

The few boxes began as about 110 and then just grew and grew like topsy, the previous picture of the van full, was only load one,



But now we have them all and gosh are you all in for a treat over the winter months, when from October to February 2016 the contents of the boxes will fill the costume galleries with magical Edwardian, Twenties, Thirties, Forties, Fifties, Sixties and Seventies clothes and accessories. Our thanks to the many Glasgow Curators and others who held us enough esteem as to make the offer. We intend to eventually combine these with our collection, but we are

The New Riverside Walk.



Reaching new heights



A parting of the ways



The new easy steps with handrail.

Our sincere thanks to North Ayrshire Council's Land Fill Tax Fund, EN trust, East Ayrshire Woodlands and the contractors for the new revised path Do try it!

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DALGARVEN MILL THE LIVING PAST

THE MUSEUM OF AYRSHIRE
COUNTRY LIFE AND COSTUME
NEWSLETTER 35
SUMMER 2015
Scottish Charity
SC 022937



The Trust is delighted to have had their Four Star Visitor Attraction Award confirmed for another two years. Our sincere thanks to all those staff volunteers and supporters who have made it possible

THE PRESENT EXHIBITION Fashion from the Thirties and Forties

Perhaps for the first time ever, we have far more material than the space available, and the Curator and others have been agonising over what to put in and what to leave out. In a flash of inspiration she who must be obeyed said "Just take some out and put others in, then people may come more than once". So be it.

We have also taken a stand about fur. In this period, people were literally draped in the stuff, and we will reflect that. This was also the last period when people, principally, the fair sex, changed their clothes at least once or even twice a day and so you will find morning dresses, day dresses, evening dresses and afternoon dresses. Similarly men wore a changing array of formal, semi-formal and casual wear. The period includes the War years, of course but this is about fashion so that's where our emphasis will lie.



How much do you know about the Utility Apparel scheme, did you know that all clothing had to be made of Utility material, and to make further economies the **Making of Civilian Clothing Restriction Order was passed in 1942**. For example, dresses could have no more than two pockets, 5 buttons, 6 seams in a skirt, 2 inverted or box pleats or four knife pleats, and no more than 4 metres of stitching. Come and see how this manifested itself in finished clothes. The elegant blue / grey top and black skirt at the entrance (photo on the far right) is an example of the later "select" utility mark, and the black dress laid out in the day dress display, plainly shows its "two cheeses 41" utility mark.

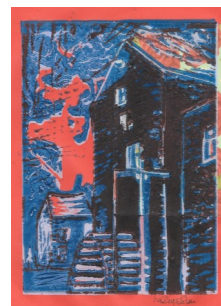


We were delighted to see Rachel and Murdo Mc Kay and some friends visiting the exhibition.. Rachel's mother ,Margaret Mc Robert, kept all her clothes from the forties onwards , and many of these form the basis of the current exhibition.

Master Classes with Elspeth Lamb RSA



Some of you may remember the pleasure we felt when the Eagle press was restored by the apprentices at Hunterston Power Station. Now we can proudly say that it is producing prints, and will be available to earn it's keep.



Local artist Lesley Sim and other participants produced striking pieces of work under the direction of Elspeth Lamb RSA.

We gratefully acknowledge the Grant Aid from MGS below..



The purpose of the classes completed recently was to fulfill the Museum's published wish to become as self supporting as it can be by the greater use of it's buildings and collections for commercial uses. So if you require a space for holding training classes or social or promotion purposes we can do that, with excellent catering included.. Lots of convenient parking, lovely location, what more could you want. If you are interested please ask a member of staff for details.

Never look a gift horse in the mouth



When GlasgowLife send an email three weeks ago asking if we would like a few boxes of costume they had spare. We just said yes please.