

## MAYBOLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Charity No. SC034056

### NEWSLETTER MARCH 2011

Next meeting will be held in The Castle, Maybole

**MONDAY 4th APRIL 2011 at 7:30pm**

## Our Speaker for April is John Morrison talking about “DUMFRIES HOUSE”

### Membership

#### 2010-2011:-

New Members are always welcome and if you would like to join the Society please contact our treasurer:

**Jack Boyd,  
9 Kinraig Court,  
Maybole, KA19 8AQ.**

Individual £10  
Couples at same address £15  
Students & Disabled Free

Please make cheques payable to  
*“Maybole Historical Society”*

*If you have any changes to your address, e-mail etc. please let us know to keep our database up to date-Thanks*

### Dates for your diary:-

**May 9th—AGM**

### Committee Meeting Dates:-

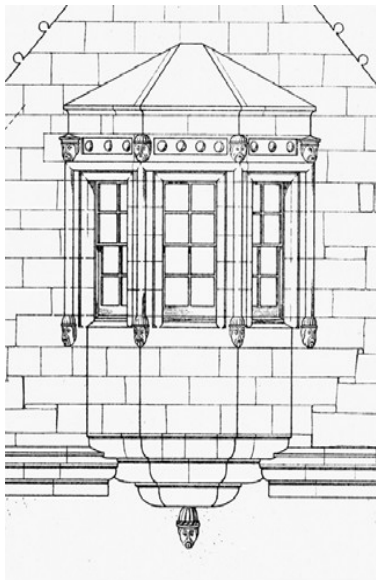
**Meetings held in the Castle,  
Maybole at 7pm  
26th April**

John Morrison was born and bred in Auchinleck. Educated at both Auchinleck Primary and Academy he then went on to the University of Paisley where he gained a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. He is currently employed with NHS Ayrshire & Arran as a Registered Nurse at



Ayr Hospital and is working towards a Masters Degree in Urology nursing/infection control. His hobbies include swimming and running and since 2008 has been heavily involved at Dumfries House, primarily as a guide and lecturer. A keen collector of both 18th century oriental ceramics and 19th/20th century Scottish ceramics, especially Wemyss Ware, following on from his late grandmother who was also a keen collector. Very much interested in Scottish architecture he includes his favourite Scottish homes as Drumlanrig Castle and Bowhill House (both owned by the Duke of Buccleuch) and of course Dumfries House!

**Dumfries House** is one of Britain's best kept heritage secret. Built between 1754 and 1759 for the 5th Earl of Dumfries, and with an unique collection of Chippendale furniture, the house has been described as an 18th century time capsule since the principal rooms and their contents have virtually remained unchanged for 250 years. At the last minute back in 2007 this marvellous house and its works of art were nearly lost to the nation. HRH the Prince of Wales stepped in with a consortium of charities and heritage bodies to keep the house intact and accessible to the public. We look forward to John telling us about more about the story of Dumfries House.



**THINGS TO DO?  
PLACES TO GO?  
OR KNOW OF  
INTERESTING  
SPEAKERS?  
—WE WANT TO  
KNOW ABOUT THEM.**

If you know of any interesting exhibitions or places to visit or heard a good talk recently that our members would be interested in—please let us know. It's great to be able to pass this on. Please contact a member of the committee with the information.

**4th April—1406—King Robert 3rd died.** Eldest son of Robert 2nd and grandson of Robert the Bruce, he was crippled following a riding accident in 1388. His ambitious brother the Duke of Albany in reality ruled the kingdom. Robert's son James 1 was sent to France for safety. Robert is buried in Paisley Abbey.

**THE ESTATE OFFICE** The estate office is now located at Maidens. To contact them their e-mail address is [chris@cassillisestate.co.uk](mailto:chris@cassillisestate.co.uk)

## **ADVANCE NOTICE OF THE AGM OF THE SOCIETY— 9TH MAY IN THE CASTLE**

We are always looking for new members for the committee and we would be delighted if you would like to join the current committee members. If you are interested please approach any members—you would be warmly welcomed. Please think about it. Thanks

## **SUMMER OPENING OF MAYBLE CASTLE & VOLUNTEERS—**

We are looking for volunteers to be on duty to welcome visitors and be available while the tour guide takes visitors around the castle. The more volunteers we have the easier it is for us all. If you would like to help out please contact Helen McAdam, Chairman or Nancy MacGregor, Co-ordinator or any other member of the Committee.

## **ROZELLE HOUSE GALLERIES—Exhibition**

**Robert Bryden (1865-1939) - Life, Works & Legacy –26 March to 3 July**

This exhibition is taken largely from South Ayrshire Council's Collections and features the life and works of the Ayrshire artist. Born in Coylton, the son of a colliery manager, Bryden moved to London where he attended the Royal College of Art and the Royal Academy Schools. He travelled in Italy and Spain producing a series of etchings based on his travels. During his career, Robert Bryden created many images using the printmaking processes of etching, mezzotint, drypoint and woodcut. His subject matter covered topographical scenes of Ayrshire and Edinburgh, as well as a series of prints illustrating the poems of Robert Burns. He was also a great sketcher of portraits and character studies, and produced several sculpted memorial plaques. The exhibition contains more than 50 etchings, oil paintings, wood carvings and medallions. He was one of the first local artists to donate works to Ayr town museum collections. Out and about in Ayrshire a number of works can also be seen, including Coylton War Memorial and his sculptures of Wallace and Bruce on either side of the entrance to Ayr Town Hall.



## **SOUTH AYRSHIRE HISTORY & FAMILY HISTORY FAIR— Saturday 4th June 2011 AT Walker Halls, Troon 9am-4pm**

**Speakers for the day are Tom Barclay**, Local Studies Librarian, South Ayrshire Council, **Dr. John Burnett**, Curator of Scottish Ethnology, National Museums of Scotland, **Dr. Matthew Hammond**, Lecturer in Scottish History, University of Edinburgh, **George Geddes**, Archaeological Investigator with the RCAHMS. There will also be stalls on local Family History Societies, History Organisations and professional & commercial businesses. For more information email: [localhistory@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:localhistory@south-ayrshire.gov.uk) or telephone 01292 272231 or go on to [www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk) and download more information.