

Members' Centres & Friends' Group

Events Listing 2025

Make the most of your National Trust for Scotland membership by joining your local Members' Centre & Friends' Group.

Get closer to the places you care about, become an advocate of our charity, and join our wonderful community of supporters who help members experience and enjoy Scotland's unique heritage, all the while raising vital funds for the places, stories and collections in our care.

Members' Centres & Friends Groups charge a small annual fee to be a member of their group. Events are open to both members and non-members.

For more information about your local group, get in touch: memberscentres@nts.org.uk



Aberdeen & District Members' Centre (SC 000109)

Judith Falconer, Programme Secretary
01224 938 150 | judithfalconer@rocketmail.com
ntscentres.org.uk/aberdeen.html

Afternoon Talks

All Afternoon Talks take place at the Aberdeenshire Cricket Club, Morningside Road, Aberdeen, AB10 7FB.

* **Wednesday 19 February 2025, 2pm**

Afternoon talk, "The Scottish Suffragettes" by Professor Sarah Pederson.

* **Thursday 20 March 2025, 2pm**

Aberdeen & District Members' Centre's AGM will be followed by a talk, "An update of ongoing changes at Castle Fraser".

Summer outing

* **Saturday 28 June 2025**

A car outing to the Maggie Law Maritime Museum, Gourdon, and the Montrose Air Station Heritage Centre (Advance booking required)

For more information about this group's events, please contact Judith Falconer.

Angus Members' Centre (SC 024891)

Joyce Cooper, Membership Secretary
01674 676783 | amcnts@tiscali.co.uk

ntscentres.org.uk/angus.html

Afternoon talks

All Afternoon talks take place at 2:30pm in the Guide Hall, Myre Car Park, Forfar, DD8 1AZ.

Talks are open to everyone, not just members of the National Trust for Scotland and no pre-booking is necessary. The admission charge is £4, which includes light refreshments after the meeting.

For further information contact the Membership Secretary on 01674 676783 or email amcnts@tiscali.co.uk

- * **Thursday 9th January 2025, 2:30pm**
"The extraordinary friendship between JM Barrie and The Captain Scott" by Sandra Affleck
- * **Thursday 6th February 2025, 2:30pm**
"The Craigievar Castle Project" by James Henderson, National Trust for Scotland Operations Manager, Greater Aberdeen Area
- * **Sunday 2nd March 2025, 1:30pm – 3:30pm**
Angus Members' Centre Snowdrop Sale at House of Dun
- * **Thursday 6th March 2025, 2:30pm**
Afternoon talk by Debbie Banks of the Environmental Investigations Agency (EIA). Debbie is the leader of EIA UK's Tigers and Wildlife Crime Campaign (title to be confirmed)
- * **Saturday 1st March 2025, 10am – 12 noon (to be confirmed)**
Coffee Morning in The Glens and Kirriemuir United Parish Church Hall, Kirriemuir

* Sunday 18th May 2025, 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Angus Members' Centre Spring Plant Sale at House of Dun
Come along and replace any plants you may have lost over the winter at bargain prices. There should be a wide selection of perennials, grasses, shrubs, rockery plants, etc. grown by the Members' Centre gardeners, but come early for the best selection.

If you unable to come along for the plant sale, the Members' Centre volunteers stock the plant stall in the House of Dun courtyard on a regular basis, as plants become available.

* Friday 22nd August 2025, 7pm

Summer Concert in St. John's Church, Forfar

* Sunday 21st September 2025, 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Angus Members' Centre Autumn Plant Sale at House of Dun
There should be a wide selection of perennials, shrubs, fruit bushes, etc. as well as produce grown by the Members' Centre gardeners and other volunteers.

Why not come along and make an afternoon of it - the House, Courtyard and Cafe will be open and the gardens and grounds are well worth a visit.

If you unable to come along for the plant sale, the Members' Centre volunteers stock the plant stall in the House of Dun courtyard on a regular basis, as plants become available.

* Thursday 2nd October 2025, 2:15pm

AGM, followed by guest speaker at the Guide Hall, Myre Car Park, Forfar

Arduaine Friends

Rachel Ross, Secretary & Treasurer
01852 200233 | rachel@lochmelfort.co.uk

arduainegarden.org

Contact Rachel Ross for more information about this group's events.

Cambridge Friends of the NTS

Donald Douglas, Chairman & Membership Secretary
donalddouglas710@btinternet.com

ntscentres.org.uk/cambridge.html

All talks listed below are held at the Newnham College, Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 9D. For more information about this group's events, please contact Donald Douglas.

* **Wednesday 19th February 2025, 7:30pm**

A special event devoted to tasting Scottish cheeses with a cheese expert and enthusiast from d'Arry's, the Cambridge luxury British cheesemonger, on hand to explain. There will be six cheeses to sample, with bread and water between samples to clean the palate. NB Tickets will be £15.00 each (£17.00 at the door) as a contribution towards the cost of the cheese.

* **Wednesday 19th March 2025, 7.30pm**

Short talks from CFNTS members and supporters on places for which they have a particular fondness. Highlights so far are Craiguevar, St Kilda and the West Highland Way.

* **Wednesday 16th April 2025, 7.30pm**

Erica Utsi will tell us how she used ground-penetrating radar at Dunfermline Abbey to uncover secrets of the final resting place of Robert the Bruce.

* **Wednesday 21st May 2025, 7.30pm**

Felicity Starr on the Kelpies, the world's largest equine sculptures: a pair of monumental steel horse-heads which stand next to the M9 between Falkirk and Grangemouth.

East Lothian Members' Centre (SC 026085)

Margaret Russell, Membership Secretary
01875 853 370 | magr8@outlook.com

ntscentres.org.uk/eastlothian.html

For more information about the programme of visits listed below, please contact Margaret Russell.

Edinburgh Members' Centre (Sc 025732)

Peter Westbrook, Membership Secretary
0131 563 4473 | emcnts1974@gmail.com

ntscentres.org.uk/edinburgh.html

Meetings are held in Augustine United Church, 41-43 George IV Bridge in Edinburgh, EH1 1EL, on Thursdays at 2.30pm or 7.30pm, unless otherwise notified. A hearing induction loop is available.

For more information about this group's events, please contact Peter Westbrook.

* **Thursday 20th February 2025, 2.30pm**

Talk by Gerard McEwan, Secretary of Edinburgh, Lothian & Borders Police Historical Society, "The Life of PC David Shepherd Bayne in Edinburgh City Police".

* **Thursday 6th March 2025, 2.30pm**

Talk by Kath Hay, Author and Publisher, "Falkland's Lady of Ostrabrama, - an Icon in the Palace's Royal Chapel".

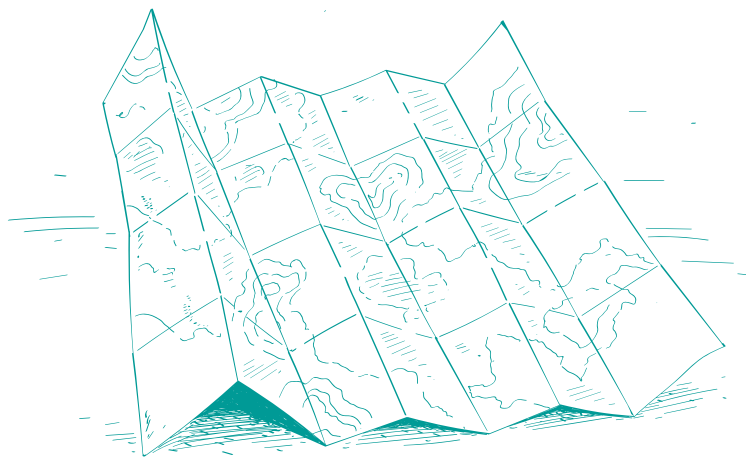
* **Thursday 20th March 2025, 7.30pm**

Talk by Alison Acosta, Harmeny Education Trust, Edinburgh "The Work and History of Harmeny".

* **Thursday 11th September 2025, 7.30pm**

Talk by Antonia Lawrence-Allan, NTS Regional Curator, "The Whyte Family at the Georgian House".

- * **Thursday 25th September 2025, 7.30pm**
Talk by Bruce Keith, Retired Surveyor and Environmentalist, "Bridgescapes".
- * **Thursday 9th October 2025, 7.30pm**
Talk by Roy Johnstone "Down Memory Lane – TV Programmes We Used to Watch".
- * **Thursday 23rd October 2025, 2.30pm**
Talk by Tracy Robertson, Steward, Lauriston Castle, "The Life and Legacy of John Muir".
- * **Thursday 6th November 2025, 2.30pm**
Talk by Christine Murdie, Ocean Conservationist "The Evolution & Adaptation of Whales from Land to Sea Animals".
- * **Thursday 22nd January 2026, 7.30pm**
51st Annual General Meeting



Friends of Broughton House & Garden (SC 012686)

Mike Duguid, Chairman
Gwen Shaw JP, Honorary Secretary & Membership Secretary
01557 330 239 | gwendoline.shaw@gmail.com

ntscentres.org.uk/broughton.html

For more information about this group's events, please contact friendsofbroughtonhouse@gmail.com

There is a capacity limit of 56 for the events and to make booking easier for all we would prefer you to book your tickets by emailing. Friends paying cash annually are expected to pay when booking tickets at this event. Ticket price includes a glass of wine or soft drink.

- * **Thursday 10th April 2025, 7pm for 7.30pm**
The Hornels' in Ceylon: how Broughton House archive is inspiring new research. A talk by Antonia Laurence Allen Regional Curator NTS
Tickets: Friends £7 | NTS & Visitors: £8
- * **Thursday 1st May 2025, 7pm for 7.30pm**
"James Paterson, a Glasgow Boy and a Hornel contemporary, who lived in Moniaive and painted in Kirkcudbright" illustrated talk by Dr Chris Lee.
Tickets: Friends £7 | NTS & Visitors £8
- * **Thursday 5th June 2025, 7pm for 7.30pm**
"The Japanese Garden at Cowden"; speaker a volunteer from the garden.
Tickets - Friends £7 | NTS & Visitors £8.
- * **Sunday 20th July 2025, 5.30pm for 6pm**
A celebration of Hornel's birthday and party drinks and music in the garden: Bring your own picnic and chairs/rugs.
Tickets: Friends £10 | NTS & Visitors £12 inc. birthday cake.

* **Thursday 2nd October 2025**

"The Hornel Detective". Some of the unexpected questions asked by visitors to Broughton House, and what they unearth, an illustrated talk by Sandra Walsh.

Tickets: Friends £7 | NTS & Visitors £8.

* **Thursday 6th November 2025, 7pm for 7.30pm**

"Another Enchanted Evening" with Alan and Polly Beck.

Tickets: Friends £15 | NTS & Visitors £17.

* **Thursday 11th December 2025, 2pm for 2.30pm**

An Afternoon of Carols & Readings with mulled wine and a mince pie.

Tickets: Friends £8 | NTS & Visitors £10

* **Thursday 8th January 2026, 2pm for 2.30pm**

"An Afternoon with Burns (songs and poetry of Burns) with Mike Duguid & Friends

Tickets: Friends £15 | NTS & Visitors £17

* **Thursday 5th March 2026, 2pm for 2.30pm**
Annual General Meeting

With a speaker from the National Trust for Scotland. Inc. refreshments at the conclusion.

Friends of Crarae (SC 033244)

Victoria Winters, Membership Secretary
01546 886 319 | contact@friendsofcrarae.com

friendsofcrarae.com

Contact Victoria Winters for more information about this group's events.

Friends of Culzean (SC 037983)

John Rattenbury, Secretary
01292 264 344 | info@friendsofculzean.com

friendsofculzean.co.uk

For more information about this group's events, please contact John Rattenbury.

Friends of Hugh Miller (SC 037351)

Lara Reid, Chair
admin@thefriendsofhughmiller.org.uk | thefriendsofhughmiller.org.uk

Contact Lara Reid for more information about this group's event.

* **Friday 23rd & Saturday 24th May 2025**

The Sennachie – a festival of storytelling, music and poetry inspired by Hugh Miller and his passion for the stories passed down through the generations.

The Friends of Hugh Miller are creating a small festival over two days at the Old Brewery, Cromarty, alongside other events involving the NTS at Miller's Birthplace Cottage and guided walks along the shore.

There will be a beautiful weave of talks, walks and performances across the festival by an array of award winning musicians, poets and writers. More details will be revealed early in the New Year.

And what is a Sennachie? Miller was well known locally as one. A teller of stories and tales of the past to the present, Miller pulled many such tales together in his book Scenes and Legends of the North of Scotland.

Friends of Leith Hall (SC051409)

Grainne Patton, Chairman

friendsofleithhall@outlook.com | ntscentres.org.uk/leith.html

Contact Grainne Patton for more information about this group's events.

Friends of Robert Burns Birthplace Museum (SC043931)

Alison Wilson, Chairperson

info@friendsofrbbm.org.uk | friendsofrbbm.org.uk

Contact Alison Wilson for more information about this group's events.

* **Sunday 26th January 2025, 10am - 4pm**

BURNSATHON: Burns Cottage, 16 Alloway, Ayr, KA7 4PY

A unique, non-stop celebration in which participants recite by heart, read or sing anything from the works of Robert Burns. The aim is to achieve, in his own lesser-known words in Auld Lang Syne, a continuous flow "Frae morning sun till dine.

* **Thursday 27th March 2025, 7pm - 9pm**

QUIZ NIGHT: Education Pavilion, Burns Cottage, 16 Alloway, Ayr, KA7 4PY

A sociable, fun night of general knowledge with experienced quizmaster Tom Collins | Prizes, bar.

* **Saturday 27th November 2025 (timings to be confirmed)**

ANOTHER BIG BAND NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: Education Pavilion, Alloway, 16 Alloway, Ayr, KA7 4PY

The fabulous band That Swing Sensation returns for another feel-good, foot-stompin' event | Tickets: £30

2025 Highlight Talks at the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum

All talks are held Wednesdays in the Robertson Room or, when necessary, the Temporary Exhibition Gallery at the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum, Alloway. Talks start at 2.30pm and finish at 3.30pm. 40/45 minutes for the talk and the rest of the allocated hour for Q & As.

Booking on Eventbrite is advised. Any unreserved places on the day will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Speakers and titles may be subject to change. Please check here or on our Facebook posts for updates.

* **5 February 2025**

Kate Phillips, retired international rights specialist and author of "Bought and Sold, Scotland, Jamaica and Slavery" – considers Why Robert Burns, believer in the rights of man, had plans to manage slaves in the sugar plantations of Jamaica?, explains why so many young Scots sailed from Clyde ports to jobs whipping slaves in Jamaica and looks at the reasons, the risks and hardships involved, as well as the fortunes made and the children left behind as a result.

* **19 February 2025**

Professor Adam Cumming, Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and Chair of Scotland's Churches – Ayrshire Churches And The Burns Connection: Church development in Ayrshire with special mention of both the Auld Kirk of Ayr and its predecessor as well as the changing nature of worship with reference to Robert Burns and his World.

* **5 March 2025**

Jack Rigg, artist and teacher, in – A Road Well Travelled – traces in his paintings and words the paths and trails that Robert Burns travelled between his farms at Mossgiel near Mauchline and Ellisland in Dumfriesshire.

* **19 March 2025**

Jim Carruth, Poet, Glasgow Makar, Farmer – Experiences Of A Modern Day Farmer Poet – Poems And Talk About The Challenges And Changes Facing Farmer's Today

* **2 April 2025**

Bill Rogers, Guide and Public Speaker – The French Connection: Ayr's Twin Town Saint Germain En Laye And Where Robert Burns Comes In To The Story

* **23 April 2025**

Rab Wilson, Poet and Former Screever at the Robert Burns Birthplace Museum – 'Collier Laddie'; A memoir and anthology of mining poetry relating to the '84/'85 Miners' Strike.

* **7 May 2025**

John Hodgart, Poet, Writer, Teacher, Scots Language Champion – Ayrshire In Rhyme: A Collection Of Poems In Scots Covering Every Town And Village In Ayrshire

* **21 May 2025**

Carlos Llazza Corrales, writer, translator, tutor at Glasgow University, in 'The Sound of a Rhinoceros: On Translating Robert Burns Into Spanish', talks about his translations of Burns, and discusses the role of literary translation in creating a Scoto-Hispanic literary space.

* **4 June 2025**

Fiona and Richard Williamson, amateur genealogists from North Ayrshire Family History Society, – The Estates of Rozelle, Belleisle And Cambusdoon: A circular walk around Alloway with the main focus on family history and the families who owned the large mansions in Alloway.

* **18 June 2025**

Emma Grae, award winning Scots language author of the novels 'Be Guid Tae Yer Mammy' and 'The Tongue She Speaks' considers The Scots Leid As A Means Of Cultural Unification With The Past And Present.

Galloway Members' Group (SC 026207)

Janet Brennan, Chairperson

barholmcastle@gmail.com | ntscentres.org.uk/galloway.html

For more information about this group's events, please contact Janet Brennan.

Glasgow Members' Centre (SC 024399)

Jean Currie, Treasurer & Excursion Enquiries

j.currie744@btinternet.com | ntsglasgow.org.uk

Afternoon Talks

All Afternoon Talks take place at the Renfield Church Centre, 260 Bath Street, Glasgow, G12 0NB.

* **Wednesday 12th February 2025, 2pm**

"Stage & Screen, The Collection of James L Gordon," a talk by Joseph Sharples, Hunterian Museum, Glasgow

* **Wednesday 12th March 2025, 2pm**

"Dunglass Castle, West Dunbartonshire," a talk by Fergus Sutherland, Director Icosse Heritage & Media

Planned outings

May 2025 Floors Castle

June 2025 Hospitalfield at Arbroath

July 2025 Dunfermline

August 2025 Ardkinglas at Loch Fyne

* **Monday 8th – Wednesday 10th September 2025**

2 night visit to York with visits to Rokeby (where the Venus came from) and Bishop Auckland, Spanish Gallery and Faith Museum. £650 with no single supplement from Glasgow.

Highland Members' Centre (SC 006203)

Rhona Moir, Secretary

highlandnts@gmail.com | ntscentres.org.uk/highland.html

Programme of events for 2025 coming soon. For more information about this group's events, please contact Rhona Moir.

- * **Tuesday 18th February, 7.30pm via Zoom**
"Restoring nature at a landscape scale in Glen Coe and Dalness," a talk by James McGurk, NTS Ranger at Glencoe.

Lanarkshire Members' Group (SC 024465)

Liz Craig, Vice Chairperson

elizabeth.a.craig@btinternet.com | ntscentres.org.uk/lanark.html

For more information on the events below, please contact Liz Craig.

- * **Saturday 15th February 2025**
Day trip to Rosslyn Chapel
- * **Saturday 15th March 2025**
Day trip to Burns Cottage and Museum
- * **Saturday 12th April 2025**
Day trip to Preston Mill and Phantassie Doocot
- * **Saturday 17th May 2025**
Day trip to the Great Tapastry of Scotland, Galashiels
- * **Friday 6th June 2025**
AGM in Avondale Community Wing, Strathaven
- * **Saturday 14th June 2025**
Day trip to the Scottish Fisheries Museum, Anstruther

London Members' Centre (SC 027207)

Jennifer Schoon, Treasurer

jenniferschoon@btinternet.com | www.nts-lmc.scot

For more information on the events below, please contact Jennifer Schoon.

- * **Thursday 23rd January 2025**
Matinee performance of the Brick Lane Theatre pantomime – Pinocchio and his wooden Whopper.
- * **Thursday 6th February 2025**
Visit to Salters' Hall, London EC2Y
- * **April 2025 – Date TBC**
A visit to St Paul's is being planned.
- * **Thursday 22nd May 2025**
AGM, lecture and lunch. The lecture is being given by the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust.
- * **Wednesday 4th to Monday 9th June 2025**
We have an annual Spring Tour. This year we are heading to Aberdeenshire. The tour begins in Aberdeen. Places of interest we visit include Old Aberdeen and City Centre, Fyvie Castle, Pitmedden Garden, Leith Hall, Knockando Wool Mill, Crathes Castle, Stonehaven.
- * **November 2025 – Date TBC**
Christmas lunch and lecture

Quarterly Walks

We organise four walks a year which explore various themes and places of interest in London. The dates and itineraries for the walks planned for March, May, August and November are still to be finalised.

Northeast Aberdeenshire Members' Centre (SC 024227)

Patricia Shaw, Chairperson

ne.aberdeenshire.mc@gmail.com | ntscentres.org.uk/neaberdeen.html

Contact Patricia Shaw for more information about this group's events.

St Kilda Club (SC 034266)

Julie Hunt, Chairperson

kildaclub@gmail.com | stkildaclub.co.uk

Contact Julie Hunt for more information about this group's events.

West Fife Members' Group (SC 025426)

Alison Henderson, Secretary

01383 737 233 | alisonhenderson962@btinternet.com

Contact Alison Henderson for more information on the events below.

- * **Wednesday 22nd January 2025, 12.00pm for 12.30pm**
Members' Annual Lunch at the Garvock House Hotel, St John's Drive, Dunfermline.
- * **Tuesday 11th February 2025, 7.30pm**
Talk by Eric Melvin on "The Edinburgh of Deacon Brodie" in the Abbey Church Hall, Abbey Park Place, Dunfermline.
- * **Wednesday 12th March 2025, 7.30pm**
Talk by Diana Maxwell on "HMS Tarlair" at Aberdour Golf Club, Seaside Place Aberdour.
- * **Saturday 22nd March 2025, 10.00am – 11.45 am**
Coffee Morning in St Fillan's Church Hall, High Street, Aberdour. Variety of stalls and a raffle (drawn at 11.15 am). Tickets from the Committee or at the door. All Welcome.
- * **Tuesday 15th April, 7.30pm**
Annual General Meeting in the Abbey Church Hall, Abbey Park Place, Dunfermline followed by a talk (details TBC).

This information is correct at the time of publication, but all events are subject to change.

Visitors are welcome although some events are for group members only and prior booking may be necessary. Please check before attending.

For more information about Members' Centres and Friends' Groups, and how to join your local group, please contact the Fundraising Team:
memberscentres@nts.org.uk

