



King's Old Building shrouded in scaffolding – HES works on roof, wall and widnows

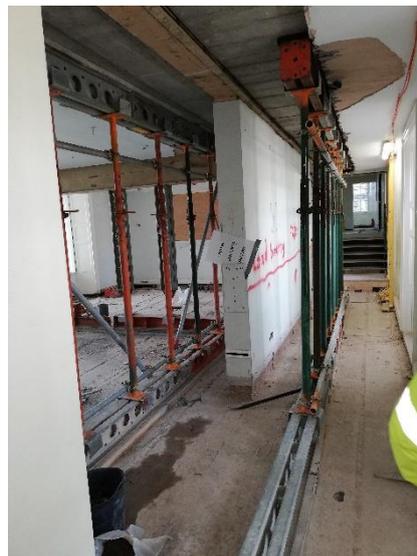
## OUR TEMPORARY HOME

In the last Newsletter we reported that we had decanted the entire museum collection and offices from the Castle to Forthside in Stirling. We are now well established in our new temporary home thanks to HQ 51 Infantry Brigade and we will remain here until the new Museum nears completion later this year. It is proving to be ideal for our purposes and allows the construction work to proceed without having to work around us.

## BASE-BUILD PROGRESSES

Nothing about a building project is straightforward! We had hoped that by now we would be well ahead of the game, but we have incurred some substantial delays – first asbestos surveys and then awaiting confirmation of funding by Historic Environment Scotland (HES) for the replacement of all the electrical wiring, pipework and heating systems. We have also had to ensure that there was full compliance with the scheduled monuments consents which has been a major task for our architects, LDN, working very closely with the HES team. Every aspect of the strip out and then putting it all back together again is subject to

close scrutiny by HES and this in itself is a major task – so much for taking on a C15th building!



Preparing for demolition

The base-build is now programmed to run on until October when the exhibition fit-out will start, with the aim of having it completed by Christmas. We then require some time to finalise the operation of the Museum. This means that the opening is now pushed back into the early New Year 2020.

## HES COMES UP TRUMPS

As a part of the redevelopment, Historic Environment Scotland have agreed to fund and update all aspects of the infrastructure in the building to be undertaken by our contractor, Taylor & Fraser. This will include renewing the electrical wiring, water and heating systems, and refurbishing the windows, roof and external stonework. This will ensure that for the foreseeable future the building will require no further major works that would disturb the Museum displays. We are extremely grateful to HES and this demonstrates a firm commitment to the partnership agreement that has been forged.



HES refurbishing all the windows

## EXHIBITION DESIGN

Work continues apace to finalise the details required to let the exhibition fit-out contract. The Interpretation Team working with the exhibition designers, PLB, are now confirming the final details of the layout of each gallery and the stories that are to be told. Reducing the Regiment's very extensive history into the themed galleries is a painstaking task. The initial impression is that it will deliver a highly engaging result with something for everyone, whilst remaining true to The Argylls' story. Compared to the old Museum, there will be a far greater insight into all aspects of our story, from daily life to the warfighting escapades, with a sharp spotlight on the communities from which The Argylls were drawn.



Demolition done – the location of the new shop on the Ground Floor

## CONSERVATION

Some fascinating work has been done to conserve certain of our most precious elements in the collection. The Balaklava and New Orleans Colours have undergone extensive work, along with Campbell of Lochnell's kilt, thanks to The Aurelius Charitable Trust and The Leche Trust.



The New Orleans' King's colour undergoing conservation

We have just launched a JustGiving campaign to raise £3000 for the conservation work for two sets of pipes that were used at the Battle of

Balaklava and the Relief of Lucknow. Please dig deep into your pockets and donate at:

[www.justgiving.com/campaign/93Highlandersbagpipes](http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/93Highlandersbagpipes)

Several of the good items of furniture have also been restored.



Officers' Mess Card Table brought back to life

## SOUNDS FROM STIRLING CASTLE

The Great Hall came alive to the sounds of the Capital Concert Band, The Herald Trumpets of Scotland and the Pipes and Drums and Dancers of Queen Victoria's School. Under the direction of Major Kevin Lamb, the former Argyll Bandmaster, a packed Great Hall thoroughly enjoyed this toe-tapping experience. This was the second concert organised jointly by Erskine Hospital and The Argylls' Regimental Trust to raise funds.



Kevin Lamb in his element

What made the evening particularly special was that Kevin had managed to attract back five former members of The Argylls' Regimental Band to play – one member even travelling down from Orkney. Throughout the evening Alasdair Hutton, that well kent voice of the Edinburgh Tattoo, kept things moving apace. Our thanks to everyone that made it a success and we look forward to maintaining our close partnership with Erskine in the future.

The evening raised over £2,700 for the Regimental Trust.



## FUNDRAISING

The project is now very close to achieving its goal of raising the funds for the redevelopment of the new Museum, together with the handsome investment by Historic Environment Scotland in the fabric of the building.

Recent receipts include contributions from The Graham Trust, Thomas Tunnock Ltd and Bruce Stevenson Associates.

*.....Thank you all*

But the delays have inevitably resulted in increased costs and we are not quite there yet! At time of writing we need to raise a further £140,000 to fully fund the project. There are vigorous efforts being made to close this final gap – every penny counts. Can you help?



Queen Victoria School Pipes and Drums

*We are in the last lap of fundraising. Please help us achieve our target.* For information on how to support us, please contact Lesley at [capappeal@argylls.co.uk](mailto:capappeal@argylls.co.uk) / 01786-448041, or go to our website, [www.argylls.co.uk/fundraising](http://www.argylls.co.uk/fundraising).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sat 29 Jun – A and SH Tent, Armed Forces Day, King's Park, Stirling**