelic as well English-language games and rhymes.

“In English, you may have Peter Piper picking a peck of pickled pepper off a pewter plate, but try this next time you’re out on the spree in Uist: Chleachd a’ chearc dhuhb bhith breith anns a’ claibh agus chleachd a’ chearc liath bhith breith anns a’ chro!

“It contains many marvellous skipping and game rhymes and it’s a terrible shame that these are not being used daily in our Gaelic (and English) schools, if not on our streets.

“Within this one book alone lies a fun educational resource that would keep the next generation of youngsters skipping along in beautiful linguistic style. This ought to be republished and be in every home, in every school, on every mobile device, in every croft and city.”

ANGEIS PETER CAMPBELL

This ought to be republished and be in every home, in every school, on every mobile device, in every croft and city.

For example, girls would join hands and sing this in a ring: One morning I rose and I looked in the glass, Says I to mysel’, Sic a handsome young lass.

Wi’ my hauns on my hunches, I gave a Ha ha.

For there’s no a laddie will take mi awa’.

Angus Peter Campbell describes his position as Dr Gavin Wallace Literary Fellow as being “like Charlie let loose in the Chocolate Factory”.

SUMMER 2016 | DISCOVER | 33
On track

Vintage railway posters take us on a visual journey through the history of train travel. Striking, beautiful and now highly collectable, they set new standards for commercial art in the early 20th century.

LONDON & NORTH EASTERN
Opened in 1852 King’s Cross was LNER’s main departure point for Scotland from London. Here they lure Londoners to Scotland with a picture of a seemingly tropical Edinburgh.

LONDON MIDLAND & SCOTTISH
LMS was formed in 1923 as a result of the Railway Act of 1921 which merged 120 small railway companies into four big ones. Competition between the big four companies was fierce and led to a golden age for the railway poster.

NORTH EASTERN
Edinburgh to Hull in five hours by steam train was good going for 1907. Today the same journey takes a little under four hours.
SCOTLAND’S MOVING IMAGE ARCHIVE
Discover over 100 years of Scotland’s film history

Moving to Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, September 2016
www.nls.uk/movingimage
(Previously known as Scottish Screen Archive)

The National Library of Scotland is a registered Scottish charity. Scottish Charity No. SC011086.
RARE Books, Manuscripts, Maps & Photographs AUCTIONS

We hold dedicated book auctions in Scotland every January, May and September. We are currently accepting entries for our September 7th sale in Edinburgh.

For more information, or for a complimentary valuation, please call us on 0131 557 8844, or email Simon Vickers at simon.vickers@lyonandturnbull.com or Cathy Marsden at cathy.marsden@lyonandturnbull.com

HOLY BIBLE - JOHN BASKERVILLE
Cambridge: Printed by John Baskerville, Printer to the University, 1763. Large folio, the first Baskerville edition. Sold for £5,000 May 2016

EDINBURGH GLASGOW LONDON www.lyonandturnbull.com