

5 July 2024

Love Scotland Podcast Returns for Ninth Series, with Fashion, St Kilda And Munros On The Menu

The popular Love Scotland podcast launches its ninth series this Friday, 5 July, exploring a range of fascinating subjects from fashion in Scotland to Munro-bagging, the darker side of Edinburgh's Royal Mile, and the complex project to conserve St Kilda Kirk.

Other episodes in this latest, eagerly-anticipated series cover hickory golf, the true story behind the film and book *Whisky Galore* and a 'lost' cargo of 260,000 bottles of whisky, and the life of King James VI.

The podcast series from the National Trust for Scotland is hosted by broadcaster and National Trust for Scotland President Jackie Bird. The series delves into the stories of Scotland's people, places and history, bringing them alive for a growing audience of people all over the world.

Listener figures for series eight reached a new high, with well over 25,000 listens, and the podcast was Highly Commended in the UK-wide PPA Podcast of the Year award in June.

Preparing to launch the new series, Jackie Bird, said: "With each new series of the Love Scotland podcast, I'm struck by the wealth of wonderful stories and subjects to be found in the places, landscapes and collections cared for by the National Trust for Scotland. As President of Scotland's largest conservation charity, my ambition is to share as widely as possible the Trust's work and stories, and the podcast is a wonderful way to do that – with listener figures continuing to rise each series and audiences spanning the globe.

"Scotland punches above its weight in terms of its rich history and environment, and this is evident in the wide range of topics we touch on in this series – from golf and Munros to fashion and fossils. We'll debunk some myths, reveal some secret histories, give you a better understanding of places and stories you already love, and show you some new ones as well – all with the help of some fascinating expert guests and the National Trust for Scotland."

Series nine continues to illuminate Scotland's heritage, starting with an enthralling visit to the *Ramsay and Edinburgh Fashion* exhibition at the Georgian House, in Edinburgh and a discussion of what Allan Ramsay's portraits tell us about women's fashion in Georgian Scotland. Exhibition curator Antonia Laurence Allen and academic Sally Tuckett explore how fashion revealed different people's status, style and position in society and the real people behind the portraits in the exhibition. As well exploring whether fast fashion be traced back to the Georgians.

From the fashionable drawing rooms of Edinburgh's heyday, Jackie and the podcast team move onto island-hopping, telling the story of the *SS Politician* running aground off the island of Eriskay, how one of its cargo of 260,000 bottles of whisky ended up in the Canna House collection, what became of the other bottles, and how all of this inspired the book and films of *Whisky Galore*.

The country's magnificent outdoor scenery is then brought to life in an episode on Scotland's highest peaks, the Munros, with guest Andrew Dempster, author of *The Munros: A History*. With some of Scotland's most spectacular Munros under the care of the National Trust for Scotland – including in Glencoe, Torridon and Mar Lodge Estate – Andrew and Jackie explore the background of why they are called 'Munros', how the idea of Munros took off, and the mythology and allure surrounding them.

To mark the centenary of the Trust's Kingarrock Hickory Golf Course at Hill of Tarvit Mansion in Fife, Jackie and her guests (who may or may not be dressed in vintage plus-fours) look at the history of golf, its enduring appeal and role in Scotland's heritage and sport, how Kingarrock is celebrating its 100th anniversary, and what it's like to play this unique course.

We also pay another visit to Edinburgh but this time on the other side of the tracks from the Georgian House, with a delve into the hidden secrets of the Royal Mile, recorded at Gladstone's Land. Expect tales of murder, monarchy and disease and the truth behind the darker stories and villains of the Edinburgh's Old Town, including Burke and Hare and Deacon Brodie.

Other not-to-be-missed episodes include the adult life of James VI – a sequel to last year's popular episode on this childhood and early years; the story of Scottish palaeontology and the life and discoveries of the Victorians' David Attenborough, Hugh Miller; and how the trust is combating climate change on the remote islands of St Kilda.

For more information on Love Scotland please visit www.nts.org.uk.

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Notes for Editors

The Love Scotland podcast is available on all the usual podcast channels, including [Apple](#) and [Spotify](#). Series nine launches on Friday 5 July, with new episodes available to download and listen to each week.

About the National Trust for Scotland

Established in 1931, the National Trust for Scotland is Scotland's largest conservation charity and cares for, shares and speaks up for Scotland's magnificent heritage.

Over the last 90 years the Trust has pioneered public access to and shared ownership of some of the most magnificent buildings, collections and landscapes in Scotland. It cares for more than 100 sites, from ancient houses to battlefields, castles, mills, gardens,

coastlines, islands, mountain ranges and the plants and animals which depend upon them.

In March 2022 the National Trust for Scotland launched Nature, Beauty & Heritage for Everyone, its ten-year strategy which sets out the ambitions of the charity over the coming decade. From speaking up for Scotland's heritage which doesn't have a voice, to improving the lives and wellbeing of people across the country, and responding to the climate and biodiversity crisis, the Trust will build on its work in recent years to grow its impact and conserve and restore more of Scotland's heritage, as it moves towards its centenary in 2031.

Scotland's largest membership organisation, the National Trust for Scotland relies on the support of its members and donors to carry out its important work.

For more information on the National Trust for Scotland visit www.nts.org.uk.

The National Trust for Scotland is a charity registered in Scotland, Charity Number SC 007410.