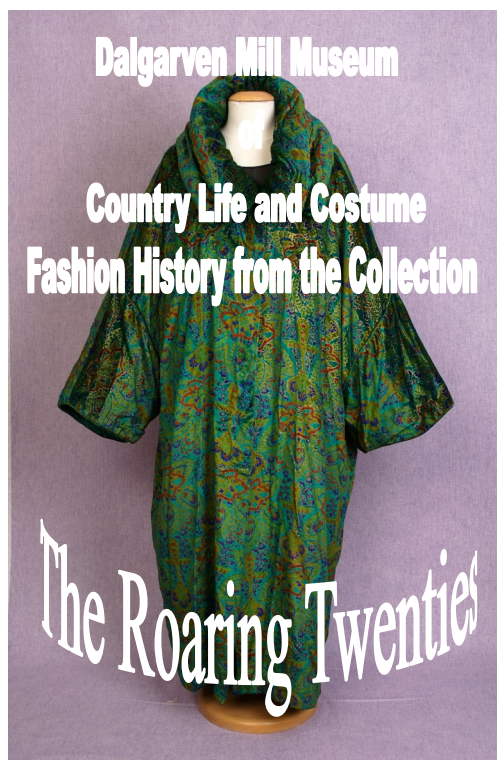
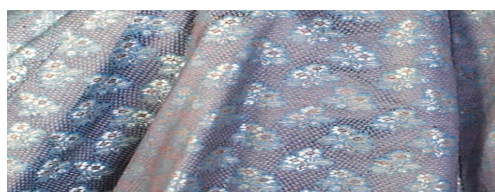


The Costume Collection



After many requests from the public for more information and illustrations from the Costume Collection, the curator has begun, what will hopefully, be the first of a series of books on the various periods the collection covers.

Apart from the time, he will need the costume to be professionally photographed, and since we have just completed this exercise for last years Twenties exhibition, he intends to start with this period. The book or the series of books will only happen if we can persuade Awards for All to give grant aid for their publishing, so watch this space. We have lots of photographs for the Twenties, but are lacking magazines with adverts. If anyone has such a thing, we would welcome the opportunity to scan it for the book.



Collecting Costume is always fascinating, never more so than when a visiting researcher discovered that the Caraco we hold from 1775 is made of the identical material, to the one on the right shown above which is owned by Manchester City Museum.

"The Cream of Scotland's Tearooms"



Next Spring, Visit Scotland will launch a new campaign to encourage people to visit those tea or coffee rooms which have been anonymously nominated by the members or the public. We are to be included and we thank whoever of you who were kind enough to have nominated us.

DALGARVEN MILL



THE LIVING PAST

THE MUSEUM OF AYRSHIRE
COUNTRY LIFE AND COSTUME

NEWSLETTER 25

Autumn 2010

The Current Exhibition



For those of you who have not seen the Victorian exhibition time is running out. It will end on Sunday, 24th October 2010.



Even if costume isn't your thing, a visit to the gallery would be worthwhile, as we now have an amazing pieces of Scottish furniture on display. This circular wardrobe has been loaned to the exhibition by North Ayrshire Council Museums Service and we are grateful to be able to show it to wider audience.

The Quilters Return



We are delighted to be able to announce that the Sew n' Sews Quilting Group from Kilbirnie, are to mount a second Exhibition of their work. This will open on Tuesday 9th November 2010 and continue until the end of January 2011.



Like many visitors to the exhibition, which we held two years ago, the Curator was stunned by the range of design, workmanship and imagination in all of the quilts and wall hangings that the group provided, and he is looking forward to being similarly surprised and delighted again.



As in the previous exhibition, the group will have quilts for sale, all monies raised going to their chosen charities. Last time Quilts were snapped up for Christmas gifts, so if you don't want to miss your chance, come early.

Modern apprentice challenge



Those of you who have followed the saga of the restoration of our Columbia Printing Press will be delighted to know that it is safely back in our hands beautifully restored by the apprentices from British Energy Hunterston. Congratulations to them for winning first prize in the competition.



The pieces, above, and their departure below.



Faced with the need to recover the 3.5 ton press from Hunterston and install it in the new building, we turned again to R&L Miller of Jameston Moss who kindly lent their large mobile crane to remove it from the truck, and swing it round and into the new building. Our grateful thanks once again to them. David Morton, the previous owner and many visitors have been astonished at the superb quality of the restoration. We would also like to thank the many retired printers who have come forward and offered to help us set it up again for schools.



Other Restoration Work

Meanwhile, our FJF workers and volunteers have been working on the restoration of a gig and the first of our waiting group of carts.



The barrel or adle cart is a fairly rare survivor and is well on the way to a full restoration



Designed as a seat, John's new construction is instead proving useful for wedding groups to put their champagne glasses on while they get their photographs taken.

