



*Newsletter - No.5.*  
*Year 2014 / 2015.*

**Financial and Council Support.** The Heritage Centre is extremely grateful for the financial support being given by Glasgow Airport Fund, Milngavie Community Council, East Dunbartonshire Arts Council and also the generous donations from the Heritage Centre Members and the General Public at our Heritage Exhibitions. This support is very welcome to help offset the running costs incurred by the Centre in staging the Exhibitions and meeting the Room Hire Let Charges by East Dunbartonshire Council. The Centre is also grateful to the local councillors for their continued support in Council Matters and their attendance at our committee meetings.

**Membership Notes.** Milngavie Heritage Centre has over 50 members. Some of these members have also supplied great information at our Exhibitions. We would love to see you at future Exhibitions and at our AGM in order that you can share our stories and thoughts with us. Perhaps some of you will have youngsters in the family and could share ideas as to what you think they may be interested in. Many of the local schoolchildren have attended our Exhibitions and have thoroughly enjoyed them and we would like to build on this where we could perhaps see several generations of a family coming together.

We would also like to invite any of you who feel you would like to become more involved with the Centre to let us know. You can speak to us at the AGM or contact any Committee Member. By helping us set up Exhibitions you also get a chance to see behind the scenes and get a chance to look at many photos and items that are not always on display. Perhaps some of you would feel you could help with this. We also need help with manning Exhibitions and, again, many of us have found this rewarding as so many of our visitors have shared their stories and memories with us. Perhaps you have skills which you feel would be useful to the Centre or have suggestions following a visit. We would welcome all input as we really want this to be a Members' Centre.

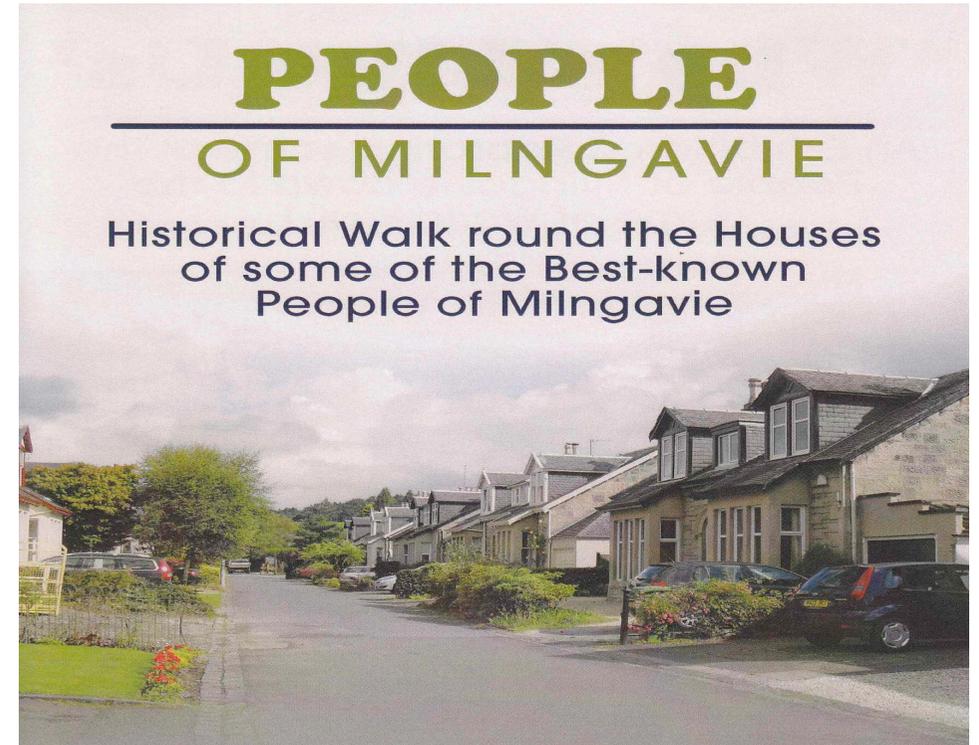
**Membership.** Annual Membership of the Heritage Centre is £5 per person. We greatly appreciate each and everyone's continued Membership of the Centre. It provides financial and considerate support for the work we are doing to relive, remember and document our Heritage.

We will also be pleased to welcome New Members to join our Heritage Centre. All members will receive first hand copies of our Newsletters and AGM Circulars.

The **Annual Membership New / Renewal Form** is enclosed with this circular and should be returned with the appropriate fee, £5 per person, to Membership Secretary, Milngavie Heritage Centre, C/o Milngavie Town Hall, 71 Station Road, Milngavie, G62 8BZ, prior to or at the AGM on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May this year. (Cheques made payable to Milngavie Heritage Centre). We will also be pleased to receive any additional financial support to run the Centre.

**AGM Notice. The Heritage Centre 2015 AGM will be held in the Court Room in Milngavie Town Hall on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm for 7.30pm. All members are welcome to attend.** Refreshments will be available at the end of the meeting.

Milngavie Heritage Centre Website : [www.milngavieheritage.org](http://www.milngavieheritage.org)



**Last Year's (March 2014) Historical Walk.**

**This picture was taken of one of the many delightful areas of Milngavie which were visited during last year's 2014 Historical Walk, (Local HistoryWeek), led by member(s) of Milngavie Heritage Centre.**

**This year, the Historical Walk will follow the Exhibition Theme, "Milngavie's Neighbours" to within the Bearsden boundary starting from Milngavie Town Hall on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March at 1pm. All are welcome for this walk to be led by Centre member Donald Shankland.**

**Forthcoming Exhibitions.** The start of another year, 2015, brings once again 2 more Milngavie Heritage Centre Exhibitions, one in March and one in September, to be displayed in the Court Room in Milngavie Town Hall.

This year's March Exhibition, "Milngavie's Neighbours", is currently being prepared and will run from Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2015. We look forward to welcoming all interested to this Free Exhibition, it being part of East Dunbartonshire's Local History Week.

**From our Chairman.** There are rewarding things, such as Meeting People, when stewarding the Heritage Centre Exhibitions. Sometimes an old friend arrives and that is splendid. Then again it is great to meet new folk and the best of all, for me, is when the visitors have Milngavie connections and are finding out more about their own heritage.

There have also been interesting times for we are usually successful in finding sound information or a good lead. And it is so good to have the young people from the local Primary Schools, "This is my house in the old days!", "I wish we still had horses and carts!", and "Where is that bit nowadays?". Some enthusiastically go home and bring their families.

**Saturday Opening.** We had hoped to have had openings last Summer but this was not possible because of the Commonwealth Games. After last September's Exhibition we opened the next 5 Saturdays to gauge the possibility of regular openings. The average attendance was 22 per Saturday, some repeat visitors from the Exhibition and some new. We need to gauge how effective this was and members will have an opportunity to pass comment at the AGM.

**Archiving Heritage Donations to the Centre.** The Heritage Centre is very fortunate that the families of Margaret Dunn, Nigel and Sally Orr, and Moir Garrett gave us their collections of Milngavie and surrounding area.

Early in 2014, we received a bequest from Moir Garrett's estate specifically to allow us to catalogue, list and conserve these four principal collections. Moir was a very keen supporter of the Centre.

In October, we interviewed four candidates for the post of Project Archivist. In this we were advised and greatly assisted by Janice Miller, East Dunbartonshire Archivist. We were very fortunate in the quality of the candidates and Nicola Maksymuik was appointed. Nicola started mid-November and has made enthusiastic inroads into the work. It is hard to believe she is nearing completion of her third month. The planned finishing date is late May / early June 2015.

**Heritage Donations to the Centre.** Please feel free to make enquiries or contact any member of the committee if it is thought similar collections could be of interest and made available as donations to the Milngavie Heritage Centre.

**Committee.** Chair – Jim Russell, Vice Chair – Neil Weir, Sec – Fiona Risk, Treas – Andrew Summers, Members – Don Martin, John Edwards, Helena Koumbouzis, Donald Shankland, Irene Gardner, Betty Black, Rona Hooper, Jimmy Crawford.

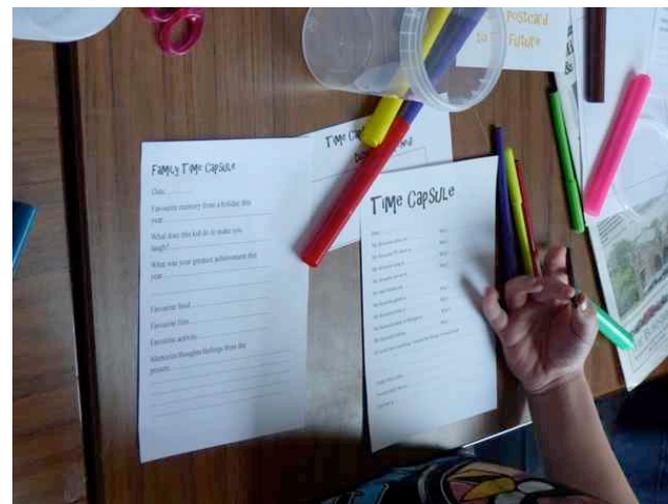
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**Workshops.** Milngavie Heritage Centre is dedicated to education through its accessibility to collections of the local community. During the Local History Week, there will be **2 Workshops on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March from 1 to 4 pm : Make Your Own Time Capsule and Let's Make Lemonade** with both being based on current displays in the Centre, St Joseph's Time Capsule and Garvie's Soft Drinks Factory. The Workshops are free and visitors of all ages are welcome to take part in these 2 fun activities to be organised by Helena Koumbouzis, one of Milngavie Heritage Centre's Project Officers.

**Make your own Time Capsule :** Time capsules are a way of sending a message to future generations through objects and words. It is an exciting act as it presents a challenge, eg. Which aspect of contemporary life should be sent to the future? How would you like to be remembered? There will be plenty of technical information on Time Capsules and on how to preserve objects. They are also about both the people who send the message and the ones who receive it and how they will understand it.

**Let's Make Lemonade :** Soft drinks appeared in Britain as early as the Middle Ages. Lack of pure drinking water was the main reason for it and people had to invent brews and concoctions with herbs and spices to quench their thirst. Later, carbonated water from springs was sold in corked bottles, originally by chemists, and grew to become a drink that could be bought in street stalls and consumed by all ages, and then around the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, carbonated spring water had added fruit flavours such as lemon and orange, which became so popular that soon producers multiplied.

Milngavie had its own soft drinks factory, Garvie's, whose bottles of lemonade and cream soda were a familiar feature of local childhood in the 1960's and 70's. The firm produced a wide range of carbonated drinks and even distributed cider and other alcoholic drinks, but they were probably best known for their classic soft drinks such as cream soda.



Time Capsule Being Prepared.