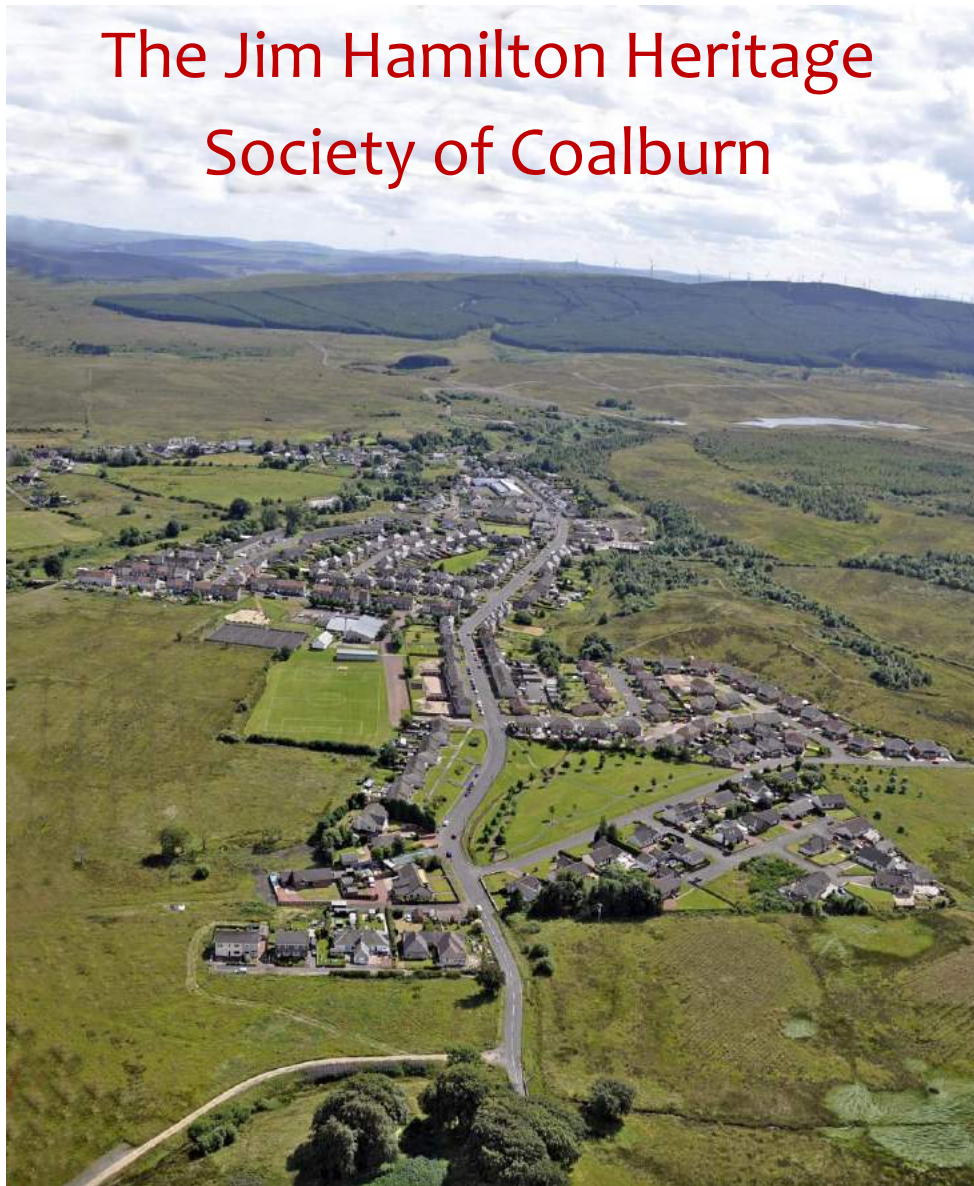


# The Jim Hamilton Heritage Society of Coalburn



## NEWSLETTER

December 2014

[www.coalburnheritage.org.uk](http://www.coalburnheritage.org.uk)

## *Chairman's Report*

It seems no time since we were saying it would soon be 2014 and another year is almost over, it must be as we will holding our Annual Christmas Dinner on the 19th of December.

It has been a busy year with a number of speakers new to us and also several making return visits. It has also been memorable for other reasons, the Referendum being one while the commemoration of the First World War was prominent throughout the country.

At a local level the Gala Day was busy as usual and continues to be well supported and our display in the leisure centre continues to attract a fair number and we appreciate the help given on the day.

Visitors have at the centre on a regular basis and we continue to receive emails and phone calls from interested parties regarding ancestors who lived in the village.

I am sorry to say the Betty Bell has decided to resign from her post as secretary, a role she has faithfully and diligently carried out since the Society was formed in 2004. Her knowledge of the many organisations in the area has been invaluable and gratefully received.

Finally, may I offer the Season's Greetings to you all.

Peter McLeish,

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014.

*Office Bearers 2014/15*

*Chairman* Peter McLEISH, Tel. 01555 820287

*Vice-Chairman* John ZAWADZKI

*Secretary*

*Treasurer* Jean SAVAGE

*Archivist / Newsletter* John ZAWADZKI

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*FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH*

*Aerial/Microlight view of Coalburn, July 2014*

*Photograph by Coalburn-born John Donnachie, a former fireman, now living in Carluke.*

*John, a keen photographer, is a long time member of Carluke Camera Club*

## Netherton School

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> inst the annual examination of the school was made previous to the vacation. About 80 scholars were present who completely filled the school.

The examination was conducted by Mr Bond, the teacher assisted by the Rev. James Naismith, Douglas Water, and by the Rev. John Torrance, Glasgow. The various classes acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner, bearing gratifying evidence of the diligence and energy of their teacher.

At the close a large number of books of various sizes were distributed among the scholars as prizes. These had been very kindly provided by Messrs Brown, Auchlochan, Mrs Struthers, Crowhill and other generous friends, and were evidently highly appreciated by the children.

As there are at present over 100 scholars on the roll, it is felt that overcrowding is injurious to the health of teachers and scholars alike, and there is urgent need of enlargement of the premises.

It is hoped there will also be provided, if possible, a house for the teacher through whose efforts the school has reached its present prosperous condition.

From the Hamilton Advertiser dated 1<sup>st</sup> June 1861

## SPORTS AT BROKLEY WORKS

**O**n Monday 21<sup>inst</sup> the whole of the workmen employed by Mr. Wm Forrest, contractor of the above mentioned works resolved to have a day's enjoyment and devote it to athletic sports. Mr Forrest contributed largely towards the fund for the various prizes and the workmen the rest. The following is the result of the various games, races etc.

**Quoits** 1<sup>st</sup> Wm Smith; 2<sup>nd</sup> Jas Colquhoun. **Putting the 20lb ball** 1<sup>st</sup> Wm Smith; 2<sup>nd</sup> J. Grierson **High Leap** John Duncan; Wm Smith **Hop, Step and Leap** John Duncan; J. Colquhoun **800 yards race** Donald Duncan; J. Duncan **200 yards race** Owen Flannigan; J. Smith **Boys race 400 yards** F. Connelly; Wm Murphy; Geo. Reid **Blindfolded Ball race** After an amazing race Owen Flannigan bore away the ball **Sack race** J. Young; W. Murphy **Men's Steeplechase** ( on all fours) over 4 hurdles Smith Little;

P. Holland **Especial prize by Mr Forrest**, the last race on the card, was the trump of the sports viz.- for one to eat a bawbee scone and sup a bottle of London Porter with a tablespoon during the time another ran 800 yards (400 out and 400 in) - the two entrants "The Hatchet" for the scone and Porter and P. Holland for the running-closely contested "The Hatchet" commenced in right earnest and finished – though with the last spoonful when Patrick was within three yards of the winning post.

The day being fine added much towards the enjoyment. All separated in peace and quietness highly gratified. Mr Forrest deserves great praise for encouraging such harmless meetings amongst his workmen. They are more suitable in such inlying districts than by giving expensive trips either to Edinburgh or the coast.



## Former pupil goes to Manchester City for a record fee

**During the Second World War a number of evacuees came to the village and among them was a young boy from Renfrew who was admitted to the infant class in 1941. His name was Matt Gray and he was billeted opposite the school with the Shaw family, my grandparents.**

His stay at Coalburn didn't last too long but his parents appreciated how well he had been looked after and over the next few years both families made visits to the respective homes.

Matt's father, also Matt, was a avid football fan and he encouraged the youngster to take up the game and this he did when he played for Moorpark Amateurs, a local side in Renfrew. He was tall and made good use of his height and was a noted goalscorer, particularly with his head.

He soon had scouts from some of the Glasgow junior clubs interested and he eventually signed for Maryhill Juniors. As he continued to show skill and energy he was talked about at a higher level and he was signed by Third Lanark in September 1957 at the age of 21. While at Cathkin he became part of a free scoring forward, he averaged just over a goal every second game. 217 appearances and 120 goals.

He was chosen to play for the Scottish League team against a Scotland XI in the International Trial match in March 1959. Built like a traditional centre forward, he enjoyed the physical part of the game. He played in most of his games at inside forward for Thirds and he showed great skill wherever he played. His club mate with Third Lanark, Alex Harley joined Manchester City.



Matt had been thought about as a possible Rangers signing, which would have pleased his father. However Matt junior was keen to go to play south of the border as Harley and another former colleague, Davie Hilley had joined Newcastle United for a record fee of £31,000.

Manchester City came back to Glasgow for Matt and the Third Lanark management asked that the fee should be for £31,001 to create a new record and this was done.

He went to England with the reputation of being the best header of a ball in Scotland. He made his debut against Birmingham City and he enhanced his reputation with the winning goal with a trademark header from 30 yards.

While at Maine Road he also played at wing half and occasionally as a stand-in goalkeeper. In his 91 first team appearances he netted 21 goals.

He was released just before his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday in May 1966. The following year he went to play in South Africa and he remained there for four years.

Earlier this year he was presented, as a memento, with the framed cheque (£30,001) which had been on show in a pub in Glasgow which was owned by a famous former Thirds and Scotland player, Jimmy Mason. Matt is now back in his native Renfrewshire.

Peter McLEISH

#### SUNDAY MAIL Oct 29, 1961

#### HIBS... 1 THIRD LANARK... 3

Scorers: Hibs - Kinloch (80 pen).  
Third Lanark - Gray (59, 60), McInnes (65).  
Matt Gray, the tall Third Lanark inside-left, has often stamped his name on the score-sheet by **HEADING** goals.

He showed his **SHOOTING** is as good as his headwork with two great shots that rocked Hibs right out of this game at Easter Road.

Matt's moment of glory came in 59 and 60 minutes when he snatched two goals and brought some badly-needed excitement to a game where all the fireworks had come from the kids on the terracing.

These goals put Thirds on the victory path and meant Hibs haven't had a win in their last five games.

In 59 minutes Gray collected the ball from a bounce-up and taking a step forward rifled the ball past Ronnie Simpson into the net.

A minute later Hilley slipped the ball to Gray who lobbed a perfect shot that curled neatly in just under the bar. And in 65 minutes it was Hilley the goal-maker again. McInnes this time put the final scoring touch to the move.

Ten minutes from the end Kinloch converted a penalty after McGillivray had pushed him in the box. Frankly it looked the only way Hibs would ever score.

**Hibs:** Simpson, Fraser, McClelland, Davin, Easton, Hughes, Cuthbert, Gibson, Kinloch, Preston, McLeod.

**Third Lanark:** Robertson, McGillivray, Robb, Reilly, McCormack, Cunningham, Goodfellow, Hilley, Harley, Gray, McInnes.  
Att: 10,000



# THE JIM HAMILTON HERITAGE SOCIETY OF COALBURN

**MEETINGS HELD TWICE MONTHLY** *Featuring Guest Speakers*

1st & 3rd Wednesdays, SEPTEMBER – APRIL

Admission is FREE. Non Members Welcome.

ALL WELCOME – BRING A FRIEND – Tea/Coffee at 8.45pm

Wednesday, 7.30pm start. Access from 7pm. Coalburn Bowling Club.

## SYLLABUS 2015

### JANUARY

7<sup>th</sup> – Dr FLOWERDEW, *History of Medicine*

21<sup>st</sup> – John ZAWADZKI, *Polish Forces in Clydesdale 1940*

### FEBRUARY

4<sup>th</sup> – Gavin FORREST, *Various Slideshows*

18<sup>th</sup> – George BARNSEY, *Lanarkshire Police Museum*

### MARCH

4<sup>th</sup> – Peter McLEISH, *History of Lintfieldbank*

18<sup>th</sup> – Archie MARTIN, *Lesmahagow's Noted Personalities*

### APRIL

1<sup>st</sup> – Jean BARR, *Carluke Historical Society*

15<sup>th</sup> – AGM + Duncan Arthur & Janice Clelland, *Clyde Valley Orchard Group*

*The Jim Hamilton Heritage Society of Coalburn*

**11th Annual Christmas Dinner**

**Friday 19th December 2014**

7pm

*Coalburn Miners Welfare Social Club*

The Jim Hamilton Heritage Society of Coalburn

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# Resolutions

Every year, we tell our friends,  
Of our new year resolutions,  
But after hearing it all, for years,  
I have come to these conclusions.

That if they say they're going to stop,  
The awful smoking habit,  
It's just because, up to date,  
They've never ever had it.

And then again you'll hear it said,  
"I'm going to give up drink",  
These same people always were,  
Teetotal too, I think.

Others swear that they will slim,  
Of that, they're sure and steady,  
But anyone who looks at them,  
Will say they're too thin already.

So this new year sit down and think,  
Of what you'll tell each other,  
And then maybe, we'll hear you say,  
Resolutions? I don't think I'll bother.

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## **DEATHS 2014**

*WILLIAM HOGG; RACHEL MAIR (BRYSON);  
ELIZABETH MOWAT (TONNER); JUSTIN MEEK;  
MARGARET BANKS (CARMICHAEL); KONRAD WINSTONE;  
THOMAS RAMAGE; JAMES STEWART;  
CELIA SORBIE (MITCHELL); ROBERT FORTHERINGHAM;  
ANNE GRAHAM (MEIKLE)*