Cumberauld Historical Society

Annual Report 2025 - 2026

Lectures

In **October** we started our season with**Ms Lorraine Murray,** who came to talk to us about **Kate Cranston**, the founder of the Cranston - later Willow - Tearooms, as an entrepreneurial woman well ahead of her time.

For something quite different we touched on industrial history with the **Development of Lenzie and the Coming of its Railway,** one of the many topics of **Mr Dominic d'Angelo**, Chairman of the Alexander Thomson Society.

With Christmas on the horizon, **Ms Valerie Reilly** returned to us with her topical and fascinating **Christmas Customs in Other Lands.**

Our January lecturer had to delay his visit and topic due to an operation on his hand, so instead of The History of Piping in January, in February we had **Mr Robert Keys** illustrate and describe **Glasgows Four Cathedrals** - all different in age, origin and denomination.

We continued with another inspirational lady in history when **Ms Barbara Graham** also returned to us, this time her topic being **Marie Curie - History and Legacy** . A wonderful insight into an inspirational life. This was the topic of a talk last year which had had to be postponed due to a hospital operation. Ms Graham donated her fee to the Marie Curie Charity of which she is an Ambassador.

Finally, to end the lecture series, we had a talk by **Mr Paul Bassett** on Glasgow Theatres and in particular th **Citizens' Theatre,** where he worked with the late Giles Havergal and which re-opened last year after refurbishment.

We have welcomed some new faces to the society and hope they will continue to come, and to those who attend regularly and have supported the society over the years, many thanks.

Thanks also to the members who wash up the tea things at the end of the meetings.

Outings

Our first outing was on a lovely, sunny, autumn day in the middle of October, when we visited **Milngavie.**

We travelled by bus from Buchanan Street Bus Station to Hillfoor and visited the **Roman Bath House** mid way between Milngavie and Bearsden. Then we retraced our steps and caught the bus into Milngavie itself, walking through its small town centre (still has two banks and an M&S) to the **Lillie Art Gallery** where there was an exhibition of works by Scottish, or Scottish trained, painters including a wonderful display of paintings of Antartica. We discovered that a Scot made a name for himself, and is celebrated in Norway, by building the polar expedition ship The Fram, which has its own museum in Oslo. We walked over to **Gavin's Mill**, the origin of the name Milngavie, for lunch, looked at the mill wheel still in situ, then strolled through the park back to the bus stop for our return journey. A very pleasant and interesting day, covering many aspects of history.

Our second outing was an afternoon visit to the **Mitchell Library**, where we were given a guided tour of the building and its history by the chief librarian Dawn, who took us into places not normnally seen by the public.

We had hoped to have had a visit backstage at the Citizens' as a follow up to Paul Bassett's talk, but that has not been able to arrange as yet. Hopefully it will still happen.

Our next visit is really into next session, as it is a vist to the **National Library of Scotland - The Moving Image - at the Kelvin Hall** on the afternoon of Wednesday, 15th April, when we will have short tour of the facilities, then a showing of Glasgow films through the ages.

Thanks to all who have attended these outings/visits. As we cannot afford to hire coaches we use public transport and where possible, using bus passes.

M K McCord
Secretary
April 26