

Kirkcolm Past and Present Newsletter

Vol. I

Wednesday, 8th Jan, 2025

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Welcome to the first edition of the Kirkcolm Past and Present Newsletter

By David Taylor

We hope to produce this newsletter every few months to help keep you up to-date with everything the History group has been up to !!

At the recent meeting in December, Matt, the chair of our group gave an update of all that happened during our first year as a group.

History Trail

This will be a continuous trail from the WW2 hanger base on Wig Bay through the village, to Lady Bay and Corsewall Point. QR codes will be put onto signs along the route which will allow people to read and see what was at that site.

Matt and Ansley have approached and held meetings with local landlords to set up the local trail.

Work is still ongoing and Matt hopes to complete it soon, with links to it on the website and also on the Kirkcolm facebook pages.

Oral History

This project aims to celebrate the history of our area by recording the voices of locals with their memories.

These recordings will be on the website and can be heard also via the QR codes at that site.

Kirkcolm Hub hosted the first open day last year which was well attended. Stranraer History Trust has provided us with equipment to take these recordings, in individuals homes or in the hub.

Volunteers are needed **urgently** to take these recordings.

If you can help either by helping take the recordings or sharing your memories please let us know by contacting the hub at development@kirkcolmct.org

or 01776853234, thank you.

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Trips;

Stoneykirk Aviation Museum

This local museum has a small collection of aviation artifacts and a selection of restored aircraft cockpits, comprising:

- Avro Vulcan
- De Havilland Vampire
- English Electric Canberra
- BAC Jet Provost T4
- Hawker Sea Hawk FGA6
- De Havilland Sea Vixen
- Blackburn Buccaneer

The museum provided a fascinating insight into the golden age of British aviation and the technology of cold war military aviation

Coastal Path

Matt lead a walk and talk group from Kirkcolm to Dally Bay



Group Website

Funding has been obtained for a website which will be used to record the oral history interviews, videos, photography files and QR codes for the History Trail.

A brief history of RAF Wig Bay will also be included and any local projects i.e. Field-Names of Kirkcolm Parish from the local estate maps can be added.

There will be links from Kirkcolm Facebook and Kirkcolm web site.

2024 History Talks

During 2024 a number of talks were held in the hub about village history.

Feb – Girvan Great War Project

June – Rhinns Forgotten Air Disaster

Nov – Stranraer Local History Trust

Nov – Historic Field Names in Kirkcolm Parish

Unfortunately some of the other planned events were cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances



Future

Kirkcolm Past and Present Committee

Matt, the committee chair has handed in his resignation as chair and will continue with his work on the History Trail.

Do we want to keep the committee ?

Would you like to volunteer to be part of it ?

Ideas for 2025

1940's Themed Dance, Street Party and Memorial Service to mark 60 years since the end of WW2.

Displays in Hub – WW2 items, pictures and information boards.

Living History – Talks and walks.

KIRKCOLM

Your Village needs you



We need volunteers to help
preserve the history of this village

Please contact Kirkcolm hub on 01776853234 or
via email development@kirkcolmct.org