

The Quilts are coming In November

Opening on the **7th of November**, we welcome the return of quilts from the **Sew n' Sews** quilting group based in Kilbirnie.. If the costume draws admirers from all over, so do the quilts which fill the building with a riot of colour through the Winter months.. Here are some we have shown in other years.
Photos Elizabeth Bell



Can we take this opportunity to thank those friends and visitors who keep us in the public eye by means of Trip advisor posts and also via Facebook, Twitter and other means. I continue to have much pleasure from my Wordpress blog. Have a look.

The Stable block restoration

Finally we have lift-off, well phase one at least. Robert Potter and Ptnrs. Architects, and several other professional firms have submitted proposals for the above.
From a choice of three schemes, we hope to proceed to make a decision as to whether a further a commercial area or a holiday let would be the best answer to raise more income for the Trust.
The cost of both would require a huge financial commitment, which would have to be grant aided of course, and the choice will need much discussion and a wise decision on the part of the Trustees.

Paul McMahon



It would be remiss of me not to mention the recent passing of a former volunteer and Trustee, Paul McMahon.
Paul was one of the youths who climbed out of the river sometime in the early eighties and offered to help, he matured into a filmmaker and made the video we play in the Gallery. His memory lingers on here in many ways.

DALGARVEN MILL



THE LIVING PAST

THE MUSEUM OF AYRSHIRE COUNTRY LIFE AND COSTUME

NEWSLETTER 39
SPRING / SUMMER
2018
Scottish Charity
SC 022937



Water Wheel



A cursory glance at the wheel as you passed, would have shown you that it needs a little tender loving care. To that end we have been trying to find the thirty six large, crack free, pieces of elm which would allow us the rebuild it.
So far we have spent a year waiting for a saw mill to find trees big enough to provide them, But the good news is that thirty six paddles are being delivered today, April 12th. So we are a major step further on. The next paragraph is now more important than ever.

In the meantime we are still trying to find a Joinery contractor to literally put the whole kit and caboodle back together again. If any of you reading this have any suggestions to give us, please do.

In the meantime our thanks to Dalry Parish Boundary Trust for the grant to begin the restoration

The last time we re-built it we offered the public the chance to sponsor a paddle for £ 100.00 each and twenty seven of you did, so if you would like your name on a paddle please don't resist telling us.

There is also some building work to do to the sluices, and now we can begin

Spring Fling at the Mill

Saturday 28 April 2018

Two special tours at 11am and 2pm

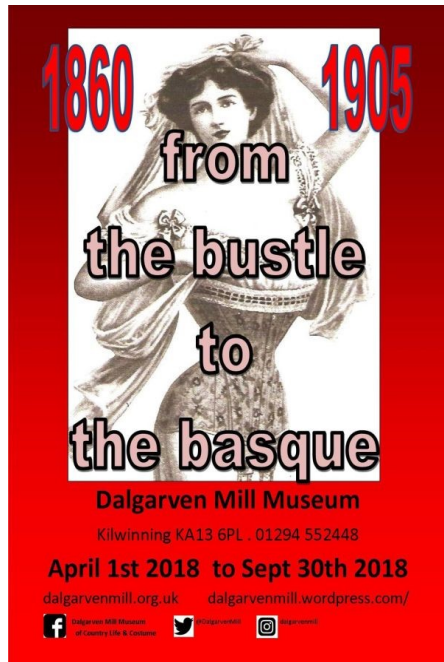
A chance for those who missed the 'Behind the Scenes' tours in December to see what goes on in the stores of the Museum and to see some of the highlights of the costume collection not previously displayed.

£5 per person - please book at the Mill or on Eventbrite:
<https://springflingatthemill.eventbrite.co.uk>



A ticket for the Spring Fling could be your opportunity to see the Chinese robes, including this stunning new addition, never before on display.

Current Exhibition



Many of you will be aware that we received a large gift of costume from Glasgow Museums, and this has allowed us to extend many of our individual groupings to their benefit. On display now, is the second part of the Victorians, which covers the period 1860 until 1900. It includes all of our bustle dresses, and most of those with long extravagant trains such as the four on the central platform and ends with the gigot sleeves of the late 1890s



This is an interesting period with the emergence of the large rear bustle usually balanced with a pinafore at the front, and then we move on to a to the trained skirt such as the one below which was worn in 1872 in Buenos Aires by a bride who then came to live locally, this and a semi mourning dress she wore is in the exhibition.



The New Book on the Costume and Textile

Dalgarnen Mill Museum
Costume Collection
CALENDAR 2018



Thanks to all of you who bought a Calendar the photographs appearing in that were largely responsible for bringing the quality of the Collection to a bigger audience. What was nice was that through the web, copies were sent to all over Europe and to North America and Australia. The good news is that it has been responsible in attracting a considerable grant for the Curator to write a second book, this time on the Costume and Textile Collection of more than two thousand pieces. The Collection spans from 1775 to the present, and the story of its making is fascinating, combining as it does exciting hunts for costumes people remember seeing years before in other locations, or to accepting outstanding donations

The book is now in preparation, some hundreds of new images have been taken, and research into various textile industries is ongoing. It will be published in the autumn, So if you would like to be informed when, please ask to join our mailing list. Here are a two of the stunning new images which may shortly be appearing on mugs and posters.