

HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND - BIG WIN!



The Heritage Lottery Fund has awarded us a grant of £973,000 or 38% of the projected cost for the delivery works of the new Museum.

Lucy Casot, Head of the Heritage Lottery Fund Scotland said 'This award marks a key change for The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Museum. It will be transformed from a traditional military museum to one which engages visitors in a modern and exciting way as they learn about life as a soldier over the past 200 years.'

Thomas Knowles, Grants Officer of Historic Environment Scotland, said 'We're very pleased to be working in partnership with The Argylls' Museum on their redevelopment project, and are delighted to welcome this funding from HLF.'



Lord Thurso, Chairman of VisitScotland tours the Museum with the Project Director

Lord Thurso, VisitScotland Chairman visited the project recently and said 'It is exciting to see The Argyll

and Sutherland Highlanders Museum at Stirling Castle receive this investment. The museum plays an important part in telling the military and the country's story to visitors from all over the world. Scotland's history and culture is one of the top reasons for visiting Scotland and Scotland's reputation as a quality destination relies on continued investment to ensure that current provision meets future demand. Tourism is the heartbeat of the Scottish economy.'

This achievement is the culmination of 6-years hard work by a team from the Museum supported by our project managers Currie & Brown, LDN Architects, PLB exhibition designers together with many others specialists. It now permits us to move to the final phase of the project which is the delivery of the new museum, programmed for completion in June 2019.

WE'RE NOT THERE YET!

The HLF grant mean that we can now embark on delivering the project. However, we still require additional funds to ensure that it can be delivered in full and the call is still out there to raise the target of £200,000 from the Public Appeal.

In May, Lt Gen Andrew Graham challenged individuals to raise a sum of £1000 or more to help achieve this aim.

One such individual who has done just this is Maj Jim Tilley, the Association Secretary, who completed a walk down the West Highland Way from Fort William to Inverarnan – 54 miles in 17½ hours, with a team from the



Dumbarton Company of 51st HIGHLAND, 7 SCOTS that included Capt 'Mac' MacKenzie, the PSAO, WO2 Hamilton, the CSM, with CSgt Simpson and Sgt Doolan taking up strategic locations along the way with cups of tea and rations to keep them all going. So well done and a big thanks to Jim and 7 SCOTS.

RECENT DONORS

The Robert Barr Trust and The Girdlers' Company Charitable Trust have recently donated to the Appeal.

It is also wonderful to see Argylls of all ages getting behind us with some great fundraising ideas. Some of those who have helped the Appeal include:

- Major Gordon Rowan and Pipe Majors James Henderson, Ian McLellan, Walter Cowan, Jimmy Banks and Scott Methven and Captain Colin Graham for an amazing £10,500 from sales of The Argyll and Sutherland Pipe Music Collection
- Gary Bell, with fellow Argylls Barrie and Jamie and the staff in The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Pub, who raised an amazing £900.
- Paul Kerr and the Ronnie Jessiman Foundation, who are raising funds in memory of Ronnie Jessiman, by cycling/running/walking/hill climbing / swimming / skiing /

rowing the distance from Stirling Castle to Balaklava in the Crimea – and back!

- Denny Detachment ACF who are can-rattling at their local gala days.
- Athletic Argylls' Victor Nicol who ran the Stirling Half Marathon and Major Richard McCrow who completed the Brackley Chicken Run.
- John Pearson and local businesses in Bo'ness.

If you'd like to raise funds, and for ideas, posters and information, contact Lesley at capappeal@argylls.co.uk / 01786-448041, or go to our website, www.argylls.co.uk/fundraising.

BAND CONCERT - 6 OCTOBER

John Cunningham and the West Calder Public Band, featuring the Balaklava Pipes and Drums, are holding a fundraiser. The Balaklava Concert will take place on Sat 6 Oct at West Kirk of Calder Church, West Calder from 7.30pm. Tickets available from secretarywestcalderband@gmail.com, at £5.00.

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND

Close liaison is developing to achieve the complex issue of delivery of the new Museum over the coming months. Apart from dealing with aspects of the architecture and scheduled monument consents of the King's Old Building, ensuring that The Argylls' story is integrated into the wider story of Stirling Castle is also being addressed.

There is then the issue of ensuring that the works programme being undertaken by both ourselves and HES is fully integrated. The aim is for the work to start in early November on both the inside and outside of the building and for this to be completed during the quieter winter months.

CONTRACT LET

Work is underway to identify contractors for the base-build work due to start in November. Expressions of interest have already been received from a number of companies and our task is now to identify the one that can

best deliver for us. The aim will be to have the contract in place by mid-October with work beginning in early November. Later in the year we will be letting the contract for the exhibition delivery.

STORYLINE DEVELOPMENT

The Interpretation Team is now hard at work developing the stories to be told in each of the galleries. This work entails capturing the many episodes in The Argylls' history, seeking out anecdotal points that will interest the wide range of visitors that are attracted to the Museum, marrying these up with the artefacts, pictures and archives in the collection.

CONSERVATION AND DECANT

Work is already underway to decant the entire collection to The Colours Room as areas of the King's Old Building are cleared. Visitors will now find The Colours Room closed to receive this material. The whole Museum will close on 31st August to ensure that the decant is completed by mid-October, clearing the way for contractors.

In tandem with taking the Museum apart, this provides us with the opportunity to conserve items in the collection, notably textiles and paintings. Just completed is a conservation report undertaken by Younger Conservation Ltd; decisions now have to be made as to what work is to be undertaken.

GET US MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCK!

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DATA PROTECTION CHANGES

You will no doubt be aware of the changes in data protection which were introduced at the end of May by the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). We would like to take this opportunity to assure you that we value your privacy and we want you to be clear about the data we collect and how we use it, which is why we have updated our Privacy Notice. This ensures we address the new standards introduced by the GDPR. The updated Privacy Notice:

- Provides increased transparency about the way we use and store your personal data.
- Ensures you are easily able to exercise your data privacy rights.

You can read it on our website at www.argylls.co.uk/privacy-notice. We keep our privacy policy under regular review and we will place any updates on the web page.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

We want to ensure you only receive relevant communications from us. If you no longer want to receive newsletters or other correspondence, you can unsubscribe at any time by clicking on the unsubscribe link or drop us a line. If you want to change the way we contact you, just let us know at admin@argylls.co.uk.

LAST LAP TO DELIVERY!

Now we have achieved the key milestone of gaining such very substantial HLF funding, the pace quickens to ensure that the Museum can be reopened in June next year. Our tasks in the months ahead are:

- Identify the contractors who will deliver the project;
- Liaise closely with HES;
- Develop the story-lines to support the interpretation of the galleries;
- Decant the Museum's contents into The Colours Room;
- **And raise the balance of funds required.**

Your continuing interest and support for the project is hugely appreciated – ***thank you for getting us this far.***



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The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Museum Trust - Registered Charity in Scotland No SC042084

