

Trust Talk

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE CORSTORPHINE TRUST

Spring 2025



Looking Back, Moving Forward

The seasons are changing once more, with the trees in bloom and some rather welcome warmer weather. This also means another new edition of **Trust Talk** where we're pleased to announce several upcoming events, so make sure you read on and book your tickets today! As ever, we have another delve into history in **From the Archives**, as well as a review of our recent 'Maps Through Time' exhibition, and an important update on significant changes to local community councils.

We hope that you enjoy this Spring Edition of **Trust Talk**!



Stay in touch

For more updates on our opening times, you can follow us on our Facebook and Instagram pages.



THE CORSTORPHINE TRUST



@THECORSTORPHINETRUST

Chair's Letter

Hello everyone and welcome to the Spring 2025 edition of Trust Talk.

I don't know about you but it's so nice to be heading out of winter and into spring. At the time of writing the spring bulbs are out in full force and it makes the parks and gardens look so cheerful.

We broke with recent tradition this year and held the AGM in The Kilgour Room. It didn't take long (thank goodness!) and was well attended. The members also got a chance to view the excellent maps exhibition that was put together by the fab four (no, not those ones) - Grant, Stephen, Alastair and David. Grant's put together a wee summary for you to read later on. We had over 100 members of the public through the doors to view it.



There are some tickets still available for the events you already know about and more have been added to the calendar. All the information you need is on the following pages. There really is something for everyone, so I hope to see you there.

Frances has delved into the archives again and brings you a story about Corstorphine Primary School's football team from 1957.

As always, I need to extend my thanks to those who willingly give up their time for us each day/week. The Trust simply couldn't run without your help.

I hope you enjoy this issue and we look forward to seeing you at The Dower House soon.

Best

Chair

From the Archives

Taken from *Corstorphine Notes*, a magazine written by pupils from Corstorphine School in the 1950s. This extract was written by Bruce Laidlaw P7 in May 1957.

THE SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

The majority of Edinburgh primary schools have a football team and all these teams are put into separate leagues. Each team has to play the other teams in their league, twice each and for every game they win,

they earn two points. All these points are added at the end of the season, the team with the most is league champion. Our team is in the Meggetland league and plays either at Meggetland or West Hailes.

In the first game of the season, we drew three all with Wester Hailes and from then we had a run of successes. However, Dalry came along and were defeated by the odd goal. From then on, we lost just about as many games as we won, and we dropped from top of the league to third position. Then we fell till we were third bottom.

The young boys did not do badly in the Hamilton Cup, when they defeated Oxfords but unfortunately were beaten in their second game.

Meanwhile the older boys had beaten Gilmerton eight – one, and Broughton five – one. They found themselves facing St Francis in the quarter final of the School Board Cup, this was a big struggle but we managed to beat them two-one after being one down at half time. Then we had to play Broomhouse in the semi-final of the same cup. This was a very exciting game and although we all played our best, Broomhouse beat us two-nothing.

For all these games and for making us fit and able to play and especially for training The School Board Cup team I would like to thank Mr. Moffat and Mr Wragg very much and I can only hope that they will do the same for the younger boys and we all wish them the best of luck.

P7A Bruce Laidlaw

Frances MacRae
Archivist

Gillian Green

We were sad to hear the news that Gillian passed away in February. For our longer serving members who used to come for a coffee on a Saturday morning, I'm sure you'll remember Gillian coming into The House with her mum Val and latterly her dad, Ron. She loved a cup of coffee and the company of our regulars. And here's a little known fact about Gillian - she was a demon spoons player!

Sheila Ramsay

And sadly we need to tell you of the passing of another well known face. Sheila Ramsay, wife of Douglas (our President), passed away in March.

Along with many other local organisations and groups Sheila was a great supporter of The Trust and very rarely missed coming in on a Saturday morning for a coffee (black and a mint club if memory serves) and a blether. She also willingly and ably represented us on the Community Council for many years.

From everyone here, our sympathy goes to her family.

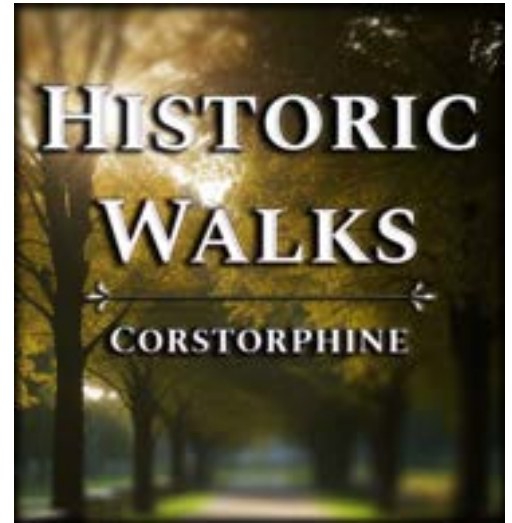
Upcoming Events

Historic Walks

Saturday 24 May 2025 | 10.00 am | The Dower House

Tickets are £5.00

Are you interested in learning a bit about the History of Old Corstorphine, whilst taking in fresh air? The Corstorphine Trust is providing guided walks through the 'Old' village this year. With two Corstorphine Trust stewards as your guides, you can learn a little bit about the origins of Corstorphine, its churches, the Dovecot and some of the more colourful events that are part of the village tapestry.



The Organ's Voice with Gordon Cree and Cheryl Forbes

Saturday 7 June 2025 | 7.00 pm

The Corstorphine Astoria Centre

Tickets are £15.00

After the very successful concert in December, we are delighted to announce the return of Gordon to The Corstorphine Astoria Centre but this time he'll be joined on stage with his wife Cheryl Forbes.



Enjoy an entertaining evening of music, Broadway hits, light hearted character songs and favourite melodies on instruments both conventional and less so..., as well as tales and reminiscences from two fascinating careers.

Andy Chung LIVE!

Saturday 26 July 2025 | 7.00 pm

The Corstorphine Astoria Centre

Tickets are £15.00

Andy Chung was born in Kirkcaldy, in the Kingdom of Fife, Scotland, his family having emigrated from Hong Kong and settling there in the early 60s.

Showing a talent for the creative arts in his childhood, Andy went on to study, first at Edinburgh's Telford College and then, at the



Glasgow School of Art.

However, with a growing interest in music, he found himself playing guitar and fronting various bands before securing weekly solo residencies in a number of renowned Edinburgh folk music bars including the Royal Oak, the Hebrides Bar, the Scotsman Lounge and Sandy Bells.

Still travelling the highways and byways of his beloved Scotland, Andy is as ever, in popular demand as a consummate musician and entertainer.

www.andychung.co.uk

North Sea Gas

Saturday 23 August 2025 | 7.00 pm

The Corstorphine Astoria Centre

Tickets are £18.00

The Corstorphine Trust is delighted to announce the return of North Sea Gas to The Corstorphine Astoria Centre in August.

One of Scotland's most popular folk bands, the trio comprises Dave Gilfillan, Grant Simpson and Ronnie MacDonald. Since their foundation in the 1980s, they have released 22 albums and continue to sell-out shows across the world.



With fantastic vocal harmonies and incredible instrumentals (including guitars, fiddle, bouzouki, mandolin and bodhrán - to name a few!), the trio are renowned for their exceptional musicality and storytelling.

North Sea Gas remain a stalwart of the Scottish folk scene and this is sure to be a fantastic evening of song, music and entertainment!

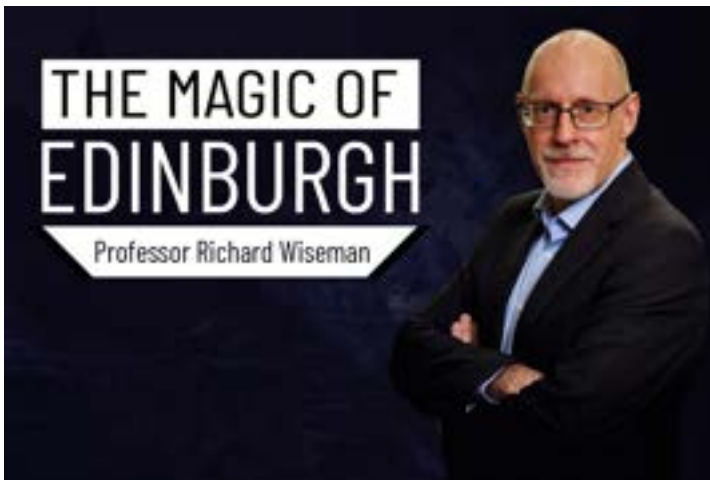
<https://www.northseagas.co.uk/>

Ticket Information

Tickets are available to purchase online for our upcoming events at:

<https://www.corstorphinetrust.co.uk/concerts/> or by contacting the office on 0131-316 4246 to reserve tickets. Tickets must be paid for within one week of reservation.

Abracadabra



We were delighted to welcome Professor Richard Wiseman to The Corstorphine Astoria Centre at the end of March. His talk was funny, informative and entertaining and something just a little bit different.

He delved into the history of three magicians with strong links to Edinburgh: The Great Lafayette, Andre Letta and Harry Marvello. And if that wasn't enough, he threw in some magic tricks to delight us with!

Worth the Wait



The Sorries were due to play for us in 2020 but some pesky thing called Covid got in the way. We think, however, it was definitely worth the wait as we were thoroughly entertained by Douglas and Martin at The Corstorphine Astoria Centre at the end of April.

Judging by the singing from the audience, they covered a broad spectrum of popular songs from the Scottish songbook. Haste ye back.

Corstorphine Trust Map Exhibition

In early 2025 the idea of an exhibition using some of the extensive collection of maps held by the Corstorphine Trust was suggested. Following a meeting with Jane, David, The Trust events organiser and myself it was decided that this was something that could be organised. The exact details of the content of the exhibition was left to me to decide.

After thinking about the exhibition I decided on a history of Corstorphine village and the surrounding area from the earliest days as shown by maps. A search of the map cabinet in the archive room on the top floor of The Dower House revealed a number of maps showing how the village and surrounding had grown and changed. At the same time, a number of gaps were identified but these were filled with the inclusion of maps found on the internet.

The important thing to remember about maps is that they are a snapshot of an area at the time it was surveyed and not when it was published. Maps are also used to tell a story important to those who originally commissioned them.

As the use of maps became more widespread the information they contained showed greater detail and accuracy. The development of the Ordnance Survey (OS) following the last Jacobite rising in 1745 eventually resulted in the whole of the United Kingdom mapped in detail at a number of different scales.

The earliest map that The Corstorphine Trust owns is a copy of one dating from 1480. It was produced by a spy for Edward IV during his invasion of Scotland to show the position of castles and towns. Although looking strange to a modern viewer (relative positions of features for instance) the information it shows was important to an invading force. There then followed a number of maps produced by the OS, individual mapmakers and estate owners across the centuries showing how the area had developed and grown.



1736

The OS in particular has played a key role in showing how Corstorphine has developed over the centuries. Key features identified on their maps include the building of new dwellings, the roads both north and south of the village and the disappearance of the Corstorphine and Gogar Lochs. Later additions include the routes of the canal running from Edinburgh to Falkirk and the Edinburgh to Glasgow railway with the later branch line coming into the station situated in Station Road.

Into the 20th century and the nature of mapping changed. Following the Second World War the OS was on a mission to update their maps. One way they tried to do this was by using the RAF to photograph the whole country. An aerial photograph in the Trust's collection shows part of Corstorphine including the many changes that had taken place in the first half of the 20th century but security concerns resulted in RAF Turnhouse being removed from the picture.



2024

More recently the use of GPS satellites to map the globe has led to the rise of a number of apps and web sites enabling easier navigation. Ironically, as people come to depend on electronic maps and satellite navigation systems their sense of place and how one location relates to another is becoming more and more diminished.

My thanks goes to David for organising the publicity for the exhibition, Stephen for organising the display boards and to Alastair for his work in improving the clarity of the maps.

I would also like to thank those who supported the exhibition and who came along on the last day to hear the talks given by Stephen and myself on the history of Corstorphine and its development.

If you are interested in learning more about the history of Corstorphine visit the museum and archive at The Dower House in St Margaret's Park. Check The Trust website for opening hours.

Grant Donaldson
Secretary

The Astoria Centre

The Astoria Centre continues to flourish, with a number of adult and children's activities running throughout the week. If you're interested in booking the hall, please send an email to contact@corstorphineastoriacentre.co.uk for more information.



MONDAY

09:45-11:45 The Sensory Sessions
18:30-19:30 Clubbercise

TUESDAY

16:00-17:00 Tutti Footy FC
18:30-19:30 Clubbercise

WEDNESDAY

09:30-11:30 Christine Mills - Pilates Scotland
12:30-13:30 Realistic Pilates
16:00-18:00 Taekwon-Do
18:45-19:45 Clubbercise

THURSDAY

09:45-10:15 Tanya's Dance-Fit: Hip Hop Tots (2-5 years)
10:30-11:00 Tanya's Dance Fit: Hip Hop Babies & Movers (Newborn-2 years)
11:15-12:00 Tanya's Dance-Fit: Mum's Fitness Class
13:00-14:00 Easy Exercise
17:00-21:00 Taekwon-Do

FRIDAY

09:05-10:05 Realistic Pilates
13:00-13:45 Tutti Footy FC: 2-3 years
13:45-14:30 Tutti Footy FC: 3-4 years
14:30-15:15 Tutti Footy FC: P1 & P2
16:00-18:45 Capital Allstars
19:30-20:30 Dance Fitness

SATURDAY

09:30-11:00 Inspire Theatre Workshop
11:15-12:45 Inspire Theatre Workshop
13:45-15:30 Corstorphine Connect Sight Loss Grop (*third Saturday of the month*)
13:45-16:15 Corstorphine Community Centre Tea Dance (*fourth Saturday of the month*)

SUNDAY

09:30-12:30 Hong Kong Christian Church (*first/third/fifth Sunday of the month*)
13:30-15:00 Organ Practice

Get in touch

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The Dower House, St Margaret's Park
Edinburgh, EH12 7SX
☎ 0131 316 4246
✉ info@corstorphinetrust.co.uk

We hope that you've enjoyed this Spring edition of **Trust Talk** and we look forward to welcoming you to The Dower House.

You can continue to contact **The Corstorphine Trust** via email, telephone and post, as well as following us on social media for updates on our hours.