



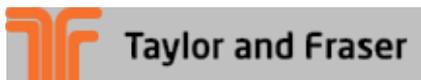
DENNY CADETS LEAD THE WAY



The Denny Detachment of the A and SH Bn ACF raised £240 at the local Gala Days.

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT LET

Having secured 'permission to start' from the Heritage Lottery Fund on 9th August, the key focus has been the selection and appointment of contractors for the construction element of the project. We received expressions of interest from seven companies, three of whom were seriously considered. The firm selected was Taylor & Fraser Ltd, a Paisley-based company with a sound track record in working on heritage projects. It is good news to be based in the Regimental area.



The £1.2M contract was signed off on 16th November. As well as incorporating all our requirements, there is additional life-cycle work being undertaken on behalf of Historic Environment Scotland to avoid the need in the next few years to disturb the

building further. Work will start on 10th December and will run for 27 weeks, due completion towards the end of June.

EXHIBITION DESIGN AND FIT-OUT

Work continues to develop the details of the future museum's interpretation. The design work is nearing completion and involves refining the storylines, identifying the objects to be displayed in each of the cases, and selecting photographic material for the audio-visual content. Once this is complete, we will be letting the exhibition fit-out contract in February.

It had been intended to run the start of the exhibition fit-out with the end of the construction work, however this has now proved impractical. Much of the display material will be produced off-site and we currently anticipate that the work will start in April so that by mid-June it can be installed in the museum.

It is, of course, vital that sufficient time is allowed to ensure that this work is completed to a high standard ready for the launch. As a result, a decision has been taken to delay completion until later in the summer to enable this.

MUSEUM DECANT

The Museum Team have done a remarkable job in stripping out the old museum and decanting the collection. This has been painstaking work to ensure that every item is recorded and packed up in an orderly way to enable us to piece together the new museum display when the time comes. The Museum now seems very empty as it awaits the contractors. Well done Rod Mackenzie, Allison Spark, Andy Hay and Craig Baker in particular.

In the meantime, a decision has had to be taken to decant the collection from the King's Old Building to allow the workmen a free run. HQ 51 Brigade have been hugely supportive by

providing us with the use of a building in Forthside which suits our purposes admirably. The challenge now is to move the collection and the offices.

CONSERVATION

Part of the HLF's requirement is to ensure that steps are taken to conserve items in the collection to the highest museum standards. We are now engaged in doing what we can to achieve this, but it is an eye-wateringly expensive process!



Work has already been undertaken on the William Kennedy collection of paintings (he was one of the Glasgow Boys and was artist in residence at Stirling Castle). However, priority is being given to textiles being undertaken by Younger Conservation and includes items such as Duncan Campbell of Lochnell's kilt, and the New Orleans and Balaklava Colours. As funding allows, further work will be undertaken on paintings.

WEST CALDER BAND CONCERT

A very successful fund-raising event was mounted by the West Calder Public Band in the West Kirk of Calder on 6th October. The initiative was led by John Cunningham, a former member of The Argylls Regimental Band together several other members of his family.



Throughout the evening there was a combination of stirring band music, solo pieces and vocals, ending with a wonderful rendering of *The Thin Red*

Line. It was a great effort and raised £800 for the TRL Appeal.

MUSEUM AUCTION



On 26th October a very successful auction was held in the Museum to dispose of surplus items and included former property of the 1 A and SH WO & Sgts Mess. We were very fortunate to have the help and advice of Anthony Weld Forester, a professional auctioneer, together with stalwarts from the Grangemouth Branch to ensure that the evening went incredibly smoothly. The profit from the auction was in the region of £12,000 – thank you to all those that bid!

SOUNDS FROM STIRLING CASTLE - SAT 16TH MARCH

Hosted by Alasdair Hutton, well-known as the Voice of the Edinburgh Royal Military Tattoo, Sounds from Stirling Castle returns in 2019 to raise funds for two proud Scottish military charities – Erskine and The Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders Regimental Trust. There is no better back drop for a magical evening than Stirling Castle!

Sounds from Stirling Castle will feature performances from The Capital Concert Band, The Herald Trumpets of Scotland and the Pipes, Drums and Dancers of Queen Victoria School. A similar event in 2015 sold out very quickly so get tickets now to avoid disappointment! Tickets can be purchased at <https://ticket.global-events.org/e/1689/soundsfromstirlingcastle>.

RECENT DONORS

Fundraising efforts have continued apace over the summer as include:

- John Tangye raising £1500 from a bike ride
- Jim Tilley and Tony McDowall raised over £600 from an auction

- Grangemouth Branch raised over £1200 through their Balaklava Lunch and collection tins efforts, and the West of Scotland Branch raised £950 at their recent games night.
- The following organisations have contributed funds to the Appeal: Renfrewshire Council, East Renfrewshire Council, The Mercers' Company, The Sym Charitable Trust, The Hugh Fraser Foundation, The Rev W N Monteith's Charitable Trust, The MacRobert Trust, The Swire Charitable Trust, The Schroder Foundation, and The Saints and Sinners Club

Thank you all

WELCOME TO THE NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Rob Layden departed in September after seven years in post, with much of his time and effort devoted towards the Museum's redevelopment. We owe him a great debt of gratitude for the contribution he has made.



His successor is Richard Hickson. Originating from Angus and formerly holding a commission in 4 RTR (Scotland's Only Tank Regiment), Richard has spent most of his recent professional life in the world of business. His arrival at this stage of the project is most welcome as he will be in a good position to see through the delivery and drive the early years of the new museum's operation.

LAST LAP TO DELIVERY!

We still have a wee way to go to achieve our target to deliver the new Museum. 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.